

IAA Alliance 2003 Annual Report

May 12, 2004, Wed.
IAA Alliance

1. Summary of IAA Alliance activities in FY2003

IAA Alliance has conducted various activities during the FY2003, including various events, such as Kansai IAA Symposium, and meetings for reading research papers.

2. General Meeting

IAA Alliance has held the FY2003 third IAA Alliance General Meeting.

2.1 The FY2003 third IAA Alliance General Meeting

DATE: July 23, 2004 (Wed.) 10:00 - 11:25

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Emergency Communications Operation Room (4th floor)

SUMMARY: The draft of the FY2002 IAA Alliance Activity Report was approved. The draft of the FY2002 IAA Alliance financial Report was approved. The proposal for IAA Alliance membership fees was approved. The proposal for addition of rules to IAA Alliance regulations was approved. The proposal for the FY2003 IAA Alliance activity plan was approved. The proposal for the FY2003 IAA Alliance budget was approved. The change of vice-chairman was approved.

3. Activities of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee has held the Steering Committee meetings once per month and separate meetings as required to discuss, organize, and approve several issues.

3.1 IAA Alliance Fifth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: April 15, 2003 (Tue.) 10:00 - 11:15

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Seminar Room 2 (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The report on IAA system implementation in Iraq was approved. The FY 2003 activity plans were discussed. The proposal for the FY2003 budget was discussed.

3.2 IAA Alliance Sixth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: July 18, 2003 (Wed.) 23:00 - 24:40

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Seminar Room 2 (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The FY2003 activity plans were discussed. Opinions about the FY2003 budget plan (draft) were exchanged. The annual schedules of IAA Alliance were arranged.

3.3 IAA Alliance Seventh Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: July 24th (Tue.) 16:00 - 17:15

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Seminar Room 2 (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The items on the drafts of the agenda for the third IAA Alliance General Meeting, the minutes of IAA Alliance Second General Meeting, the IAA Alliance FY2002

activity report, the IAA Alliance FY2002 financial report, the IAA Alliance annual membership fee, the addition of rules to IAA Alliance regulations, the FY2003 activity plans, the IAA Alliance FY2003 budget, the IAA Alliance FY2002 audit report were approved. These drafts will be presented in the Third IAA Alliance General Meeting.

3.4 IAA Alliance Eighth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: July 11, 2003 (Fri.) 10:00 - 10:45

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The progress on the preparation of the Third General Meeting and the proceedings of the change of the vice-chairman were adjusted.

3.5 IAA Alliance Ninth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Aug., 15, 2003 (Fri.) 10:00 - 11:30

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The report on Third IAA Alliance General Meeting was presented. The participation in the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 was arranged. Coordinated opinions about the tests with the IAA system installed in Kansai. The participation in the Workshop on Development of Safe and Secure Community was approved. Coordinated opinions about the Kansai IAA Symposium to commemorate establishment of Osaka Data. Informed of the participation in the SAINT 2004.

3.6 IAA Alliance Tenth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Sep. 16, 2003 (Tue.) 13:00 - 14:30

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The report on the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 was presented. Coordinated opinions about enriching the IAA Alliance Home Page. The progress on the Kansai IAA Symposium was reported and the opinions were coordinated. An estimate for the IAA Alliance Kansai Symposium was reported and adjusted. The opinions about the operation items for the IAA Alliance Kansai Symposium was coordinated.

3.7 IAA Alliance Eleventh Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Oct. 15, 2003 (Wed.) 15:00 - 16:50

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The results of the enrichment of the IAA Alliance Home Page were reported. The progress on the Kansai IAA Symposium was reported and the opinions were coordinated.

3.8 IAA Alliance Twelfth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Nov. 17, 2003 (Mon.) 17:00 - 18:45

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The opinions about the charge for holding Kansai IAA Symposium were coordinated. The report on the Kansai IAA Symposium was presented. The activities in

the Second Workshop on Development of Safe and Secure Community and the results of the tests in Osaka on Oct. 15 were reported.

3.9 IAA Alliance Thirteenth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Dec. 15, 2003 (Mon.) 17:00 - 18:10

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The results of "the Disaster drill in Osaka prefecture and 10 towns of Minami-kawachi region" were reported. The results of the joint meeting of the Standardization Working Group and the Interconnectivity Working Group were reported.

3.10 IAA Alliance First Extraordinary Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Dec. 29, 2003 (Mon.) 14:15 - 15:40

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The IAA Alliance FY2004 activities were evaluated and discussed.

3.11 IAA Alliance Fourteenth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Jan. 15, 2004 (Thu.) 16:00 - 17:00

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The drafts of each Working Group's activity plan for the FY2004 were discussed. The results of the tests conducted by the Interconnectivity Group were reported. The details about exhibition in Disaster Prevention Fair In Itabashi on Jan. 17 were discussed.

