

International Workshop on the Use of Robotic Technologies  
at Nuclear Facilities

# R&D on Robots for the Decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi NPS

February 3, 2016

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# Introduction

IRID is the Technology Research Association to develop technologies required for the decommissioning of the Fukushima Daiichi NPS

## Organization

### ■ R&D Management

- R&D Management
- R&D Strategy Planning
- Administration

### ■ R&D Implementation

- Membership:  
National R&D Agencies(2)  
/Manufacturers(4) / Electric Utilities(12)
- Over 700 researchers participate in IRID and engage in the R&D projects at their facilities

## Scope of business

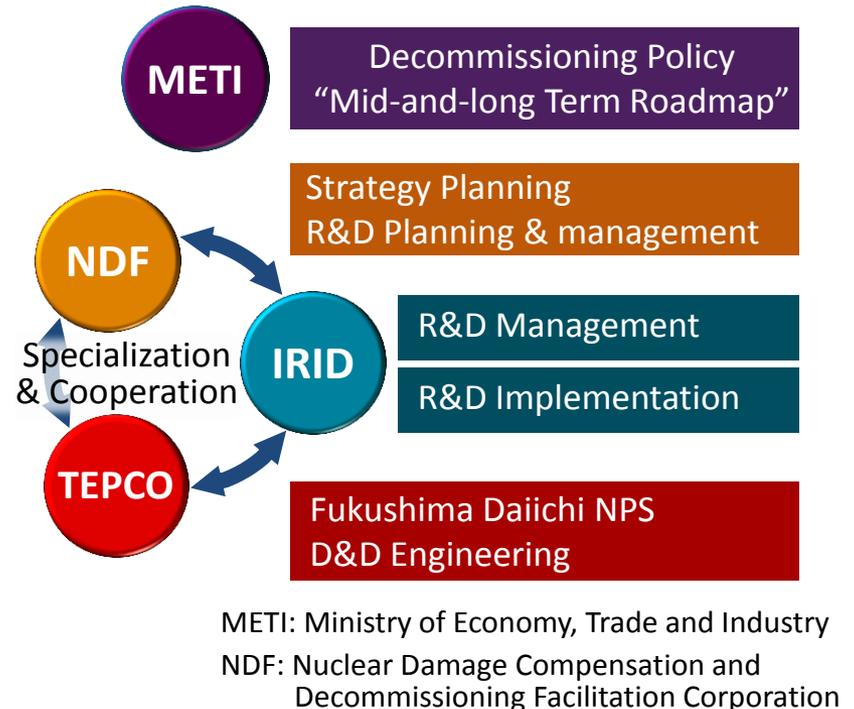
### ■ Nuclear decommissioning technology R&D

- Fuel Removal from Spent Fuel Pool
- Preparation of Fuel Debris Retrieval
- Treatment and Disposal of Radioactive Waste

### ■ Promotion of cooperation on nuclear decommissioning with international and domestic organizations

### ■ Human resource development

## Relationship Diagram



METI: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry  
NDF: Nuclear Damage Compensation and Decommissioning Facilitation Corporation

For more information >> <http://www.igid.or.jp/en>

# Fuel debris retrieval procedure

Robot technology is utilized for decontamination in the reactor building, investigation of water leakage from the PCV, investigation of the PCV interior, etc., according to the Mid-and-Long-Term Roadmap indicating the decommissioning procedure of Fukushima Daiichi.

