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Current Trends and Issues Facing the Capital Facilities Industry

2000 11 16

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY INSTITUTE

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The construction Industry Institute (CII) is a consortium of leading users and suppliers of Engineering and Construction Services, working in partnership with Academia, dedicated to improving the constructed project and the capital investment process. Its mission is to improve the safety, quality, schedule, and cost effectiveness of its members and the industry through research, education, and implementation support. CII's core processes are: Research, Implementation, Education, Benchmarking, and Globalization.

Our members are currently ninety-two of the largest owner, contractor, and industry supplier organizations in North America. The combined revenue of the member companies is more than one trillion dollars annually. The membership is split about evenly between owners and contractors/suppliers. Our academic partners are thirty-six North American Universities with outstanding Civil Engineering and Construction Management Departments that are staffed with highly qualified researchers and graduate students. At any one time we have approximately twenty of these universities actively engaged on project teams or standing committees.

CII has executed alliances and cooperative agreements with a number of other organizations whose missions are similar or that enhance the work of CII. CERIK, the Construction and Economic Research Institute of Korea has a cooperative agreement with CII as does the Project Management Institute through its Design-Procure-Construct Specific Interest Group.

The cooperative agreement between CII and CERIK was renewed June 5, 2000 for another three years in a signing ceremony in Austin, Texas by Kenneth Eickmann, Director of CII and Dr. Sung-Woong Hong, President of CERIK. The agreement has a provision for extension and addition of terms by mutual consent of the two institutions. The general areas of cooperation spelled out in the agreement are:

1. Exchange of information and research personnel and faculty during their respective sabbatical or other leaves
2. Cooperate in the professional/academic training of mutually acceptable research staffs

3. Preparing and submitting joint proposals to outside international funding agencies or carrying out, with internal or external financial resources, joint projects in Korea, the United States, and/or other countries for the conduct of research, education & implementation, and Benchmarking & Metrics, in the area of construction and capital project management
4. Organize joint seminars or conferences on topics of mutual interest There may be other cooperative forms, not here named, to suit specific needs as situations might develop.

It is envisioned that costs associated with any cooperative initiatives would be carried on a shared basis with the exact details worked out on a case-by-case basis to the satisfaction and mutual agreement of both parties in advance.

Recently, Bok Nam Lee of CERIK and I have identified several possible joint initiatives that we may pursue as part of our cooperative agreement:

- Risk Analysis for International Projects
- How to Leverage Offshore Engineering Centers
- Process and Productivity Comparisons between United States and Korea in Construction.

CII is addressing the major trends and issues facing the Capital Facilities industry today through its selection and funding of research topics and cooperative ventures. This paper and presentation looks at currently active research, research planned for next year, the trends and issues that will determine future research. It will address how we will organize to most effectively conduct future research, take on higher impact and more costly research, and utilize leveraged funding.

Some of the trends and issues that the companies and countries involved in the capital investment process face today are:

- Alternative project delivery and contracting strategies
- E-Commerce

- Supply Chain Integration
- Globalization
- Virtual Teams
- Smarter, healthier, longer lasting buildings
- New construction materials
- Workforce Diversity
- Engineering & Construction Productivity
- Improved Worker and Site Safety
- Design to Enable Construction Automation
- Fully Integrated & Automated Project Processes

CII is currently conducting research on fifteen topics relative to these trends and issues:

Projects finishing in Year 2000

1. Craft Productivity Improvements
2. Radio Frequency Tagging
3. 3D CADD in FIAPP
4. Effects of Field Rework
5. Electronic Simulation in Construction
6. Cumulative Impact of Change Orders

Projects finishing in Year 2001

7. Engineering Productivity Measures
8. Making Zero Accidents a Reality
9. Executing Small Projects
10. Evaluating On-Site Design
11. Project Delivery and Contract Strategy

Project finishing in Year 2001 or 2002

12. Making Virtual Teams Work

13. Improve Construction Supply Chain Performance
14. Pre-Fabrication,Pre- Assembly,Modularization, and Off-Site Fabrication
15. Update Construction Technology Needs

The CII Research Committee has developed a list of topics to be recommended for potential funding next year:

Potential Projects to finish in Year 2002 or 2003

1. E-Commerce Applications for Construction
2. Risk Analysis for International Capital Projects
3. Addressing the Shortage of Skilled Construction Craft Workers in the United States
4. Design Practices to Facilitate Construction Automation
5. Cost Effectiveness of Innovative Crew Scheduling
6. Improve the Project Change Management and Control Process
7. How to Leverage Off-Shore Engineering Centers

This presentation will further explore these issues and trends and CIIs approach to addressing them will be discussed. A panel discussion following the presentation will provide an opportunity to compare views of the industrys trends and issues by the participating countries.

Need for alternative Project Delivery and Contract Strategies:

For years, many owners and nearly all public works have utilized the low bid process to award work to contractors. The belief has been that firm price bidding, with the award going to the lowest bidder, would foster competition and result in the best price for a capital initiative. In recent years owners, public institutions, and local and state governments have become more interested in best value concepts. This has brought about the recognition that, more often than not, low bid does not yield best value. The low bid contracting strategy sets up an automatic adversarial relationship between the owner and the contractor. The owner has the objective of achieving the

lowest price; the contractor has the objective of maximizing profit. Conflict is inevitable, change orders become time consuming and contentious, and legal recourse is often utilized to settle disputes. Owners have become interested in developing more collaborative relationships with their contractors and suppliers. One approach that is being adopted more and more is that of Design-Build. The United States government and individual states are beginning to pass legislation that allows public institutions to utilize the Design-Build contracting strategy. This approach brings the owner and the contractor together much earlier in the planning process in a collaborative relationship. Design-Build and other alliance type relationships that result in collaboration, shared goals, and common objectives are becoming more commonplace.

(CII Research Team 165 Project Delivery and Contract Strategy)

E-Commerce:

The explosive growth of Business-to-Business (B2B) electronic commerce has now been directed at the construction industry, identified as the second largest industry sector in the United States. New companies providing E-Commerce services are being created at a rapid pace and many existing companies are developing tools and services that are being promoted as beneficial to all participants in the capital facility process. Many firms in the capital facilities industry are actively employing the new tools and services, through ownership investment in the new companies, by forming consortiums to create either supply leverage or purchasing demand, or by utilizing the new tools and services on their projects. Few firms in the capital facilities industry understand the current state of this fast-paced change in the industry, or have the ability to predict how it will evolve. We need to better understand the state and direction of the rapid-paced trend toward E-Commerce applications within the capital facilities process.

(CII Potential Research Team E-Commerce Applications for Construction)

Supply Chain Integration:

The manufacturing industry set out several years ago to more effectively integrate

their supply chains, resulting in the widely utilized just in time delivery approach for parts and supplies. This has greatly reduced on site inventory, the infrastructure required to house the inventory, and the associated capital costs. However, the construction industry has been slow to change their supply chain approach. It is common for construction projects to stockpile inventory in an attempt to provide schedule and labor productivity buffers. This results in huge lay-down yards and warehouses to collect the stockpiles, and large staffs to manage the inventory. Since construction projects are normally one-time events, these inventory facilities are always temporary, always different, and almost never develop good operating procedures over time. The end result is often chaos, lost inventory, re-orders, and productivity losses.

Modularization, pre-assembly, and off site construction techniques are well known and when used have proven to be cost effective from both a schedule and labor productivity standpoint. However, the decision to implement these techniques must be made very early in a projects life cycle to be truly cost effective. The initial plan, the engineering, the suppliers, the fabrication shops, and the construction contractor must all be involved early enough to make this approach reality. Once the engineering is complete, its too late to decide to modularize.

Elimination of stockpiles and integration of engineering and fabrication shops are only two of the major opportunities available to the capital facilities industry to improved supply chain management. The time has come for the capital facilities industry to streamline its supply chain.

(CII Research Team 172 Improving Construction Supply Chain Management)

Globalization:

As our virtual world continues to shrink, the physical horizons of nations and corporations are expanding. Manufacturing companies and service providers are expanding globally. Companies that build capital facilities for these organizations are following their clients around the globe. They are running head on into cultural differences, government regulations and restrictions, currency fluctuations, labor force issues, different standards such as job safety requirements. Many have naively rushed

headlong into these uncharted waters without adequate preparation and have paid dearly. Those companies who have learned lessons the hard way are reluctant to share their learnings lest they throw away a hard earned competitive advantage. Few decision tools exist to assist owners and contractors with decisions regarding capital facility planning. Its time for the capital facilities industry to step back and analyze the risks, understand the risks and learn how to mitigate the risk of doing business in foreign nations.

(CII Proposed Research Team Risk Analysis for International Projects)

Virtual Teams:

The Internet and World Wide Web technology have enabled huge quantities of data to be transferred around the world almost instantaneously. This has allowed project work to progress on a twenty-four hour, seven day a week basis, with data transferring to different team members as it follows the sun around the globe. New audio and visual communication technology allows team members who have never met each other face to face to communicate with each other in virtual meetings. While the technology to accomplish this virtual reality is here, the ability of the people to effectively interact in virtual spaces lags behind. People work much better in a face-to-face environment. Interfacing with hardware and meeting over distance and time zones is stressful to humans. We need to develop the procedural and behavioral modifications necessary to overcome this barrier to successful execution of virtual projects.

(CII Research Team 170 Making Virtual Teams Work)

Need for better buildings:

Owners are starting to recognize the need for better, healthier, longer lasting, more cost effective buildings, and more adaptable buildings over their intended life cycle. In the United States, the Federal Facilities Council has established a goal to design smart buildings. The belief is that if we can instrument aircraft and ships to detect problems, to predict needed maintenance, and to schedule required preventive

maintenance, we should be able to do the same thing with buildings. An exception to the longer life concept exists in the business of high technology. Owners involved in high technology need buildings to be designed quickly, built in nine months or less, achieve vertical start up, and provide positive return on investment in a very short period of time. The life cycle of high tech products often don't last any longer than two to three years, therefore facility life cycles can be very short. They need buildings that can be converted quickly to a different purpose.

