



Preface

Special Issue on

Cutting-Edge R&D

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The dramatic progress of the information-communications revolution based on the Internet is bringing about massive and sudden changes in social trends and industrial structures. To stay one step ahead of these changes and continue to provide new value and solutions to our customers and future society, Fujitsu Laboratories is working toward becoming a research organization of the 21st century. In the 21st century, “business model” and “corporate social responsibility” (CSR) take on importance in research and development (R&D) in addition to “science” and “technology”. Having researchers think in terms of business models that make use of their research results is a key factor behind innovation and the creation of new business. At the same time, the effects of rapid technological progress on social systems and the global environment can no longer be ignored. When seeking out results from R&D, it is essential to give due consideration to the global environment and the smooth operation of large-scale social systems. Fulfilling CSR is critical to achieving a safe and secure society in the future.

As a ten-year vision, Fujitsu Laboratories believes that, “By linking everything together, we generate value and create a human-centric networked society that delivers inspiration, discovery, reliability, and growth.” This vision is embodied by an R&D roadmap that views the present from ten years ahead and views the future from the present. This roadmap serves as a standard for technology management driving information sharing and technology development throughout Fujitsu Laboratories.

Furthermore, to accelerate the development and commercialization of novel technologies that can create customer value against a background of market changes, it is essential that we form tie-ups with

companies having other areas of expertise and universities having a wide range of fundamental knowledge as part of an “open innovation” mindset.

A global perspective is essential to open innovation. Fujitsu Laboratories is establishing research bases in the USA, the UK, and China to build up its global research system. By welcoming researchers from various backgrounds at overseas sites and making the most of regional features, we can bring a wide variety of ideas to R&D activities, producing a wealth of results.

While continuing to cultivate the R&D of cutting-edge technologies that drive the evolution of the information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure, Fujitsu Laboratories plans to utilize its global system to create ubiquitous technologies to revolutionize business activities and personal lifestyles, materials and device technologies that give birth to new value, and technologies that contribute to environmental and energy solutions.

This special issue introduces some of these R&D activities together with Fujitsu Laboratories’ R&D strategy and activities at overseas sites.