



Bird's eye view of the SPring-8 facility site in 1997.



Three guest houses were constructed and opened in October. A cafeteria (in front) was opened in August.

Construction of Main Building was completed in August.



Structural Biology Facility of RIKEN was constructed in the SPring-8 facility site.



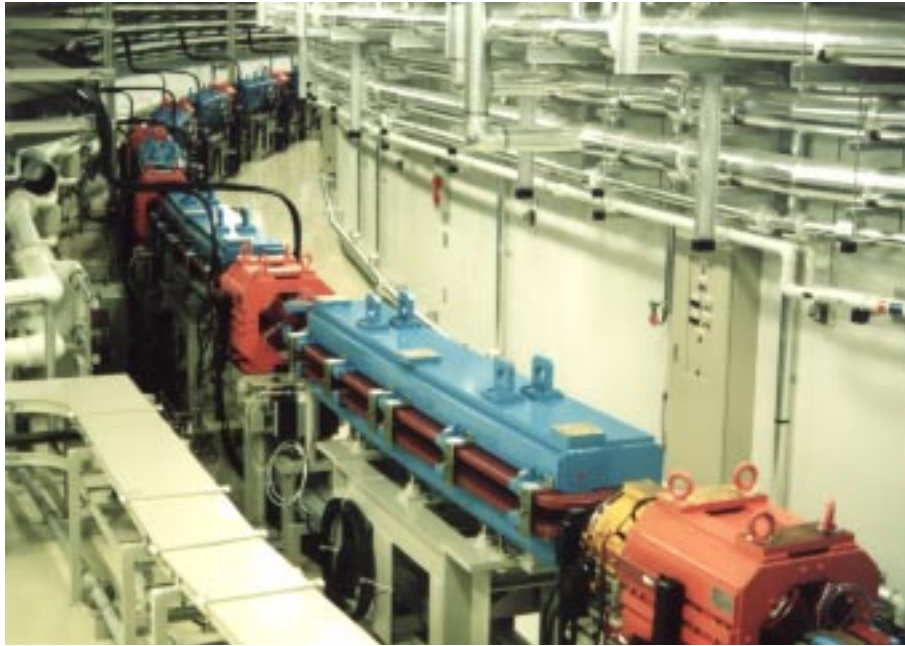
A part of injector linac, which accelerates an electron beam to 1 GeV.



Beam energy analyzing system newly installed at the end of 1 GeV linac. The system consists of four rectangular bending magnets and beam monitors.



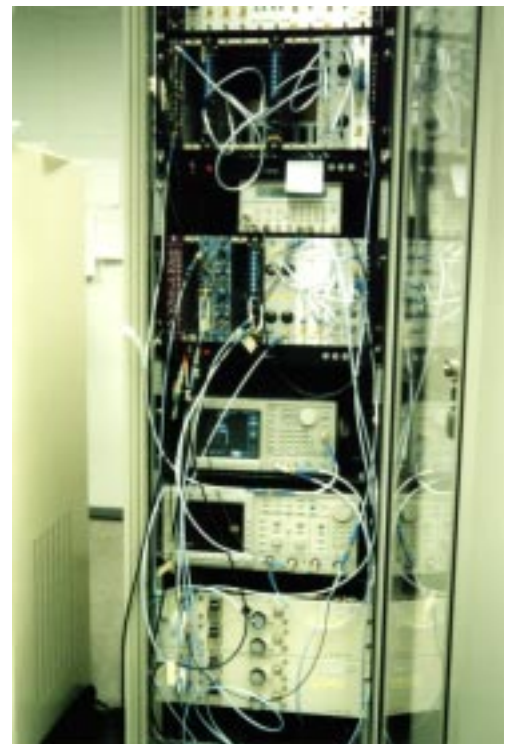
RF gun test station under construction in Machine Laboratory. A 35 MW klystron, a modulator, waveguide and laser system were installed.



