3-4. Exhibition of Disaster Reduction Technologies

3-4-1. Need for a Disaster Reduction Database

When one wishes to purchase equipment for disaster mitigation or know what is available, there is no easy way to obtain such information. Disaster reduction technologies are broad ranging. There are numerous technologies and equipment available, and these include jacks for rescuing lives from damaged buildings, fixtures to prevent furniture from tumbling, temporary toilets at shelters, water purification devices for drinking water, machinery and equipment such as earthquake-absorbing devices at buildings, satellite communication systems and disaster reduction GIS for damage control, damage estimation system, forecast technologies, etc.

On the other hand, these technologies and equipment are not easy to develop because of their restricted purposes. If products are developed, however, they are not advertised very much due to the small size of the market. Still they are useful for enhancing the disaster reduction ability of the whole society. For this reason, it is important to broaden the market by letting as many people as possible from local public corporations, private companies, NGO's, and general households, etc. know about these technologies and equipment.

In order to promote these technologies and equipment, exhibitions on disaster reduction technologies and equipment have been held many times in Tokyo and Kobe since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake.

While there were many visitors to the exhibitions as seen below, the effects of such exhibitions are limited only to those who actually visited, and not many disaster reduction related people in remote areas get the chance to know about such events.

With such situation in the background, ADRC opened the exhibition of disaster reduction technologies on the web so that people can access its database any time as necessary.

Table 3-4-1 Outline of Disaster Related Exhibitions

Place	Exhibition	Time	No. of Visitors	No. of Exhibiting Companies	No. of Booths
Tokyo	Tokyo International Fire Prevention and Disaster Reduction Exhibition	Jun. 4-9, 1998	214,064	260	1,380
	Disaster Relief Fair 2000	Apr. 20-23, 2000	51,668	70	900
Kobe	1st Earthquake Disaster Management Technologies Exhibition 1997	Jan. 16-17, 1997	4,264	130	230
	2nd Exhibition 1998	Jan. 13-14, 1998	3,220	115	215
	3rd Exhibition 1999	Jan. 13-14, 1999	3,830	120	135
	4th Exhibition 2000	Jan. 27-28, 2000	3,479	59	81
	5th Exhibition 2001	Jan. 18-19, 2001	3,541	50	72
	6th Exhibition 2002	Feb. 14-15, 2002	1,550	25	25

3-4-2. Disaster Reduction Technology Internet Virtual Exhibition

Since January 17, 2001, the ADRC has been holding a virtual exhibition of disaster reduction technologies available anytime on the Internet. Starting this year, each page of technology and equipment introduced is completely translated to English to facilitate access and use by member countries and other disaster mitigation-related organizations.

The entrance of the exhibition hall is located on the ADRC website. Visitors can select areas of interest from the menu and read about corresponding technologies and equipment. If more detailed information is required, they can refer to the homepages of organizations offering the disaster reduction technologies or equipment, and contact them by e-mail, phone, or fax.

The ADRC holds such virtual exhibitions in the aim to introduce disaster reduction technologies and equipment in the same way as actual exhibitions and spread and support these technologies and equipment. However many of the organizations and companies developing the disaster reduction technologies and equipment do not necessary have their own homepages. Even if they do, most are only in Japanese. By providing the human resources of the ADRC and facilitating information services with the use of a standard homepage design and handling of the English translation of introductory text at the ADRC, 203 items from 60 companies are currently exhibiting at the virtual exhibition as of the end of March 2002.

We hope to extend our coverage to disaster reduction equipment and technologies that are developed by Asian nations through researches to include them in our virtual exhibitions in the future.

3-4-3. Classifications of Disaster Reduction Technologies

Disaster stage, technology, and equipment as shown below classified the thesaurus of the database.

Table 3-4-2 Structure of Database

Stage	A. Technology	B. Equipment
Mitigation	a. Earthquake-resistance technology, quake-absorbing technology b. Earthquake-resistance evaluation	a. Fixtures b. Emergency shut off systems
Preparedness	a. Disaster reduction plans, damage estimation and forecast b. Training support	a. Various stocks
Response	a. Monitoring of disaster state b. Communication network	a. Rescue and relief b. Fire extinguishing
Recovery	a. Recovery support system	a. Remote control robot b. Life support

In order to realize a substantial database, the cooperation of organizations and companies with disaster reduction technologies is indispensable, and it is important to continue appealing for extensive participation in the future.

Fig. 3-4-1 Examples of Exhibits of Disaster Reduction Technologies and Equipment on the Internet

Fig. 3-4-2 Internet Virtual Exhibition Hall Network

ADRC Disaster Technique Products Exhibition on the Internet Website