SPring-8

I. Introduction

SPring-8 was stably operated throughout FY2020 with the total operation time of the accelerator complex and the total user beam time of 5284.6 h and 4309.0 h, respectively, and a total downtime of 7.4 h. SPring-8 had to complete all its operations by the middle of February 2021. (Because of the rapid spread of COVID-19, user operations at SPring-8/SACLA had been suspended from 11th April to 15th June 2020.)

Concerning the contract beamlines, there were two interim reviews conducted for Hyogo BM (BL08B2, Hyogo Prefecture) and Hyogo ID (BL24XU, Hyogo Prefecture), and the project was authorized to continue. Upon the expiration of their contract terms, reviews were also conducted for Laser-Electron Photon (BL31LEP, Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University), and RISING II BL28XU, Kyoto University), and their proposals for the next term were approved. On the other hand, Laser-Electron Photon (BL33LEP, Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University) was recommended to be terminated.

At present, the number of SPring-8 users is as high as 13,000, all of whom are members of the SPring-8 User Community (SPRUC).

It is important for SPring-8 to jointly organize scientific events with SPRUC, such as the SPring-8 Symposium, to facilitate dialogue between users and the facility staff. In 2020, the SPring-8 Symposium was held online on September 18 owing to COVID-19, with a participant number of 391. SPring-8 also facilitates communication between users and industry. The Joint Conference on Industrial Applications of SPring-8 was held in Hyogo Prefecture on September 3-4, 2020, with 232 participants (126 online participants). As part of its continuous effort towards fostering human resources in synchrotron sciences, SPring-8 organized the 20th SPring-8 Summer School with 32 students of graduate schools nationwide, in cooperation with University of Hyogo, Kwansei Gakuin University, the University of Tokyo, Okayama University, Osaka University, Japan Atomic Energy Agency, National Institutes for Quantum and Radiological Science and Technology, and RIKEN. Furthermore, SPring-8 and SPRUC organized the 4th SPring-8 Autumn School with 47 participants, which included university students and corporate researchers.

