

MPHPT
 COMMUNICATIONS NEWS
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Biweekly Newsletter of the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications, Japan

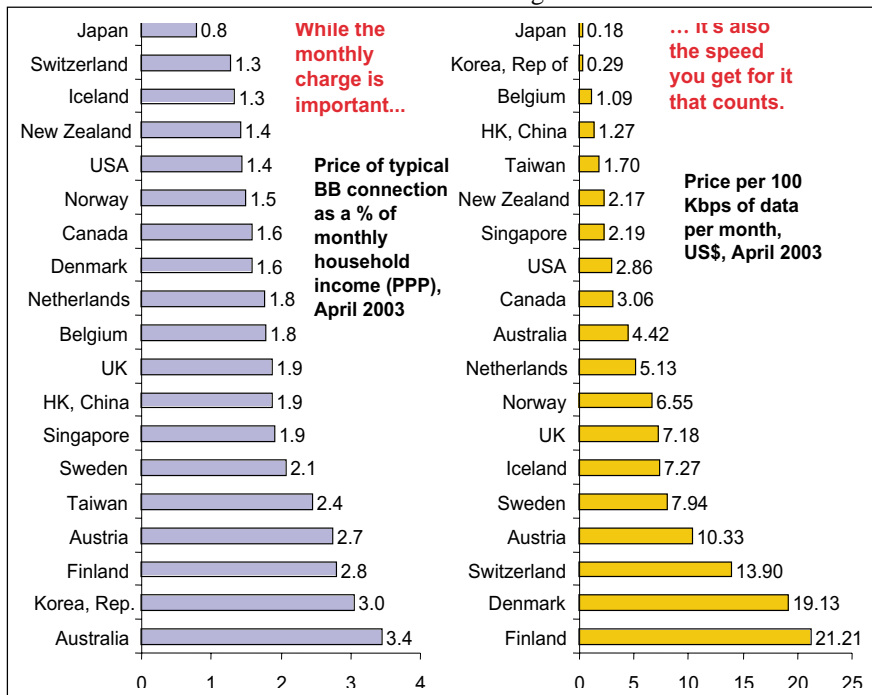
International Comparison of Broadband Penetration

At the Workshop for Promoting Broadband of ITU held from April 9 through 11, 2003, an OECD officer and an ITU officer announced respective views that Japan's deployment status of broadband platforms surpasses those of other developed countries. The outlines of their presentations are as follows:

1. Presenters and their sources

(1) Mr. Sam Paltridge, OECD, "Why some economies succeed with broadband"

(2) Mr. Taylor Reynolds, ITU, "Promoting Broadband"



Notes are attached to the effect that the views expressed in these presentations are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the results of analyses adopted by OECD or ITU.

PDFs of those views are available at: <http://www.itu.int/osg/spu/ni/promotebroadband/presentations.html>

2. Outlines

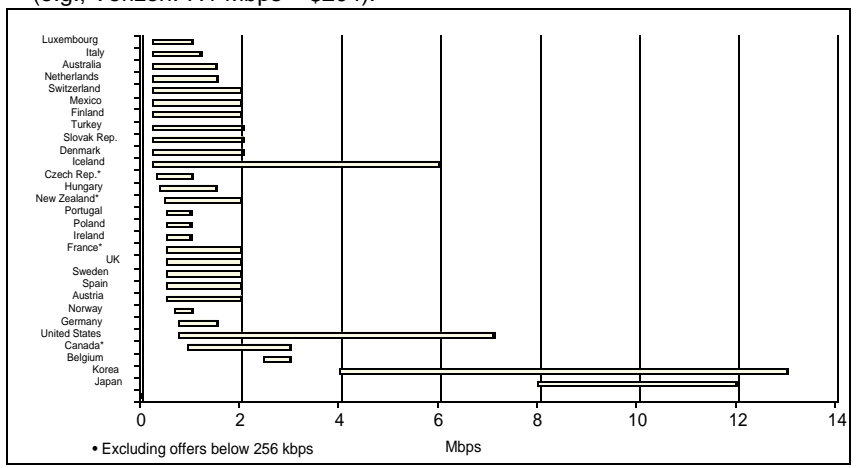
(1) Presentation by Mr. Sam Paltridge
 (a) Communications speed of DSL
 Broadband (BB) communications speeds of DSL in Japan and the Republic of Korea are extremely higher than

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DSL Broadband Divides

1. Japan – excludes Fibre at 100 Mbps & Korea excludes VDSL at 20 Mbps.
2. Iceland and USA highest capacity aimed at business users (e.g., Verizon: 7.1 Mbps = \$204).



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those in other leading countries.

(b) Rapid penetration of DSL services and launch of ETTH services in Japan

Japan will become a test case that will show whether consumers will be satisfied with DSL services at 8-12 Mbps, or whether consumers will shift to FTTH services at higher speeds of 100 Mbps.

