

# Facility Management and Development

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When SPring-8 began operation in October 1997, the Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute (JASRI) assumed responsibility for managing and developing the facility.

From the outset, Japan's Science and Technology Agency envisaged that SPring-8 should be open to users from Japan and across the world. As part of this policy, a special law (enacted in October 1994) established JASRI as Japan's sole public corporation for promoting synchrotron radiation research and developing SPring-8 as an international center-of-excellence.

Since its formation, JASRI has worked in close cooperation with the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute (JAERI) and the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN). JAERI and RIKEN jointly planned SPring-8 and coordinated the first phase of construction. This began in 1990 and included SPring-8's linear accelerator, booster synchrotron, storage ring, beamlines and utility buildings.

JASRI's responsibilities, as stipulated in the special law, at SPring-8 now include:

- (1) the maintenance of public-use beamlines along with support for conducting experiments; and
- (2) support for contract beamline construction and use.

On September 26, 1994, the Prime Minister approved a document detailing basic principles for promoting the effective use of SPring-8. He formally confirmed JASRI's legal status on October 3, 1994, and thereby approved three policy guidelines for JASRI's role in managing and developing SPring-8.

- 1) JASRI's knowledge of synchrotron radiation shall be capable of promoting the development of SPring-8 as a world-class facility.
- 2) JASRI shall provide an integrated framework for managing the various parts of

SPring-8 and coordinating the operation of the linear accelerator and synchrotron (constructed by JAERI), together with the storage ring (constructed by RIKEN) and other installations at SPring-8.

- 3) JASRI shall be responsible for guaranteeing safety at SPring-8. This responsibility covers all activities at SPring-8, including contract beamlines constructed by external organizations.

On January 27, 1997, (in preparation for SPring-8's opening) JASRI concluded an agreement with JAERI and RIKEN for exploiting the facility according to the guidelines described above. This agreement states that JASRI has sole responsibility for the overall coordination of SPring-8 activities and contains provisions that aim to:

- 1) exploit SPring-8's enormous research potential by ensuring that research activities and maintenance are organized as part of an integrated process;
- 2) provide a clear system to specify respective responsibilities for activities at SPring-8.

The agreement enables JAERI and RIKEN to entrust SPring-8 operation to JASRI, together with the coordination of associated funding responsibilities. It also clarifies JASRI's obligation to discharge this responsibility in an appropriate way with provisions relating to:

- 1) the maintenance and improvement of SPring-8's linear accelerator, synchrotron and storage ring;
- 2) the operation, maintenance and improvement of SPring-8's beamlines;
- 3) management and operation of other facilities;
- 4) safety management;
- 5) provisions to cover factors that affect the efficient operation, maintenance and development of SPring-8.

Moreover, the agreement specifies that, in forming its plans for the operation and management of SPring-8, JASRI shall consult with JAERI and RIKEN on an annual basis.