3.12 IAA Alliance Fifteenth Steering Committee Meeting

DATE: Feb. 16, 2004 (Mon.) 17:00 - 18:10

PLACE: Communications Research Laboratory (CRL), No. 5 Building, Meeting Room (3rd floor)

SUMMARY: The results of the Disaster Prevention Fair In Itabashi on Jan. 17 were reported. The report on the SAINT2004 was presented. The plans for extended version in the FY2004 were discussed.

4. Activities of the Working Group

The Working Groups has conducted the following activities.

4.1 Outside Strategy Working Group

4.1.1 Leader

Sun Microsystems K.K.

e-JAPAN promotion division

Masaaki Sato

4.1.2 Summary of activities

Promoted external strategies for the IAA system. Conducted a symposium in the Kansai Region to commemorate the establishment of the IAA system in Osaka Municipal Internet

Data Center. Conducted public tests of the IAA system in collaboration with regional municipal governments and other organizations.

4.1.3 Activity record

Aug. 29, 2003 Demonstrated IAA system in the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 at Marunouchi Building.

Oct. 24, 2003 Kansai IAA Symposium at Mielparque-Osaka. Held a symposium titled "Victim Information Registration and Retrieval System (aim at safety confirmation of victims during a disaster through e-Osaka iDC)".

Nov. 15, 2003 Joined "the Disaster drill in Osaka prefecture and 10 towns of Minami-kawachi region 2004"

Jan. 17, 2004 Joined the disaster drills using the IAA system, held under the sponsorship of Itabashi district.

4.1.4 Results of activities

Conducted almost all the activities listed as goals at the beginning of the fiscal year. The way of publicity of Kansai IAA Symposium and the details of lectures were adjusted with some uncertainty; however, the Symposium was a great success due to the help from the chief of the Secretariat and his group. We will further educate members and others about IAA systems in the next fiscal year.

4.2 Standardization Working Group

4.2.1 Leader

Tokyo University
Information Technology Center
Masaya Nakayama

4.2.2 Summary of activities

The concept of several existing IAA systems are similar in that the information about the victims of a disaster can be registered and retried; however, each system has the unique format to save the victim information and this difference makes it difficult to interconnect between IAA systems. Thus, the Standardization Working Group decided to establish the standard format for data exchange between IAA systems.

During the FY2003, conducted discussions about data structure of implemented IAA system and debates to establish the first version of standard format for IAA system registration data.

4.2.3 Activity record

Conducted a joint meeting with the Interconnectivity Working Group in the room 405 Information Technology Center 4F, Tokyo University and through teleconferencing on Nov. 28, 2003 (15:30 - 17:00) and exchanged the information of data structures used in the Monster IAA system and NetStar IAA system.

We have agreed to establish the standard format for data exchange (first alpha version) based on the implementation of these IAA systems but has no restriction by any of already implemented IAA systems.

4.2.4 Results of activities

Exchanged information about the data structures of two IAA systems and began the discussion to establish the draft (1st alpha version) of standard format of data exchange between IAA systems based on the structures above during this fiscal year. As of the end of the fiscal year, 1st alpha version is at its final stage and will be evaluated in the IAA Alliance after the discussion within the Working Group.

4.3 Interconnectivity Working Group

4.3.1 Leader

Institute of Applied Internet Technology, Inc.
Taro Maruyama

4.3.2 Summary of activities

Conducted technical discussion among members regarding interconnectivity of IAA systems and implemented and verified these systems.

In this fiscal year, joined the debates with the Standardization Working Group and provided the information and comments regarding implementation needed to establish the 1st alpha version of standard format of data exchange by the Standardization Working Group. Began the Preparation of the implementation of systems and interconnectivity tests based on the 1st alpha version.

4.3.3 Activity record

Conducted a joint meeting with the Interconnectivity Working Group in the room 405 Information Technology Center 4F, Tokyo University and through teleconferencing on Nov. 28, 2003 (15:30 - 17:00) and exchanged the information of data structures used in the Monster IAA system and NetStar IAA system.

The Standardization Working Group decided to establish the standard format for data exchange (first alpha version), which has no restriction by any of already implemented IAA systems and the Implementation based on this draft (1st alpha version) of standard format for data exchange was decided to be conducted by the Interconnectivity Working Group. The preparations for the interconnectivity test have been put forward through the mailing lists of the Working Group.

4.3.4 Results of activities

Conducted and completed the implementation to exchange the data between two IAA systems based on the draft (1st alpha version) of standard format of data exchange in this fiscal year.

As of the end of this fiscal year, we are at the stage of conducting interconnectivity tests between two IAA systems.

4.4 User Interface Working Group

4.4.1 Leader

Communications Research Laboratory
Information and Network Systems Division, Information Security Center
Secure Network Group

Takeshi Ebina

4.4.2 Summary of activity

Evaluated the user interface of IAA systems before and after the functional requirements for accessibility guideline were identified and reported the results.

