



*Newsletter on the
Latest Technologies
Developed by RTRI*

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International Activities of Railway Technical Research Institute

Isao OKAMOTO

Director, in charge of International Affairs

I have been in charge of the Information & International Affairs Division of Railway Technical Research Institute since August of last year. This institute engages in the research and development of basic and applied railway technologies. It also emphasizes various international activities, including technical exchange and technical cooperation with railway operators, research institutes and other organizations around the world.

For example, as a member of the UIC, the institute dispatches staff to the UIC to grasp current international railways trends. The institute takes part in joint research projects of the World Executive Council (WEC) and carries out research for the development of railway technology around the world. In addition, the institute has its experts actively attend major international conferences on railways, such as the World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR) and the Eurail Speed, to deliver lectures and present papers. Furthermore, the institute has carried out joint research with the French National Railways, the China Academy of Railway Sciences, the Korea Railroad Research Institute, and others. It participates in business conferences and specialist meetings sponsored by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport to promote technical exchange with the United Kingdom, India, China, the United States and other countries. At the request of Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS) and other agencies, the institute receives trainees in railway technology from overseas. Recently, at the request of JARTS in connection with the Taiwan Shinkansen, the institute is sending an increasing number of experts to Taiwan to promote technical support. Since the signing of an agreement with the Transportation



Technology Center, Inc. (TTCI) of the United States for the use of its Pueblo experimental line, the institute has carried out various tests on this experimental line.

The Railway Technical Research Institute intends to continue making contributions to the progress of the world's railway technology through various international activities.

Mr. Isao OKAMOTO