Workforce Diversity:

The United States is experiencing a decline in the traditional supply of trained and qualified craft workers. The young, white, majority, male population that for so long fed the ranks of the construction craft pool is no longer coming to the industry in the same numbers. The number of women, racial minorities, and non-English speaking workers is growing. We need to find ways to effectively develop this more diverse population of workers into our trained craft workers of tomorrow and to provide meaningful, well paying jobs in this important sector of our economy.

(Potential CII Research Team Addressing the Shortage of Skilled Craft Workers in the U.S.)

Engineering and Craft Productivity:

While most engineering and construction contractors measure productivity using one of many different measures, there are currently no accepted standards for measuring either engineering or construction craft productivity. Therefore, it is difficult to benchmark and compare performance from one contractor to another or from one project to another. We need to develop standard measures that owners, engineering, and construction contractors can accept and universally adopt.

(CII Research Team 156 Engineering Productivity Measures)

(CII Ad Hoc Team Productivity Benchmarks and Measures)

Improved Worker Safety:

Over the past ten years in the United States, on-the-job injuries to construction workers have declined dramatically. Safety performance is measured using U.S. government standards, the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate and the Lost Workday Incident Rate. Nationally, for all construction companies, the Recordable Incident Rate has fallen from 14.3 in 1989 to 8.21 in 1999. The Lost Workday Incident Rate has fallen from 6.80 to 3.67. CII member company safety performance has been even better with their Recordable Rate declining from 7.19 to 1.67. Their Lost Workday Incident Rate has declined from 1.90 to 0.27. While these improvements are dramatic, the rate is still not zero and we still have workers being hurt on the job. We need to be able to build our capital projects without injury to our workers. The U. S. Construction Industry is committed to zero injuries on the job.

(CII Research Team 160 Making Zero Accidents a Reality)

(CII Proposed Team Extending the Zero Accident Reality to Shutdown Projects)

Construction Materials:

The construction industry still uses many of the same materials developed a hundred years ago. The manufacturing industry has modernized their processes and implemented technology advances to achieve productivity improvements. The high tech industry has developed exotic and highly innovative materials to streamline their processes. While that industry has made significant advances in use of new materials, the capital facilities industry still uses many of the same materials used by our fathers and grandfathers to build projects. We need new construction materials. We need products that are stronger, that last longer, that are less costly to put into place, that are easier and more cost effective to maintain over a projects life cycle.

Where will new construction materials and technologies originate? One source may be the same high tech materials used in our military aircraft. Use of fiber reinforced composite materials has resulted in lighter, faster, stealthier, more fuel efficient aircraft. Because the material is very expensive to manufacture, the cost of each airplane built with this material is very high. We need to transfer use of this material to the

construction industry.

In the United States it is estimated that 230,000 bridges have deteriorated below acceptable condition. It is further estimated that \$1.3 trillion will be required to bring our infrastructure up to acceptable condition over the next five years. Roads and highways have deteriorated to the point that motorists spend four times as much fixing damage to their automobiles caused by poor roads than states spend repairing them.

Fiber reinforced composite technology is being implemented in highway construction. Initially, concrete and steel beams of small bridges in need of repair were reinforced with panels of composite material. The result was an 80% increase in beam strength. The next step was to build a bridge completely from this new material, substituting it for concrete and steel. The first all composite bridge was installed in the state of Kansas in October 1966. The bridge, including the guardrails, was shipped to the site and installed in one day. Traffic crossed the bridge before the end of the day. The state of Ohio has passed legislation to foster economic development of composite bridge deck fabrication in Ohio, to establish a composite bridge factory, and has started a project to replace 100 below standard bridges with composite bridges. Not only will the cost of producing fiber reinforced composite material come down, so will the cost of military aircraft.

Designing for Construction Automation:

Construction remains a craft-oriented and labor-intensive industry, with very little automation of construction tasks. In order for the construction industry to achieve the productivity gains and cost reductions experienced by the manufacturing industry, we must find ways to reduce the labor intensity and apply technology and robotics in the construction process. Automation of on-site construction could lead to substantial increases in productivity and reductions in craft hour requirements. One of the barriers to using automation in construction is the traditional design process, which seldom allows or enhances the use of construction automation. We must find collaborative ways to bring the engineering and construction process together earlier in the planning

and engineering phases of capital projects. We must include this issue in our initiative of FIAPP.

(CII Potential Research Team Design Practices to Facilitate Construction Automation)

(CII FIAPP Steering Team)

(FIATECH)

FIAPP - Fully Integrated and Automated Project Processes

CII's vision of FIAPP is having work and information processes for the capital facilities industry that are fully integrated, that communicate seamlessly with each other, that allow data to be entered only once and used in many places during multiple phases of the project. Data would flow back and forth from the engineer, to suppliers, to the fabrication shop, to the general contractor, to the subcontractors, to the startup and commissioning teams, to the facility operators, and back to the engineers for the next phase in the facilities life cycle. At each phase, additional data would be added and available to all users. The facility would be engineered, constructed, commissioned, operated, maintained, remodeled, and decommissioned with the continuous bi-directional flow and addition of project information over the entire life cycle of a capital project in a single integrated package. Different owners, contractors, and suppliers would be able to use the information without having to purchase and learn to use different information management tools.

Achievement of this vision would result in greatly improved accuracy, productivity, speed of execution, and cost effectiveness. The cost and time required to retrofit a facility for a new purpose and a new life cycle would be greatly reduced.

CII is pursuing this vision through its FIAPP Steering Team. As this team identifies potential research topics, it will recommend the topic be pursued either through the normal CII research process or through a new organization, founded by CII, called FIATECH.

(CII FIAPP Steering Team)

FIATECH

FIATECH is a new entity created by CII to provide leadership, direction, and the forum to undertake collaborative research, development, and deployment leading to fully integrated and automated capital project processes, FIAPP, for the purpose of reducing cycle time and costs, and improving the effectiveness of capital facilities in the context of the owners corporate enterprise.

The vision of FIATECH is that of owners, contractors, and suppliers dramatically improving the effectiveness of large capital facilities engineering, construction, and operation through the integrated application and deployment of the latest computer, automation, advanced communications, and other technologies.

FIATECH has industry members, much like CII, many being members of CII as well, with a different membership criteria and a different dues structure. The membership criteria is:

- Committed to FIAPP principles
- Engaged in North American manufacturing
 - Consideration is underway to change this requirement and open up membership to others outside North America
- Approved by the FIATECH Board of Directors

FIATECH dues are based on company revenue volume:

- Small Sales of \$0 to \$50 Million \$5,000/year
- Medium Sales of \$50 Million to \$100 Million \$5,000/ year+.00210% of sales of over \$50 Million
- Large Sales of \$1 Billion or more \$25,000/year

Once a member has paid dues, they become eligible to participate in Strategic Focus Areas. SFAs function as specific interest or focus groups within FIATECH. Members pick and choose groups in which they want to participate. Further participation

requires contribution of additional funding and/or in-kind personnel. FIATECH does fund the operation of the organization; leveraged funds by the members fund the Strategic Focus Areas.

FIATECH will make FIAPP a reality for the capital facilities industry. It will develop the integration activities and projects necessary to apply existing technologies to FIAPP. It will launch leveraged funded research and development to bring existing and new technologies to bear on capital facilities projects. This will be a giant step beyond the best practice research and implementation traditional to CII. It allows for higher impact, higher risk, higher cost research projects than CII has traditionally been able to undertake with its limited funding source. FIATECH will highly leverage available resources. It will bring together committed parties both within and beyond the capital projects industry. Its focus will be on results for the members and the SFA participants. FIATECH will collaborate to develop and deploy standards and protocols for current information technology.

FIATECH is expected to bring about improvements in the industry such as reduced design changes and rework, enable better control of project cost and schedule, improve supply chain management, rectify differences between intended design and actual construction, and capture as-built status of a project for use throughout the projects life cycle.

FIATECH will make FIAPP happen!

In conclusion, our industry is faced with many issues and evolving trends today. The virtual shrinking of our planet, the expansion of our marketplaces, the explosion of technology, the speed of communication, and the competitive pressures faced by businesses and nations today are driving change at an ever accelerating pace. We must stay ahead of the crest of change or be buried as it crashes over us. Organizations like CII and CERIK are working hard to identify the trends and issues, analyze them, and develop new directions to lead our industry into the future.

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Construction Industry Trends and Issues in Japan

2000 11 16

RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF CONSTRUCTION AND ECONOMY

Hajime Suzuki Executive Director, RICE
Construction Industry Trends and Issues In Japan

1. Macroeconomic Review and Outlook

1.1 Summary

(1) After two consecutive years of negative growth in the Japanese economy, the GDP growth rate for fiscal 1999 finally climbed to a positive 0.5%. After the overall economic slowdown following the collapse of the bubble in the early 1990s and the further stagnation resulting from the 1997 financial crisis, the Japanese economy has finally begun to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

The real GDP growth rate for first quarter 2000 rose by 2.4% from the previous quarter(or 10% on an annual basis), and was the first increase in three quarters. Private capital investment in particular showed fresh signs of recovery, with a 4.2% increase and there have been remarkable signs of private-demand-led recovery. The second quarter growth was also 1.0% real positive growth.

However, individual consumption and residential construction levels have remained relatively unchanged. The forces stimulating autonomous economic recovery had not yet reached strong levels in the first half of 2000, but the real growth rate for fiscal 2000 is sure to exceed the real growth rate(0.5%) for fiscal 1999.

(2) On the other hand, due to the consecutive issuance of public bonds for financing the deficit of their revenue and the series of economic policies implemented after the collapse of the bubble, the total outstanding debt of national and local government organizations is in excess of 600 trillion, significantly exceeding GDP(nominal 494 trillion yen in fiscal 1999). For this reason, the task of fiscal policy reform is, along with economic recovery, a major issue facing the Japanese economy today.

1-2 Overview of the Macro Economy

1.2.1 Economic situation up to 1999

The Economic Planning Agency announced in June that the economy had hit the bottom of its recessionary valley in April 1999, after which it began to show signs of recovery. After the recession that followed the collapse of the bubble economy in the early 1990s and the further slowdown caused by the 1997 financial crisis, the Japanese economy, though still weak, is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Economic growth in fiscal 1999 recovered to a positive 0.5%, thus ending the succession of negative growth rates in 1997 and 1998. Originally the Economic Strategy Council, an advisory body to the prime minister, indicated that the Japanese economy had the potential to achieve 2% growth. Today, however, the tremendous volume of non-performing loans left over from the collapse of the bubble economy has hindered the ability of the Japanese economy to get back on track toward the growth rate of 2%.