4.4.3 Activity record

Jan. 30, 2004 Presented the research paper entitled as following at SAINT2004

Accessibility Guidelines for Victim Information Registration and Retrieval Systems

Mar. 11, 2004 User Interface Working Group Meeting

Mar. 23, 2004 Presented the research paper entitled as following at CWUAAT2004
"I Am Alive" User Interfaces: Universal Accessibility and Congestion Tolerance

4.4.4 Results of activities

As a result of the evaluation of the user interfaces of the installed IAA systems, some accessibility problems were found on the existing web design. We have concluded that the modifications of the web page were insufficient and the accessibility guideline and evaluations in accordance with the guideline are needed.

We have acknowledged once again that guidelines of each user interface need to be settled based on the future functional requirements of IAA systems.

4.5 Emergency Response Working Group

4.5.1 Leader

Communications Research Laboratory

Information and Network Systems Division, Information Security Center

Secure Network Group

Takeshi Ebina

(Sub Leader)

Institute of Applied Internet Technology, Inc.

Taro Maruyama

4.5.2 Summary of activities

Developed IAA systems for victim information registration and retrieval for the Japanese in Iraq as the situation in Iraq became serious and for the large-scale natural disaster happened in the fiscal year 2003.

4.5.3 Activity record

- June 18, 2003 IAA system for Iraq became in operation

July 26, 2003 - Jan. 10, 2004 Operated IAA system for the earthquake in the Northern part of Miyagi prefecture

Sep. 26, 2003 - Jan. 10, 2004 Operated IAA system for the earthquake off Tokachi

4.5.4 Results of activities

Stopped the operation of the IAA system developed for victim information registration and retrieval for the Japanese in Iraq as the situation in Iraq became serious. Started up and

stopped the operation of the IAA system for victim information registration and retrieval of the victims of the earthquakes in the northern part of Miyagi prefecture and off Tokachi.

5. Details of host events and participated events (activity report)

The example of this fiscal year's great result is hosting the Kansai IAA Symposium. Furthermore, the Alliance as a whole or Working Groups have participated in various events and academic meetings. The details of these activities are put in the following form of report and presented here after.

- Report on the operation of the IAA system for Iraq
- Report on the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 Liberal Arts Meeting
- Report on the Kansai IAA Symposium
- Report on the Workshop on Development of Safe and Secure Community
- Report on the the Disaster drill in Osaka prefecture and 10 towns of Minami-kawachi region 2004
- Report on the Disaster drills sponsored by Itabashi district
- Report on the SAINT 2004
- Report on the CWUAAT 2004

Report on the operation of the IAA system for Iraq

IAA Alliance

1. Date: March 20, 2003 (Thu.) - June 18, 2003 (Wed.)

2. Attendee:

3. Installation site of the IAA system for Iraq:

Communications Research Laboratory, Information and Network Systems Division, Emergency Communications Group Laboratory

4. Progress report

On March 11, 2003, the Management and Coordination Agency sounded out Communications Research Laboratory Information and Network Systems Division Emergency Communications Group about the possibility of using the IAA system for Iraq for victim information registration and retrieval for the Japanese in near Iraq as a part of their contributions against the serious situation evolving in Iraq.

As per this request, Communications Research Laboratory Information and Network Systems Division Emergency Communications Group in collaboration with the IAA Alliance has decided to operate the IAA system for Iraq.

The IAA system for Iraq began its operation on March 20, 2003. As of July 18, 2003 (Wed.) 18:00, the number of registrations and retrievals are as follows.

Registrations: 465

Retrievals: 2,685

Total Access: 121,004

Report on the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 Sectional Meeting

IAA Alliance

1. Date:

August 29, 2003 (Fri.) 13:00 -13:50 (The Sectional Meeting itself lasted until about 14:30)

2. Attendee:

Ebina, Sato, Tanimoto

3. Place:

Marunouchi Building 8F Meeting Room

4. Details:

About 80 people attended the Disaster Prevention Fair 2003 Sectional Meeting. The IAA Alliance demonstrated the IAA system on the Note PC, exhibited panels explaining the IAA system and the IAA Alliance, and distributed the prospectus of IAA Alliance. Questions and answers are as follows.

Questions and Answers:

Q: How to register?

A: Use a PC and register through the Internet. Mobile phones, fax machines and phones can be used as well.

Q: How to retrieve?

A: Enter name or name in Roman letters (International name)

Report on the Kansai IAA Symposium

On Oct. 24, 2003, the symposium titled "Kansai IAA Symposium - Victim Information Registration and Retrieval System (aim at safety confirmation of victims during a disaster through e-Osaka iDC) " was held at Mielparque-Osaka under the co-sponsorship of Communications Research Laboratory and the IAA Alliance. The symposium was proceeded in accordance with the program presented at the end of this report with a keynote address by Mr. Junichi Nakazawa , assistant manager of Telecommunication Systems Division, Telecommunications Business Department, Telecommunications Bureau as the start and a closing address by Mr. Yasuyoshi Sakai, vice president of Communications Research Laboratory as the conclusion.



