



Syuukichi Komatsu
Senior Managing Director

Completion of Sanyo Denki Technology Center

Construction of the long-awaited Technology Center has finally been completed. After the completion ceremony was held on July 22, the design and development departments, production technology development department and trial production departments moved in, and the Technology Center went into operation at the beginning of August.

Some six years ago, in September 1991, Nagano prefecture constructed the Research Park in Ueda city and sold a parcel of land to us. We signed the purchase contract with the Industry and Commerce Department of Nagano prefecture at the Nagano International Assembly Hall on September 17th, and were then asked what our future plans were for the Research Park. We answered: "We will bring together our design and development departments, which are well suited to the name 'Research Park', as part of our company policy. "We are indeed most satisfied that, despite the tough times following the bursting of the economic bubble, construction of the Technology Center has been completed successfully.

We had long wanted to bring together the various energies and ideas of our design engineers and other company staff in the Technology Center, and so our Research Park Design Project Committee was formed two years ago. After lengthy discussions, we drew up the Ueda Research Park Construction Master Plan, the basic concept of which is as follows.

"Sanyo Denki will construct a research and development facility that is a pleasure to work in and that is the worthwhile place of formation of human character to work in, for developing value-added products using the latest technologies from around the world and the excellent natural environment of the research park"

We set the following basic construction policies:

- The Technology Center shall be the focus of design and development for the factories of Sanyo Denki.
- Related departments shall be moved to the Technology Center based on the new design and development policy.
- The Technology Center will not include production departments.
- An environment that fosters creating thinking shall be generated using the natural environment.
- The latest multimedia equipment shall be used to maximize the efficiency of design and development work.
- We shall comply with the policy of preserving the environment and scenery surrounding the Ueda Research Park.

We shall set the number of company staff and long-term business plans up to the year 2001.

We investigated the various problems in the design and development departments involved in the above policies and countermeasures. Because people working in design and development need a creative, flexible environment in which they can enter the "flow" state to devote themselves, we designed the Technology Center to provide the following environment:

- An environment which is quiet, uninterrupted, and allows creative thinking
- An environment which is comfortable and easy to work in
- An environment designed to suit the nature of the Research Park The design also includes the following facility considerations:
 - Refreshment rooms and other facilities that allow people to easily communicate
 - Facilities that allow mental and physical refreshment, such as for physical exercise, temporary sleeping rooms, and lounges
 - Library and company staff training facilities where patent information, technical information and library materials are centrally controlled
 - A restaurant facility on the top floor that staff can use even after working hours

The Technology Center has been completed as one of what realizes our corporate philosophy "We SANYO DENKI make the dreams of people come true for the happiness of people in cooperation with people" into a concrete shape. The Technology Center is not only a wonderful building, but provides a marvelous place in which some 400 engineers can work together to develop technologies that improve society, in line with our corporate philosophy. It is impossible to place a numerical value on this invaluable achievement.

Finally, we sincerely thank NTT Power And Building Facilities Inc., which completed the design and construction of this amazing building in careful harmony with the natural environment, as well as Takenaka Corporation and other companies involved.
