

Japan's Contribution to ISO/TC 269

International standardization efforts for the railway industry started many years back, involving the International Electrotechnical Commission's Technical Committee 9 (IEC/TC 9) dealing with electrical equipment and systems for railways. Efforts in technical areas other than the electrotechnical and electronic products and services which are covered by IEC/TC 9, started in earnest in 2012 when the International Organization of Standardization established Technical Committee 269 (ISO/TC 269) Railway Applications. In 2016, three sub-committees were created under TC 269 to deal with infrastructure, rolling stock, and operations and services, respectively, further expanding the scope of deliberations for standardization.

Japan currently provides the chairperson for TC 269, the secretariat for the sub-committee on operations and services, and the convenor in six of the 13 working groups in charge of standardization development, thus playing a leading role in, and making great contribution to, the success of TC 269, its sub-committees, and related standards deliberations. The Railway



International Standards Center of RTRI is a deliberation body in Japan for technical committees and sub-committees.

During the six years that have passed since TC 269 was created, a significant number of standards and related results have been published following deliberations. One of these publications is a technical report, ISO/TR 21245, *Rail Project Planning Process*. For any rail project to succeed, it is essential to fully identify and consider a range of factors in the planning stage before selecting appropriate technologies and methods. ISO/TR 21245 should help even a first-timer on rail projects to clearly present the project's needs so that plans that reflect those needs can be developed in an efficient manner. Utilizing this process offers a variety of benefits. Plans can be developed in less time and at lower costs, while risks can be minimized. ISO/TR 21245 was developed following a proposal to that effect by Japan, which also played a leading role in its deliberations, contributing to the growth of the railway industry around the world. Hopefully, ISO/TR 21245 will continue to be utilized in the planning stage of various types of railway projects worldwide.



Mr. Kiyotaka Seki
General Director
Railway International Standards Center