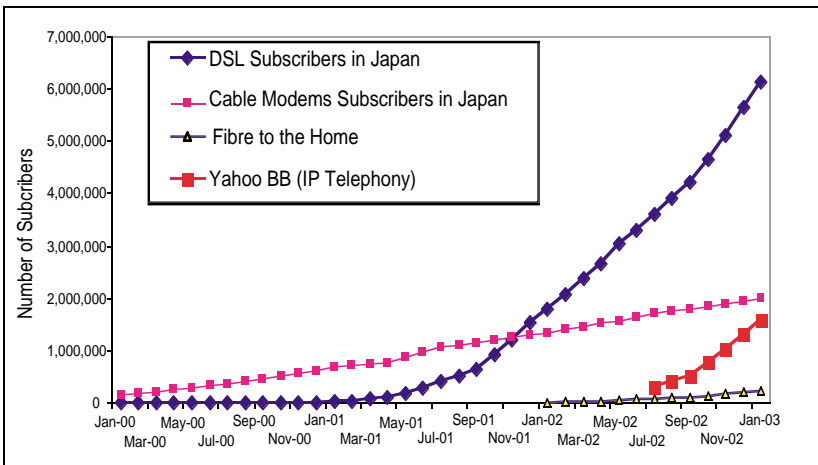
(c) New subscribers per 100 inhabitants, 4th Q 2002

Competition over incumbent local loops of NTT regional carriers brought about DSL services at 21 U.S. dollars for 8 Mbps in Japan. It leads to the fastest growth in the number of BB subscribers.

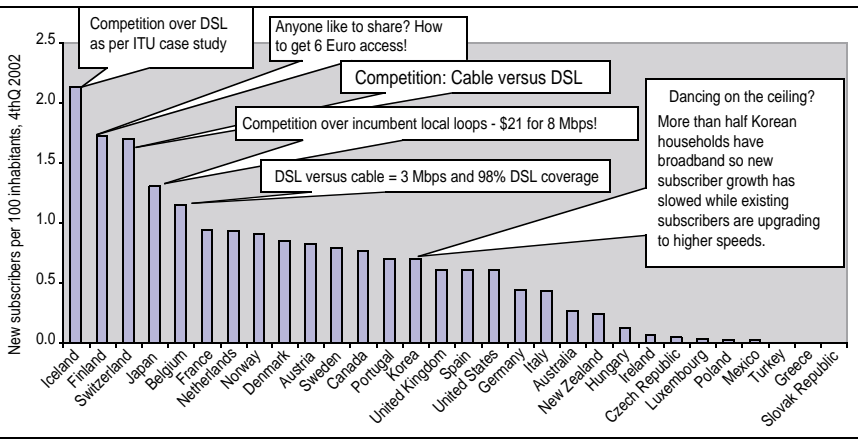
(2) Presentation by Mr. Taylor Reynolds, ITU, "Promoting Broadband"

In comparing the prices of typical BB connection as a ratio of the monthly household income (PPP) as well as prices per 100 kbps of data per month, Japan's BB charges are the lowest in the world.

Question for carriers is what users want from broadband: Will users migrate from 8-12 Mbps to 100 Mbps? Japan may provide first demand side clues.



Who is growing the fastest: Broadband Growth Rates in OECD countries



The 8th Japan-China Regular Bilateral Consultation Held

Toward further promotion of Japan-China cooperation in ICT field such as IPv6

With the purpose of promoting mutual understanding and cooperation/collaboration between Japan and China in the ICT field, on April 9, 2003, MPHPT and the Ministry of Information Industry (MII), the People's Republic of China, held the Eighth Regular Bilateral Consultation at the MPHPT Headquarters in Tokyo, and exchanged a wide range of opinions on ICT policy of the two countries. At the consultation, both sides

agreed to promote further cooperation on the following items in the ICT field.

Outline of Regular Bilateral Consultation

1) Current status of ICT industries and ICT strategies

Both sides exchanged information on development status of the ICT industries in the two countries (the number of telephone subscribers, increase in the num-

ber of Internet users, revenues/sales, etc. of ICT-related businesses, etc.) and future targets. The two sides exchanged opinions on steps to be taken by both governments for attaining said future targets.

The two sides agreed to continuously collaborate for the realization of future targets.

2) Pro-competitive policies and legal frameworks governing communica-

tions

The two countries presented legal frameworks governing communications and their contents in the two countries. In particular, the Chinese side expressed their hope that since China has been making efforts to develop a basic law for regulating telecommunications (Telecommunications Law), the Chinese side would like to use the Telecommunications Business Law as a useful reference. The Japanese side willingly explained details of the Bill to Amend the Telecommunications Law.

Both sides agreed to further strengthen dialogues for contributing to the telecommunications legislation, for instance, reference materials from Japan, information exchanges, policy dialogues, etc.