[Mr. Nakazawa's keynote address]



[Mr. Kanda's keynote address]



[Panel Discussion]

The symposium recorded the total 135 attendees from municipal governments, corporations, the media, and the general public and was a great success. 87% of those who registered have actually attended the symposium. This high ratio shows high concerns for the emergency response in the event of a disaster or other emergency situation.

Kansai IAA Symposium Program

Keynote Address 1

“The modality and foremost task of ensuring of important communications”

Mr. Junichi Nakazawa

Assistant manager, Telecommunication Systems Division, Telecommunications Business Department, Telecommunications Bureau

Keynote Address 2

“The role of e-Osaka iDC”

Mr. Kohichi Kanda

Planning manager, iDC Division, The Kansai Institute of Information System & Industrial Renovation (KIIS)

Lecture

“Internet and risk management”

Mr. Hiroyuki Ohno

Chairman, IAA Alliance

Leader, Emergency Communications Group, Information and Network Systems Division, Communications Research Laboratory

Panel Discussion

“Information communication and disaster prevention”

Coordinator

Mr. Masaya Nakayama

Associate Professor, Information Technology Center (ITC), the University of Tokyo

Panelist

Mr. Hiroyuki Ohno

Chairman, IAA Alliance

Mr. Takao Yamaguchi

Manager, Radio Communications Division, Kansai Bureau of Telecommunications

Mr. Yutaka Shindo

Assistant manager, Information Technology Promotion Section, City of Mitaka

Mr. Isamu Okada

Manager, Crisis Management Office, City of Kobe

Mr. Kohichi Kanda

Planning manager, iDC Division, The Kansai Institute of Information System & Industrial Renovation (KIIS)

Mr. Yoshinobu Senpuku

Manager, Safety Measures Division, Citizens' Life Department, Citizens' Affairs Bureau, Osaka City Government

Closing Address

Mr. Yasuyoshi Sakai

Vice president, Communications Research Laboratory

Report on the Second Workshop on Development of Safe and Secure Community

1. Date: Oct. 25, 2003 (Sat.) 11:00 - 18:00
Oct. 26, 2003 (Sun.) 13:30 - 16:00

2. Attendee: Oct. 25: Mr. Matsumoto (Communications Research Laboratory)
Oct. 26: Mr. Ebina (Communications Research Laboratory)

3. Place: Musashino University

4. Details

4.1 Details on Oct. 25

the Workshop on Development of Safe and Secure Community is an occasion to report the undertaking activities of various organizations, exchange the opinions and suggestions on these activities under joint sponsorship of Nerima district. We have presented the progress and results of the tests of IAA systems and a report on the activities of the IAA Alliance Kansai Symposium. Various volunteer organizations, NPOs, and assigned persons with disaster response of municipal governments were attending the Workshop and reporting the results of frequent improvements on the responses to meet the existing conditions.

The Workshop was originally programmed to have the opening ceremony and orientation from 11:00 - 12:00, presentation by each organizations from 13:00 - 17:00, the general briefing session from 17:00 - 18:00 but delayed a half an hour as a whole. The participants were divided into 11 groups (7 - 9 organizations) for the presentation and read each group's activity report for about 15 minutes and answered any questions for about 5 minutes.

Mr. Matsumoto of CRL presented the activity report on the IAA system in the group 4, which consists of 7 organizations, 18 people, and the total of three coordinators and commentators, including Mr. Takahashi of Disaster Management Division.

The group recognized the effectiveness of the IAA system, however, asked many questions and commented on the details.

Q: Are you planning to distribute the IAA system to medical institutions and shelters?

A: We are not planning that right now. We will discuss the way to spread the system in the IAA Alliance.

Q: How much is a large-scale IAA system?

A: A large-scale IAA system costs about a hundred million yen. A medium-scale system (can be installed in vehicle) costs about several million yen. There is a system in form of portable Note PC.

Q: Does this system work properly in the disaster-stricken areas?

A: The information will be carried out in the form of FAX sheet and like to the areas within a reach of network and registered from there.

Q: Is the Internet the best solution for the instable network?

A: We think it is the best solution because of the reason the Net was developed and its nature to communicate with any form of transmission unlike other means of communication.

The reports completed by each group during this workshop were presented in the general briefing session. Group 4 concluded that conducting activities step by step and forming plans concerned the public opinions are essential for developing a peaceful/safe town.

Suggestion: Plain reports on the activities, which can be easily understood by the individual volunteers, are required.

4.3 Report on Oct. 26

With the results of the workshop on Oct. 25, four sectional meetings were held. Mr. Ebina of CRL took a part in the sectional meetings of disaster and medical treatment on the 26th. The sectional meetings were proceeded with about 20 participants. I will site the discussion related to victim information registration and retrieval only since various issues were discussed in the meeting.

Victim information handling during a disaster was discussed in the meeting. Some believe that victim information should be handled with caution considering the case that a creditor tried to inquire a shelter where the debtor was staying while the others suggest that personal information should be released to the public during a disaster. Use of radio to secure the communication line was also suggested.