On the other hand, due to active fiscal investment and large tax reductions implemented as part of the governments economic policy and reduced tax collections due to the recession, the national governments outstanding debt amounted to a whopping 493 trillion as of the end of March 2000. This is almost equal to Japans GDP(nominal 494 trillion in FY 1999). Add to this the outstanding debts of local government institutions, and the figure rises to more than 600 trillion. Over the mid-to long-term, this enormous amount of outstanding debt is expected to cause economic distortions, thus making the task of fiscal policy reform, along with economic recovery, a major issue facing the Japanese economy today. A major point of contention in the general election held in June was whether to place higher priority on the economy or to simultaneously promote fiscal reform and economic countermeasures. Though the current administration(a three-party coalition of the LDP, New Komeito, and the New Conservative Party), which favors economic policies, ended up losing some of its seats, it clung to a comfortable majority and therefore retains political control. For now, therefore, policies favoring economic countermeasures will continue.

1.2.2 Economy in the First Half of 2000

The real GDP growth rate for the first quarter 2000 rose by 2.4% from the previous quarter after seasonal adjustments(an annual rate of 10.0%), yielding the first increase in three quarters.

Private investment in plant and equipment has clearly expanded, with a 4.2% increase, and there have been remarkable signs of private-demand-led recovery. Exports to Asia, where economic conditions are improving, have been on the rise, and have helped improve the economic situation in the first half of 2000.

However, individual consumption has remained fairly flat, and the forces stimulating autonomous economic recovery have not yet reached strong levels. Residential construction has also remained unchanged, while public works investments have fallen compared to 1999 when active fiscal injections were made in this area.

The employment situation has shown some minor signs of recovery, but continues to pose problems. The overall unemployment rate remains high at 4.7%(as of June, seasonally adjusted), and the job availability rate remains low at 0.59 jobs available per job seeker(as of June, seasonally adjusted).

Thus, the Japanese economy in the first half of 2000 has shown signs of recovery spurred by private demand, particularly private investment in plant and equipment. However, the negative effects of reduced public works investment are hampering the economy's ability to recover, and thus foiling attempts to predict what will happen next.

1-3 Economic Outlook in the next decade

Since the bubble collapsed in the late 1980s, the Japanese economy has shifted from growth and expansion into a phase of stability and maturity, and, as mentioned earlier, was originally estimated to have a potential growth rate of 2%. Over the span of the next decade, the economy is likely to get back on that 2% growth track as a result of the current trend toward moderate recovery.

The aging of society and the population decrease are expected to put some constraints on the Japanese economy in the near future. The population of Japan is

going to hit a peak in the year 2007, after which it will begin to decrease. At the same time, the aging of society will progress at an accelerated pace, such that the percentage of senior citizens(aged 65 and older) to the entire population is expected to rise from its 1999 level of 17% to a massive 22% by 2010. The population decrease will trigger reductions in the scale of economic activity, and the aging of society will inevitably increase the burden on working people in terms of taxes and social security. The savings rate is also expected to decline, thereby reducing the societys overall resources available for investment. In 2010, the pace of population decrease will still be moderate, but if extraordinary technological innovations or means of increasing productivity are not unearthed, the Japanese economy will have a difficult time getting back on a track of positive growth over the mid-to long-term.

The aging of society will result in an increased reliance on fiscal measures, especially social security expenses, and will make fiscal reform even more difficult. Once the economy gets back on the track of autonomous recovery, fiscal reform must urgently be promoted by rationalizing and streamlining government administration.

On the other hand, the globalization of the world economy is also going to have an impact on Japans future economy. In a post-Cold War environment where most countries have adopted a market economy and the information revolution has intricately affected the global market, Japan has been able to retain its high international competitiveness. This has made it essential to create a framework for implementing deregulation, promoting the IT revolution, and building infrastructures for transportation and telecommunications networks. In terms of its role within Asia, Japan needs to promote technology transfers to other countries and the liberalization of the Japanese market, while also playing a more active role in pursuing economic ties with its Asian neighbors.

Another imminent issue is the increased impact that global environmental problems are going to have on the economy. Cross-national efforts in areas such as global warming have already begun, but Japan is pouring its efforts into creating an international framework for dealing with environmental problems and providing government development assistance in the environmental sector. Domestically, the

Table 1

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
GDP & Components mometary unit : billion yen					
GDP at real prices	490,018.4	489,664.4	480,165.2	482,350.8	489,575.3
GDP growth(%)	4.4	0.1	1.9	0.5	1.5
GDP at current market prices	504,391.4	507,632.0	497,255.8	493,818.4	511,904.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Mining & Quarrying	10,469	9,715	9,614		
% growth	0.4	7.2	1.0		
Manufacturing sector	122,526	124,494	117,216		
% growth	2.7	1.6	5.8		
Services sector	320,034	323,500	324,304		
% growth	3.6	1.1	0.2		
Construction sector	51,362	49,923	46,122		
% growth	2.1	2.8	7.6		
Demographic Indicators					
Population(1000s)	125,869	126,156	126,420	126,665	126,892
Population growth rate(%)	0.24	0.23	0.21	0.19	0.18
Total labour force(1000s)	67,380	68,000	67,920	67,930	67,400
Labour force growth rate(%)	0.94	0.92	0.12	0.01	0.78
Unemployment rate(%)	3.4	3.5	4.4	4.7	4.6
Financial Indicators					
Short term interest rate(%)	0.52	0.61	0.66	0.17	0.08
Long term interest rate(%)	2.751	1.991	0.972	1.836	1.762
Changes in consumer price index(%)	100.0	101.9	102.5	102.2	101.7
Base lending rate(Commercial banks)	1.625	1.625	1.5	1.375	1.375
Base lending rate(Finance banks)	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2
Change against US \$	108.78	120.99	130.90	113.91	106.71

- Notes: 1) Construction Economy Forecast(RICE, May 2000); Annual Report on National Accounts(Economic Planning Agency, March 2000); Institute of Population Problems home page, Economic Data from Overseas(compiled by the Economic Planning Agency, Research Bureau, Overseas Research Division, June 2000), Management and Coordination Agency home page, and the Bank of Japan Monthly Bulletin(compiled by the Research and Statistics Department, April 2000).
- 2) GDP and gross production figures are for the fiscal year. GDP figures for 2000 are estimates. Real figures based on FY 1990 prices.
- 3) All gross productivity figures are in nominal terms.
- 4) Populations figures are estimates.
- 5) Figures for labor force population and unemployment rates are seasonally adjusted. Figures for 2000 are current as of May.
- 6) The consumer price index assumes a baseline figure of 100 for 1995.
- 7) Interest rate figures are from year-end statistics(except for 2000 figures which reflect interest rates as of March 31).
- 8) Short-term interest rates reflect the average interest rates published in the domestic commercial papers.
- 9) Long-term interest rates reflect interest rates on long-term(10-year) government bonds.
- 10) The consumer price index for 2000 is as of April 30.
- 11) The base lending rates(Commercial Banks) reflect the short-term prime rates.
- 12) The base lending rates(Finance Companies) reflect the long-term prime rates.
- 13) Exchange rate figures are annual averages(except for 2000 figures, which reflect the average for March).

government is promoting a shift to a recycling-oriented social economy that addresses waste management and recycling issues.

As can be seen from the above, the outlook for the Japanese economy over the next decade is not one of unbridled optimism, but instead one that recognizes the various problems that remain to be addressed. Increased wisdom and effort will be required if the Japanese economy is to continue to thrive now that it has shifted from a growth orientation to maturity.

1-4 Construction Market

(1) In fiscal 1999, public construction investment remained fairly stable and private residential investment rose into positive numbers for the first time in three years. However, the reduction in private non-residential construction investment hindered overall construction investment, which decreased by 1.3% from the previous year, and resulted in a third consecutive year of negative growth.

(2) Due to reduced public construction investment and a dip in private residential investment in fiscal 2000, overall construction investment fell by a nominal 2.8% from last year. Private non-residential construction investment showed an increase for the first time in four years due to a round of corporate inventory adjustments, but will not be able to offset the decline in government construction investment and private residential investment.

(3) Overall construction investment for fiscal 2001 will fall by a nominal 6.0% from the previous year. Government construction investment will fall drastically if economic policies do not generate any additional investment. Though private residential investment is also expected to drop, private non-residential construction investment is expected to increase further. This is not, however, expected to help pull overall construction investment back into the black.

(4) The above indicates that construction investment is now in a phase of short-term contraction. Private investment is expected to be stimulated as economic recovery progresses, but massive improvements cannot be anticipated even over the medium to

long term due to the negative effects of fiscal belt-tightening, the aging of the population, and population decreases.

