

President Kumagai Delivered Key-note Speech at the Stephenson Conference

Norimichi Kumagai, President of RTRI, delivered a keynote speech at the Stephenson Conference, an international conference hosted by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. The Conference was held in London from April 21 to 23. President Kumagai introduced a history of development of railways in Japan and gave a broad view of the contribution of railways to the Japanese society and economy. Specifically he extended his speech to include the contribution of RTRI and its predecessor, the Railway

Technical Research Institute of Japanese National Railways, to Japan's railway technology and, especially, the Shinkansen high-speed railway technology. Taking this opportunity, President Kumagai visited the office of the Rail Safety and Standard Board (RSSB) located in London to exchange views with Mr. Chris Fenton, CEO of RSSB, who also delivered a keynote speech in the Stephenson Conference. One of topics between them was future cooperation between RTRI and RSSB.



President Kumagai delivering lecture at the Stephenson Conference



President Kumagai in RSSB office

RTRI's researcher wins UIC Global Research & Innovation Award

RTRI's Dr. Masamichi Sogabe won the UIC Global Research Innovation Award for 2014. He is Senior Researcher in the Railway Dynamics Division, and was given the award in the category of railway safety and security for his research "A Method to Evaluate the Safety of a Train Running on a Sequence of Structures in an Earthquake."

The award ceremony was held on December 3, 2014 at the Automobile Club de France in Paris. On behalf of Dr. Sogabe, RTRI's Dr. Munemasa Tokunaga, Researcher in the Structural Mechanics Group, received the award certificate and plaque from IRRB's Chairman, Mr. Boris Lapidus, and Director of the UIC Fundamental Values Department, Mr. Jerzy Wisniewski. Later in Japan, the certificate and plaque were handed to Dr. Sogabe by RTRI's President Kumagai.

The award ceremony was held on December 3, 2014 at the



Awards Ceremony



The certificate was handed by President Kumagai

The First Annual Meeting Held by RTRI's Center for Railway Earthquake Engineering Research

RTRI established the Center for Railway Earthquake Engineering Research in April 2014 with a goal of making the Center function as a "base site" for railway earthquake engineering, while "integrating" its various applicable research resources. As a forum for introducing past and ongoing activities of the Center and its vision for the future, a first annual meeting was held at the Tokyo International Forum on March 23, 2015. A total of 142 persons attended from the railway operators, government offices and agencies, universities, and companies in various sectors.



Opening address by Norimichi KUMAGAI, President of the RTRI

At the meeting, the "Earthquake Information System for Railways" was introduced. The distribution of this information is planned to start in April 2015. The system analyzes input data and releases to railway operators the earthquake information as soon as it is obtained from public agencies immediately after earthquake occurrence.