We could not conclude all the issues within the scheduled time for the sectional meetings of disaster and medical treatment on the 26th and suggested to continue having the sectional meeting from now on.

We reported the results of each sectional meeting in the gym of Musashino University from 17:00 and closed the Workshop.

Report on “the Disaster drill and experience-based drill in Osaka prefecture and 10 towns of Minami-kawachi region 2004”

1. Date: Nov. 15, 2003 (Sat.) 10:00 - 14:00

2. Attendee: Mr. Ebina, Mr. Tanimoto

3. Place:

Nagai Park, Higashi-Sumiyoshi district, Osaka city
and

Yamato Kawanishi Youth Sports Park, 4-chome, Amami-Kita, Matsubara city (Left side river basin of River of the Yamato river)

4. Details

“the Disaster drill and experience-based drill in Osaka prefecture and 10 towns of Minami-kawachi region 2004” was a drill that the participants, who played the role of victim of a disaster with some difficulties going home, walked back home to Yamato Kawanishi Youth Sports Park from Nagai Park. The drill was proceeded with 50 participants.

We explained about the IAA system to the participants at Nagai Park, and they registered their information into the system through own mobile phone or the PC prepared there.

Then, the participants traveled from Nagai Park to Yamato Kawanishi Youth Sports Park on foot. The PC for victim information retrieval was set up at Yamato Kawanishi Youth Sports Park, and the participants who wish to try the system could retrieve their information using the PC. Only one digit number of registration and retrieval were recorded since few people were attended.

Many participants spent some time to input the URL because mobile phones were mainly used to register. We found the cases that there were some participants who passed up the registration for not being able to access the URL due to the typing errors of I (i) and I (L).

We concluded that we will simplify the URL and consider the alternative method to access the site without the user’s inputting the URL.

5. Other

The article on the drill was printed on the Asahi Newspaper for Osaka City of Nov. 18 (Tue.).



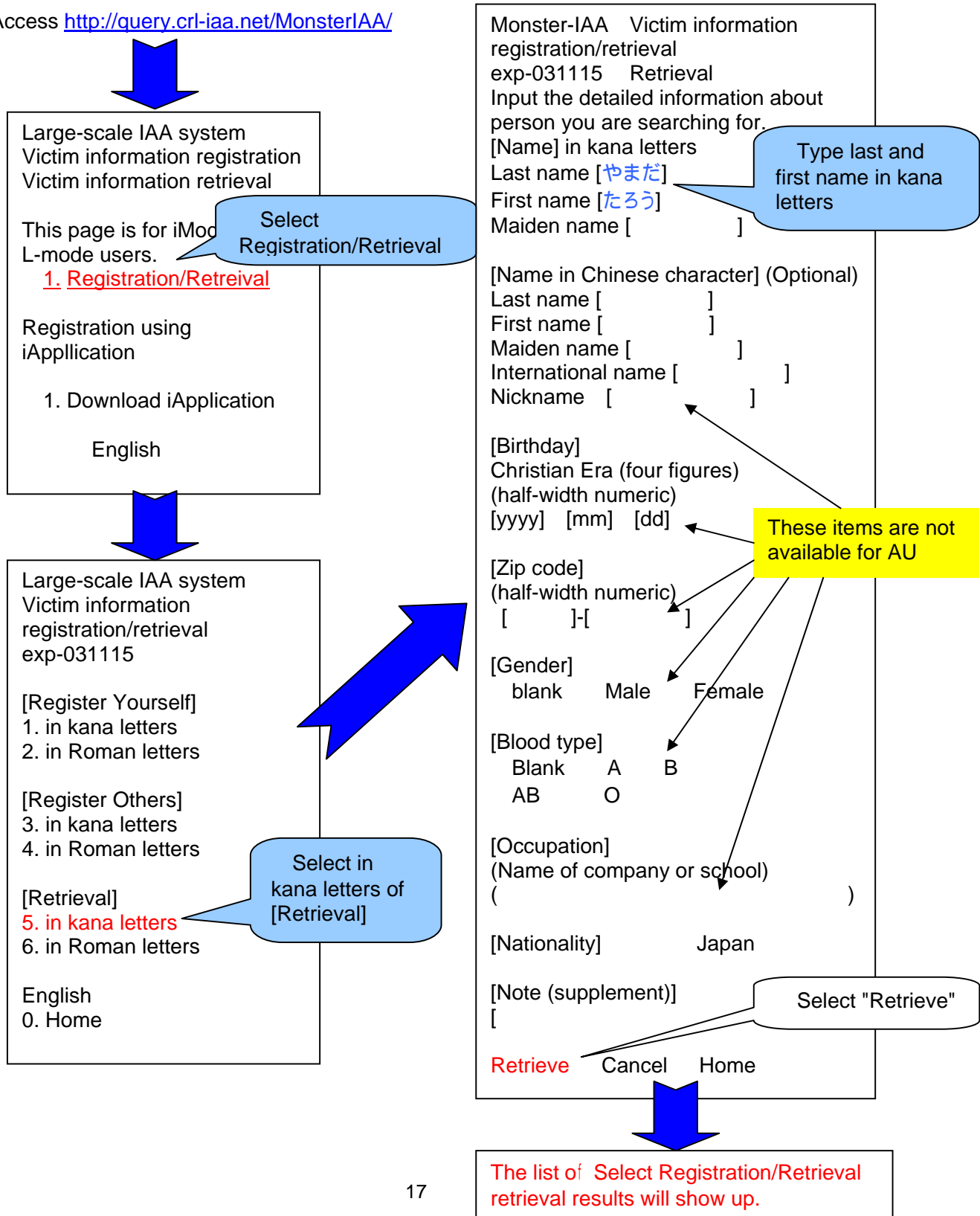
figure 1. Explaining the drill and the system