3) Management and supervision of communications markets

Both sides explained the current status of regulations in the telecommunications field, and exchanged information on principles of regulations, the scope of regulations, content of regulations, results of regulations, issues currently being faced and future goals. Then, the two countries agreed to continue to exchange information on the telecommunications legislation in China, accounting systems for charges between networks and others.

4) The 3G mobile communication systems and next-generation networks (IPv6, photonic networks)

Japan and China exchanged information on efforts to address mobile communication systems and next-generation networks. The Chinese side illustrated basic concepts for introducing 3G systems, schedules of technical experiments toward the introduction of 3G systems, etc.

With respect to the next-generation networks, both sides agreed to continuously collaborate on challenges, such as definitions, shortage of killer applications and interoperability of IPv6 with

IPv4.

5) Information security

Information exchanges among governments and telecommunications carriers in the two countries were made on information security measures. Considering that it is vital for both private and public sectors to make concerted efforts to prepare a secure and safe environment for using the Internet, the two countries agreed to continue to exchange information thereon.

6) Radio regulatory policies and standardization

The two countries explained frequency assignments, collaboration on WRC-2003, guidelines for radio radiation protection, standard conformity assessment and standardization activities. In particular, with regard to radio regulatory policies including frequency assignments and radio interference, the Chinese side proposed that they would like to exchange information/opinions at the working-level meetings.

7) Others

Vice-Minister NABEKURA and Vice Minister Zhang signed a memorandum of understanding concerning diffusion of IPv6 for contributing to the development

of the ICT industries in the two countries.

In response to requests from the Chinese side, the Japanese side explained outlines of the Telecommunications Business Dispute Settlement Commission of Japan for contributing to the preparatory process of establishing a regulatory authority of China.

[Reference]

1. Date and time: 09:30 – 17:00, April 9, 2003
2. Venue: The First Special Conference Room, Eighth Floor, MPHPT Headquarters
3. Participants:

[Japanese side] Mr. NABEKURA Shinichi, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination; Mr. ISHIDA Naohiro, Director-General, International Affairs Department; Mr. ASAMI Hiroshi, Director, International Cooperation Division; and others

[Chinese side] Mr. Zhang, Vice Minister, MII; Mr. Jiang, Director General, Policy and Regulations Department, MII; Mr. Qu, Deputy Director General (at DG Level), Foreign Affairs Department, MII; and others



Mr. NABEKURA (front right) and Mr. Zhang, Vice Minister, MII (left)

“Third Action Plan for the Promotion of Digital Broadcasting” Formulated

The “Third Action Plan for the Promotion of Digital Broadcasting” was formulated as follows:

Third Action Plan for the Promotion of Digital Broadcasting

April 15, 2003

Roundtable Conference on the Future Aspects of Broadcasting in the Broadband Age

Within the government, the IT Strategic Headquarters in the government adopted the "e-Japan Priority Policy Program - 2002 (June 18, 2002)," stating that "in order to promote digitalization of broadcasting comprising infrastructures of the IT Revolution, and start terrestrial digital broadcasting in the three major metropolitan areas of Kanto, Kinki and Chukyo by the end of 2003, and other areas by the end of 2006, the government takes measures for change of analog frequency in line with the digitalization of terrestrial broadcasting."

In addition, in the "Second Section (Strategy for Revitalization of the Economy)" of the "Basic Policies for Economic and Fiscal Policy Management and Structural Reform 2002 (Cabinet Decision of June 25, 2002)," they describe the necessity of the creation of various IT businesses, including e-commerce from homes with interactive TV programming, by promoting digitalization of broadcasting infrastructures for supporting the IT Revolution at home.

As shown in the above-mentioned Cabinet Decisions, digitalization of broadcasting will bring about revolutionary changes in ways of watching programming, namely a shift from a one-way/passive mode to a two-way/positive mode. Through provision of unprecedented, advanced and multifaceted services (high-definition pictures, programming with captions and descriptions for the elderly and people with disabilities, reservation services via the Internet, TV reception via mobile terminals, server-type broadcasting, etc.), viewers will be able to greatly benefit from digitaliza-

tion of broadcasting. At the same time, since the digitalization has unprecedented significance in terms of ICT policy, all relevant parties will make concerted efforts to implement the following measures to promote the swift diffusion of digital broadcasting.

I. Concrete measures to be implemented by relevant parties for diffusion of digital TV receiver units

1. Diffusion of digital TV receiver units

(1) Targets of diffusion of terrestrial digital TV receiver units

With respect to TVs, etc. for receiving terrestrial digital broadcasting, the numerical targets are as follows. Relevant parties, including the governments, broadcasters, manufacturers, etc. shall make concerted efforts to realize these targets.

