

## EDITOR'S NOTE

SPring-8 Research Frontiers 2013 covers advances made mainly in the second half of 2012 (2012B) and the first half of 2013 (2013A). Remarkable scientific achievements at SPring-8 and SACLA in diverse scientific fields, including industrial applications, are described. The development of accelerators, beamlines, and experimental apparatus, and the present status of the SPring-8 and SACLA facilities are also presented. In addition, the activities using NewSUBARU, which forms an integral part of the research complex, are introduced.

Although this report is called SPring-8 Research Frontiers, it is meant to include all activities at the SPring-8 site. This is a historic year for SACLA because this is the first time scientific reports from experiments conducted at SACLA are included. The two reports in Chemical Science are on the photoionization processes caused by a very short, intense X-ray pulse. Such experiments are only possible with the laser pulse of SACLA. Additional information about SACLA's operational status and ongoing technical developments are described in the Facility Status and Accelerator & Beamline Frontiers, respectively.

The scientific contributions from SPring-8 are, as usual, high quality and diverse, demonstrating that SPring-8 is an essential research tool in a variety of scientific and industrial fields. A new beamline for quark-nuclear physics, LEPS2 (BL31LEP), is now operational. The new beamline and the upgrade of the pre-existing LEPS beamline are described in the Nuclear Physics section.

Dr. Hideo Ohno who served as an editor in chief since 2011, has left the editorial board. We would like to thank him for his efforts and patience in this role. Dr. Ichiro Hirosawa has also left the editorial board, and the new editor in chief would like to express his sincere gratitude for his long-lasting contribution to the industrial applications in Research Frontiers publications. Dr. Norimichi Sano has joined the editorial board in Dr. Hirosawa's place.

In the layout of Research Frontiers, photographs of flowers grown at the SPring-8 campus and the Harima Science Garden City have been inserted. The photographs taken by Mr. S. Tsujimoto and Mr. M. Sugiura are greatly appreciated.

Copies of SPring-8 Research Frontiers will be mailed upon request. The full text is also available on the SPring-8 website (<http://www.spring8.or.jp/>). For a list of publications produced by SPring-8 users and staff, please visit the publication database at <https://user.spring8.or.jp/uisearch/publication2/>.

We extend our appreciation to those who have recommended excellent research results suitable for publication in SPring-8 Research Frontiers. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the users and staff of SPring-8 for contributing to this issue.

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