PREAMBLE

The rapid developments being made in the **IT** (**information technology**) industry in recent years has been greatly changing people's lives. It can be said that future generations will desire to actively use IT even more, so that all people achieve fuller lives.

A "generation gap" or "time span gap" does exist for buildings, which are 60 years old and have systems and equipment systems of equivalent age that will be outdated in 2 to 3 years. There are also many value or perception gaps ranging from demands for governmental accountability, disclosure and compliance with global standards to a declining birth rate, an aging population as well as environmental problems.

Government Buildings Department of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, who are responsible for buildings construction of government agencies, have grasped these tremendous gaps with a mid to long-term broad perspective as a nation and are aiming at facility equipment that incorporates systems that promote "flexible & Graceful community formation".

We have received the support of experts, who possess a pioneering and guiding viewpoint in the information communication and building equipment fields in Japan as well as persons in charge within related government agencies. We established a **WORKSHOP**, which takes IT, building planning and building equipment functions studied one by one so far, as "identical fields", which are both integrated and innovative, aiming at" *flexible & Graceful community formation*". We have summarized our findings and are releasing the results of this report.

Our challenge

~ Government Offices and circumstances Surrounding the administration ~