figure 2. Meeting place at Yamato Kawanishi Youth Sports Park

Panel for the drill
How to retrieve the victim information on IAA system

Access <http://query.crl-iaa.net/MonsterIAA/>



Report on the disaster drills sponsored by Itabashi district

1. Date: Jan. 17, 2004 (Sat.) 13:00 - 15:00
2. Attendee: Mr. Maruyama, Mr. Ohno, Mr. Morishima, Mr. Ito
3. Place: Itabashi Volunteer NPO Hall

4. Details:

[Purpose for Participation]

We have received a request from the Disaster Prevention Division of Itabashi City to use the IAA system on Nov. 17, 2003. Itabashi district are planning to have disaster drills intended for the residents of Itabashi district including foreign residents and challenged. The drills will focus mainly on the victim information registration and retrieval. They chose the IAA system for the system used in the drills.

[Distributed materials from CRL]

- Two pamphlets of Information and Network Systems Division, one sticker with the URL
- The overall diagram of the IAA system (English and Japanese), the explanation of the IAA system (Japanese only)

[Details]

The disaster drills were conducted to raise awareness of disaster prevention and residents' ability to act in the event of disaster with learning the lessons of great disasters. The participants were divided into 4 groups and visited the booths as group. Each enforcer provided the drills to raise awareness of disaster prevention and exhibitions at each booth.

- Experience the earthquake simulation car and smoke
(Experience 7 seismic intensity on earthquake simulation car and smoke in the smoke house and learn the disaster drills)
- Fire extinguisher drills (learn how to use the fire extinguisher)
- First Aid (how to stop bleeding and use a triangular bandage)
- Exhibitions (Exhibit panels of disasters, disaster necessities, Sell disaster prevention goods)
- Explanation of IAA system (Demonstration on registration and retrieval)

[Preparation]



[The attendance of the day]

about 100 members of neighborhood disaster prevention community association of Fujimi district, Itabashi, about 50 members of disaster prevention and disaster volunteer, about 40 members of the organization for the challenged, about 20 foreign residents in Japan, and residents of Itabashi district. The total of 200 people attended the drills.

[The meeting place before the drills]



[Pictures of the drills]



Report on the SAINT2004

1. Date: Jan. 30, 2004 (Fri.) 9:30 - 15:30
2. Attendee: Mr. Takeshi Ebina (ebi@crl.go.jp)
Mr. Masaya Nakayama
3. Place: Meeting room in TFT building, 3-1 Koto-ku, Tokyo

4. Details:

The SAINT2004 was held from Jan. 26- Jan. 30 (<http://www.saint2004.org/>). Several workshops were opened during the SAINT2004, and the following presentation with the joint authorship of Mr. Ebina and Mr. Ohno was presented at the Proposed Workshop 3: Internet to Support Social Welfare.

Accessibility Guidelines for Victim Information Registration and Retrieval Systems

About 20 people attended the presentation. In the presentation, we first pointed out the functional requirements for the user interface of IAA systems, then, reported the results of evaluation of the developed user interfaces on IAA system based on proposed functional requirements.

During the questions and answers after the presentation, a question about the reason for choosing FAX and paper interfaces over handwriting recognition interface, like used on PDA+, was asked. Our answer to the question was that the elders are more likely to use FAX and paper interfaces than PDA+ and may hesitate to use the PDA+.

A comment to consider TV and TV remote controller as another interface for the elders was also heard.

Reports on the activities for TDR with ITU-T and the examples of practical use of remote diagnosis in the isolated island were presented besides our presentation in this workshop. After the workshop, there were a session about contribution to the field of welfare, keynote presentations by Sumi Heral, the chair, and the experts of various fields, and discussions.

