



Newsletter on the  
Latest Technologies  
Developed by RTRI

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# Railway Technology Avalanche

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## RTRI's International Activities

**Masao UCHIDA**  
Vice President

RTRI's international activities are steadily developing. This can be seen in the positive presentation of research results at a number of international conferences, in the promotion of joint studies and exchanges of researchers with overseas railway research organizations, in the implementation of technological support and co-operation with foreign countries, in the dissemination of information through the Internet and publication of periodicals and in the enforcement of international standardization by the Railway International Standard Center as outlined below.

RTRI is now promoting joint research with organizations and universities in foreign countries such as French National Railways (SNCF), China Academy of Railway Sciences (CARS), Korea Railroad Research Institute (KRRRI), Railway Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) in the UK and the University of Cambridge to utilize the excellent abilities of RTRI's counterparts to carry out research and development. In this way, RTRI is aiming at attaining new research achievements and disseminating and collecting information through staff exchanges, while simultaneously expecting these activities to give RTRI a greater presence in the field of railway technologies.

To disseminate the outcome from its research and development programmes to foreign countries, RTRI encourages its staff to positively contribute and present their theses at international conferences and to foreign academic societies. Promotion of international conferences also provides RTRI with valuable chances to make its presence widely known among railway engineers and operators across the world. To celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its inauguration, RTRI held an international forum on railway research and development in 1992. The World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR), which originated from this forum, has now taken root as a full-fledged international congress. In 1999, RTRI hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> WCRR at the Kunitachi Head Office Laboratory as the main venue. The 10<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Railway Noise (IWRN 10) was also held in Japan.

International action is being taken in unison by the public and private sectors to disseminate the highly-advanced technologies cultivated by Japan for many years in the field of high-speed railways and of urban transit systems through a number of projects in developed and developing countries. RTRI plays a major role in this work by documenting the bases for the standards of railway technologies in Japan and evaluating railway systems through tests and analyses.

While it contributes/presents theses to international conferences and foreign academic societies, RTRI periodically issues a Quarterly Report (QR), a publication of theses in English, News Letters to promptly release the topics and research results and an Annual Report summarizing its activities every year. The contents of these documents are also made available through the Internet.

To ensure its continued development in the future, it is essential for the matured railway industry in Japan to advance into overseas markets. To respond to the requirement of the railway industry as a whole, therefore, RTRI incorporated the Railway International Standard Center into its organization in 2010. This move represented a concerted effort in strategic terms to attain success in the international standardization programme for the whole railway industry. It is thought that participation in individual standardization activities contributes significantly to the enhancement of the research ability of researchers and simultaneously advances the performance of RTRI.

RTRI's international activities hitherto have effectively confirmed the significance of its presence throughout the world. As its activities now also encompass an international standardization programme, it has become an urgent requirement for RTRI to increase its human resources to cover this additional activity. However, this cannot be achieved overnight. RTRI will therefore address this problem systematically and strategically. To attain its due reputation in international circles, RTRI is now required to concentrate its corporate efforts on this demanding mission.



内田雅夫