- (i) Objects for numerical targets
 - From the viewpoint of maintaining the current viewing environments for terrestrial TV broadcasting, objects for numerical targets shall be "devices for viewing terrestrial digital TV broadcasts with higher image quality at home than that of analog TV broadcasts." (Note)

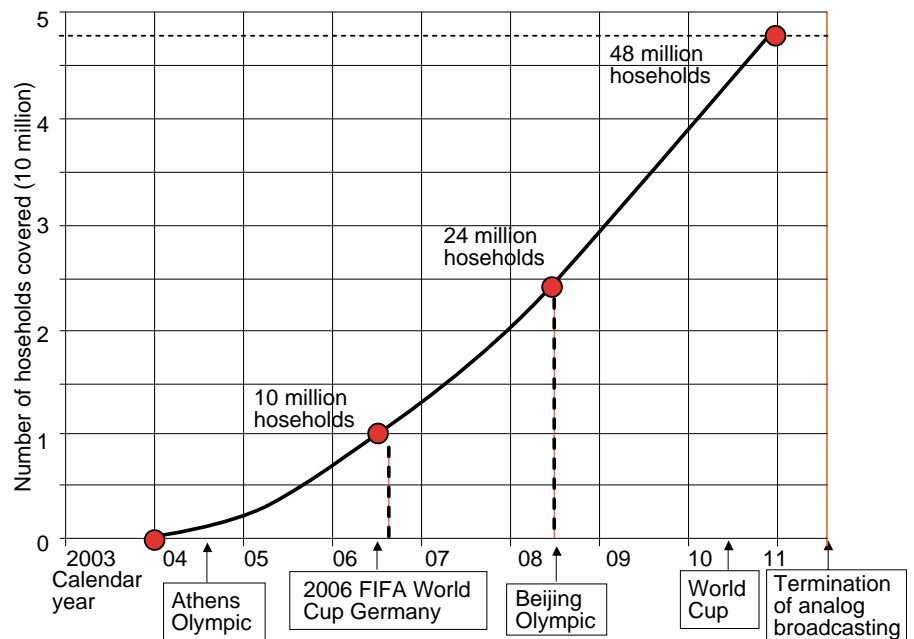
Note: Devices falling under the scope of objects for numerical targets are thought to be the following devices at present:

- TV units with functions for receiving terrestrial digital TV broadcasting
- Set-top boxes for receiving terrestrial digital TV broadcasting connected to analog TV units, etc.
- Video recorders with functions for receiving terrestrial digital TV broadcasting connected to analog TV units, etc.
- PCs with functions for receiving terrestrial digital TV broadcasting

In the future, it is anticipated that, along with diversification of broadcasting services and advents of unforeseeable viewing modes, versatile and multifaceted devices will be put onto the market.

- (ii) Numerical targets to be set forth
 - (a) Numerical targets on number of households
 - i. Final numerical targets
 - All households (48 million households) to be covered by the beginning of 2011
 - ii. Numerical targets for the time being
 - 10 million households to be covered by 2006, at the time of the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany (TM)

Fig. 1 Numerical targets on number of households (Roadmap)



- 24 million households to be covered by 2008, at the time of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games
- iii. Roadmap
- See Fig. 1.
- (b) Numerical targets on number of devices
- i. Final numerical targets
- 100 million devices to be diffused by the time of termination of terrestrial analog broadcasting (July 24, 2011)
- ii. Numerical targets for the time being
- 12 million devices to be diffused by 2006, at the time of the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany (TM)
 - 36 million devices to be diffused by 2008, at the time of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games
- iii. Roadmap
- See Fig. 2.
- (iii) Upon implementation of the numerical targets for the number of TV units, there is the necessity of overcoming a difficult hurdle, that is, a huge number of TV units comparable to a gross demand for the past 10 years (approximately 100 million units) are to be diffused within seven and a half years (equivalent to a 1.3 times bigger annual gross demand than before). Toward the realization of such targets, an organization for imple-

menting the targets (to be described later in this Action Plan) will consider concrete measures and make determined and concerted efforts of stakeholders to implement the concrete measures. The implementing organization is to take measures as early as possible for attaining the numerical targets by 2006 as the first step toward the realization of the final numerical targets.

(iv) Henceforth, while confirming the implementation status of the 2006 and 2008 numerical targets, toward the completion of those targets, follow-ups shall be made on objects of the numerical targets as based upon real viewing modes, methods for assessing the progress status as well as promotion measures to be stressed.

(2) Promotion of receiving units for satellite digital broadcasting, etc.

Diffusion of receiving units for satellite digital broadcasting, terrestrial digital broadcasting, etc. shall be actively promoted. Especially, with respect to common receiving sets for terrestrial digital broadcasting, BS digital broadcasting and the 110-degree east longitude CS digital broadcasting, promotion measures shall be taken for the diffusion thereof utilizing its advantages.