< Presentation >

Accessibility guidelines for victim information registration and retrieval systems

Communications Research Laboratory

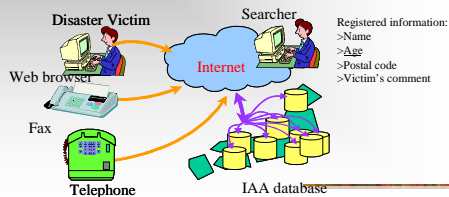
Tsuyoshi Ebina and Hiroyuki Ohno

1. Introduction

- **Research background:**
 - IAA system: Internet-based victim information registration and retrieval system
- **Goal of this presentation:**
 - Evaluate developed user interfaces on IAA system based on proposed functional requirements

IAA (I am alive) system

- Victim information registration and retrieval system



Function requirements

- > They should be ubiquitous in our life
- > They should prepare for congestion tolerant mechanism
- > They should prepare for user interfaces with special needs
- > They should have multi-lingual, multi-cultural system design

2.1 Ubiquitous in our life

- Disaster may be happen every time everywhere
Thus emergency communication system should be prepared everywhere

2.2 Congestion tolerant mechanism

- **Too many emergency calls cause congestion**
Congestion tolerant mechanism is required

2.3 Preparation for user interfaces with special needs

- Emergency communication should also prepared for special needs
 - Simple mechanism for elderly people
 - Web speech mechanism for visually impaired
 - Interactive fax communication system for the hearing disabled
 -

2.4 Multi-lingual, multi-cultural system design

- Disaster victims may not be native people
- Multi-lingual, multi-cultural design includes
 - Character code
 - Localization
 - Japanese do not have middle name
 - Religion consideration
 -

3. Related accessibility guidelines

- 3.1 Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards
- 3.2 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

3.1 Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards

- Section 508 requires the Access Board to publish standards setting forth a definition of electronic and information technology and the technical and functional performance criteria necessary for such technology to comply with section 508
- However, the accessibility standards do not fully cover situations under emergency cases.

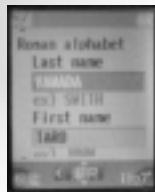
3.2 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

- W3C (World Wide Web Consortium) published web content accessibility guidelines. These guidelines explain how to make Web content accessible to people with disabilities. The guidelines are intended for all Web content developers (page authors and site designers) and for developers of authoring tools. The primary goal of these guidelines is to promote accessibility
- But this guideline is limited to web contents
- Web accessibility for cell phone is not fully considered

4. Assessment for IAA system user interfaces based on proposed accessibility guideline

- Some user interfaces on IAA system have been developed
- However, these user interfaces had not been evaluated as an emergency communication infrastructure

4.1 Victim information registration using a cellular phone



4.1.1 Web registration page for a cellular phone

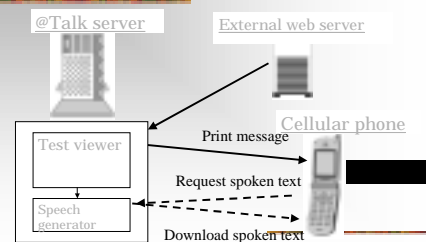
- Web registration page on cell phone
- Web browser on cell phone does not have text-to-speech option
- However, visually impaired people cannot use web browser on cell phone
 - Web speech browser @talk is developed

Web speech browser @talk

- Promote mobile web access for visually impaired people
- As the result,
 - Elderly people and visually impaired people will access web contents



Cell phone speech browser @Talk



4.1.2 JAVA application on a cellular phone

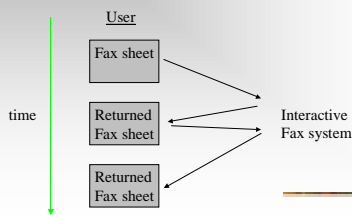
- JAVA application should be Pre-downloaded before disaster
- But Congestion tolerant because communication data is minimum

Procedure:
 (before the disaster)
 *Download a JAVA applet
 (after the disaster)
 * Run the JAVA applet
 * Fill in the form and send

4.2. Interactive fax system

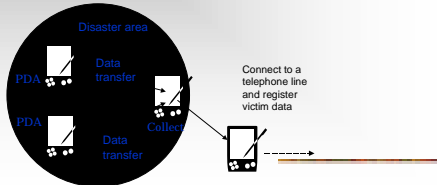
- Because fax is one-directional communication medium, a fax sender cannot confirm if a fax sheet is successfully sent
- Thus interactive fax system is developed
 - Interactive fax system enables interactive victim information registration

Interactive fax registration procedure



4.3. Victim information registration using a PDA

- Register victim data on each PDA
- Collect datas into one PDA
- Send collected data to an IAA server outside the disaster area



5. Discussion

	Web on cell phone	JAVA applet	Interactive fax	PDA
Ubiquitous				
Congestion tolerance				
Interface for special needs				
Multi-cultural design		?	?	?

6. Conclusion

- No perfect solution is found
- Both accessibility for special needs and congestion-tolerant accessibility has to be considered in the design of a victim information registration and retrieval system for use in the aftermath of a severe disaster.
- By including many different user interfaces, the IAA system should be able to meet these sometimes conflicting needs.