Current

Technology R&D

Fuel Debris Retrieval from 2021

Removal of fuel from Spent fuel pool

Decontamination of work area and walkway

Investigation of RPV interior  
 • Location and configuration of fuel debris  
 • Damage of structural material

Investigation of PCV interior  
 • Location and configuration of fuel debris  
 • Damage of Pedestal and PCV

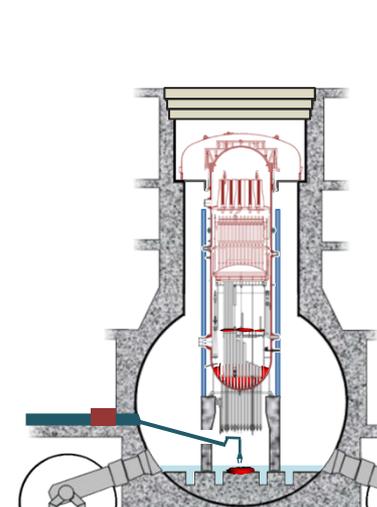
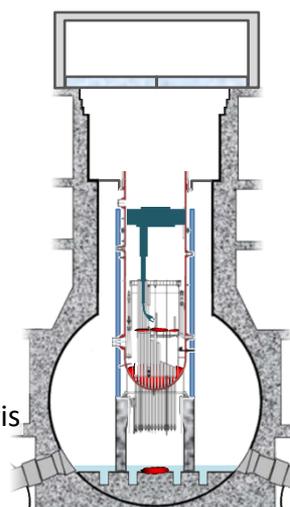
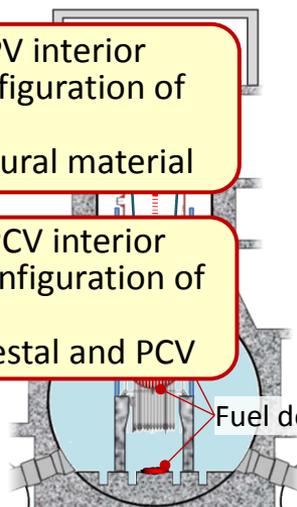
Investigation and stop of water leakage from PCV

Submersion method

Partial submersion method

Top Entry

Side Entry



# Development of technology for remotely operated decontamination in reactor buildings

Robots capable of accessing various places such as low places like floors, high places where pipes and trays are located and narrow places, and decontaminating various types of contaminants such as loose contaminants like dusts and fixed contaminants that penetrate into and fixate on concrete.