Table 2 Construction investment(or market) volume (at 1990 prices)

Fiscal year	1999(billion yen)	1996(%)	1997(%)	1998(%)	1999(%)	2000(%)	2001(%)
Residential Construction(A)	20,382.0	12.9	-19.9	-1.9	3.6	-0.9	-5.5
public	1,786.4	6.7	-12.4	0.7	5.0	0.6	-13.8
private	18,595.6	13.4	-20.4	-11.9	3.5	-1.0	-4.7
Non-Residential Construction(B)	12,015.7	6.4	-3.2	-12.5	-8.6	2.6	1.2
public	3,202.8	-1.3	-4.7	-9.2	-7.1	-3.9	-7.4
private	8,812.9	9.3	-2.7	-13.6	-9.1	5.0	4.0
Civil Engineering Construction(C)	34,741.8	-3.1	-2.4	-13.6	-9.1	5.0	4.0
public	28,113.1	-2.8	-1.3	2.9	1.5	-7.3	-12.7
private	6,628.7	-4.0	-6.2	-3.8	-6.6	2.4	3.0
Total construction investment(A+B+C)	67,139.5	3.9	-8.7	-5.3	-0.7	-2.6	-6.2
public	33,102.3	-2.1	-2.3	1.4	0.7	-6.5	-12.2
private	34,037.2	8.9	-13.4	-10.9	-2.1	1.2	-0.8
Repair and Maintenance(D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total construction market(A+B+C+D)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(at current prices)

Fiscal year	1999(billion yen)	1996(%)	1997(%)	1998(%)	1999(%)	2000(%)	2001(%)
Residential Construction(A)	21,650.0	14.2	-19.0	-12.0	3.1	-0.3	-4.8
public	1,882.9	7.9	-11.3	-0.3	4.4	0.5	-14.0
private	19,767.1	14.8	-19.5	-13.0	3.0	-0.4	-3.9
Non-Residential Construction(B)	12,628.5	7.3	-1.9	-13.2	-9.3	2.3	1.3
public	3,366.1	-0.5	-3.3	-10.0	-7.7	-3.7	-7.5
private	9,262.4	10.3	-1.4	-14.2	-9.8	4.5	4.3
Civil Engineering Construction(C)	36,580.9	-2.6	-1.1	0.7	-0.8	-0.6	-9.5
public	29,733.5	-2.3	0.0	2.2	0.8	-7.7	-12.7
private	6,847.4	-3.9	-5.0	-4.7	-7.5	1.8	3.2
Total construction investment(A+B+C)	70,859.4	4.8	-7.6	-6.1	-1.3	-2.8	-6.0
public	34,982.5	-1.5	-1.1	0.6	0.1	-6.9	-12.3
private	35,876.9	10.0	-12.4	-11.8	-2.7	1.3	-0.4
Repair and Maintenance(D)	-	26.5	-7.3	-8.7	-	-	-
Total construction market(A+B+C+D)	-	4.6	-4.0	-7.5	-	-	-

Source: Construction Economy Forecast, Research Institute of Construction and Economy. Statistics on Construction Undertaken, The Ministry of Construction.

Note : 2000 and 2001 are forecast.

Table 3

Floor space of private office & factory construction
(to 99 actual, from 2000 estimated)

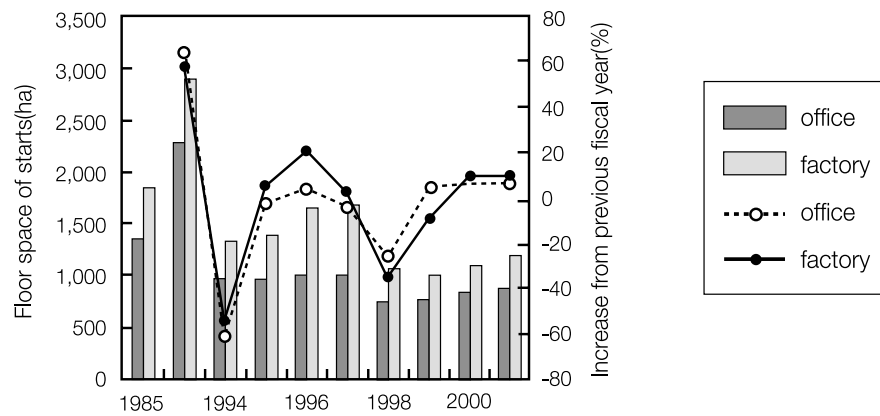
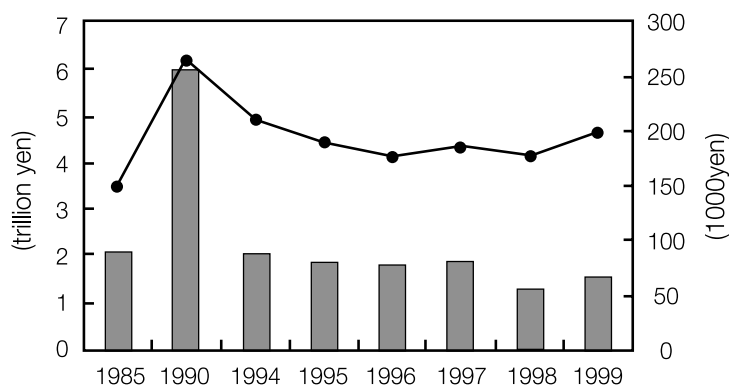


Table 4

Office Construction Starts sum(actual)



3 Several issues of Construction Industry

3-1 Quality

3.1.1 Enhancement of Quality Assurance

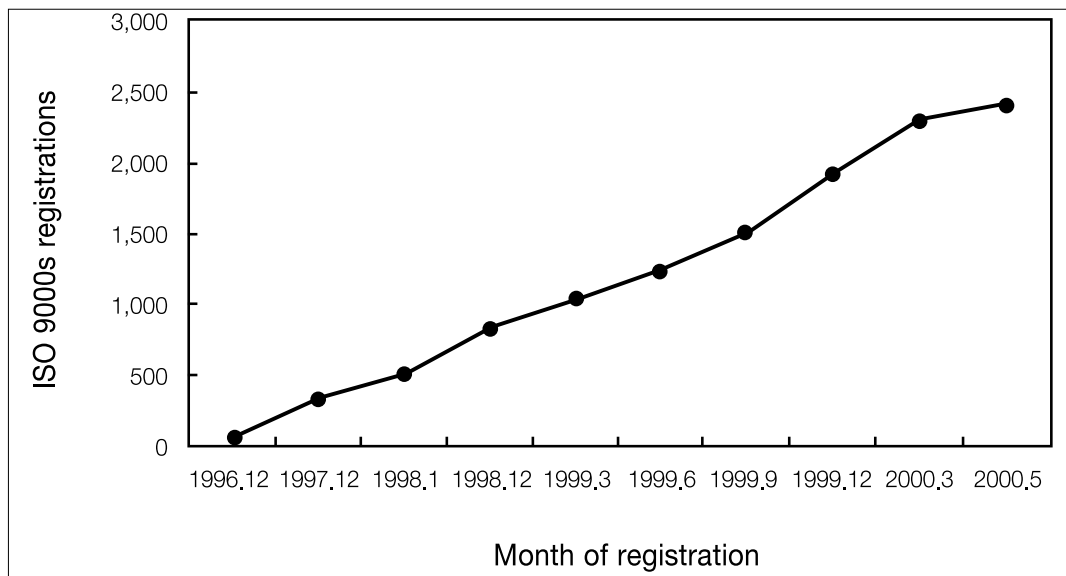
(1) Enhancement of quality assurance through ISO9000 series compliance

The Ministry of Construction has been working since 1996 on about 50 pilot projects to promote a better understanding of the ISO9000 series, and to engage a wide range of interested parties in a discussion concerning the benefits and problems associated with the application of ISO9000 standards to public works projects. As a result, the Ministry of Construction has determined that there is a high potential for the application of ISO9000 series standards to effectively serve as a means of improving quality assurance standards on public works and other construction projects. In fiscal 2000, in light of its findings, the Ministry of Construction announced 36 ISO9000 series compliance projects, primarily projects with an especially high degree of difficulty, that require project bidders to obtain ISO9000 series certification.

(2) ISO9000 series certification

Japanese construction companies first began working in 1995 to achieve ISO9000 series certification. Since then, the number of certified companies has risen rapidly. As of May 31, 2000, 2396 construction companies have registered with the Japan Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment(JAB) for certification in the construction sector. More small and medium-sized construction companies have been obtaining certification in recent years.

Table 5 Registrations since Dec. 96



3.1.2 Enhancement of Skills of Workforce

The Ministry of Labour has implemented a skill assessment system for the purpose of improving workers skills and their interest in skill acquisition. This system comprises a four-level skill assessment for 38 types of construction-related jobs such as rebar work, and workers are assigned to a skill level based on their ability to pass both written and hands-on exams.

The Ministry of Construction is also working to develop training programs for multi-skilled workers who can work in several different sector of construction, as well as for core workers who can devise efficient construction methods for contracting engineers(supervisors) and who can coordinate work with the managers of other sector of work. In April 1997 the MOC opened the Cross-technique Training School to further these goals. To promote the training of core engineers, the Ministry of Construction is supporting the establishment of a system for evaluating them, and plans to investigate evaluation systems for companies that utilize core engineers, such as the public evaluation system, specialized construction companies strength index.

Also, the MOC is conducting a preliminary training program for new hires in the construction industry for small and medium-sized companies and specialized

construction companies who hire few new people and thus cannot efficiently implement their own independent training programs. It is also planning to join construction-companies to enhance construction skill training by providing industrial high schools with tools and materials, teachers, and volunteer lecturers.

3.1.3 Enhancement of Supervisory Level

Enhancement of skills of supervisors is largely being pursued through private instruction. Each company holds its own regular technology exchange meetings, provides quality control and safety and sanitation education, and has safety and sanitation coordinators conduct construction site safety patrols. In recent years, an increasing number of companies have been striving to elevate their technological capabilities by actively supporting to take qualification of execution management engineer and professional engineers and by sharing construction techniques that use information technology.

Table 6 Skill level of Workforce and Supervision Level

	Total Construction Workforce (a) millions	No. of workers (b) (millions)	Skill level (b/a) [%]	Ratio of Supervisor to Workers [1:X]
1996	6.70	4.42	-	10.28
1997	6.85	4.55	-	11.10
1998	6.62	4.34	-	10.09
2000	6.57	4.32	-	10.29
Long-term target	-	-	-	-

Source : Labor Force Survey (Ministry of Labor)

Note : Skilled Workers section is noting

3-2 Information Technology

The initiative of the major general construction companies in using information technology in the construction industry include electronic procurement of materials over

the Internet, electronic collection of project companies, sharing of data(CAD, project information), using extranets with cooperating companies, and increasing distribution efficiency.

The Ministry of Construction established the Construction CALS/EC Action Program in June 1997, and aims to achieve construction CALS/EC in the projects under its direct jurisdiction by 2004. The major goals of the construction CALS/EC are as follows:

- Use of electronic procurement for all projects.
- Contracting through EDI(Electronic Data Interchange)
- Online submission of applications and bid notification for all public projects
- Creation of a comprehensive database of project information.
- Information linking and integrating using a GIS(Geographic Information System)

The MOC is promoting the early implementation of construction CALS/EC by providing active assistance to preparations for its introduction which are being conducted by various construction industry organizations.