2. Practical measures to be taken by each relevant party

(1) Terrestrial TV broadcasters

(i) The Basic Broadcasting Plan states that i) terrestrial digital broadcasting in the three metropolitan areas (Kanto, Kinki and Chukyo) shall be commenced by the end of CY2003, ii) in other areas terrestrial digital broadcasting shall be commenced by the end of CY2006, and iii) the transition of analog TV broadcasting to digital broadcasting shall be completed and analog TV broadcasting shall be terminated in CY2011. In line with the Basic Broadcasting Plan, those targets shall be smoothly implemented.

(ii) In particular, in keeping pace with the progress in implementation status of measures for change of analog frequency after commencement of terrestrial digital broadcasting, service areas shall be sequentially expanded for penetrating terrestrial digital broadcasting at an early stage. In the three metropolitan areas, service areas shall be expanded in accordance with the following schedule:

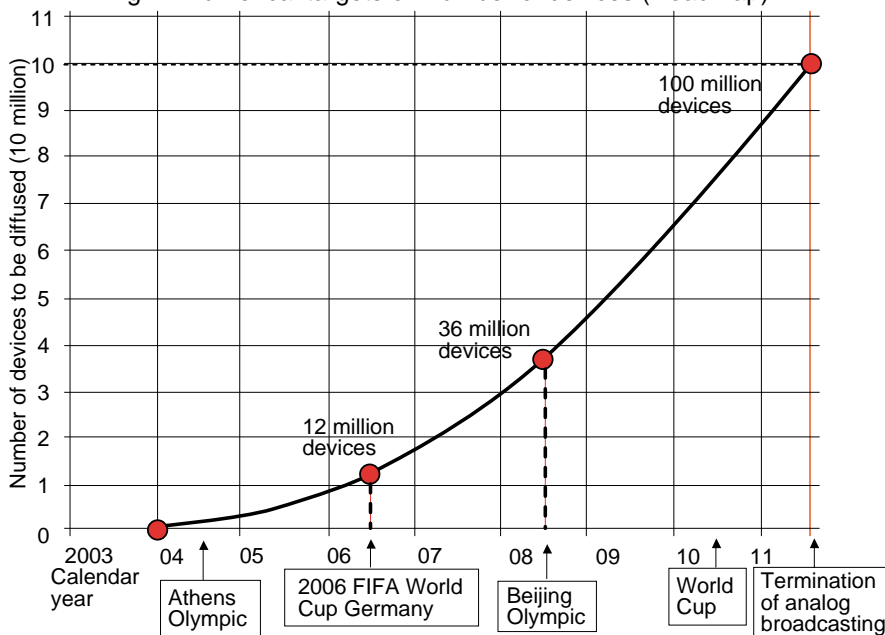
- At the initial stage: a p p r o x i - mately 12 million households
- By the end of CY2004: a p p r o x i - mately 17 million households
- By the end of CY2005: a p p r o x i - mately 23 million households

[Reference] On measures for change of analog frequency

With regard to measures for change of analog frequency to be taken by the government, since August 2002, the measures have been taken by broadcasters. At present about 81% (174 broadcasting stations of 214 stations) have been covered by the subsidization. Since February 9, 2003, the measures for change of analog frequency in the three metropolitan areas commenced simultaneously for individual households. As of April 10, 2003, the measures started in 41 areas of 14 prefectures, and works for about 21,000 households in 19 areas of the 41 areas were done smoothly.

(iii) At the beginning of terrestrial digital broadcasting service, more than 50% of all air-time per week shall be high-definition TV broadcasting, and after that the ratio shall be gradually extended (in particu-

Fig. 2 Numerical targets on number of devices (Roadmap)



lar, at prime time [7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.]).

- (iv) Broadcast programming with the advantages of digital broadcasting including supplementary data broadcasting, interactive programming, etc. shall be introduced one after another to increase the number of programs; in parallel, broadcasting services in compliance with mobile reception shall be developed and these shall be introduced at the earliest possible stage.
- (v) Broadcasting services friendly to the elderly and people with disabilities, such as captioned broadcasting with merits of digital broadcasting, shall be expanded.

(2) Terrestrial digital radio broadcasters

Commercial test broadcasting for providing multifaceted broadcast programming with merits of digital broadcasting will be started in autumn 2003 in Tokyo and Osaka, with the purposes of forecasting a future demand for mobile reception of broadcasting and of contributing to commercialization thereof.

(3) BS TV broadcasters

- (i) BS TV broadcasters will further diffuse BS digital broadcasting, by airing attractive broadcast programming and the implementation of joint campaign to publicize the merits of digital broadcasting such as high-definition and interactive programming.
- (ii) BS TV broadcasters aim at broadcasting BS digital programs using a transmission capacity of more than 22 slots, fully utilizing the merits of digital broadcasting, for more than 75% of primetime (four hours from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.) by the end of CY2003. These programs are mainly high-definition programs, and among the others are interactive programs and program-based data broadcasting.
- (iii) With regard to BS analog broadcasting, BS TV broadcasters will adequately inform viewers in a correct and ascertained manner of the time schedule that analog Hi-Vision broadcasting will be terminated in CY2007 and other BS analog broadcasting by the end of CY2011 in line with the termination period of terrestrial analog broadcasting.

