

Holding of the High-Speed Rail Conference

- On October 22, “International High-Speed Rail Conference: High-Speed Rail Accelerating toward the Future” was held in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Tokaido Shinkansen, hosted by IHRA, Central Japan Railway Company (JR Central), West Japan Railway Company (JR West), and Kyushu Railway Company (JR Kyushu).
- 304 guests (71 from abroad) attended this event, including guests from total of 11 different countries and regions.
- At the conference, the guest speakers provided a lecture on Shinkansen System’s role in society and its historical background. Also, five High-Speed Rail operators, including Taiwan High-Speed Rail, looked back at their Shinkansen’s history of development and the characteristics of each system.
- In the latter part of the conference, we invited panelists from countries with ongoing High-Speed Rail Projects, and discussed on the future task of the projects and the social benefits of the High-Speed Rail. The discussion was very meaningful.
- We believe that the content of the conference were very productive, both for guests from countries with ongoing High-Speed Rail Projects, and for guests related to Japanese High-Speed Rail.
- We also shared information regarding the future plan of the SCMAGLEV train, which is recognized as one of the next generation of the High-Speed Rail.
- Overall, it was a meaningful conference, sharing knowledge and experience of Japanese High-Speed Rail.

[Conference Program]

(Honorifics Omitted)

Opening Address Koei Tsuge, President, JR Central

Keynote Lecture

Theme: The Rapid Progress of High-Speed Rail

~The contribution of the Shinkansen system to global transformation~

Masafumi Shukuri, Chairman, IHRA

Special Lecture

Theme: The son of the spirit of Stevenson, the father of the Shinkansen:

~Shinji Sogo and His Template that Changed the Railway World

Tim Fischer,

Former Deputy Prime Minister of Australian Government

Session I

Presentations Theme: Development history of Japanese High-Speed Rail

Moderator: Shigeru Morichi, Director of Policy Research Center,
National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

Panelists: Shun-ichi Kosuge,

Corporate Executive Officer, JR Central

Norihiko Yoshie,

Director and Senior Executive Officer, JR West

Takao Nishiyama, Executive Director, JR East

Toshihiko Aoyagi, President, JR Kyushu

Wen-Liang Liu, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation

Session II

Panel-Discussion Theme: Development of HSR in the World

~Challenges and Future Perspectives~

Moderator: Roderick Smith, Research Professor,
Imperial College (U.K.)

Panelists: Bryan Nye, CEO, Australasian Railway Association

N.K. Singh, Honorable member of Parliament in India

Azmi Abdul Aziz, Chief Development Officer,

Land Public Transport Commission of Malaysia (SPAD)

Chua Chong Kheng, Deputy Chief Executive,

Land Transport Authority of Singapore

Tom Schieffer, Former Ambassador U.S. to Japan

Session III

Presentations Theme: SCMAGLEV Creates Future and Builds a New Society

Koei Tsuge, President, JR Central

Tom Daschle, Former Senate Majority Leader,

TNEM Advisory Board

Summary & Concluding Remarks

Yoshiyuki Kasai, Chairman Emeritus, JR Central

Closing Greeting

Seiji Manabe, President, JR West

[Photos]



Photo 1: Conference Hall (1)



Photo 2: Conference Hall (2)



Photo 3: Keynote Lecture
(IHRA Chairman Shukuri)



Photo 4: Special Lecture
(The Hon. Tim Fischer AC)



Photo 5: Session I Moderator
(Professor Morichi)



Photo 6: Session I Speakers
(HSR Operators)



Photo 7: Session II (Panel Discussion)



Photo 8: Press Conference