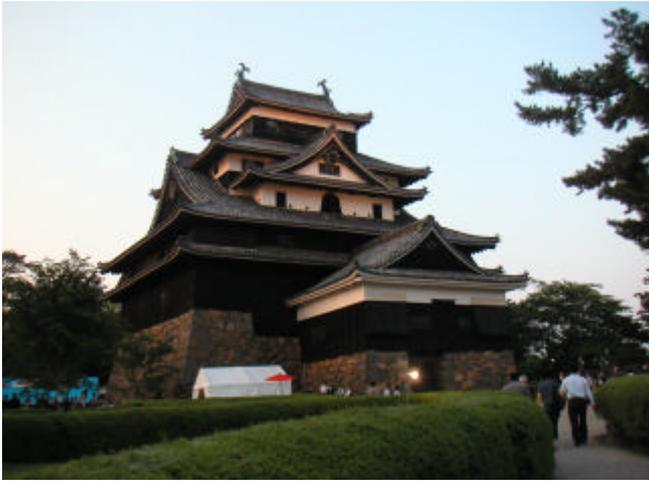


Topics from Conference

23rd International Symposium on Space Technology and Science (ISTS)

Yutaka Kazekami, Senior Editor

The 23rd International Symposium on Space Technology and Science (ISTS) was held at Shimane Prefectural Assembly Hall and Kunibiki Messe in Matsue City, Shimane



Matsue Castle, Symbol of 23rd ISTS

Prefecture in Japan from May 26, 2002 to 2 June. Although ISTS is held every 2 years, this conference is the largest international conference in Japan, which discuss about Space Development. The number of registered participants is 757.

Matsue city supported this conference under the strong leadership of Matsue Mayor with the cooperation from a general citizen as the social welfare activities. I felt a

heat of Matsue's social welfare activities. There were many flags of ISTS in the street and the conversation of "Big guy of Japanese Space Activities came to Matsue" was heard when I was in Soba Restaurant "Japanese Buckwheat Noodle shops". It was same case when I visited Bisei Spaceguard Center, where continuously observing the debris form deep space to the earth, at Bisei-town in Okayama Prefecture as a member of technical tour. People of Okayama gave us the same support as that of Shimame. They kindly opened their facility in spite of their regular holiday on that day.



Exhibition Hall at Kunibiki Messe

The paper presentation was carried out in the Shimane Prefectural Assembly

Hall. Total 500 papers were presented during the conference, so average 100 presentation was occurred every day. It was a very successful conference.

The exhibition was held at Kunibiki Messe, a part from Shimane Prefectural Assembly Hall. Shuttle bus service was provided to participant every 20 minutes. More than 10,000 people, including primary to university students, were visited. Many student could experienced the actual space development through the exhibition. Also, there was the excellent prized display of the paintings of “Space Development”, selected from

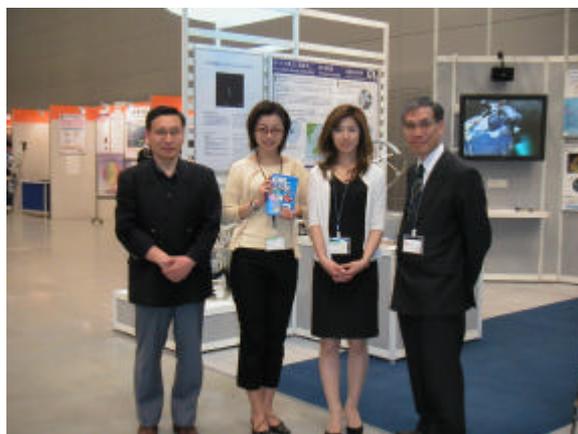


Excellent Prize for “Space” Paintings

1,900 applications of about 1,900 points out of Shimane Prefecture. The work that has numerous dreams was displayed. Also, I was overwhelmed by the powerful energy of junior high school student led by their teacher.

The session “Space Commercialization”, which I shared the chairman, covers the topics of the satellite and launch vehicle of each

country, security & law, commercialization of NASA, international cooperation in disaster protection, stratospheric balloon platform experiments. 6 papers were presented from Japan and 8 papers outside of Japan and various kind of questions and answers were exchanged. I think, through this session, the sufficient contribution to symposium has been achieved by Japanese Space Industries.



I(left) with Mr. Toyama(right)

The next 24th ISTS will be held at Miyazaki City in May, 2004.