3-3 Construction Technology

3.3.1 Research and development Investment

Table 7 Research and development

	Total investment in research and development(billion yen)	Construction sector investment(billion yen)	Percentage of total construction investment [%]
1995	9,395.8	204.4	0.26
1996	10,058.4	224.5	0.27
1997	10,658.4	225.2	0.30
1998	10,800.1	176.7	0.25
1999	N.A.	N.A.	
Long-term target	-	-	-

Source: Survey of Research and Development(Management and Coordination Agency) and the Forecast of Construction Investment(RICE, Economic Research Association).

3.3.2 Development of New Technological in the Major Construction Companies

Table 8 New construction

technologies & brief Description	Developer
<p>Chemical-Free Semiconductor Plant</p> <p>To minimize the pollutants produced in semiconducto manufacturing environments, this project selected clean-environment machines and finishing materials based on the appropriate selection, installation, and performance of filters that eliminate pollutants. A rational use of space was employed at the various facilities, especially clean rooms. Takenaka Corporation has reduced its building and equipment construction by 10% over other projects, and will be able to complete the entire process from basic design to manufacturing equipment installation in a short 8.5 months.</p>	Takenaka Corporation
<p>Hybrid TASS(Taisei Shake Suppression System) Method</p> <p>This is a new earthquake-resistant construction method that uses elastic sliding bearings and laminated rubber bearings. The strength and width of the buildings vibrations are greatly reduced by the effect of the compound bearings, and costs are lowered by slimming down the upper part of the frame. Using sliding bearings also reduces the cost of the earthquake-resistant structure itself.</p>	Taisei Corporation
<p>Cyber Building</p> <p>This is a building that can comprehensively respond to problems involving electromagnetic waves using electromagnetic wave shield technology. Shimizu Corporation is devising preliminary estimates of possible problems using environmental measurement and simulation technologies, and is performing appropriate electromagnetic environmental engineering on the entire process from planning to maintenance.</p>	Shimizu Corporation
<p>Hybrid Slip form Method</p> <p>This is an extremely fast method of constructing tall bridge piers that uses steel pipes for the reaction abutments and raises a slip form(PC from). Steel pipes are used as the main reinforcement, and a complex structure using a line from the PC strand is used in the tie. As a result, Obayashi Corporation has improved construction safety, reduced the energy needed for the process of rebar fixer, and increased the speed of construction.</p>	Obayashi Corporation
<p>Comprehensive Tunnel Construction Management System</p> <p>This system makes it possible to build high-quality, reliable structures when constructing tunnels that pass through mountains. This system is comprised of a (1) information construction system which uses methods of prospecting vibration, electromagnetism, and drilling, a (2) design support system which provides design assistance using data obtained from the (1), and a (3) quality control system which uses sophisticated tunnel cross-section measurement devices.</p>	Nishimatsu Construction
<p>TBM Automatic Spraying Robot</p> <p>By loading an automatic concrete spraying robot into a TBM(tunnel boring machine), this system is the first in the world to allow the simultaneous performance of both excavation and lining work. It automatically performs tasks involved in the TBM method, such as washing the walls of the excavated area, taking cross-sectional measurements, and calculating the concrete spraying thickness. This system can help improve the work environment, raise quality, shorten construction times, and reduce costs.</p>	Sato Kogyo

Description of new technology	Developer
<p>Earthquake-Resistant Bridge Pier Rapid Construction Method(REED Method)</p> <p>This is a method of structurally forming and constructing structural steel concrete compound structure bridge piers using studded H beam(which can bear tensile force) and a highly durability cast in from(which can bear compressive force). As a result, this method enables fast-paced construction through the repetition of simple tasks, improved earthquake resistance through the use of highly rigid H beam, and enhanced aesthetic beauty and durability through the use of pre-cast from.</p>	Maeda Corporation
<p>Fiber-Reinforced Cement Mortar with Metal-Like Malleability Properties(High Ductility FRC)</p> <p>High ductility FRC achieves high malleability that can resist deformations 200 times the degree of conventional mortar by incorporating inexpensive high-strength fiber in its structure. Taking advantage of the characteristics of fiber to make a highly earthquake-resistant member with outstanding safety properties makes it possible to reduce the volume of other earthquake-resistant materials, thereby greatly reducing costs. Also, since this technology can also be expected to help control the size of cracks, it may have applications for highly durability structures.</p>	Kajima Corporation
<p>Ashcrete</p> <p>This is a new type of concrete. Instead of the standard components of normal concrete, Ashcrete uses fly ash, a high-volume by-product of coal fired power plants. Because of its added strength under water, durability, and water-retarding properties, it has all the properties necessary to make an ideal material for undersea applications. Ashcrete also has a wide range of applications because its added volumes of metal slag enable adjustable specific gravity.</p>	Hazama Corporation
<p>Positioning Management System Using GPS</p> <p>This is a construction management system for ocean civil engineering construction that uses GPS positioning technologies and underwater ultrasonic waves. It allows structure installation positions to be managed accurately and easily without interference from weather and other conditions above the ocean surface even at extremely deep levels of about 200m, levels at</p>	Penta-Ocean Construction

3-4 Environment

3.4.1 Environmental Impact Assessment Law

Japans environmental impact assessment system used to be left to the discretion of government officials based on the Cabinets Guidelines Concerning the Performance of Environmental Impact Assessments, but since the process of establishing the Basic Environment Law and the Basic Environment Plan revealed the need for revisions to this system, the Environmental Impact Assessment Law(Environmental Assessment Law) was enacted in 1997.

All businesses over a certain size are automatically required to conduct studies, provide estimates, and perform, at their own expense, assessments of the impact of their business activities on the environment before engaging in those activities. Companies must then use the results of those studies to take the relevant environmental issues into consideration in carrying out their business.

The new law marks a watershed in the history of environmental conservation because it requires that the assessment procedures include mechanisms for ensuring that the views of local residents are reflected in the assessment.

3.4.2 Building Construction Materials Recycling Law

The Japanese government has designated the year 2000 as the first year of the recycling-oriented society and has decided to enact legislation regarding a basic framework toward that end. The government has thus compiled the Basic Law Promoting the Formation of a Recycling-Oriented Society which sets out the basic principles of recycling policies, such as regulations regarding waste disposal and the collective responsibility of producers.

It has also enacted the Revised Waste Disposal Law which requires waste disposal companies to ensure final waste processing and the Building Construction Materials Recycling Law (Construction Recycling Law) which systematizes the registration of demolition companies and requires the recycling of concrete, asphalt, and lumber.

Construction waste accounts for about 20% of total industrial waste, about 40% of the volume of final processed waste, and about 90% of illegal dumping, thus making the promotion of construction waste recycling an extremely important issue.

While new laws have been introduced to promote the proper disposal and recycling of waste, such as the Basic Law Promoting the Formation of a Recycling-Oriented Society, Revised Waste Disposal Law, and the Building Construction Materials Recycling Law (Construction Recycling Law), the construction industry is being urged to undertake active environment-oriented efforts and to achieve stringent goals.

It is essential that recycling plans be implemented if the construction industry is to

be viewed favorably by society as an industry that makes an important social contribution.

3.4.3 ISO14000 Efforts

The number of companies in Japan obtaining certification under the ISO14000 series of international standards for environmental management systems is rapidly increasing.

Many companies in the construction industry are moving forward with preparations for obtaining certification for such purposes as fulfilling their corporate mission(social demand), preserving the global environment, improving their corporate image, bolstering their company's stature, or establishing an environmental management system.

The statistics on ISO14000 certified companies compiled by the Japan Standards Association as of April 2000 indicate that a total of 3,693 companies have obtained certification. Of those, 207 are general construction companies(5.6%) and 44 are facility and equipment construction companies(1.2%).

4. Globalization of the Construction Market

4.1 Government Policy on Liberalization

The construction industry in Japan has not traditionally discriminated against foreign entrants to the market regarding requirements for obtaining construction business licenses and other measures. In 1994, however, in response to the growing movement toward international construction market liberalization evidenced by ongoing negotiations to revise the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement, reforms to Japanese bidding and contracting procedures were enacted with the Cabinet Resolution approving the Action Plan on Reforms of Bidding and Contracting Procedures of Public Works(hereafter the Action Plan). This plan aimed to ensure the high quality

of public works projects while increasing the transparency, objectivity, and competitiveness of bidding and contracting procedures, ensuring the thorough application of the principle of non-discrimination against foreign companies, and making it easier for foreign participants to become familiar with Japanese bidding and contracting practices. In addition to having the same forward-looking character as the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement, which went into effect in 1996, this Action Plan incorporated other independent government measures aimed at market liberalization. The major components of the plan are as follows:

Projects valued over a standard amount set out in the agreement are subject to open bidding, and design/consulting work is handled through either public invitation bidding or competitive public invitation bidding. Broadens the items by which foreign companies were evaluated. Establishes procedures for handling complaints.

The WTO Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) went into effect later in 1996. A comparison of the Action Plan and the GPA reveals that while the Action Plan applies to national government-related construction and design/consulting work, the GPA is broader in scope and is applied at the level of prefectural and designated city governments. Also, while the Action Plan is applicable to construction as well as design/consulting work, the GPA applies again more broadly to the procurement of goods and other services.

4.2 Legal Regulations Applying to Foreign Construction Firms and Technical Specialists Entering the Japanese Market

4.2.1 Legal Systems and Procedures for Establishing a Business Office

When a foreign corporation establishes a business office in Japan for its representatives, it need not obtain any licenses or permits, nor must it register with the Regional Legal Affairs Bureau. When a foreign corporation establishes a branch (or sales office) or a corporation in Japan, it is required to: a) register the branch (corporation) in accordance with commercial laws, b) submit reports or

documents in accordance with the foreign exchange and international trade laws, and
c) submit various documents to the tax authorities.

4.2.2 Obtaining a Construction Business License

A company engaging in the construction business in Japan must obtain a construction business license in accordance with the Construction Business Law. A permit is not required if the company is only a subcontractor for light construction work as defined by law, but if the company engages in any other kind of construction work, it must obtain a construction business license regardless of whether it is a domestic or foreign firm. Also, a major requirement for obtaining that business license is that the company employ a person with a certain number of years of management experience in Japan, but special approval may be obtained by the Ministry of Construction for persons with the same degree of experience in foreign countries if the Ministry recognizes that person as having the same or greater level of capabilities as is needed to fulfill this requirement. Likewise, the requirement of employing specialized engineers with certain qualifications or with actual work experience in Japan may be able to be met by getting the Ministry of Construction to approve personnel with qualifications or actual work experience overseas.

