Japan-DK-seminar, Copenhagen September 13, 2019

Theme 2: Construction Kaizen as a bottom-up-pull

A Notable Technology in Construction

- 1. Visual Construction
- 2. Work-style reformation



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A Notable Technology in Japanese Construction

1. Visual Construction

Advanced Management utilizing Video Information

Construction period: 17th July 2014 – 27th March, 2015 (about 8 months)

Client: Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

Contractor: Kani Construction Co. Ltd.



Description of work: Remedial work of river embankment (3,100m³)

Development of a system to record and share the information of construction site



Intelligent database system



Video Recording System

Mobile terminal





Internet

System Configuration

SU₁

Remote access



Observation; Excavation



Camera2

Visualization of whole site



Observation viewer



Camera3

Camera

Observation: embankment



Camera4

Observation: River water level **PoE Switching HAB** Power supply, Network device



Network Video recorder



Kani Construction Co Ltd.

Time lapse video system

A method of creating a video from still images recorded at regular intervals. It can express changes in events over a long period of time with a short time video.

Video stream Slice data 30s 30s 30s 30s Effect of time lapse Data compression Time lapse Time shorting video Improving visiability

Example of time lapse video by Kani Construction Co. Ltd.



1s slice data (30xspeed)



5s slice data (150xspeed)

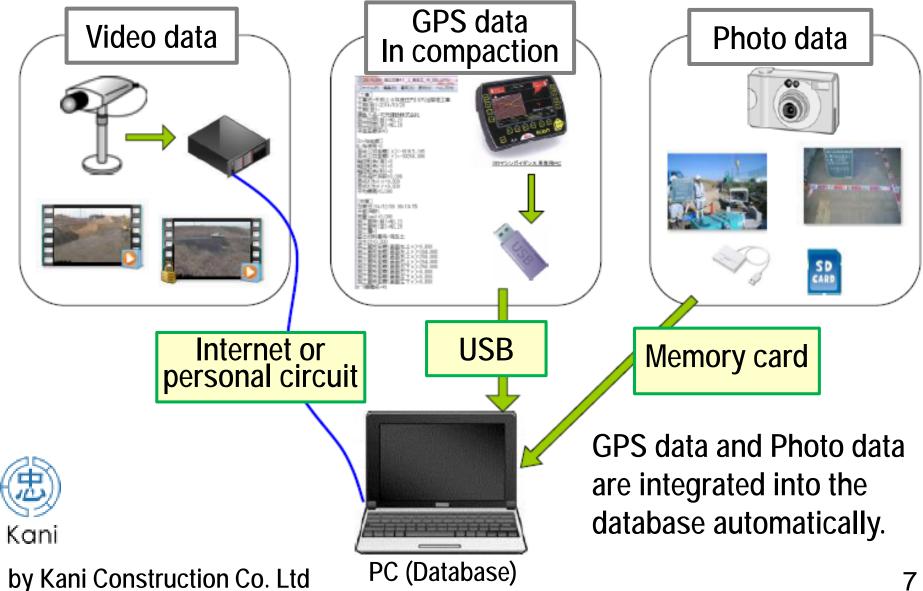


10s slice data (300xspeed)

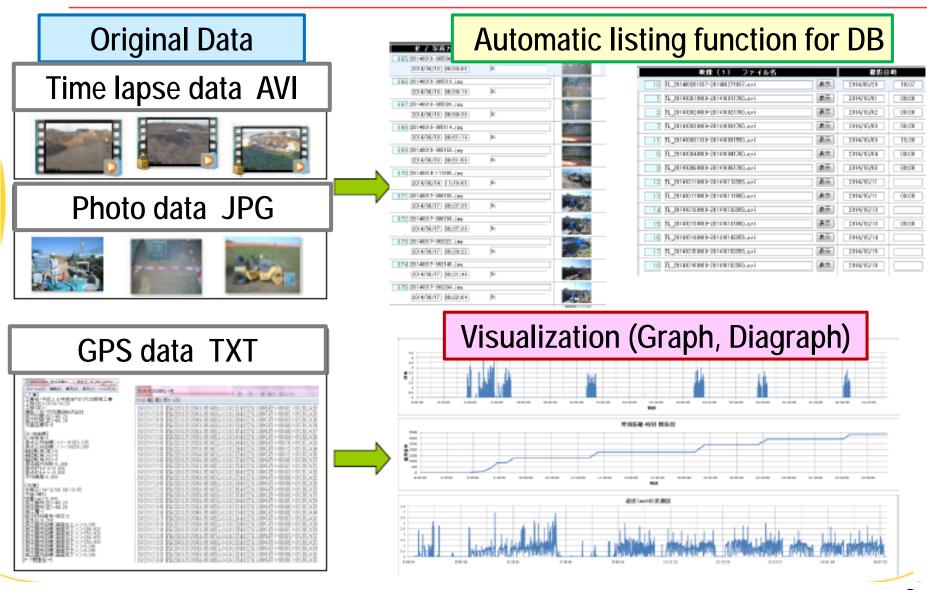


30s slice data (900xspeed)

