

## Major International Conferences

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1. The 27th US-Japan Bridge Engineering Workshop and the 15th MLIT/FHWA Bridge Engineering Meeting (Japan: November 7 to 9, 2011)

The US-Japan Bridge Engineering Workshop is held annually, alternately by the U.S. and by Japan, as an activity of Working Committee G (traffic systems) established under the US-Japan Panel on Wind and Seismic Effects, making up the United States-Japan Cooperative Program in Natural Resources (UJNR).

At this workshop, which was held in Tsukuba, participants presented papers concerning the Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunamis, seismic retrofitting, evaluations of load bearing capacity, maintenance, inspections, etc. (Japan side 17, U.S. side 13), and discussed and exchanged views concerning the papers.

The MLIT/FHWA intergovernmental conference is a meeting with the US Federal Highway Administration concerning bridge structures, which is a cooperation theme under the US-Japan Agreement on Cooperation in Research and Development in Science and Technology. At this meeting, the participants exchanged views concerning methods of applying inspection data to bridge maintenance, impact of long duration earthquake motion based on experience of the Chile earthquake which had occurred in February 2010, and the impact on bridges of tsunami caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011. They also confirmed that both sides would carry out continued exchanges of information and survey research in the future.

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- 2 The 18th ITS World Congress and Bilateral Meetings (U.S.: October 16 to 20, 2011)

The Intelligent Transport System Division, in cooperation with the Road Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, participated in the 18th ITS World Congress held in Orlando (U.S.). In addition to announcing papers (6), its delegates took the rostrum to give presentations at special sessions (4 sessions), and at the same time, participated in international side events held in conjunction with the World Congress (2 workshops). And at bilateral meetings (with the U.S., European Commission, China, Korea), the delegation exchanged information and discussed future cooperative research with each ITS related authority, and at the same time, participated in several meetings and collected the most recent information concerning EU-U.S. Joint Task Force activities on cooperative ITS.

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