(For details regarding construction business licenses, see 5, Construction Business Licensing System.)

4.3 Penetration of Foreign Construction Firms in the Japanese Domestic Market

Table 9 Number of foreign corporations and foreign-capitalized Japanese corporations that have

Country	Foreign companies	Foreign-capitalized Japanese companies	Total	By permit	
				Minister of Construction	Prefectural governor
U.S.A.	8	22	30	9	21
South Korea	8	1	9	9	0
Germany	0	6	6	1	5
Holland	1	5	6	1	5
Switzerland	0	5	5	3	2
Sweden	0	4	4	0	4
France	1	1	2	1	1
England	0	2	2	1	1
China	0	1	1	0	1
Finland	0	1	1	0	1
Singapore	1	0	1	0	1
Total	19	48	67	25	42

obtained construction business licenses

Source : Ministry of Construction

Notes : 1. As of September 30, 1999.

2. Foreign corporations: Companies whose entire(100%) capital comes from a foreign firm.

3. Foreign - capitalized Japanese corporations: Companies whose majority(50% or more) capital comes from a foreign firm.

4.4 Effects of Liberalization on WTO Participation

Table 10 Public works orders received by foreign firms(million yen)

	Fiscal year	1996	1997	1998	1999(Apr.-Nov.)
Orders received by foreign firms	Construction	9,798	13,736	15,631	10,803
	Design and consulting	491	256	261	327
	Total	10,289	13,991	15,891	11,130
Orders received by South Korean firms	Construction	16	1,008	4,084	7,039
	Design and consulting	0	0	0	0
	Total	16	1,008	4,084	7,039

Source : Ministry of Construction

Note : Includes orders planned by third sector public institutions as well as national government institutions and local public organizations.

Since the Action Plan on Reforms of Bidding and Contracting Procedures of Public Works was enacted in 1994, the number of public works projects undertaken by foreign firms has steadily increased. The increase in the number of orders received by South Korea has been especially remarkable since it became a party to the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement in 1997.

4.5 Policies and Plans Aimed at Cooperation in the Asian Construction Market

4.5.1 ODA Technological Cooperation Projects

Japan is the world's second largest economy and the world's top contributor of ODA. In addition to helping to raise the level of trust and respect that other countries have for Japan, the Japanese government grants ODA with the basic understanding that it helps promote the national interests of Japan, a country that is dependent on world peace and stability and that relies on the international community for resources, energy and food. In light of this knowledge, technological assistance projects that utilize Japanese firms and take advantage of the experience of specialists at universities, think tanks, local governments, and private companies, and which aim at transferring useful technologies and managerial skills are one of the most important means through which Japan provides overseas aid. Various technological cooperation programs are already underway in the construction sector in areas such as construction materials development (Indonesia), new housing technology research (China), and increasing construction productivity (Philippines).

4.5.2 Cooperation with Local Firms through ODA Projects

Overseas contract amounts for Japanese construction companies were valued at 729.7 billion for fiscal 1999. A breakdown of orders reveals that 492.3 billion were placed with Japanese companies (branches or sales offices), and 237.4 billion were

placed with local companies. There is a large gap between the value of orders received from Asia, Japan's leading overseas source, whose overseas contract value of 483.5 billion accounts for 66.3% of its overseas contracts, and those from the second runner-up, North America, with 138.1 billion. Mid-Term Policies Concerning Government Development Assistance, August 10, 1999.

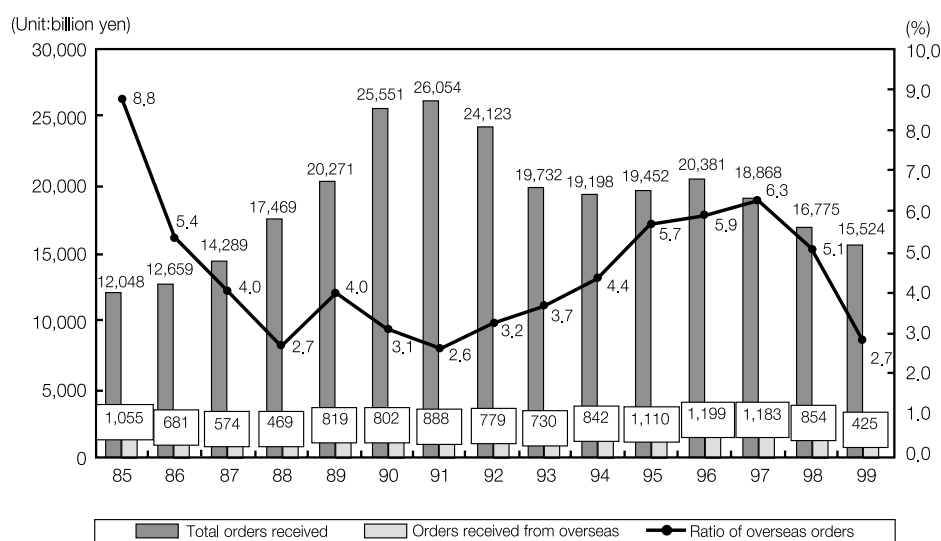
Overseas Contract Association of Japan. Totals for the 54 member companies By undertaking projects in Asia, Japanese construction companies which operate as main contractors or joint venture participants are able to form close cooperative relationships with local subcontracting firms and other joint venture participants. They are also able to engage in technology transfers in areas of construction such as process management, quality control, and construction methods. As a result, they not only help to improve the technological capabilities of the local companies with whom they share a cooperative relationship, but also raise the overall level of the construction industry in the countries in which they operate.

4.6 Overseas Construction Orders Received by Domestic Construction Firms and Orders for Construction in Japan Received by Foreign Construction Firms

4.6.1 Overseas Construction Orders Received by Domestic Construction Firms

Overseas construction orders received by major construction firms and order ratios by region are shown below.

Table 11 Trends in overseas construction orders received by the big 50 general

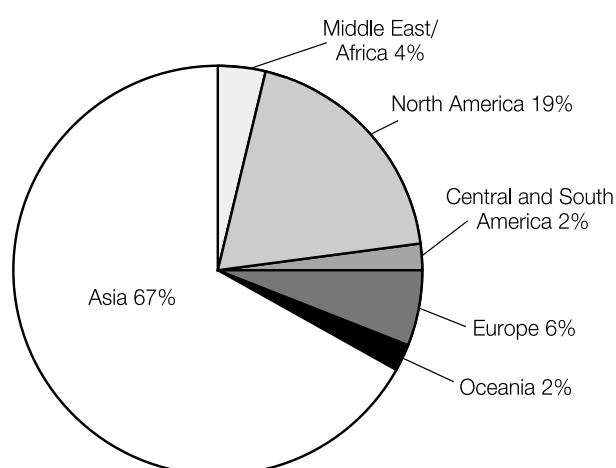


contractors(1985 ~ 1999)

Source: Survey A of Orders Received, Research and Information Division, Economic Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Construction. Survey conducted among the big 50 general contractors.

Note : The number of overseas construction orders does not include those received by local corporations

Table 12 Overseas construction contracts in fiscal 1999(ratio of order values by region)



Source : Overseas Contract Association of Japan. Totals for the 56 member companies.

4.6.2 Contracts for Overseas Construction Orders by Country

The Ministry of Construction conducted a survey of business activity at the end of

the most recent accounting period or between accounting periods among Japan's big 56 domestic construction companies (36 general contractors, 20 facility and equipment construction companies) that operate internationally. The countries from which the companies have received the most overseas construction orders as well as those with whom they want to expand their business (respondents could give up to 5 answers) are shown below.

Table 13 Countries with large numbers of construction orders last year

(Unit: companies)

Countries with large numbers of construction orders	1999 Survey Primary service seekers			
	Japanese firms	Other private organizations	Public organizations	Total
1. Singapore	9	10	5	24
2. Thailand	9	3	5	17
3. Philippines	10	2	5	17
4. China	6	4	5	15
5. U.S.A.	9	4	2	15
6. Malaysia	6	6	2	14
Others	28	14	41	83
Total	77	43	65	185

Table 14 Countries with whom expanded business is desired

(Unit: companies)

Countries with large numbers of construction orders	1999 Survey Primary service seekers			
	Japanese firms	Other private organizations	Public organizations	Total
1. China	11	3	4	18
2. Philippines	9	3	6	18
3. Singapore	5	6	3	14
4. Thailand	6	2	5	13
5. Vietnam	6	0	6	12
6. U.S.A.	7	2	2	11
Others	26	16	51	93
Total	70	32	77	179

5 Construction Business Licensing System

License Categories

There are two types of construction licenses, national licenses granted by the Ministry of Construction and prefectural licenses granted by prefectural governors, and two types of construction firms, special and ordinary construction firms.

A single construction firm cannot simultaneously hold both a national and prefectural construction business license, nor can a single firm be categorized simultaneously as both a special and ordinary construction firm.

Difference between a National License and a Prefectural License

When a company intends to establish offices and do business in two or more prefectures, it must obtain a national construction license. If a company intends to establish an office and do business in only one prefecture, it must obtain a prefectural license from the prefecture that has jurisdiction over that location.

Difference between Ordinary Construction Licenses and Special Construction Licenses

All construction firmsboth general contractors and subcontractorsmust obtain an ordinary construction license unless they only intend to perform extremely small jobs. A special construction license, however, must be obtained to engage in general contracting where contracts worth 45 million or more are received directly from the end client, or to engage in subcontracting involving contracts worth 30 million or more.

The special construction license is part of a system designed to protect the interests of subcontractors and to ensure that projects are carried out properly. The required qualifications for a special construction license are more stringent than those for an ordinary license.