Recording of the site information to the database



Intelligent database (Listing of data, Visualization)



Advantage of Utilizing Video Data in Construction

(1) Recording function of video data

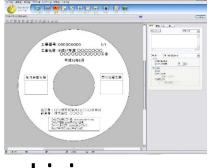
- Cause analysis in case of malfunction or accident
- Verification of construction plan and its feedback
- Simplification in management tasks (Reduction of huge amount of documents)
- Advance examination of preceded construction by archiving

(2) Visual education of employees

- Small companies highly dependent on the skills of individual engineers.
- → Improving the experience of young engineers through virtual education.

(3) Others

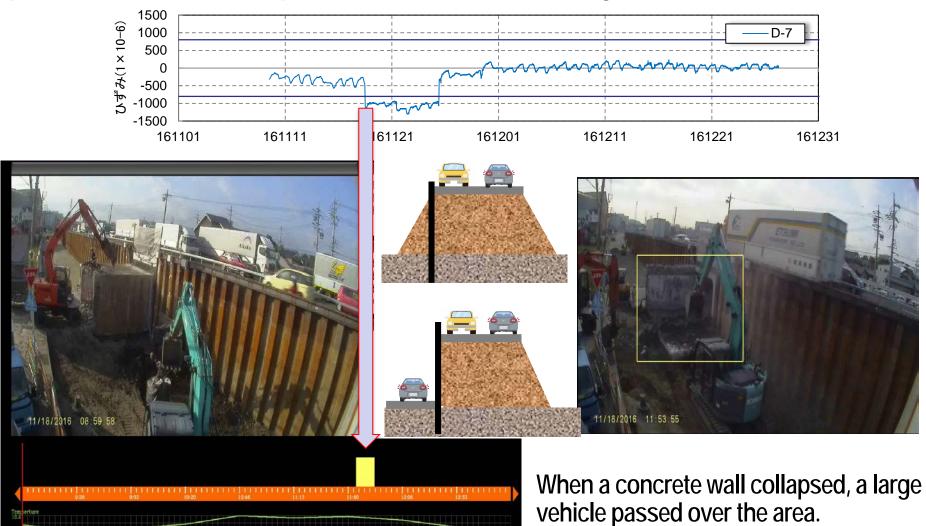
- Sharing of site information between the client and contractor (Reducing of inspection works in the sites)
- Suppression of unsafe behaviors
 - → Prevention of occupational accidents





Recording function of video data

Analysis on the causes of serious events (changes in strain of the sheet piles) from the time lapse video data in widening work of a road



Use for highway bridge repair work and lane control



The video data were shared with the contractor and the client whose office was far away from the site.

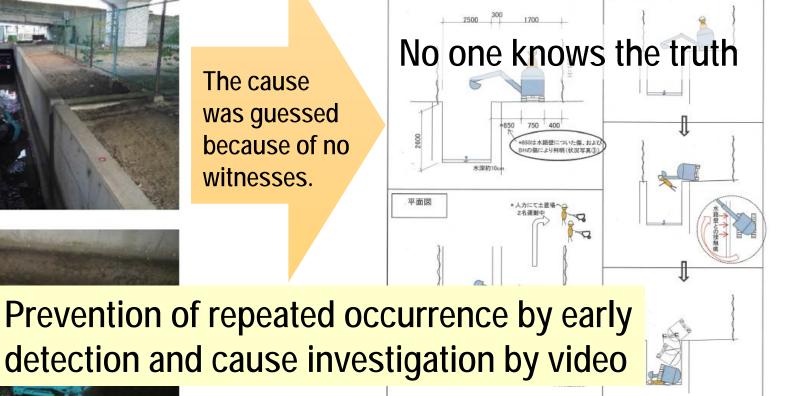
By Aiki Co. Ltd., Ehime Pref.

