Using Leading-edge Technology to Develop Unique, Specialist Products

Koichi Matsuda

Senior Executive Vice President, NTT Advanced Technology Corporation

NTT Advanced Technology Corporation (NTT-AT) is a collection of specialists who turn leading-edge technology into new businesses. Since 1976, when it was founded with the primary mission of transferring NTT's R&D results to the industry at large, NTT-AT has grown steadily alongside the evolution of information technology. Today, our technical expertise serves as an engine to drive the company's business expansion in four core business areas: leading-edge technologies; network solutions; system solutions; and research, analysis, and consulting services.

NTT-AT believes that what it takes to survive in today's fierce global competition is expertise in technical development coupled with the practical knowledge to maximize the potential of the technology developed. Therefore, we are focusing our resources on technical development, in particular the development of unique, specialist products. Since there is not enough space here to present the entire picture of our technical development, which covers many diverse areas, from software to hardware, and from components to systems, let me give just one example of our technical development in the field of fiber-optics, which supports broadband communication.

Representative products that we have developed in this field include: i) contact polishers used for the mass production of optical connectors and ii) optical connector cleaners. Both these are now widely used not only in Japan but also in the global market. More recently, we have successfully developed a method of assembling optical connectors in the field. It allows an optical connector with the same performance, cost, and reliability as one assembled in a factory to be assembled in the field in only five minutes. This has been made possible by the development of an instant adhesive to bond an optical fiber rapidly and a small, portable, high-speed polisher. This method will dramatically reduce the time needed for installing optical fiber cabling for LANs (local area networks) in buildings and for FTTH (fiber to the home) services in homes.

Backed by R&D results from NTT Laboratories, NTT-AT will pursue technical development in a wide range of fields and respond to the needs and trust of customers. We hope that our array of technology will contribute to a better information sharing society.

Koichi Matanda

