The opening ceremony of the preliminary verification trials for the “Autonomous Movement Support Project”, at which Japan’s state-of-the-art technology for the realization of a universal society will be presented to the world, will be held on Sept. 30th.

- In addition, Chairman Sakamura (Professor, University of Tokyo) will explain the details of the preliminary verification trials. Demonstrations using a new type of Ubiquitous Communicators will be held at the preliminary verification trial sites.

### Outline

- The opening ceremony for the preliminary verification trials will be held on Sept. 30th prior to the preliminary verification trials that will be held in the San Chika underground mall in Chuo-ku, Kobe, and at Kyomachi-suji in the Old Foreign Settlement in Kobe city from October through December this year. Following are the details of the ceremony and the demonstrations.

<<Schedule>>

- Requests for interviews will be accepted from 10:30 (See Exhibit).
- **Location**: San Chika underground mall in Chuo-ku, Kobe city
  - 10:45 to 11:30  Demonstration (for the Press)

- **Location**: “Kyomachi-suji” in Old Foreign Settlement in Kobe city
  - 12:20 to 12:40  Preliminary verification experiments opening ceremony
  - Opening remarks Mr. Yada, Kobe City Mayor, Mr. Sato, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport
  - Ribbon-cutting Prof. Sakamura, Committee Chairman, Mr. Yada, Kobe City Mayor, Mr. Sato, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport and others
  - 12:40 to 13:00  Demonstration (for the Press)
  - 13:30 to 14:30  The details of the preliminary verification trials will be explained by Prof. Sakamura, Committee Chairman. A question and answer session will follow.

- **Location**: Shin Kobe Oriental Hotel
  - 15:00 to 16:45  Social gathering of the Autonomous Movement Support Project Committee (open-door).

<Highlights of these demonstrations>

- First demonstrations to be held in a public space (indoor and outdoor).
- Use of a new type of Ubiquitous Communicator.
- Aimed not only at the vision-impaired but also at people in wheelchairs.
- Equipped with the function to send out a SOS in case of emergency.
- Information provided in several languages (Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean).
- Shop information transmitted in cooperation with the local shopping areas.
- Setup of intelligent reference points (with IC tags attached)

**Press Coverage**

**TV and Radio Programs:**

**Newspapers:**
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If you are a member of the Minato correspondent club and need information, please contact Mr. Nakatsu of the Correspondent Club (Phone: 06-6942-1141, Extension 2811), or Mr. Hurukawa of the Ports and Airports Department (Phone: 078-391-3101, Extension 6433) of the Kinki Regional Development Bureau

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The opening ceremony of the preliminary verification trials for the “Autonomous Movement Support Project”

Since March of this year, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport, aiming at the realization of a universal society, has been promoting the “Autonomous Movement Support Project” to establish a system in which information required by people on the move can be accessed “anywhere, anytime, and by anyone” utilizing the world’s most advanced ubiquitous network technology in Japan. Below are the details of the preliminary verification trials opening ceremony and demonstration that will be presented on September 30th prior to the preliminary verification trials that will be held in the San Chika underground mall in Chuo-ku, Kobe, and Kyomachi-suji in the Old Foreign Settlement in Kobe from October through December of this year.

1. Timetable for Sept. 30th
* Requests for interviews will be accepted from 10:30 (See Exhibit).

Location : “San Chika” underground mall in Chuo-ku, Kobe city
_10:45 to 11:30 Demonstration (for the Press)

Location : “Kyomachi-suji” in Old Foreign Settlement in Kobe city
_12:20 to 12:40 Preliminary verification trials opening ceremony
  · Opening remarks
    Kobe City Mayor    Mr. Yada
    Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs, The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport Mr. Sato
  · Ribbon-cutting
    Prof. Sakamura, Committee Chairman,
    Mr. Yada, Kobe City Mayor,
    Mr. Sato, Vice-Minister for Engineering Affairs,
    The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport and others

_12:40 to 13:00 Demonstration (for the Press)
_13:30 to 14:30 Press conference
_13:30 to 14:00 The details of the preliminary verification trials will be explained by Prof. Sakamura, Committee Chairman
_14:00 to 14:30 Question and answer session

Location : Shin Kobe Oriental Hotel
_15:00 to 16:45 Social gathering of the Autonomous Movement Support Committee (open-door).
  Pictures will be allowed only up until the opening remarks.

<<Agenda (plan)>>
_ Opening remarks
_ Comments from Prof. Sakamura, Committee Chairman
_ Opinions from committee members and others

2. <Highlights of these demonstrations>
· First demonstrations to be held in a public space (indoor and outdoor).
· Use of a new type of Ubiquitous Communicator.
· Aimed not only at the vision-impaired but also at people in wheelchairs.
· Equipped with the function to send out a SOS in case of emergency.
· Information provided in several languages (Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean).
· Shop information transmitted in cooperation with the local shopping areas.
· Setup of intelligent reference points (with IC tags attached).
Shin Kobe Oriental Hotel
“Social Gathering” 15:00 to 16:45

Shinkansen Shin-Kobe Station

San Chika
“Demonstration” 10:45 to 11:30 (the Press)

Kyomachi-suji (Crossing of the Bank of Japan)
“Opening ceremony” 12:20 to 12:40
“Demonstration” 12:40 to 13:00 (the Press)
“Press conference” 13:30 to 14:30
Sanchika

Press reception/Meeting place
Hanshin Electric Railway concourse
10:30 to 10:45

Hanshin Electric Railway concourse

Demonstration area
10:45 to 11:30 (the Press)
At the Bank of Japan intersection in Kyomachi-suji,
Lamp Museum

- Demonstration area
  12:40 to 13:00 (the Press)

- Press conference site
  "Lamp Museum"
  13:30 to 14:30

- Opening ceremony site
  12:20 to 12:40

Bank of Japan intersection in Kyomachi-suji,