Table 15 Trends in number of construction business license holders(1975 ~ 1999)

	Total	Growth rate	Permit from Minister	Growth rate	Permit from governor	Growth rate
1975	350,817		6,331		344,486	
1980	488,520	39.3%	7,465	17.9%	481,055	39.6%
1985	518,964	6.2%	8,337	11.7%	510,627	6.1%
1990	508,874	-1.9%	8,944	7.3%	499,930	-2.1%
1991	515,440	1.3%	9,022	0.9%	506,418	1.3%
1992	522,450	1.4%	9,124	1.1%	513,326	1.4%
1993	530,665	1.6%	9,332	2.3%	521,333	1.6%
1994	543,033	2.3%	9,619	3.1%	533,414	2.3%
1995	551,661	1.6%	9,871	2.6%	541,790	1.6%
1996	557,175	1.0%	10,062	1.9%	547,113	1.0%
1997	564,849	1.4%	10,485	4.2%	554,364	1.3%
1998	568,548	0.7%	10,742	2.5%	557,824	0.6%
1999	586,045	3.1%	10,815	0.7%	575,230	3.1%

Source : Ministry of Construction.

Note : Numbers of companies are as of the end of March in each year.

6 Contract Award Procedures (Methods of Selecting Public and Private Sector Contractors) and Contracts Types

6-1 How Public-Sector Clients Select a Contractor

The main features of the bidding and contracting system for public works projects in Japan are as follows:

(The qualification of bidders is largely based on Corporate Capability Assessment System which is explained below.).

6.1.1 Selective bidding system

1) Selective bidding

Selection committees invite selected firms to submit bids. The selection is made on the basis of track record and each clients own ranking system This system is widely

used by local governments of medium size or smaller and for small-scale construction projects.

- Used for small-scale projects(usually under 100 million).
- Used by clients who do not have staff that are qualified to review the bids submitted in an open bidding procedure, and by clients who require a construction firm with some special construction technology.

2) Selective bidding by public invitation

Under this system, both the project and the construction firms are ranked. Firms that have registered their interest in the relevant type of construction project, and whose rank qualifies them to bid on that project, are publicly invited to provide technical documents. On the basis of these documents, roughly ten firms are selected to submit bids.

- This system is used for basically the same type of projects for which the selective bidding by project interest registration system is used. The difference is that selective bidding by public invitation is used when an unusual type of construction technology is required.
- Used primarily for projects with a contract value of 200-720 million.
- An explanation of why a particular firms bid was not selected will be provided upon request.

3) Selective bidding by project interest registration

At the beginning of each fiscal year, construction firms register with prospective clients to indicate what types of construction projects they wish to bid on. When it comes time for a contract to be awarded for a particular project, the client requests 10 or 20 registered firms to provide technical documents(provisional selection). On the basis of these documents, about ten companies are selected to submit bids.

- Used primarily for projects with a contract value of 100~200 million.
- An explanation of why a particular firms bid was not selected will be provided upon request.

6.1.2 General competitive bidding system

This system is used primarily by the national government, institutions affiliated with the national government, prefectural governments, and designated cities. It is used for:

- contracts worth more than 750 million (4.5 million SDR) that are issued by the national government;
- or contracts worth more than 2.50 billion (15 million SDR) that are issued by: (1) institutions affiliated with the national government; (2) prefectural governments; or (3) designated cities.

Bidding eligibility

- The point score assigned to the company on the basis of the business assessment criteria must be above a certain threshold.
- The company must have experience with the same type of construction project.
- The company must have qualified technical personnel available for the project.

6.1.3 Negotiated contract system

This system is used primarily: (1) for projects that must be done by a particular firm due to the fact that it requires special technologies, equipment, or machinery; or (2) when severe time constraints make it impractical to carry out the competitive bidding process.

6.1.4 Other bidding systems

1) Design-build system

In principle, the design and construction phases of public works projects in Japan are carried out separately, but a small number of clients (such as the Housing and Urban Development Corporation and local government-affiliated housing corporations) are beginning to use the design-build system.

2) Value engineering(V E) system

This system is beginning to be used occasionally (by the Ministry of Construction, and local government-affiliated housing corporations) in conjunction with open bidding, selective bidding, and negotiated contracts. It is reported that many prefectural and local governments are examining the possibility of using this system in the future.

The VE system is carried out during bidding, performance of the contract, and after contract completion, and is intended to serve as a means of improving both functionality and cost.

3) Contract award based on price and technology

In addition to price, the client using this system also calls upon bidders to submit technical proposals, which the client then evaluates from various perspectives, including quality, speed, design, and safety.

4) Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

The Private Finance Initiative(PFI) Law was enacted in July 1999, and the Basic Guidelines based on that law were released this March. Under this system, contractors are chosen by open competition and through public invitation, and those selected use their own funds, managerial capabilities, and technological capabilities to construct, maintain, manage, and operate public facilities.

Cf Corporate Capability Assessment System

The principal system used in Japan for assessing a construction firm's capabilities is the business assessment system.

For construction firms that receive direct contracts for public works projects, business assessments are carried out by the Minister of Construction or a prefectural governor. These assessments entail an examination of a specifically formulated list of Objective Criteria for Assessing the Business of a Construction Firm. The assessment results are used to assign the company a point score, which is publicly announced (see the table below).

Organizations that place orders for public works projects assign each prospective

contractor a ranking, taking into consideration the results of the contractors business assessment as well as the result of the organizations own qualification assessment based on the contractors construction performance.

$$\text{Total points (P)} = 0.35X1 + 0.10X2 + 0.20Y + 0.20Z + 0.15W$$

		Assessment criteria
Scale of operation	X1	Average annual construction revenue, classed by type of project
	X2	Shareholder 's equity, number of employees
Business condition	Y	Ratio of revenues to operating profit;Ratio of capital to ordinary profit;Ratio of cash flow to revenue;Ratio of require working capital to monthly turnover;Ratio of account receipt and work in process to annual sales;Ratio of accounts receivable to monthly turnover;Equity ratio;Ratio of interest-bearing debt to monthly turnover;Net interest payments ratio Ratio of shareholder 's equity to fixed assets;Ratio of fixed assets long-term capital;Ratio of value-added output to fixed assets
Level technical expertise	Z	Number of technical employee, classed by type of business
Other assessment criteria	W	Non-wage benefits;working days per year;On-site safety record;Number of construction industry accountants on staff

6-2 How Private-Sector Clients Select a Contractor

Private-sector clients most often select contractors by means of the mission method (a decision is made after price negotiations with a single company) or by getting estimates from several companies. There are two main types of contracting systems, the blanket construction-only contract system and the design-build system, and gross price contracting(lump-sum contracting) is the predominant method of contract payment. Examples of Construction Management(CM) and Project Management(PM) contracting have also arisen, but their use remains quite limited.

In addition, electrical power companies have begun to use the VE system, and real estate developers have begun to use direct contracting(in which major real estate developers dispense with general contractors and award contracts directly to specialized contractors).

7. Construction Work Force

7.1 Classification of Construction Industry Workers by Job Type

Two-thirds of construction industry workers are on-site workers. There has been no change in the actual numbers of workers since 1995, but recently the number of sales personnel has been rising.

Table 16 Breakdown of construction industry employees (Unit: 1,000 people, avg.per year)

Type of work	1990	1995	1998	1999
Specialists and technicians	290	430	430	420
Management staff	340	350	350	340
Clerical staff	840	930	960	940
Sales staff	220	290	310	320
Workers	3,950	4,380	4,340	4,320
General laborers	80	90	90	80
Others	160	150	150	150
Total	5,880	6,630	6,620	6,570

Source : Annual Report on the Labor Force Survey, Management and Coordination Agency.

7.2 Employment Situation at Major General Contractors

Table 17 Trends in number of employees by job type

	Clerical staff	Technical work	Skilled work	Other	Total
1994	62,731	118,145	4,48	4,677	190,037
1995	59,735	117,979	4,751	3,871	186,336
1996	57,909	116,500	4,403	4,360	183,172
1997	55,831	114,768	4,371	3,408	178,378
1998	50,093	112,907	3,751	2,803	169,554
1999	49,053	104,732	3,732	2,068	159,585
(change from prior year)	(-2.1%)	(-7.2%)	(-0.5%)	(-26.2%)	(-5.9%)

According to a survey conducted by the Ministry of Construction among the big 36

general contractors, the number of workers in all job types has decreased in recent years. In 1999, the fifth consecutive year of decrease, the number of employees dropped by about 5.9% from the previous year.

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미국 건설산업의 생산성 향상을 위한 연구 방향 분석