Example of machinery accident: The cause of the accident is unknown.

An operator did a leveling work with a mini-power shovel alone. He was found dead under the shovel in the bottom of a ditch.



The cause was guessed because of no witnesses.



Improvement of management works using ICT Reduction of Inspection documents, etc.





Quantification of video information



Replacement of inspection documents by video

Database of video data



Study group on utilization of video data in construction (2016)

Guideline for video data utilization in construction (2017)

- Streamlining construction records (utilizing the larger usefulness of video than that of photographs)
- Reduction of site inspection through sharing the site conditions with video system
- Facilitating communication between clients and contractors
- Improvement of the safety management

Trial construction



Standardization

Expectation to visual construction

- On-site video data contains a wide range of information, from simple information that anyone can easily handle to information that requires advanced technical skills to handle. Depending on the technical level of the user, it can be selected and used effectively.
- There are many applications that have not been developed yet. Development of such new technologies will be extremely useful for the advancement of construction.
- Accumulation of on-site trials and sharing of results will lead to advancement of visual construction technology.

A Notable Technology in Japanese Construction

2. Work-style reformation, by building new organization and introducing new facilities

Increasing momentum of technological development triggered by i-Construction



New standards & guidelines such as Public surveying manual

http://www.mlit.go.jp/sogoseisaku/const plan/sosei_constplan_tk_000031.html

The standards and manuals that were apt to be fixed has been greatly revised.

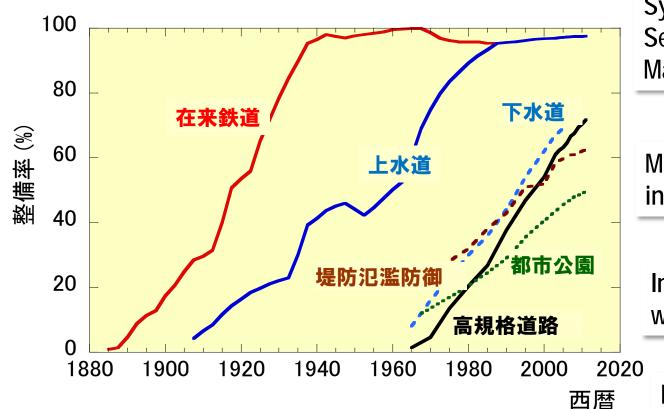
The introduction of many new technologies will be tried according to the actual situation in the field.

Point

It is easier to get a certain effect if you do not aim to introduce ICT but decide on the purpose and consider using ICT.

Expected to increase the momentum for technical development on site.

Improving the efficiency of management work with ICT



Transition of social capital development

Systematization of design Setting standards Manual construction



Mechanism for efficient infrastructure development



Increase in administrative work (office work)



Reduction of creativity
Declining intention of new
technology introduction

Efficient management work using ICT and reduction of document work



Return of engineers to the field Promotion of new technology introduction

Work-style reformation by building new organization 1

Uncommonly in the Japanese construction companies, half of employees are women.





Creation of an environment where mothers, building up their children can work easily.

- Flexible working time
- Work with children
- CAD education
- Skill up for each employee

Surveying on sites jobs



Data reduction Indoor jobs

Engineers

Surveying on sites jobs

Engineers

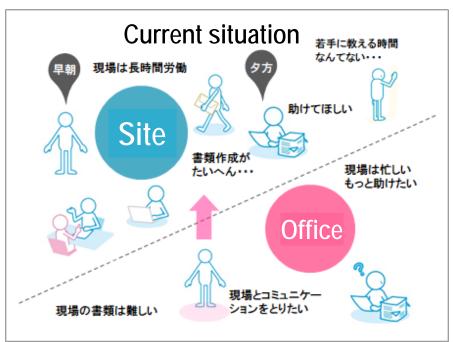
Data reduction Indoor jobs

CAD operators

Taking charge more sites

Job division system with ICT

Work-style reformation by building new organization 2



Women play an active role by changing their work style (role)

- Expansion of office work (addition of duties, relocation)
- Return position for female engineers (maternity leave, childcare leave)
- New employment (ICT, inexperienced person)

- Long hours jobs of on-site engineers for document preparation work
- Difficult technology transfer due to lack of human resources
- No communication between site and office
 - Skill up of office employee by mastering specialized skill of the site managements
 - Field support with IT and communication

Construction Director Training Program



Basic social skills / career / construction law/ construction management / photo & documentation management / CAD / estimation / cost management, communication, etc.

