Publishing English Digests of Design and Maintenance Standards for Railway Structures and Commentaries

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The Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) provides standard design and maintenance techniques for railway structures (design and maintenance standards for railway structures with commentaries) based on relevant government ordinances. So far, RTRI has published 11 types of design techniques and five types of maintenance techniques for railway structures. These techniques are employed in the design, construction and maintenance of railway structures in Japan. They are among the most advanced techniques in the field of railways in the world. With the aim of introducing them to many countries around the world and making them become widespread in the future, RTRI has prepared English digests of the basic matters contained in its standards. The digests concisely describe the characteristics and essential points of the original texts so that the underlying concepts of the standards can be understood easily.

As a first step, RTRI published four digests of the most needed design standards for concrete structures, earth structures, seismic design and displacement limits, respectively, and one digest of the maintenance standards for railway structures. They represent a performance-based system that is still rare in the world. RTRI considers that they can be applied at many different construction sites overseas. Concerning English digests of the design and maintenance standards for railway tunnels (cut-and-cover, mountain and shield) and composite structures, RTRI are preparing them for publication early next year. In addition, RTRI has plans to publish English digests of the other standards in the near future.

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1. Design Standards for Railway Structures and Commentary (Concrete Structures)
2. Design Standards for Railway Structures and Commentary (Earth Structures)
3. Design Standards for Railway Structures and Commentary (Seismic Design)
4. Design Standards for Railway Structures and Commentary (Displacement Limits)
5. Maintenance Standards for Railway Structures and Commentary