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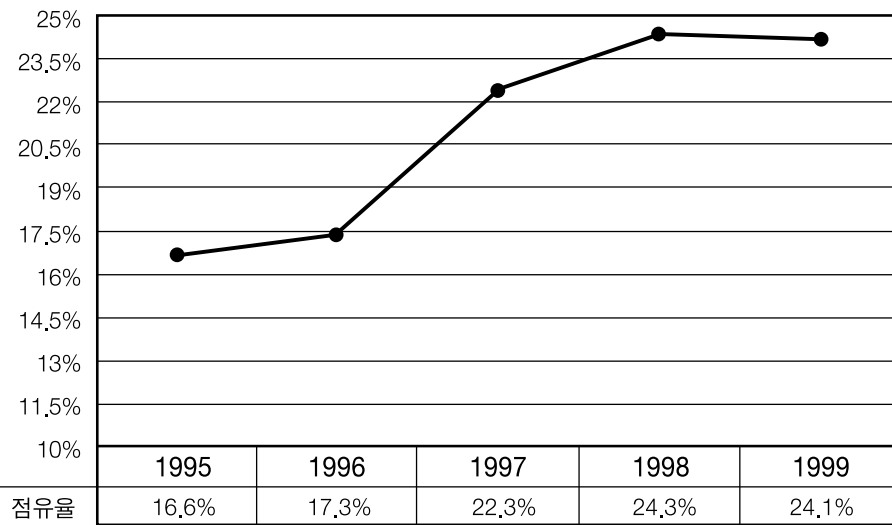
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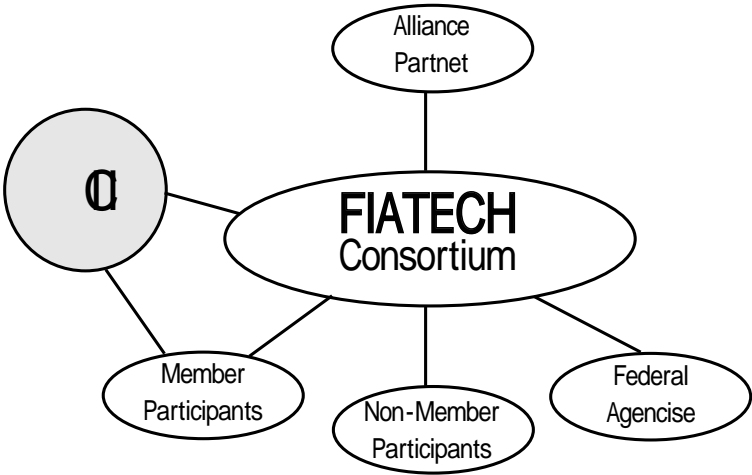
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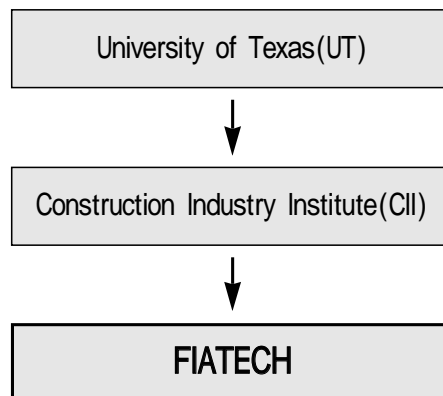
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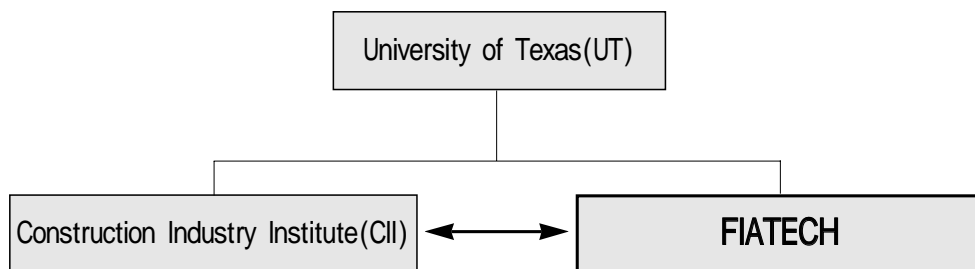
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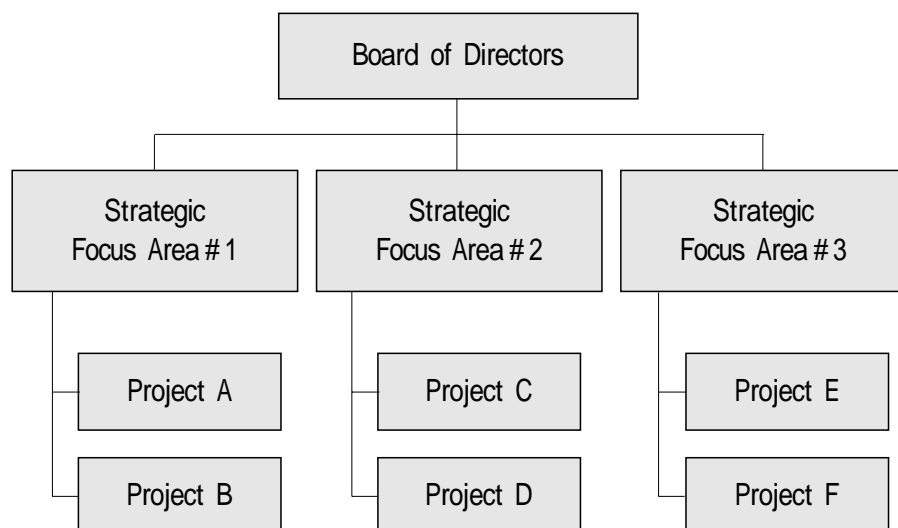
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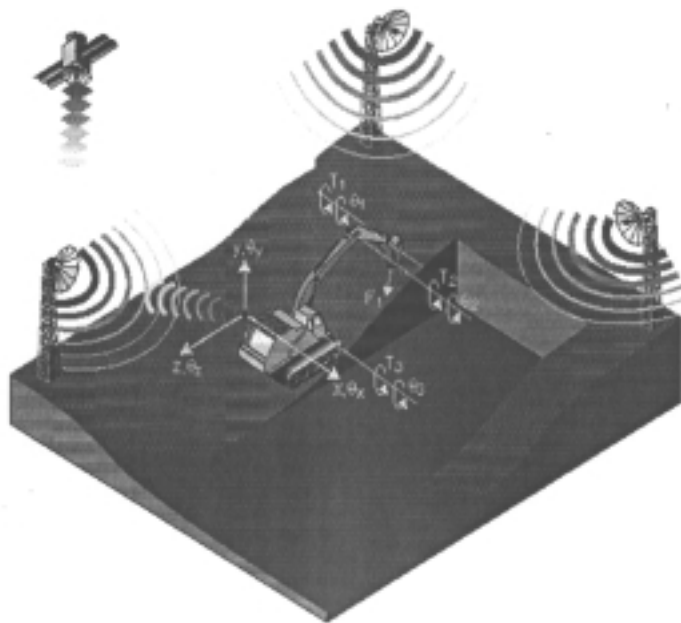
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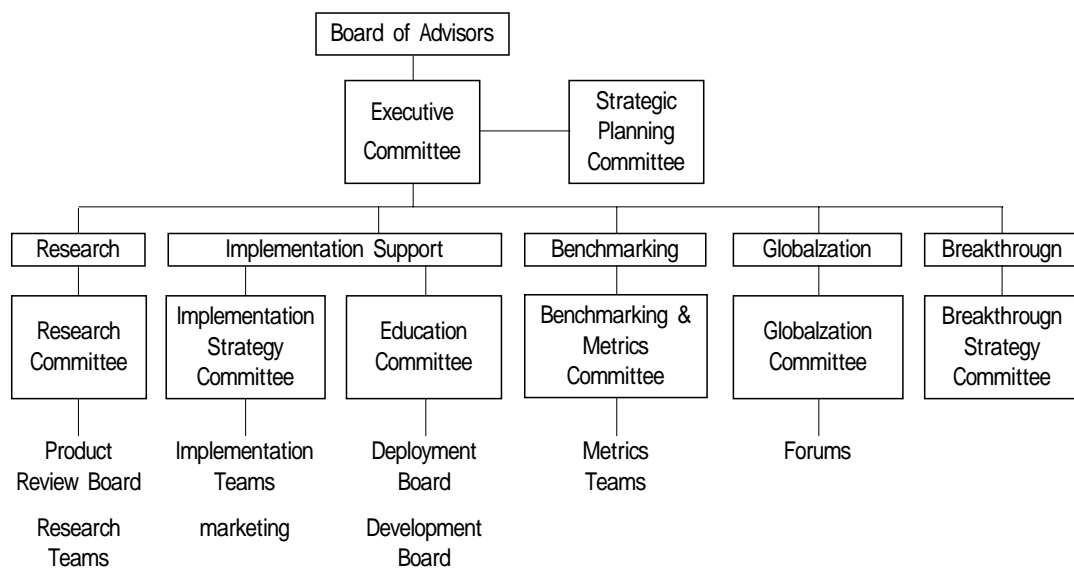
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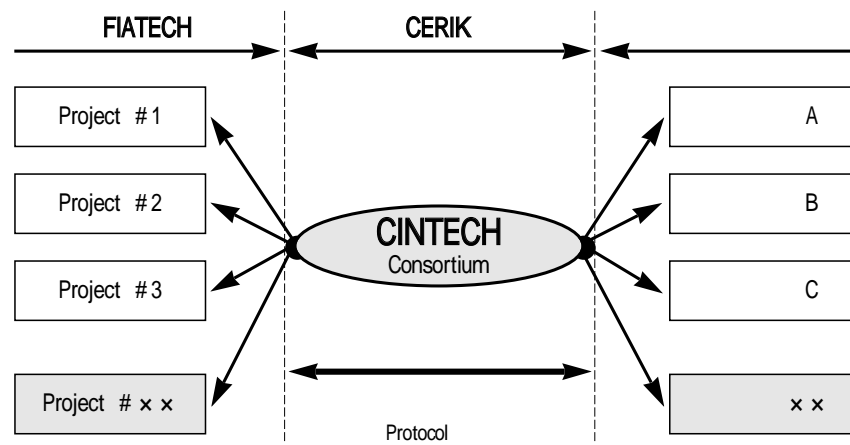
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The Prospects for the Environments of the Construction Industry in Korea

The main purposes of this report are to analyze the changing circumstances in construction industry and to forecast future circumstances focused on the construction demand in Korea. The construction industry in Korea had benefited from fast growing demand and low competitiveness pressures until early 1990s. The proportion of construction investment to GDP had continuously increased from 12.3% in 1970 to 23% in 1991. But the increasing rate of construction investment slowed down below the GDP growth rate after early 1990s. Moreover the construction investment was decreased for 3 years after 1997 when the financial crisis occurred. Many construction companies went to bankruptcies due to the reduced demand and rising financial cost.

We analyze this current situation of construction industry as not only the result of temporarily economic fluctuation but also the result of fundamental changes. In Chapter 2, we analyze the relation between the macro-economic trend and construction investment comparing to the past performance of developed countries. Also the institutional environment of construction industry has been change over 1990s, particularly late 1990s. In order to enhance the market system, government reduced the entering barriers into construction industry and introduced the least price bidding system in government procurements. We suggest that the next steps of government policy on construction industry are focused on enhancing the evaluation system for construction firms and strengthening the assurance system for the execution of contract. We analyze the supply system, the competitive environment and technological changes in construction industry and forecast their future direction.

In Chapter 3, we forecast the demand for construction industry over 2003 by using time-series analysis. We see that construction investment(real value) and construction contract value(nominal price) will be increased 3% and 4% per year over

2003 respectively. we forecast the construction demand of 54 public institutions by analyzing the construction plans of public institutions. Also we analyze and forecast the emerging construction demands, remodelling demand for building and houses, rebuilding demand for houses and SOC demand of North Korea. Finally we derive the important factors that will affect construction demand in the future and analyze the effectiveness of them on categories of construction demand qualitatively.