(4) CS TV broadcasters

- (i) CS TV broadcasters will carefully meet needs of viewers by providing specialized broadcast programming with advantages of digital broadcasting such as multiple channels.
- (ii) CS TV broadcasters will i) facilitate program selection for meeting individual needs of viewers through advancement of platform and EPG functions, ii) increase the number of diversified broadcast programs with merits of digital broadcasting (e.g., multiplexing, multiangle, pay-per-view, two-way, supplementary data broadcasting, etc.) and iii) promote diffusion thereof.
- (iii) CS TV broadcasters will make efforts to improve picture quality through standard definition broadcasting utilizing broadband and introduce high-definition broadcasting, according to broadcast programming.
- (iv) CS TV broadcasters will provide information on CS digital broadcasting and conduct dissemination thereon, through joint efforts between platforms, cooperation with BS digital broadcasters and TV manufacturers, for making CS digital broadcasting services easily understood by the public.
- (v) Platform operators will develop guidelines by June 2003 for improving services and make them public, for facilitating multifaceted CS broadcasting and for ensuring benefits of viewers, through implementation of more adequate and efficient services toward program-supplying broadcasters, etc.

(5) Cable TV operators

- (i) Cable TV operators will i) expand retransmission of satellite digital broadcasting through networking of cable TV operators, tie-ups by shared use of head-end facilities, introduction of HITS (Head-end In The Sky), promotion of integrated common antenna facilities, etc., and ii) start digital retransmission services at an earliest possible stage in keeping pace with the launch of terrestrial digital broadcasting in service areas.
- (ii) Based upon the numerical target developed in March 2003 on retrans-

mission of terrestrial digital broadcasting by cable TV operators, cable TV operators will retransmit terrestrial digital broadcasting.

<Numerical targets for cable TV>

(a) Concept for numerical targets

As for the numerical targets of terrestrial digital broadcasting via cable TV systems, the number of households, which will be enabled to view terrestrial digital broadcasting through digital retransmission with the transmodulation or pass-through systems, shall be set forth as the numerical targets.

(b) Numerical targets to be set forth

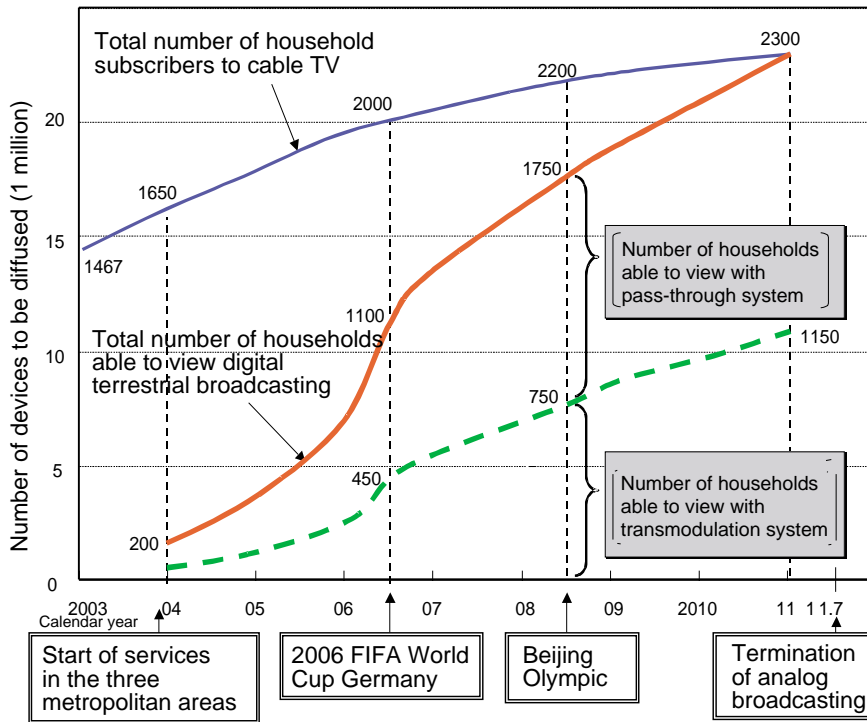
- i. Final numerical targets
 - All households of cable TV (estimate: maximum 23 million) shall be enabled to view by the beginning of CY2011.
- ii. Numerical targets for the time being
 - 2 million households of cable TV subscriber households in the three metropolitan areas shall be enabled to view at the beginning of CY2004.
 - 11 million households of cable TV subscriber households in the three metropolitan areas shall be enabled to view at the time of the 2006 FIFA World Cup Germany (TM)
 - 17.5 million households of cable TV subscriber households nationwide shall be enabled to view at the time of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games
- iii. Roadmap
 - See [Fig. 3](#).

