

# **Growth and Future Developments of R&D in the Japanese Construction Industry**



Kajima Corp., Obayashi Corp., Taisei Corp., and Takenaka Corp.

## **Growth and Developments of Technological Research Institutes**

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Says Dr. Shin Okamoto in his Preface :

This Report highlights five major construction companies and analyses their R&D activities, mainly building construction areas, from the viewpoint of their technological research institutes. To begin with, a research institute, whether it is a national organization or organization owned by a private company, requires highly specialised knowledge, and at the same time the ability to make a rapid accurate response to the needs of the society and/or the construction sites. The former is the vector of subdivisions and detailing directions; and the latter is the vector of generalisation and integration. From the viewpoint of human resources, they stand in a trade-off relation with each other. The common themes for managers of research institutes are how these two totally-opposed directions should be balanced from the standpoint of the country or the private company and how effectively the institutes should be managed for their individual objectives.

The Japanese socio-economic system itself which supported the high economic growth is under pressure for fundamental structural reform. How will the construction industry which is the very symbol of the high economic growth, whether this has a good or bad meaning, be reformed for the approaching 21st Century occupies the world's interest. Probably it is not necessarily prejudice on the part of the writer to see that such reform depends on how the strategy for the reform positions the existence of technology research institutes and connects technical high potentiality to the future development. It may be hard to claim that this report provides sufficient analysis from this standpoint, but it can be considered to be vital material for exploring the direction of R&D in the future construction industry.

This Report describes the history, current situation and future of technological research institutes owned by five general contractors, which are called the 'Major 5'.

### **Chapter Headings**

- Outline of the Construction industry in Japan.
- Major General Contractors and the Major 5.
- Profiles of the Major 5.
- Technological Research Institutes of the Major 5.
- The Nature, Characteristics and Recent Situations of Technological Development in the Japanese Construction Industry.
- R&D Activities in Japan and Recent Trends of R&D in the Construction Industry - Statistical Data.
- Prospects of the Private Technological Research Institutes - Viewpoints of the Heads of the Major 5 Research Institutes.
- Environmental Change Surrounding the Construction Industry and R&D.
- Future States of the Technology Research Institutes.

This important new CIB Publication contains data unpublished in its annotated comparative form elsewhere.

What role have the technological research institutes of private companies played in promoting technological development ?

What sort of mammoth budgets characterise the Technological Research Institutes of the Major 5 ?

How many researches are actually at work in the Japanese construction industry ?

What is "quantity time" and why has it ended ?

What are the future themes of R&D and the Research Institutes ?

These are just some of the Questions to which the Publication attempts to give an answer.

Approximately 50 pages, Illustrated

## **Prices**

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