



Newsletter on the Latest Technologies Developed by RTRI

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Open Innovation and International Cooperation

Ryuji TSUCHIYA

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In recent years, attention has been focused on “open innovation”. This concept refers to technical innovation being brought about by properly combining in-house technologies any particular organization has with external technologies and ideas. Behind this trend is the belief that an organization that solely relies on a self-developed unique technology is likely to face difficulty in meeting the dynamic needs of society undergoing drastic change. Another driving factor is the possibility of being able to quickly secure competitive advantages improves through collaboration with other organizations. A similar trend is now intensifying in the R&D sector, and parties concerned are expected to produce innovative results of research and development by reinforcing cooperation and collaboration with other domestic and foreign organizations.

RTRI is actively advancing cooperative research with domestic and foreign universities or businesses. RTRI is implementing various research topics through comprehensive joint research agreements with the China Academy of Railway Sciences (CARS), the Korea Railroad Research Institute (KRRRI), National Society of French Railways (Société Nationale des Chemins de fer Français: SNCF), and the Rail Safety and Standards Board (RSSB) of the UK. In addition, RTRI is engaged in joint studies with the University of Cambridge, the University of Bristol, the



Polytechnic University of Milan (Politecnico di Milano), and with other universities in the world to study individual research issues.

Today, as the values and advantages of railways are increasingly recognized around the globe, often with a focus on high-speed railway services, we think it necessary for each country to globally share problems, industrial visions, and technical challenges with railway technicians and engineers in other countries in order to enhance the values of railways in general and, at the same time to further strengthen our collaboration towards common goals. RTRI is going to continue the efforts to help people in various regions in the world to utilize railways as an effective tool for enhancing their mobility.