(iii) Based on the specifications for retransmission of terrestrial digital broadcasting in April 2003, relevant manufacturers will swiftly put set-top boxes in compliance with the specifications into the market, and cable TV operators will actively introduce these.

(6) Manufacturers of receiving sets and retailers

- (i) In order to accelerate diffusion of satellite digital broadcasting and digital cable TV, manufacturers of receiving sets and retailers will further lower prices of receiving sets and set-top boxes as well as facilitate diffusion thereof.
- (ii) In keeping pace with the start of ter-

Fig. 3 Numerical targets for terrestrial digital broadcasting via cable TV (number of households able to view)



Note: "Number of households able to view with transmodulation system" includes households that are enabled to view with either transmodulation or pass-through systems.
 Source: "Toward smooth retransmission of terrestrial digital broadcasting via cable TV" Japan Cable Television Association, March 2003

restrial digital broadcasting, and in compliance with high-definition broadcasting, manufacturers of receiving sets and retailers will swiftly put common receiving sets for satellite and terrestrial digital broadcasting into the market and facilitate supply of lower-priced digital broadcast receiving sets.

- (iii) With respect to terrestrial digital broadcasting, manufacturers of receiving sets and retailers will develop and introduce portable receiving sets necessary for enabling mobile reception services to be provided by broadcasters.
- (iv) During the initial period of terrestrial digital broadcasting, in order to facilitate transition of analog TV broadcasting to digital broadcasting, manufacturers of receiving sets and retailers will make efforts to install a function enabling receiving terrestrial analog TV broadcasts on terrestrial digital TV broadcast receiving sets and promote sales thereof.
- (v) Upon sales of receiving sets, in line

with the schedule of transition to digital broadcasting and termination of analog broadcasting under the Basic Broadcasting Plan, will make efforts at an adequate timing to inform consumers (the public) of the schedule of terrestrial broadcasting and BS analog broadcasting termination periods in a correct and ascertained manner, for instance, including the schedule in catalogs, affixing of seals to receiving sets and posting of notice at shops.

- (7) Local public organizations
 - (i) Upon promotion of e-local governments, local public organizations will make the most of terrestrial digital broadcasting, e.g., use thereof in PR programs of local public organizations, and make efforts to address the following initiatives for realizing provision of local information.
 - (a) Digitalization of local information and multiple use of material data
 - (b) Wide area collaboration of local

- public organizations
- (ii) With regard to digitalization of terrestrial broadcasting and measures for changes of analog frequency, local public organizations shall make awareness campaigns for local residents.

II. Promotion of publicity campaigns, etc.

- 1) All relevant parties will make efforts in cooperation to conduct publicity activities, such as efforts listed in the Action Plan of Publicity Campaigns for Terrestrial Digital Broadcasting (Annex 2).
- 2) (Omitted)

III. Efforts of the government

In order to contribute to smooth implementation of the above-mentioned efforts, the government will implement measures, such as publicity activities for the public on merits and schedules of the digitalization as a national policy, active support measures, such as measures for change of analog frequency, that facilitate the digitalization, promotion of digitalization of cable TV and common receiving facilities, and actual proof experiments of the provision of administrative services utilizing terrestrial digital broadcasting, which will contribute to promotion of e-local governments, in a timely and appropriate manner.

Upon promotion of digital broadcasting, further collaboration among the relevant office and ministries is vital.

IV. Establishment of an organization for promoting digital terrestrial broadcasting and follow-up to the Action Plan

With regard to terrestrial digital broadcasting in the implementation stage, an organization for promoting terrestrial digital broadcasting consisting of top leaders from various fields will be set up by May 2003, with the purpose of facilitating the digitalization of broadcasting. This Action Plan shall be implemented ahead of the schedule, as early as possible. Follow-ups to the accelerated Action Plan on a regular basis are required.

Licenses for Terrestrial Digital Television Broadcasting Stations Granted

On April 16, 2003, MPHPT received a report from the Radio Regulatory Council (Chair: Prof. YASUDA Yasuhiko, School of Science and Engineering, Waseda University) that states it is appropriate that as in the inquiry from the Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications, pre-permits shall be granted to terrestrial digital television broadcasting stations for which applications for licenses were submitted by NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.) and 16 private broadcasters in the Kanto, Chukyo and Kinki metropolitan areas. Upon receipt of this report, MPHPT granted pre-permits to those broadcasters on April 18, 2003.

