

## **The 2nd Japan-UK Ballasted Track Workshop Held in Scotland**

November 21, 2014

**On October 16, 2014, the 2nd Japan-UK Workshop on Ballasted Track Maintenance was held in Edinburgh, Scotland.**

Japan and UK have shared a number of problems regarding the maintenance of ballasted track, because the ground is soft in both countries compared to Eurasia continent. Given this situation, the first Japan-UK Workshop was held at RTRI in November 2013. By sharing information between both countries' researchers on a regular basis, this workshop aims to vitalize basic research of ballasted track and to explore possible topics for Japan-UK joint projects to improve maintenance efficiency.

The 2nd workshop was held at Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, and researchers from six universities in UK, three Japanese universities, JR East, JR West, and RTRI participated and made presentations. Presentations and discussions were made on the broad range of topics including research reports on track inspections and derailment as well as on fundamental research such as dynamic properties of ballast. A keynote speech was made by a Japanese speaker.



The 2nd ballasted track workshop

Professor Peter Woodward of Heriot-Watt University who organized this workshop said, “this workshop was started following RTRI’s proposal made at the International Conference on Transportation Geotechnics held in 2012 in Hokkaido in which I participated. I am grateful that so many railway researchers from UK and Japan have come here, Edinburgh. I do hope to continue to have an opportunity like this to share our views and information.”

The next workshop is to be held in 2015 in Japan.

## **Outline of the 2nd Japan-UK Workshop on Ballasted Track Maintenance**

Date: October 16, 2014

Venue: Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, Scotland, the United Kingdom

Keynote 1:

Dr. Yoshitsugu Momoya, RTRI

“Recent study on ballasted track for safety and low maintenance”

Keynote 2:

Prof. Tatsuya Ishikawa, Hokkaido University

“Advanced laboratory tests on coarse granular materials for transportation facilities in cold regions”

Other presentations:

Prof. Joao Pombo, Heriot-Watt University

Mr. Hikaru Naganuma, RTRI

Prof. Clive Roberts, University of Birmingham

Prof. Kimitoshi Hayano, Yokohama National University

Dr. Louis Le Pen, University of Southampton

Dr. Cristian Ulianov, University of Newcastle

Dr. Andrew Dawson, University of Nottingham

Dr. Takashi Okayasu, Kyushu University

Dr. David Connolly, Heriot-Watt University

Prof. Simon Iwnick, University of Huddersfield

Mr. Masaki Sue, East Japan Railway company

Mr. Kiyotaka Ogiso, East Japan Railway company