

## RTRI-SNCF Railway Research Seminar and Franco-Japan Railway Technology Symposium

### RTRI-SNCF Railway Research Seminar 2007

The Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) and the French National Railways (SNCF) held a joint research seminar in Japan on May 22 and 23, 2007. SNCF representatives attending were Mr. CLEON, Scientific and Technical Director of the Innovation and Research Department, Dr. Jean-Noel TEMEM, Delegated Director, and nine others.

In the Opening session of the seminar on May 22, Mr. Katsuji AKITA, RTRI President, welcomed all delegates during the opening ceremonies representing 20 RTRI researchers, who are involved in the joint research.

The seminar was held to present reports on joint research projects carried out during the third term, and to establish joint research projects for the coming term. When examining topic options for the coming term, delegates shared information on such subjects as malfunction of shunting, behaviours of overhead contact line pantograph at high-speed running, prevention of derailments, and R&D management issues.

On May 23, delegates visited RTRI's Kunitachi Institute to view test facilities there. The visit was followed by keynote addresses by RTRI Executive Director Dr. Norimichi KUMAGAI and Mr. CLEON of the SNCF, who discussed research and development activities at their respective organizations. After this, delegated researchers reported on individual joint research projects conducted during the third term. SNCF representatives then briefly described one matter of topical interest that had arisen during the seminar, test conditions when the TGV achieved its speed record.

### Franco-Japan Railway Technology Symposium

The Franco-Japan Railway Technology Symposium was held at the Maison Franco-Japonaise in Ebisu, Shibuya, Tokyo on May 25, 2007, under the co-organization of the Societe Franco-Japonaise des Techniques Industrielles, the Embassy of France in Japan, SNCF and RTRI. A total of 160 participants attended, from the Embassy of France, SNCF, Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, the JR group of companies, and other organizations. The symposium opened with speeches by Mr. AKITA, RTRI President, and Mr. YAMASHITA, Deputy Director-General for Engineering Affairs at the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

During the morning session, keynote addresses were given by Mr. ARMAND, Counselor for Scientific and Technical Affairs at the Embassy of France in Japan, and Mr. CARON, honorary professor at the Universite Sorbonne, Paris IV. Next, speakers from both countries spoke on the history of railway technological exchanges. During the afternoon session, presentations were given by representatives from RTRI and SNCF (future development of railway technology), East Japan Railway Company (technological developments in the IT sector), Central Japan Railway Company (technological developments in the environmental sector), and Japan Freight Railway Company (technological developments in the freight sector).

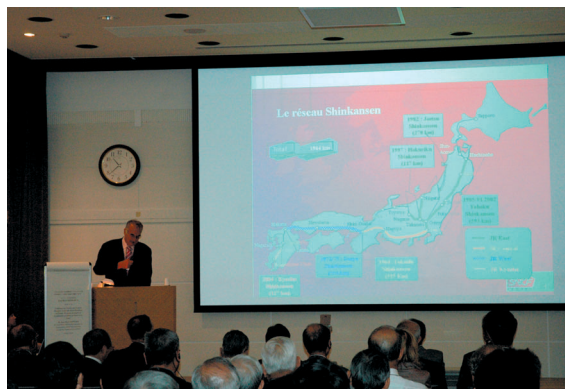
After the symposium, Ambassador Gildas LE LIDEC gave a reception at the residence of the Ambassador of France to Japan. Mr. MARUYAMA, Special Advisor to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, and Mr. Shuichiro YAMANOUCI, formerly Chairman of East Japan Railway Company, spoke at the reception.



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RTRI and SNCF representatives



Franco-Japan Railway Technology Symposium



Reception hosted by the ambassador of France to Japan