

Prof. Masao Mukaidono Chairman of RTRI

Since I have served as councilor of RTRI for many years, I know very well what RTRI's researchers are doing and I hope to contribute to RTRI's further development. I am deeply interested in safety and security and have been proposing to build "safenology" that analyzes safety through integrated research into aspects of technologies, organization and human resources. Now, I am very pleased to get involved in railway safety and safety culture.

RTRI has been building trust in society through establishing advanced technologies as a unique, specialized railway technical research organization. We have the responsibility to continue, maintain and develop what has been built so far. The RTRI prospectus states: "RTRI develops advanced, broad range technologies covering basic ones to practical applications, accurately responds to the need of society and contributes to the development of science and culture of Japan." We have to

Message from the New Chairman Prof Masao MUKAIDONO

continue this contribution to society with united efforts and with pride. The Covid-19 pandemic has drastically changed the world and pushed us towards a new era. No organizations will be able to survive without changing their ways of working. RTRI also has to adopt a new approach. However, a crisis can be transformed into an opportunity, and this is the time to share our wisdom. We need to go forward into a new society.

Although society is always changing, I believe we should not change our basic principles. Keeping the respect for the basic principles and ideals, we should read the changing times and the future and respond to them flexibly. Business entities should respect three categories of safety. First is the safety of customers including product safety in the field of manufacturing and in the world of rail operation - the inherent safety of the railway. The second is the safety of employees to ensure their safe, healthy and happy lives. The third is the safety of the corporate entity, which means a sustainability achieved through complying with laws and orders, fulfilling corporate social responsibility, and gaining the trust of society. My reponsibility at RTRI is to overview RTRI's activities from a different, broader, and longer perspective and to create, with all the board members and staff members, a comfortable workplace where we can all work happily and with high motivation.

Front Cover Image:

RTRI numerically simulated the ventilation of an urban commuter train with windows opened, using the airflow simulator which RTRI developed, and evaluated its effect.

Upper Left:

Air-conditioned and fanned cabin model

Center:

Cabin air ventilated through open windows

Bottom Right:

Velocity distribution in a cabin

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