

Application Form of EASTS IRG

Date of Submission: 2013/08/14

1. Name of IRG: Integrated sign systems for non-motorized transport and transit users
2. List of research members 1) a) Name of representative: Hiroshi Tsukaguchi b) ID number of : jp-95-13-0126 c) Affiliation: Ritsumeikan University d) E-mail: tsukaguc[at]se.ritsumei.ac.jp e) Country/Region & Address: 1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu, Shiga 525-8577, Japan 2) a) Name: Upali Vandebona b) ID number of :au-95-13-0043 c) Affiliation: University of New South Wales d) Country/Region: Australia 3) a) Name: Hun-Young Jung b) ID number of : kr-95-13-0019 c) Affiliation: Pusan National University d) Country/Region: Korea 4) a) Name: Kuang-Yih Yeh b) ID number of :tw-95-13-0243 c) Affiliation: National Cheng Kung University d) Country/Region: Taiwan 5) a) Name: Yan Li b) ID number of: Jp-13-13-0491 c) Affiliation: Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University d) Country/Region: Japan 6) a) Name: Keiichi Ogawa b) ID number of : jp-98-13-0247 c) Affiliation: Ritsumeikan University d) Country/Region: Japan It is intended to encourage more researchers at the EASTS 2013 conference to contribute to this IRG effort. Also more participants will be welcome through the EASTS online member recruitment list to IRGs.
3. Name of contact person other than representative: Upali Vandebona
4. Keywords (Maximum: 5 words) Sign system, pedestrian, cyclist, transit user, way finding
5. Purpose and Mission of IRG: Timely availability of accurate directional information is an essential element of good transport network design. From the user point of view, information available should be helpful for the complete trip as well as individual segments of the journey. The mission of the team is to compile sufficient scientific knowledge for planners to create urban environments where sign systems assist

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public transport users and non-motorized journey makers to find the way from door to door in a logical and helpful manner.

The aim of the proposed IRG is to engage in the scientific discourse of sign system design with focus on clarity, efficiency and timeliness of the information delivery for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users. Different modes need their own sign systems, and at the same time it is essential to integrate these systems so the users can arrive at their destination safely and efficiently. At the completion of the proposed IRG effort we aim to have developed specific standards and a series of practical guides to establish good practice in signage systems for urban networks. Collaboration among researchers involved in this IRG will focus on the needs of environmentally friendly transport modes. The IRG also plans to motivate young researchers to be involved in this field. Funding will be sought from ICRA scheme and external sources to offer IRG seminars in cities to be determined later for the benefit of research students and professionals in the proposed theme.

In addition to research publications in EASTS conferences and journals the IRG aims for tangible deliverables in the form of information brochures and multimedia presentations that will be useful to practitioners.

6. Target year for completion (Research period is suitable within four years.): Four years

7. Research plan:

(Oct, 2013 - Sep, 2014)

Preliminary contact of international research personal including research students among EASTS members and member countries. Specific objectives are to identify leading researchers, to agree on collaborative working arrangements, to identify the range of skills and strengths available and to identify relevance to current research interests of individual researchers. A draft working paper will be prepared to document the progress and formalize the work plan, including sign systems for each mode i.e. pedestrians, cyclist, transit users, and the integrated sign system. It is anticipated that lead members of the group will commence case study based research in relation to high pedestrian flow areas such as surroundings of transport interchanges, shopping centers and recreational venues.

Initial list of cooperative research projects and activity leaders will be prepared. The communication process leading to this will be mainly based on e-mail and telephone as suitable.

Funding will be sought from local sources to facilitate data collection activities and involve new researchers.

(Oct, 2014 - Sep, 2015)

Field surveys will be carried out for different transport modes by the study team in tourism areas and large scale transport terminals to understand the relationship between information provided by sign systems and travel behavior. The effects of introducing or amending sign systems are analyzed and suitable integrated sign systems are proposed, from user's convenience point of view.

Based on these investigations, research papers to report initial work will be prepared in a special session of EASTS conference 2015. Also, the study team will commence planning for IRG seminars and seek out potential member countries agencies. Also planning will commence for multimedia presentations for practitioners. ICRA grant application will be prepared in the lead up to the EASTS 2015 Conference.

(Oct, 2015 - Sep, 2016)

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The study team will attempt to complete field studies and demonstration projects. Integrated sign systems for non-motorized and transit users will be discussed and an IRG seminar to involve young researchers and practitioners in a selected member country will be conducted. IRG should be in a position to begin development of publications disseminating the progress of selected subtopics. It will also prepare a summary of the associated research project works.

(Oct. 2016 – Sep, 2017)

The focus will be on dissemination of research findings through a series of research documents to demonstrate the ability to plan and design seamless signage systems. There will be opportunities to compare and contrast experience and develop further ongoing research work. At completion the team also aims to be able to deliver multimedia presentations and handbooks developed as a result of the IRG collaborations. The IRG also plans to complete a demonstration of a technology transfer application of signage systems between two member countries. The group will formally close with presentation of technical findings at an IRG special session of the EASTS conference (2017).

8. Expected research funds (ex. ICRA (Research grant of EASTS), etc.

-ICRA

-Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research in Japan

All applications are to be delivered to:

Dr. Tetsuo YAI, Secretary-General
Office of EASTS Secretary General
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