

Message from Managing Editor



Hisayo DOI
Managing Editor
General Manager (International Affairs),
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The special series “The Initiatives of its Technology Divisions,” which has presented the research highlights of RTRI’s center and twenty research divisions since Ascent No. 13, concludes with this issue.

This edition features a broad spectrum of breakthroughs in railway technology—including state-of-the-art Maglev systems, superconducting power supply, enhanced earthquake resilience, vehicle safety innovations, and digital solutions to improve maintenance efficiency. Readers will discover the latest achievements driving railway innovation.

Additionally, we introduce “RESEARCH 2030,” RTRI’s new five-year master plan launched in April 2025, detailing our key initiatives for strengthening resilience to natural disasters, leveraging digital technologies, advancing decarbonization, and enhancing safety toward sustainable railway systems. The master plan also focuses on the promotion and expansion of joint research with overseas institutions; notably, in July, RTRI concluded a new cooperation agreement with a German research center for railways. Through these efforts, RTRI continues to advance its research and development activities.

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