

2008 Report on the Current Status of Information and Communications

C o n t e n t s

Chapter 1

Realization of Dynamic Ubiquitous Network Society

Section 1: Revitalization of Regional Economies through ICT

1. Growth of regional economies through ICT.....5
2. Diminution of digital divide between regions10
3. Regional revitalization through ICT use11

Section 2: Growth and International Competitiveness of the ICT Industry

1. Growth of the ICT industry19
2. Status of the competitiveness of the ICT
industry21
3. Challenges for strengthening the competitiveness
of the ICT industry27
4. Improvement of corporate productivity through
the use of ICT30

Section 3: New Lifestyles by Ubiquitous Networks

- 1 Current state of ICT usage in people's lives32
2. Media and information in the ubiquitous
society.....33
3. Changes in consumer behavior.....35
4. Tasks for realizing a safe and secure ubiquitous
network society.....38

Chapter 2

Current Status of Information and Communications

Section 1: Telecommunications Business

1. Telecommunications market.....43
2. Telecommunications service43

Section 2: Broadcasting Business

1. Broadcasters.....44
2. Provision of broadcasting services44
3. Status of broadcasting media use.....44

Section 3: Trend of the Contents Market

1. Contents market size.....45
2. Status of contents use45

Section 4: R&D

1. Research in information communication
industry46

2. Technology trading.....	46
----------------------------	----

Section 5: Postal Service

1. Postal service	47
2. Correspondence delivery business.....	47

Section 6: Trends Abroad

1. Information and communications market abroad	48
2. Diffusion of telephones and the internet.....	48

Chapter 3 Outlook for Information and Telecommunications Policies

Section 1: Promotion of Comprehensive Strategy

1. Promotion of national strategy	51
2. u-Japan Policy.....	51
3. Promotion of reform in communication and broadcasting fields.....	51
4. Enhancement of international competitiveness ...	51
5. ICT Productivity Acceleration Program.....	52

Section 2: Development of Information and Communications Policies

1. Development of telecommunications	53
2. Development of broadcast policy	54
3. Promotion of radio policy.....	55

Section 3: Establishment of a Safe and Secure Ubiquitous Network Society

1. Consumer administration in relation to telecom- munications services.....	58
2. Promotion of information security policy	59
3. Ensuring reliability of electronic data	59

Section 4: Development of Affluent and Vital Ubiquitous Network Society

1. Elimination of geographic digital divide and promotion of information system to local communities	60
2. Regional development, etc. utilizing the informa- tion and communications infrastructure	60
3. Promotion of barrier free information	60
4. Promotion of informatization of administrative services	60
5. Promotion of ICT in disaster prevention field.....	61
6. Promotion of content policy	61
7. Creation and fostering of ICT venture	

businesses	61
8. Development of ICT personnel	62
9. Promotion of telework.....	62
10. Dealing with global warming issues in the ICT field.....	62
11. Promotion of ICT use for medical care	63

Section 5: Promotion of Research and Development

1. Research and development strategy to enhance international competitiveness of Japan	64
2. Development of a research and development environment.....	64

Section 6: Promotion of International Strategy

1. Promotion of international policy.....	66
2. Promotion of international cooperation.....	67

Section 7: Development of Postal Service Administration

1. Smooth and secure execution of privatization of Japan Post	68
2. Promotion of new postal administration.....	68