Booster synchrotron, which accelerates an electron beam from 1 GeV to 8 GeV.



RF knock out electrodes installed in the synchrotron for single bunched beam operation. Four 1-m-long stripe-line type electrodes in a vacuum chamber generate electromagnetic force to remove electron beam from satellite RF buckets.



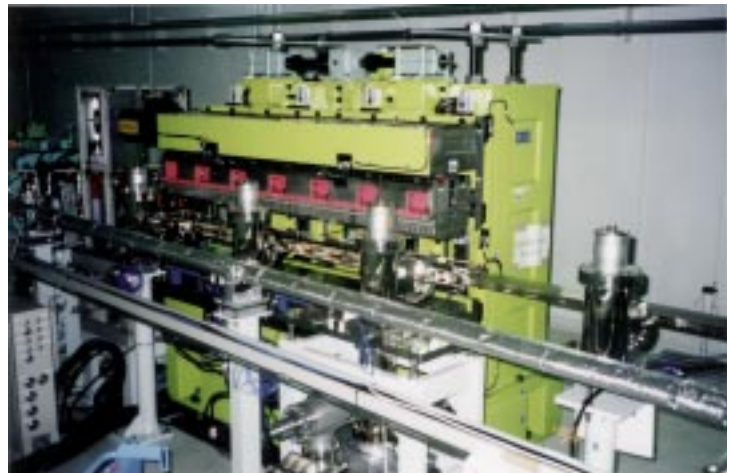
RF system for the RF knock out. An amplitude modulated RF signal is synchronized with an aimed RF bucket, and amplified up to 200W.



Central Control Room for machine and beamline operation, which is performed with a number of workstations on a round desk.



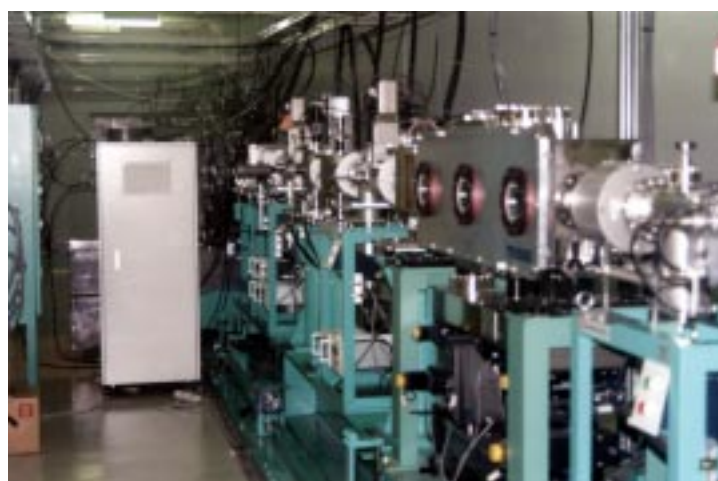
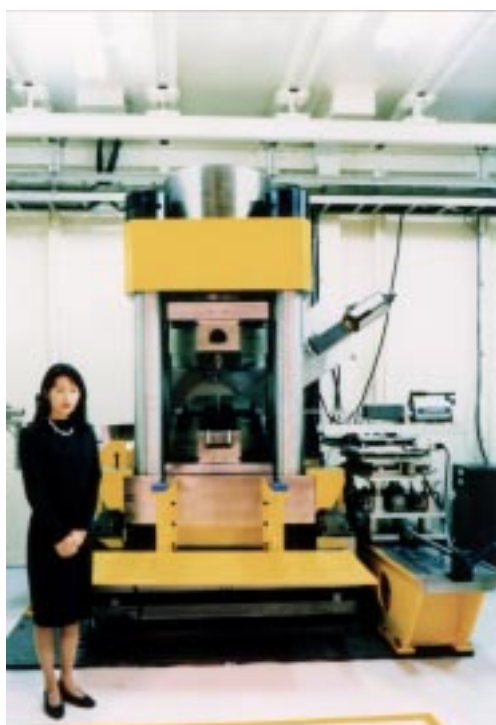
Twin-helical undulator for soft X-ray beamline BL25SU. Two helical undulator ($\lambda_u=120\text{mm}$, $N_u=12 \times 2$, $E_{\text{photon}}=0.25\sim 4.5\text{keV}$) are placed in tandem for fast helicity switching.



