

## **News Release**

June 6, 2014

### **Nippon Signal receives the order of AFC system for Ho Chi Minh Urban Railway**

Nippon Signal has signed a contract of AFC (Automatic Fare Collection) system for Ho Chi Minh Urban Railway in Vietnam with Hitachi, Ltd., Infrastructure System Company (Hereafter "Hitachi"). Hitachi had signed a contract with Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee for a package of E&M, Rolling Stock, Track work, and Maintenance. Nippon Signal receives the order of AFC system from Hitachi.

In recent years, due to the rapidly increasing traffic volume by Vietnamese fast developing economy, the traffic congestion has been becoming more serious. Vietnamese government plans the number of new urban railway lines in order to solve the traffic congestion. Ho Chi Minh Urban Railway Line 1 is the first genuine urban railway plan, which runs for 19.7 km from Ben Thanh Market (Ho Chi Minh City downtown) to Suoi Tien Park (Northeast of Ho Chi Minh City), expanding 14 stations. In this project, international yen loan conditioning STEP (\*1) is applied and it promises that the Japanese technology shall be utilized to the fullest.

\*1 STEP stands for "Special Terms for Economic Partnership". This is introduced to raise the visibility of Japanese ODA among citizens in both recipient countries and Japan through best use of advanced technologies and know-how of Japanese firms.

AFC system has been used in public transportation systems such as bus, railway and others. This system allows transport operators to reduce manual handling of passenger payment procedure by using machines ( Ticket Vending Machine, Station Staff Terminal, Passenger Gate, etc.) to achieve the full automatic system. In this project, Japanese-type's automatic gate and contact-less IC card are employed as the best solution for high efficiency of passage through.

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