

A Commemorative Symposium The 25th Anniversary of the Foundation of RTRI Preparing to Meet the Challenges of the Next 25 Years

Haruo YAMAMOTO

Deputy Director, Planning Division

On December 9, 2011, the Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) held a special symposium to commemorate the 25th anniversary of its foundation with about 430 executive and other members in attendance. The purpose of the symposium was to consider what we should do in the coming 25 years. This included reviewing the history of RTRI from the incorporation to the present time amid the progress and changes that occurred during the 25 years after the division/privatization of Japanese National Railways.



Panel discussion



A scene of the discussions at the symposium

In a three part program to deal with the themes of the past, the present and the future, two lectures and a session for panel discussion were arranged. In the lecture 1, we reviewed the activities from the incorporation to the present time with photos and charts



referred to as necessary. In the lecture 2, we summarized the directions to follow and subjects to adopt in order to enhance the presence of RTRI based on the current status of railway businesses. In the panel discussion, we discussed the management, operation and need for research and development in the future based on the results of lectures 1 and 2. Questions/answers and opinions were actively exchanged between panelists and other participants, and led to a renewal of our resolve for the success of RTRI in the coming 25 years.



Moderator: President Tarumi

Lecture 1	Theme: Twenty-Five Years to Upgrade the Function of Railways Lecturer: Hideyuki Takai, Director, Planning Division
Lecture 2	Theme: What should we do now? Lecturer: Norimichi Kumagai, Vice President
Panel Discussion	Theme: Foreseeing the Coming 25 Years for RTRI Moderator: Hisashi Tarumi, President Panelist: Norimichi Kumagai, Vice President, and other five members

Program at the symposium to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the foundation