Special Topic

Toward the Development of World Railways

Amid an increasing global awareness of environmental issues and the economic growth of emerging economies, interest in railways as environmentally friendly public transportation systems is on the increase, which has resulted in the current consideration of many railway projects around the world.

On November 1, 2011, JR East established Japan International Consultants for Transportation Co., Ltd. (JIC), a company that provides consulting services to overseas railway companies. The company was formed jointly with West Japan Railway Company, Tokyo Metro Co., Ltd., and other domestic railway operators which have good records of performance achievements and know-how regarding all kinds of rail transportation, including high-speed railways, urban railways, and freight railways. The aim of the company is to contribute to railway development throughout the world by supporting all aspects of railway systems, including surveying, design, construction supervision, operation, and maintenance.

With JIC at the head, we are currently conducting various overseas railway consulting projects including feasibility studies and design work. We will, furthermore, cooperate with both Japanese and foreign companies to participate in overseas railway projects, including both operational and maintenance aspects (planning, instructing, and supporting train operations and facility maintenance). In particular, we are prioritizing Asia, an area that is growing remarkably, as well as responding to railway projects in all regions and are contributing to global railway development.

With the task of railway project information gathering, in addition to the previously established New York and Paris offices, in November 2012, we established Brussels, Belgium office, followed by a Singapore office in March 2013.



Railway in Myanmar



Railway in Ghana

Overseas expansion of railcar manufacturing

We are aiming to establish railcar manufacturing operations as the fourth pillar of management by taking full advantage of the synergy of Japan Transport Engineering Company (J-TREC), which joined the JR East Group in April 2012, and the Niitsu Rolling Stock Plant.

We will, furthermore, continue to improve our Group's comprehensive technological capabilities, which range from manufacturing to operations and maintenance, with the aim of expanding the global market share of Japanese railcars. J-TREC in particular is pursuing a business strategy that demonstrates the advantages, such as high reliability and low lifecycle costs, of its stainless steel railcars, which are marketed under the brand name Sustina.

With the specific target of overseas growth, Group companies are currently enhancing their structures and nurturing overseas business expansion by combining tangible and intangible know-how. In December 2012, for example, J-TREC established the Overseas Business Promotion Office and East Japan Transport Technology Co., Ltd. launched its Overseas Business Department.



Exhibit in the International Trade Fair for Transport Technology

Global Human Resources Development Program —Ever Onward

Aiming for the nurturing of people who will be capable of increasing overseas development, JR East promotes the Global Human Resources Development Program—Ever Onward, which provides such options as overseas studies, overseas dispatch to public institutions and companies, and overseas railway consulting work on-the-job training (OJT). Overseas railway consulting work, OJT training, is a program conducted with the objective of developing human resources capable of serving as heart of the railway consulting business. In fiscal 2013, 22 people selected through open application were dispatched to Cairo (Egypt), Hanoi (Vietnam), and Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), and other trainees are actively working all around the world.



OJT in Cairo



OJT in Hanoi