1. On April 16, 2003, MPHPT received a report from the Radio Regulatory Council (Chair: Prof. YASUDA Yasuhiko, School of Science and Engineering, Waseda University) that states it is appropriate that as in the inquiry from the Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications, pre-permits shall be granted to 20 terrestrial digital television broadcasting stations. NHK had submitted applications for four key stations (for General and Educational Broadcasting of Tokyo, and for General Broadcasting of Nagoya and Osaka) of terrestrial digital television broadcasting stations, and 16 private broadcasters in the Kanto, Chukyo and Kinki metropolitan areas had submitted applications for licenses for 16 key stations of terrestrial digital television broadcasting stations.

2. Upon reception of this report, MPHPT granted pre-permits to those applicants listed on the following table on April

18, 2003. With regard to two applications for licenses for relay stations (NHK Educational Broadcasting of Nagoya and Osaka) of terrestrial digital television broadcasting stations,

submitted at the same time of applications of these applications, Tokai and Kinki Regional Bureaus of Telecommunications granted pre-permits to two relay stations on April 18, 2003.

Service area		Applicant	Attendant at the Granting Ceremony
General	K a n t o metropolitan area, Aichi Prefecture, Osaka Prefecture	NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corporation), President EBISAWA Katsuji	President EBISAWA Katsuji
Educational	Nationwide		
Kanto metropolitan area		Nippon Television Network Corporation Chairman and Chief Executive Officer UJIIE Seiichiro	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer UJIIE Seiichiro
		Tokyo Broadcasting System, Inc. President INOUE Hiroshi	Chairman SUNAHARA Yukio
		Fuji Television Network, Inc. President & COO MURAKAMI Koichi	Chairman & CEO HIEDA Hisashi
		Asahi National Broadcasting Co., Ltd. President & CEO HIROSE Michisada	President & CEO HIROSE Michisada
	Television Tokyo Channel 12, Ltd. President SUGAYA Sadahiko	President SUGAYA Sadahiko	
Tokyo Prefecture		Tokyo Metropolitan Television Broadcasting Corporation President GOTO Wataru	President GOTO Wataru
Chukyo metropolitan area		Chubu-Nippon Broadcasting Co., Ltd. President YOKOYAMA Kenichi	President YOKOYAMA Kenichi
		Tokai Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. President ISHIGURO Taizan	President ISHIGURO Taizan
		Nagoya Broadcasting Network Co., Ltd. President KUWASHIMA Hisao	President KUWASHIMA Hisao
		Chukyo Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. President IWAMOTO Yukimasa	President IWAMOTO Yukimasa
Aichi Prefecture		Aichi Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd. President KAJITA Susumu	President KAJITA Susumu
Kinki metropolitan area		Yomiuri Telecasting Corporation President IZUMI Iwao	President IZUMI Iwao
		Asahi Broadcasting Corporation President NISHIMURA Yoshio	President NISHIMURA Yoshio
		Mainichi Broadcasting System, Inc. President YAMAMOTO Masahiro	President YAMAMOTO Masahiro
		Kansai Telecasting Corporation President IZUMA Michio	President IZUMA Michio
Osaka Prefecture		Osaka Broadcasting Corporation President KURATA Susumu	President KURATA Susumu

Telecommunications Council Compiles Report on Digital Mobile Communications System in Airports

On April 21, 2003, MPHPT received a report from the Telecommunications Council (Chair: Mr. AKIYAMA Yoshihisa, Chairman of Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.) in response to Inquiry No. 2012 on technical requirements for a digital mobile communications system in airports.

[Background of the Inquiry]

At present, radio communications is used in airports in relation to passengers, baggage and cargo transportation, for communications concerning such matters as aircraft maintenance, passenger guidance and airport security. In particular, airport radio telephones using the multi-channel access (MCA) system have been installed and are in use as the main communications system in domestic airports starting with the New Tokyo International Airport (Narita).

However, the growth in airport business resulting from increased air traffic in recent years has led to increased demand for wireless communications. For ensuring smooth communications, there has been growing demand for the introduction of a digital mobile communications system with outstanding efficiency

in terms of frequency usage, and the ability to offer services such as data communications and image transmission. Taking this situation into consideration, the Telecommunications Council has been deliberating upon "technical requirements for digital mobile communications systems in airports" since September 2002, and submitted its report.

[Schedule]

MPHPT will, paying due consideration to this Report, prepare relevant ministerial ordinances.

For details refer to the Japanese web-site

http://www.soumu.go.jp/s-news/2003/030421_2.html

[Outline of the Report]

Technical requirements for digital mobile communications systems in airports

Items	Technical requirements
Frequency bands	400 MHz bands
Carrier interval	25 kHz
Access methods	TDMA *1
Number of multiplexing	4
Communications methods	Following semi-duplex communications systems: Base station to mobile stations: TDM *2 Mobile stations to base station: TDMA Modulation method $\pi/4$ shift QPSK Transmission speed More than 32 kbps *1 TDMA: Time Division Multiple Access *2 TDM: Time Division Multiple

Example of Airport Digital Mobile Communications System