by Kyoto Sander, Kyoto Pref. SANDER

Work-style reformation by introducing new facilities



Data is instantly shared with others via the cloud using

communication functions

Cloud

Database on Internet

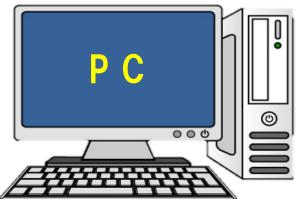


Utilization of smartphone equipped with application for construction management

Advantages of smartphone

Communication function, camera function, PC function

(Waterproof, dustproof, impact resistance)



Information sharing with field offices, headquarters / branches





Smartphone usage (1)

Streamline on-site photo management



Conventional method

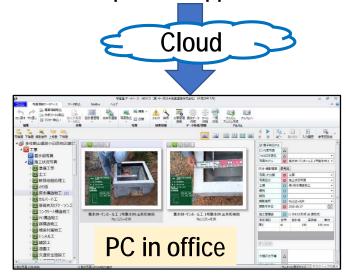
- Carrying a blackboard.
- Rewriting the blackboard for each subject.
- Unclear characters and numerical values
- Cumbersome work for organizing photos







Photo shooting with smartphone + field information input with app

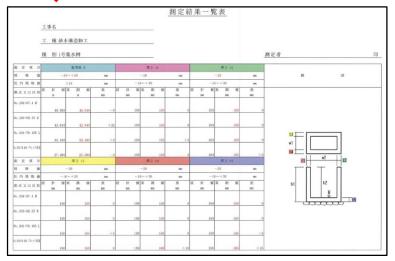


- No need to carry a blackboard.
- Blackboard can be created in advance.
- Automatic photo organization

Smartphone utilization (2) Streamlined product management



Writing down the measured values and create a document





Documents are automatically created simply by reading data



Transfer



Employment of foreign engineers



Foreign engineers are employed to do mainly the ICT job which Japanese engineers are not good at, Such as 3D CAD simulation or PC works, etc.

i-Construction in Roof Construction







Dangerous Job on high roofs, Aged workmen, Lack of successors Low productivity. There are a lot of the issues to be solved.

Challenge of Matsuzawa Pantile Co. Ltd.

Reduction of works on high roof by changing players from skilled workmen.



i-Construction in Roof Construction

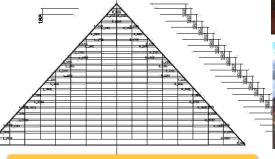






UAV surveying of the shape and size of the roofs as 3D data





Design, Constructing planning, Estimation with 3D CAD











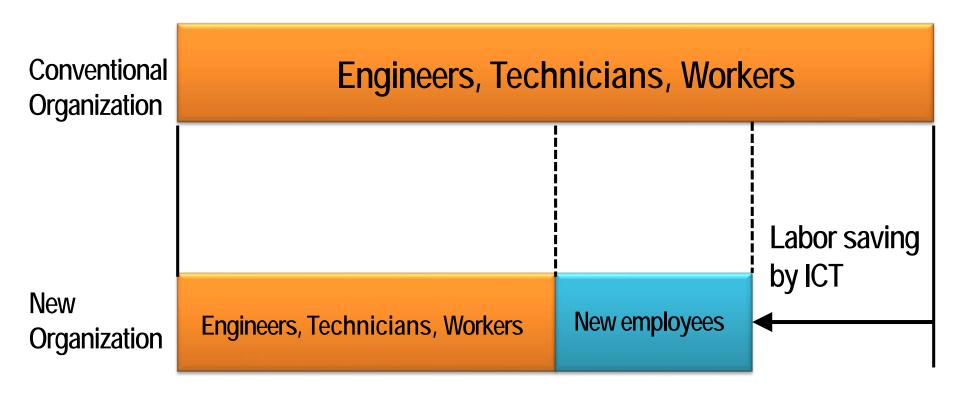




Placing roof tiles

Various personnel can enter the construction industry with ICT. Various trials for Diversification of Professional Staffs has started.

Image of work-style reformation by building new organization



At the end of my presentation

Three years have passed since i-Construction started.

Other than the standard methods, some unique efforts have been begun to improve the productivity in construction.

In particular, some local small and medium-sized companies take noteworthy efforts based on their own issues.

The construction industry is definitely moving, now. We should excite this movement and turn construction into a vibrant industry.

Thank you for your kind attention