

## Preface

Since the SPring-8 Project was funded, more than six years have passed for the construction of the SPring-8 facility. There have been a number of obstacles to be overcome in the past. Nevertheless, the construction has progressed increasingly year by year. Now, we can see an exciting figure of the accelerator buildings in the facility site newly developed in Harima Science Garden City, Hyogo Prefecture. The buildings and utilities are nearly completed, and accelerator components are ready to be installed in the buildings, and ten public beamlines are under fabrication.

Originally, the Project was scheduled to provide the synchrotron radiation in 1998. But ardent wish of the user community and the SPring-8 Project Team for earlier use of the facility was accepted by the Japanese Government to fund for one-year earlier completion of the facility.

The Project has been promoted by a joint team of two different institutions JAERI and RIKEN, in which JASRI joined later. This is a new style of collaboration in Japan. The user community has supported the project from the beginning and collaborated with the Project Team to construct beamlines. These nationwide cordial collaboration and support are very helpful to promote the project and deeply acknowledged. We are also very grateful to many institutions, domestic and overseas, for providing us scientific and technical information on accelerators, beamlines and utilities.

Now, the facility construction is in the final phase. We will make further efforts to realize one of the most powerful synchrotron radiation facilities in the world.



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