A double array undulator (ID23) for soft X-ray radiation with linear and circular polarization installed in BL23SU beamline.



Radiation shielding hutch for high energy scattering beamline BL08W.



High-temperature and high-pressure X-ray apparatus SPEED-1500 installed in the experimental hutch of BL04B1 beamline.

Focusing mirror and beamline components for XAFS beamline BL01B1.



Building for New SUBARU storage ring ($E=1.5$ GeV and $C=118.7$ m) for VUV radiation constructed by Himeji Technical Institute near the injector linac of SPring-8 facility.



Magnets for New SUBARU installed in the storage ring.

The first beamline installed in the experimental hall of New SUBARU.





A number of people gathered in the control room to watch the exciting moment of the first beam injection into the storage ring.



The SPring-8 project team succeeded in storing an electron beam in the 8 GeV storage ring on March 26, and the synchrotron radiation was first observed in a beamline, when the control room and a monitoring room were bursted with cheers.



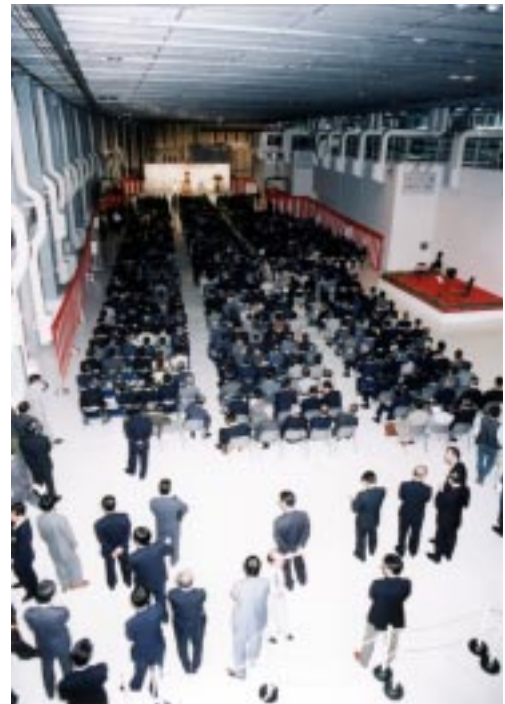
Director Kamitsubo (the third from left) toasted to celebrate the successful initial commissioning.



Spring-8 started beam supply to radiation users in the beginning of October. Mr. Tanigaki, the Secretary of Science and Technology Agency of the Japanese Government celebrated the success of facility construction in the opening ceremony held on October 6.



The opening ceremony was performed prosperously with invited guests about 700 from home and abroad.





The 6th International Conference on Synchrotron Radiation Instrumentation (SRI '97) was held at Himeji during August 6-8, 1997, where more than 500 scientists and engineers attended.



Eminent scientists on synchrotron radiation surrounding Professor J. Blewett are (from left to right), G. Rosenbaum (APS), R. Madden (NIST), R Haensel (Keel University), H. Kamitsubo (SPring-8), K. Holmes (Max-Plank Institute), H. Winick (SSRL), and S. Hasnain (CLRC).



Hot and stimulating discussion were made in poster sessions as well as oral sessions.



Crowded people enjoyed the "Peron Festival", a Chinese style boat race, in the Aioi bay. Two SPring-8 teams rowed against strong rivals.



The SPring-8 facility was opened to the public on Sunday in April, when a long train of visitors continued the whole day.



A summer festival to celebrate and stimulate construction of a new town, Harima Science Garden City, attracted a lot of people, and the SPring-8 facility was partly opened to the public.