

Dear oversea readers:

As Chair of the JSCE Concrete Committee, I would like to wish you a happy new year. According to the Japanese traditional calendar, 2008 is the year of mouse (last year, it was wild boar). In Japan, the mouse is a symbol of diligence and hard work and the wild boar is a symbol of moving forward fast.



The publication of the new Standard Specification for Concrete Structures in 2008 will be the most important event for JSCE Concrete Committee. Last year, we worked to revise the Standard Specification like a wild boar. Now, we have almost completed the new set of Standard Specification after checking the details like a diligent mouse. The new versions of the volumes for Design, Materials and Construction, Maintenance, and Dam will be published in March as the fruits of hard and diligent work by all committee members. The English translated versions will also be published later. We would be very happy if you could make use of our specifications. In addition to the new Standard Specification, this year, we are planning to publish data on concrete and concrete structures on many types of media, such as books, Cds, etc. I hope you will read our Newsletters and visit our web site to obtain the latest knowledge and information from Japan about concrete and concrete structures.

Currently, there are more than 20 subcommittees active in the Concrete Committee. One of the youngest subcommittees is the Subcommittee on infrastructure management. We have various types of committees including hard and soft technologies on concrete and concrete structures.

You will receive a lot of interesting news from the JSCE Concrete Committee through our Newsletter this year.

Have a nice year!

Toyoaki MIYAGAWA
Chair of the JSCE Concrete Committee