

## RTRI Stand at InnoTrans2012

**Chikara HIRAI**

Manager, International Affairs, International Affairs Division

RTRI exhibited its research activity at InnoTrans2012 held in Berlin on September 18 to 21, 2012. It was the third opportunity for RTRI since it started to display its research products at the exhibition in 2008. Whereas, in 2008 and 2010 RTRI advertised its original technologies that were ready to apply to practical use, in 2012 RTRI displayed its technical potential in fields covering almost all technologies applied to railway industries.

The RTRI stand made up part of the Japan Pavilion organized by Japan Overseas Rolling Stock Association (JORSA). The pavilion occupied a 680 m<sup>2</sup> hall with booths consisting of 17 Japanese companies. The atmosphere created by the red facade of the stand structure and the demonstration of a Japanese tea ceremony performed by Kimono-wearing women provided a great attraction for visitors to the stands in the Japan Pavilion. See Figs. 1 and 2.

Thanks to the creative atmosphere of the Japan Pavilion, the RTRI stand received more than several hundred visitors during the four-day exhibition period. Figure 3 shows the RTRI

stand. Because the rear wall of the stand displayed two types of prototype vehicles designed by RTRI, a number of visitors asked RTRI attendants questions on vehicle technologies. Large pictures of Hi-tram, an energy recycling car, and fuel-cell rolling stock succeeded in enhancing visitors' curiosity about the RTRI stand. The visitors, who were first interested in vehicle technologies, sometimes diverted their interest to other fields also developed by RTRI when they found that RTRI covers a variety of research fields. RTRI's display also worked to satisfy such visitors' intellectual appetite. RTRI was able to provide the visitors with information on a wide range of research topics conducted by the 12 research divisions of RTRI having more than 400 researchers in total.

RTRI keeps working to create new technologies and find solutions useful for railway systems. RTRI is also looking for new research topics at a potential high enough to stimulate railway technology researchers. It is RTRI's pleasure to discuss railway technologies with you at the next opportunity.



Fig. 1 Japan Pavilion at InnoTrans2012



Fig. 2 Japanese tea ceremony



Fig. 3 RTRI-stand at InnoTrans2012

## SNCF-RTRI Collaborative Research Seminar 2012

**Kazuki NAKAMURA**

Deputy Manager, R&D Planning, Research and Development Promotion Division

The Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) hosted the SNCF-RTRI Collaborative Research Seminar 2012 on September 26 to 28, 2012. It was attended by seven delegates from SNCF led by Mr. Emmanuel MANIER, Head of Engineering department, French National Railways. Research results were presented to the participants on the four fifth-term research themes "Inspection and Predictive Maintenance Strategies for OCS on High-Speed Lines," "Standing Comfort," "Wireless Sensor Networks" and "Research and Development Management." These themes have been promoted for two years since 2010.

After the Seminar, RTRI and SNCF came to an understanding that the two parties would continue with joint research collaboration and adopted the five sixth-term research themes of "Inspection and Predictive Maintenance Strategies for OCS," "Standing Comfort," "Saving Energy System for Power Supply," "Simulation Models of Ballasted Track" and "Research and Development Management." The parties also agreed to hold the next Seminar in France in 2014.



Fig. 1 Participants from SNCF and RTRI



Fig. 2 The representatives of SNCF and RTRI signing the agreement



Fig. 3 A scene of discussions on research themes



Fig. 4 A speaker making a presentation on the fifth-term research results