

VII. Users Societies, Conferences and Other Activities

Users Society

In May 1988, the User Group for Advanced X-ray Source was organized by potential users, aiming at discussing the research plan and the user policy. On the basis of the achievements of this group, the **SPring-8 Users Society** was established in May 1993 to promote and advance the research activities of users, and it made a substantial contribution to the construction of SPring-8. The current goal is to support the upgrade of the storage ring and individual beamlines, and to promote the utilization of SPring-8. At present, 35 scientific research groups and nine commissions of the Society are active in scientific contributions to develop research activities and in information exchange between staffs members and users. The development of synchrotron radiation science for the next ten years from now has been discussed by these research groups, and the report entitled "Future Prospects for Scientific Activities at SPring-8" has been published in March 2009. The number of active members in the Society is 1,267 as of December 31, 2009.

The **Industrial Users Society of SPring-8** was established by the members of various companies in September 1990 to promote the use of SPring-8 and to dedicate in the development of the SPring-8 user program. Several research groups focused on various fields of applications have been organized; at present, nine are active. The main purpose of the society is not only to provide information on the trends of the synchrotron radiation facilities in Japan and abroad, and their latest research achievements, but also to enhance communication among the industrial sector, JASRI, and MEXT. As a result, the percentage of industrial applications has increased to 20% in terms of the number of proposals approved. The Society consists of 68 companies and one organization as of December 31, 2009.

In 2009, the annual meetings of the two societies were jointly held for the first time, as the 1st SPring-8 Conference. Previously, these meetings were almost independently organized to report and discuss the outcomes from academia and industrial domains, respectively. The first joint conference was successfully held that made it possible to cross-fertilize both regions by directly exchanging information.

Users Meeting

The meeting for users jointly organized by the SPring-8 Users Society and/or the Industrial User Society of SPring-8, and JASRI and RIKEN is listed below.

- The 1st SPring-8 Conference
September 3-4, 2009 - Tokyo Station Conference, Tokyo

Conferences and Workshops

The conferences and workshops organized, sponsored, or hosted by JASRI, RIKEN or both in 2009 are listed below.

22th Annual Meeting of Japanese Society for Synchrotron Radiation Research
January 9-12, 2009 - The University of Tokyo Hongo Campus, Tokyo

The Report Meeting of SPring-8 Priority Nanotechnology Support Program FY2008
March 12, 2009 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8

The Annual Meeting of SPring-8 Priority Nanotechnology Support Program FY2008
May 8, 2009 - National Institute for Materials Science Sengen Site, Ibaraki

The 1st Symposium on SPring-8 Upgrade Plan
June 19, 2009 - Tokyo Station Conference, Tokyo

The 8th Annual Meeting of Structural-Biological Whole Cell Project of *Thermus thermophilus* HB8
August 21-23, 2009 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8

The 2nd Workshop on the SPring-8 Budding Researchers Support Program
September 1, 2009 - Campus Innovation Centre, Tokyo

International Workshop on X-ray Mirror Design, Fabrication, and Metrology (IWXM)
September 22-24, 2009 - Osaka University Suita Campus, Osaka

The 12th International Conference on Accelerator and Large Experimental Physics Control Systems (ICALEPCS 2009)
October 12-16, 2009 - Kobe International Conference Center (KICC), Kobe

Synchrotron Radiation Industrial Applications Seminar –SPring-8 / Photon Factory Collaboration–
October 30, 2009 - Tsukuba International Congress Centre, Ibaraki

The 5th XFEL Symposium
November 27, 2009 - Shinagawa Intercity Hall, Tokyo

Other Activities

The 17th SPring-8 Open House
April 26, 2009

The 9th SPring-8 Summer School 2009
July 10-13, 2009 - Kamitsubo Hall, SPring-8

The 3rd AOFSTR Summer School - Cheiron School 2009
November 2- 11, 2009 - Public Relations Center, SPring-8