

Collaboration with the Rail Safety and Standards Board in the U.K.

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The Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) has been collaboration with the Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) in the UK, consulting on the promotion of joint research, and discussing fundamental issues. As a result of this work, a memorandum with RSSB was concluded in October 2008. This is summarized below.

RSSB is an organization in the UK that is promoting leading activities in the research and evaluation of safety and in other fields based on the knowledge obtained from a number of accidents in the past.

The purpose of RTRI in concluding this agreement is to establish an organizational and collaboration relationship with RSSB to promote joint research and to exchange information, so aiming to foster research and development on safety evaluation and other themes.

To clarify the role and purpose of each party in promoting joint research, the two parties agreed the following two themes in different categories.

<1> “Joint research themes” to execute joint research in accordance with the role specifically assigned to each party.

<2> “Information exchange themes” to frequently exchange information between the two parties for the purpose of improving their technological competence.

The two parties shall complete research on these themes in two years and hold a joint meeting once every two years thereafter to report the research results.

Dr. N. Kumagai, Executive Director (Research and Development), RTRI, and Mr. A. Jack, RSSB, have been nominated as representatives of each party in regard to the promotion of the joint research.



The joint research started in October 2008 after the memorandum was concluded. As the first themes on “joint research” and “information exchange,” the following two topics were chosen after prior negotiations between the two parties. The description within brackets represents the research division involved on the RTRI side.

○ Joint research

“Effect of human factors in the risk assessment and the method to classify human behaviors” (Human Science Division)

○ Information exchange

“Failure of wheel axle and ultrasonic flaw detection for hollow axles” (Vehicle Structure Technology Division)

In the future, the two parties will exchange information on their master plan for research and development and determine themes useful for both parties. Exchanging researchers will also be discussed in parallel.



Dr. N. Kumagai (RTRI) and Mr. A. Jack (RSSB)

