

JAPAN Railway & Transport REVIEW

Special Feature

Domestic Transportation in Japan— Present and Future

Another Perspective

Japanese Trains

People

Mr. Masamitsu Minegishi

Japanese Railway History

Dawn of Japanese Railways



March 1994 Number **1**

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Greetings from the Chairman

The East Japan Railway Culture Foundation was established in March 1992 by East Japan Railway Company (JR East). JR East now operates JNR's railways in the eastern part of the main island of Honshu including Tokyo. The Foundation has three main objectives: promoting cultural events, promoting research and studies on transport management and engineering, and promoting international exchange regarding transport.

The *Japan Railway and Transport Review* is a quarterly English-language publication. It is a new undertaking by the Foundation to keep overseas readers informed about the latest developments in Japan's domestic transport system. Japan has not so far made sufficient effort to communicate with others worldwide about its railways and domestic transport. However, since international exchanges have become very popular in every sector of life, we think it is both appropriate and important to explain Japan's policy about railways and other domestic transportation, as well as the management strategies of transport operators, the latest technologies and the history of Japanese transport. We will introduce both the management and technical aspects of Japanese transport as well as the people who work on transport, to draw your attention to the human and cultural aspects of transport in Japan.

We would also like to present a venue for international exchange of views and experiences about various transport issues throughout the world. Each issue of this magazine will have a specific theme and we will ask both Japanese and foreign specialists, journalists, scholars, etc., to contribute articles on each theme to share their experiences and views with others.

Japan Railway and Transport Review is a non-profit publication. We hope to distribute 3,000 copies to people in international bodies, governments, legislatures, transport authorities and businesses, universities and research institutes, media, etc., who are concerned about transport. Your contribution is always welcome. Please send us your impressions and opinions about this first issue and its editorial policy. Your active support will make this magazine a new medium of information and international exchange about transport.

March 1994

Shoji Sumita

Chairman, East Japan Railway Culture Foundation

CONTENTS

Special Feature Domestic Transportation in Japan—Present and Future

Japan's Transport Market—Railways as a Major Player Yataro Fujii	2
Japanese Transport—much to be done for infrastructure Takao Nagai	8
Privatisation—Background and Future Tasks Eiji Hosoya	12
Railways in Japan—An Overseas Perspective Ian Smith	18
Japanese Transport Statistics	21

Another Perspective Japanese Trains Corinne Bret

People Dancing Hero - Mr. M. Minegishi, Suigun Line Area Manager

Japanese Railway History Dawn of Japanese Railways Eiichi Aoki

Topics	31	Book Review	36
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