

The Second AIAA JFSC Awards were presented to Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Ueda at the Twenty-First ICSSC Award Luncheon

On April 17, 2003, the 21st ICSSC Award Luncheon was held at Pacifico Yokohama and the 2nd AIAA Japan Forum on Satellite Communications Awards were presented to Mr. Takuya Yoshida, CEO, chairman of the board of JSAT Corporation, and Mr. Takao Ueda, executive advisor of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, for their outstanding contributions to initial satellite communications services in Japan and the world. Almost 200 people from the 21st ICSSC participants, AIAA TTC members and AIAA JFSC members gathered for this dignified award ceremony.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Dr. Hideyuki Shinonaga, vice president of KDDI R&D Laboratories and chairman of the AIAA JFSC Award Committee, recalled the history of AIAA JFSC and the purpose of the AIAA JFSC Award. In 1998, AIAA's 17th ICSSC was held at the Pacifico Yokohama, which was the first time in the ICSSC's 32-year history that the conference was held outside North America.

In the 17th ICSSC, the award selection committee presented the first Japan Aerospace Communications Award to Mr. Taketo Furuhashi, president and CEO of International Digital Communications Inc. at that time, who made a pioneering contribution to the creation and establishment of the first domestic commercial communications satellite service system "SAT" in Japan and Asia.

Following the success of the 17th ICSSC, a proposal was forwarded to the 17th ICSSC Organizing Committee to establish an AIAA section in Japan. The primary objective in establishing a section was to continue the focused and sustained activities initiated by the 17th ICSSC. The organization in its current form is named the AIAA Japan Forum on Satellite Communications: A subcommittee of the TCCS (AIAA-JFSC).

Proposed activities of the AIAA-JFSC include exhibits, workshops for research paper presentations sponsored or co-sponsored with other organizations on an annual basis. In addition to these activities, the AIAA JFSC Award Committee presents the AIAA JFSC AWARD for outstanding contribution to satellite communications in Japan and the world.

The first AIAA JFSC AWARD was presented to Dr. Susumu Kitazume, engineering director of JEPICO Corporation, in 2001 for his outstanding contribution to the establishment of AIAA Japan Forum on Satellite Communications. In the award ceremony, the plaque of the 1st AIAA JFSC Award was presented to Dr. Kitazume from Dr. Takashi Iida, president of CRL and vice chairperson of AIAA JFSC.

After the initial explanation of Dr. Shinonaga, Dr. Ichiro Taniguchi, chairman of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation and chairperson of AIAA JFSC, introduced the contributions of Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Ueda and

presented the awards and plaques. Mr. Yoshida received the award for his outstanding contributions to creating and promoting the Japanese advanced commercial satellite communications system using JCSAT satellites and expanding its capability in Japan and the world. Mr. Ueda received the award for his outstanding contributions to creating and promoting the project of the Japanese advanced commercial satellite communications system using the SUPERBIRD satellite.

Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Ueda made their acceptance speech one by one and expressed their deepest gratitude to the people involved in their respective projects for their assistance. Moreover, Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Ueda presented their own personal views of the future of satellite communications. They said that satellite communications would be very important communication media in the future and provide tremendous benefit to everyone in the world because of its wide coverage and its flexibility. The award ceremony closed successfully with the applause of the audience.



Atmosphere of ceremony venue



Two recipients and executive members

(From left to right: Dr. Iida, Mr. Ueda, Dr. Taniguchi, Mr. Yoshida, and Prof. Helm)