

Aiming at Global Communications in the Future

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The mission of the NTT Information Sharing Laboratory Group is to identify what future information communication services should be like and provide the core technologies required for them. Global connection is not only an essential requirement for but also the biggest benefit of information communication. Therefore, we are always keen to recognize the fact that our laboratories must contribute to the advancement of society at large, as well as to the business of the NTT group.

In the fall of 2002, the NTT group announced its “Vision for a new optical generation”. The key concept underlying this vision is RENA, a resonant communication network architecture that our Laboratory Group has been advancing. RENA will make possible a secure, reliable, and user-friendly new-generation communications environment where people can be connected to anyone, ubiquitously and interactively, through a broadband network. Specifically, the NTT Information Sharing Laboratory Group is focusing on high-speed and high-capacity communication, security, quality of service, and usability. Global connection is crucial for information communication. It would be pointless if communication quality and security were assured only in the NTT networks: they must be assured globally, end-to-end.

The range of information communication technology is so broad and diverse that it is impossible for NTT to cover the whole range. While NTT undertakes R&D proactively in core technical fields, it also seeks cooperation and partnership with worldwide carriers and vendors on the principle of mutual benefit. Even the remarkably thriving Internet seems to be in its early stage when compared with the full potential of information communication technology. What most people see today is only a glimpse of this potential, whether its bright side or dark side. Therefore, the current communication environment is still at a stage where we cannot determine which features should be valued and which should not. All of NTT's laboratories are committed to bringing about a resonant communication environment that is safe and friendly for all generations. I hope to see a society in which creative and valuable technology is duly appreciated.

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