R & D of Superconducting Maglev and Applications of its Technology to Conventional Railway System

Masaru IWAMATSU

The superconducting Maglev system has advanced successfully since the Maglev cars commenced running on the Yamanashi test line. Further, the deliberations about the commercial service of the Chuo-Shinkansen have extensively been done by the government council. The Railway Technical Research Institute is now promoting the fundamental research based on the latest report of 2009 submitted by the Maglev Technology Practically Evaluation Committee. This report describes the recent research trends on the major components of the superconducting Maglev system such as superconducting magnets and ground coils. In addition, the outline is introduced about some research attempts in which application of superconducting and linear motor technology to the conventional railway system has been examined.