## [TRANSLATION]

May 25, 2012 Central Japan Railway Company

Announcing the International High-Speed Railway Conference, Japan, Autumn 2014 Commemorating 50 years of the Shinkansen ~*High-Speed Rail Accelerating toward the Future*~ (tentative title)

October 1, 2014 will mark half a century since the Tokaido Shinkansen commenced its landmark high-speed rail operations between Tokyo and Osaka.

2014 will also mark the completion of the upgrading of approximately 43 kilometers of the Superconducting Maglev (SCMAGLEV) Test Line in Yamanashi and the resumption of the test running of the SCMAGLEV, a revolutionary high-speed rail technology which will deployed on the Chuo Shinkansen Project linking Tokyo and Osaka.

To mark these milestones we will be holding an International High-Speed Railway Conference "Commemorating 50 Years of the Shinkansen ~ *High-Speed Rail Accelerating toward the Future* ~" (tentative title).

The Tokaido Shinkansen commenced operations in 1964 as the world's first genuinely high-speed rail system and immediately had an enormous impact on Japan's economy. With its remarkable evolution following the break-up and privatization of Japanese National Railways in 1987 the Tokaido Shinkansen has continued its pivotal role supporting Japan's society and economy providing unparalleled levels of safety, reliability, comfort, speed and frequency, transporting large volumes of passengers daily in an environmentally friendly way.

The superior performance and the zero fatality record of the Tokaido Shinkansen can be attributed to a number of unique features, including the fact that it runs on dedicated track where there are no conventional or freight trains and the need for grade crossings has been eliminated. This complete separation eliminates the possibility of collisions. The Tokaido Shinkansen is a totally integrated system consisting of civil engineering structures, tracks, electrical facilities, signaling equipment, rolling stock, operation control systems, and repair and maintenance. Over the years, continual investment in all aspects of the system have led to further technological advances which have contributed to unprecedented performance levels.

Central Japan Railway Company (JR Central) believes that it is in a position to make important contributions to the world's transportation needs by sharing the Tokaido Shinkansen's unique technological advantages described above. Accordingly, JR Central is now pursuing opportunities to deploy the Tokaido Shinkansen System outside of Japan to create a new global standard for high-speed rail. The International High-Speed Railway Conference will provide an opportunity for national and regional representatives involved in transportation infrastructure to discuss the future of high-speed rail around the world and to hear from industry and technological experts on issues related to the deployment of high-speed rail systems.

We will also be providing an opportunity for participants to experience the SCMAGLEV which, running at a speed of up to 500km/h, will give them a glimpse into a new age of high-speed rail.

- International High-Speed Railway Conference "Commemorating 50 Years of the Shinkansen ~ *High-Speed Rail Accelerating toward the Future*~ (tentative title)"
  - 1. Time: Autumn 2014
  - 2. Participants:

Government representatives and railway operators from nations and regions already operating high-speed railway systems and from nations that are looking to introduce high-speed rail systems with dedicated lines like that of the Tokaido Shinkansen, as well as experts in the fields of transportation, the environment, etc.

3. Co-Sponsors:

West Japan Railway Company (JR West), Kyushu Railway Company (JR Kyushu)

4. Contents:

We will look at the historic role of high-speed rail and discuss how it will develop in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

5. Organizing Division: General Technology Division