Recent Trend of Research and Development on Materials for Railway

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Research and development of materials for railway are carried out, supposing that safety is ensured, so as to meet such requirements of railway companies as longer durability and higher function of railway equipment components currently put to practical use, and labor saving deterioration inspection and maintenance of railway facilities currently used. To achieve the above-mentioned, analytical methods and measurement are regarded as key technologies. In addition, reduction of the use of minor metals and energy conservation is strongly demanded in terms of the protection of environment. This review describes some of results of recent research and development in the material technologies and introduces the new materials, and analytical methods and measurement.