- <http://www.iaa-alliance.net/>
- ebi@crl.go.jp

Report on the CWUAAT 2004

1, Date: March 23, 2004 (Tue.) 15:00 - 16:30

2. Attendee: Mr. Takeshi Ebina (ebi@crl.go.jp)

3. Place:

Fitzwillian College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom

4. Details:

The 2nd Cambridge Workshop on UNIVERSAL ACCESS and ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY (CWUAAT2004) was held from March 22 to March 24 at Fitzwilliam College (<http://rehab-www.eng.cam.ac.uk/cwuaat/cwuaat04.htm>). The CWUAAT2004 is a single session workshop to present the research papers on rehabilitation robots and accessibility mainly and this was the 2nd time to held the workshop. Mr. Ebina presented the poster presentation titled "I Am Alive" User Interfaces: Universal Accessibility and Congestion - Tore Lance concluded under the joint authorship with Mr. Matsumoto.

About 150 people attended the workshop. In our poster presentation, the functional requirements for the user interface of IAA systems were pointed out, then, the results of evaluation of the developed user interfaces on IAA system based on proposed functional requirements were reported.

The questions, such as "Is the fax machine widely used among individuals In Japan?" (It is not common to have FAX machines for individual use in England) and " Are there any other researches being conducted in Japan on disasters?" (There are countries with less disasters, such as flood, and no earthquakes.), were asked. Japanese mind of thinking is a disaster = a earthquake; however, there are more floods than earthquakes in other countries, especially in Europe. It may depend on the country, but the alternative solutions for the use of IAA systems in the event of floods are needed. For instance, heavy machines are not suitable to be carried to the stricken area and even if the machines are carried to the area, power supply cannot be expected.

This question came from a Japanese attendee whether we are working with a carrier for this research. We are not working with any carriers today but may need to give a consideration to this.

<Presentation>

User interfaces for an IAA system

Communications Research Laboratory

Tsuyoshi Ebina and Fumiko Matsumoto
(ebi@crl.go.jp)

Introduction

- **Research background:**
Requirements for internet-based victim information registration and retrieval under emergency situation
- **Goal:**
 - Develop some user interfaces for special needs

IAA (I am alive)system

- Victim information registration and retrieval system

Disaster Victim Searcher

Web browser Internet Registered information:
>Name
>Age
>Postal code
>Victim's comment

Fax IAA database

Telephone

User Interfaces of IAA system

- Web
- PC
- Cellular phone
- JAVA application
- FAX
- Telephone

Web page on PC

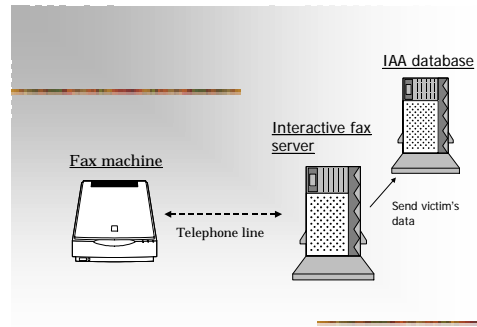
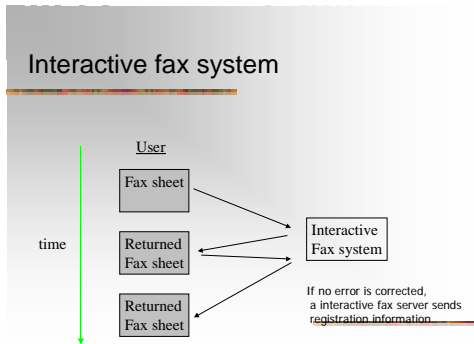
Web registration page for a cellular phone

- Web registration page on cell phone
- Web browser on cell phone does not have text-to-speech option
- However, visually impaired people cannot use web browser on cell phone
 - **Web speech browser @talk is developed**

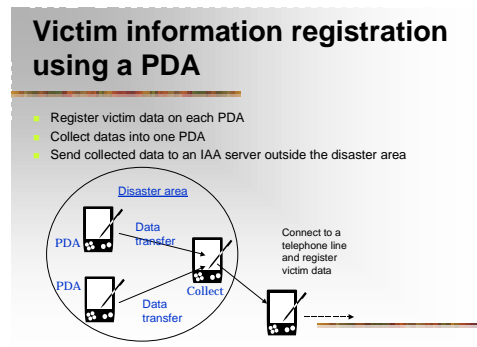
Web speech browser @talk

- Promote mobile web access for visually impaired people by using Text-To-Speech engine
- As the result,
 - Elderly people and visually impaired people will access web contents

Registration page



Original sheet	Returned sheet	Re-returned sheet
Original characters	Recognized characters	Corrected characters
	1 9 1 5	1 9 1 5
		7



3. Discussion

- User interfaces for victim information registration and retrieval systems have developed
 - @talk system is helpful for visually impaired victim to read web contents on a cellular phone
 - JAVA application on a cellular phone is congestion tolerant
 - Interactive fax system is useful for elderly people
 - PDA user interface consumes low communication band

Contact us

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