SYSTEM AND OVERVIEW OF ROADSIDE STATION
Basic Concept of Roadside Stations

Characteristic, lively space that we create together with local communities

**Purpose of Roadside Stations**
- To provide users with safe and comfortable road travel conditions
- To contribute to local economies

**Functions of Roadside Stations**
- **Rest space**
  - 24-hour and free-of-charge parking and toilets
- **Information source**
  - Road traffic information, local tourist information
- **Linkage with local communities**
  - Services by local rejuvenation facilities
Parking, toilets, guide signs etc. (Guide signs are set and maintained by the road administrator; some parking and toilets too)

Cultural, tourism and recreational facilities and other local rejuvenation facilities, rest place, toilets, parking (developed and maintained by local municipalities)

* Infrastructure improvement grants etc. are usable.
Overview of Roadside Station System

Roadside Station System

<Registration flow>

- Application by the mayor
- Registered by Road Bureau, MLIT
- A roadside station is opened.

Information

- The road administrator installs wayside guide signs of the roadside station.
- Information of roadside stations given in the MLIT website and information terminals in roadside stations.
Background of the Creation of Roadside Stations

- January 1990: A proposal about creating stations along roads in a symposium of the Chugoku region community creation conference

- October 1991 - April 1992: A pilot program of “road stations” using temporal resting facilities by local municipalities in Yamaguchi, Gifu and Tochigi prefectures

- May 1992: The first “roadside stations” panel (Chair: Mr. Masaki Koshi, professor of School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo at the time)

- March 1993: A recommendation on roadside stations by the panel
  The registration and information system of roadside stations developed by Road Bureau
  “Roadside station” application started

- April 1993: First 103 roadside stations registered
First 103 roadside stations were registered in 1993, and then the number was increased to 952 in 18 years up to now.
Resting Facilities of Roadside Stations

Rest place with information terminals (Hari T.R.S. roadside station, Nara)

Footbath with the view of the Sakurajima volcano (Tarumizu roadside station, Kagoshima)

Scenic waterfront rest place (Niigata Furusato-Mura roadside station)

Riders taking a rest in a group long ride (Kohan-no-Sato Fukutomi roadside station, Hiroshima)
People can understand overall information on road surface conditions, traffic control etc. at a glance.

Large display showing traffic information and much other at-a-glance information

Distance to the next toilet, convenience store or roadside station can be displayed (as needed).

People can look more detailed traffic and tourist information by simple operation, just as on the Internet at home.
Roadside Station Linked with Local Communities

Busy with shoppers of local agricultural products
(Munakata roadside station, Fukuoka)

Viewing colorful plants in the botanic garden
(Nanbo Paradise roadside station, Chiba)

Dishes using local special foodstuff (Asagiri Kogen roadside station, Shizuoka)

Even a live stage performance! (Hachioji-Takiyama roadside station, Tokyo)