

Participating to Experiment of "Mobile WiMAX Broadband Communication Service Solution For Taiwan High Speed Rail"

Industrial Technology Research Institute of Taiwan R.O.C. (ITRI), NTT BroadbandPlatform,Inc (NTTBP), and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) announced that they had agreed to participate to Experiment of "Mobile WiMAX Broadband Communication Service Solution For Taiwan High Speed Rail."

Taiwan High Speed Rail (THSR) has carried over 24,466,218 passengers, becoming one of the most popular transportation in Taiwan, and is highly appreciated by passengers for its speed and convenience. In order to provide better communication service to THSR passengers, providing broadband internet service in High Speed Rail train is crucial R&D topics, thus, ITRI has inaugurated a project team to build facilities and carry on the system tests and investigation for THSR.

Based on their technology and know-how for the award receiving "Tsukuba Express" in-train wireless LAN internet service which has been provided since 2005, NTTBP and NTT Access Network Service System Laboratories will take part in the joint experiment respecting THSR Internet connection service using WiMAX. Their specific technical contributing items are as follows:

- Design wireless area for intra-car communication so as to provide WLAN access service to THSR passengers.
- Study inter-car communication method, and design network structure for cars.
- Design entrance communication area with WiMAX between high speed THSR trains running 300km/h and ground.
- Evaluate the radio propagation and communication quality, and investigate improvement methods for the quality while traveling at high speed.

Currently, under ITRI's management, involved partners* have been constructing facilities in order to assess the feasibility for wireless internet system deployment for inter- and intra-cars, and evaluate the propagation loss between inside and outside of the train. They are also planning to examine prototype system, which simulates the actual service, using WiMAX technology up on the route from HsinChu to Taoyuan (suburban and tunnel geography) and in the Southern Taiwan Science Park (open-space geography & high speed) area.

* Involved partners: Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation
ZyXEL Communications Corporation
Corning Incorporated

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