

The 10th WCRR 2013 Held in Sydney

The 10th World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR 2013) was held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Australia, on 24 to 28 in November 2013.

WCRR is an international congress managed by Organising Committee composed of the members of International Union of Railways (UIC) and railway-related personnel from Japan, France, Germany, Italy, UK and US, of which Japan is represented by the Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI). More than 550 people (including 88 from Japan) attended WCRR 2013 from over 30 countries worldwide. There were 188 paper presentations (13 from RTRI) and 133 posters were presented (22 from RTRI).

Dr. Norimichi Kumagai, President of RTRI, participated in a panel discussion on “the role of Rail Research in shaping rail operations” in the plenary session.

WCRR 2013 was held in conjunction with AusRAIL PLUS

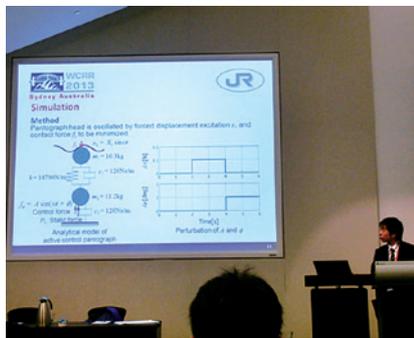
2013, the largest exhibition and railway conference forum in Australia. At the exhibition venue, RTRI opened a JR group booth. Japan Overseas Rolling Stock Association (JORSJA) opened a booth and demonstrated their technologies with Tokyo Metro Co., Ltd., Kyosan Electric Manufacturing Co., Ltd., NIPPON SHARYO, LTD. and Mitsubishi Electric Corporation. MEIDENSHA CORPORATION also opened their own booth and showed their technologies.

At WCRR 2013, under the theme of “Keeping Ahead of the Curve through Sharing of Knowledge,” eight sessions were organized in different fields. In the field of rolling stock, a paper prize was awarded to Dr. Seiji Kanamori, Chief Research Engineer, General Technology Division, Central Japan Railway Company.

It has been decided to hold the next WCRR at the end of May 2016, in Milano, Italy.



Panel discussion



Presentation by a RTRI researcher



JR group booth

Japan to Cooperate on Sweden’s Plans for High Speed Rail

“The Swedish High-Speed Seminar (Workshop)” was held on 24 to 27, September, in Stockholm. It was a workshop for interested parties from Sweden and Japan and was sponsored by the Ministry of Enterprise, Energy and Communications of the Kingdom of Sweden. Japan sent a sizeable delegation headed by Mr. Hao, Deputy Director-General, Railway Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT). The delegation included members from Japan Railway Construction, Transport and Technology Agency (JRJT), East Japan Railway Company (JR East), RTRI and organizations associated with high-speed railways.

Dr. Okumura, Executive Director, RTRI, introduced Shinkansen technologies and research and development activities on railways in Japan to railway-related personnel in Sweden, before lively high speed rail discussions spread among participants at the venue.

As Sweden has a plan to launch construction of high-speed railways for the section between Järna and Liköping and some other sections in 2017, the country had previously sent government officials to Japan. The Swedish party showed keen interest in the high-level railway technologies of Japan through study tours in the recipient country. In

May, 2013, Sweden and Japan adopted a memorandum to cooperate with each other in railway affairs at the government level and decided to promote exchanges of personnel between the two countries for three years.

RTRI is now promoting joint research with Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden and highly respects the country for its active deployment of research and development on railway technologies. RTRI has been nominated as a counterpart by the University in research and development. RTRI appreciates the nomination, accepts it as a great honor and wishes to promote the exchange of researchers and administrators alike to help realize the plan for high-speed railway construction.



Executive Director Okumura with Swedish infrastructure minister