## For Low Places



Suction/blast



High pressure water injection

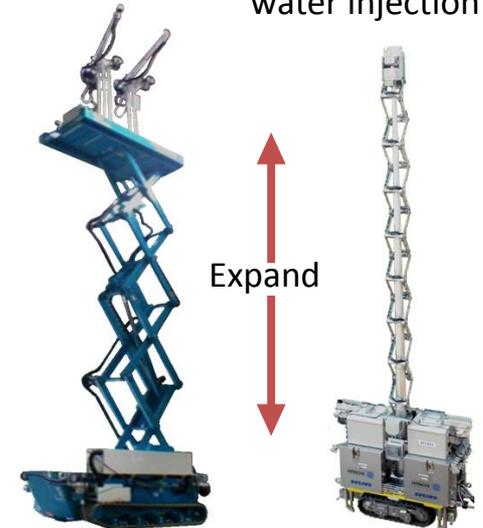


Dry ice blast

## For High Places

Suction/  
Dry ice blast

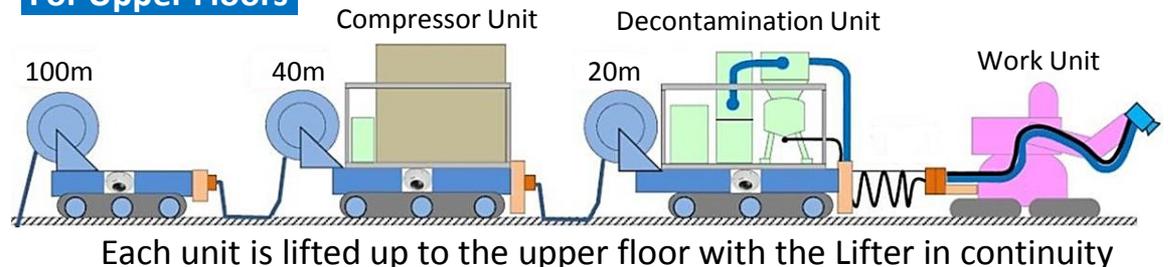
High pressure  
water injection



Air dose

Ground floor of Reactor Building

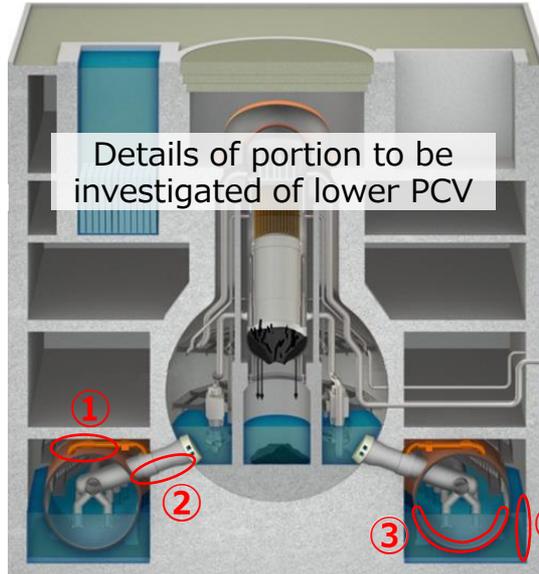
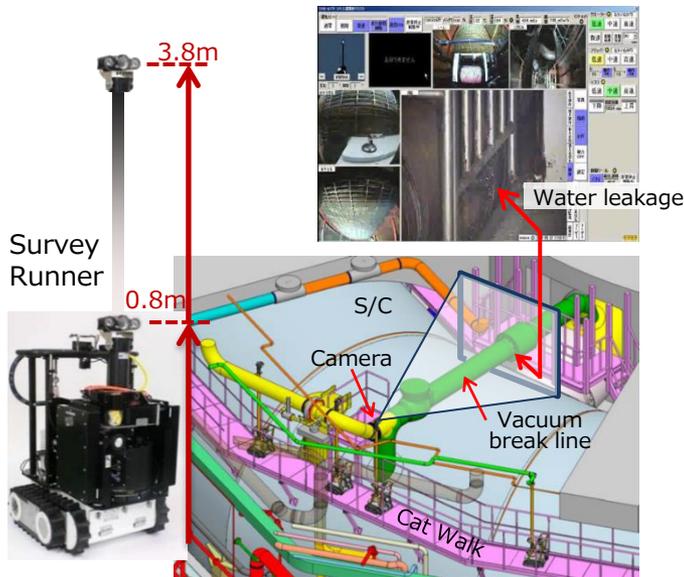
## For Upper Floors



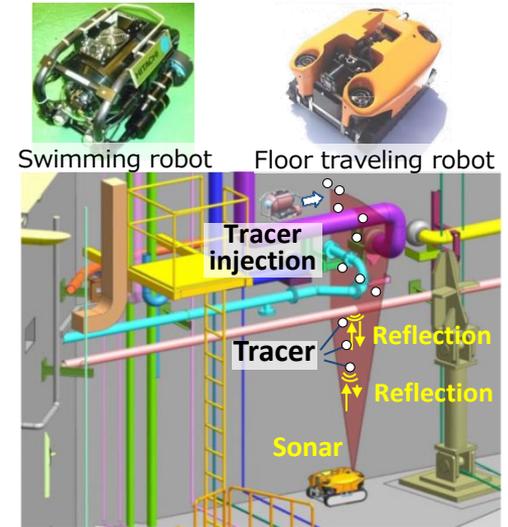
# Development of technology to identify leakage points in the PCV

Equipment to investigate water leakage from the PCV etc., which is designed to be adaptable to various environments, including elevated locations, high radiation dose areas, narrow spaces, and underwater areas

## ① Upper part of S/C survey equipment



## ④ Wall penetration survey equipment of torus room



## ② Exterior surface survey equipment for Vent Pipe

To search a water leakage on the junction of the Vent pipe and the PCV

VT-ROV

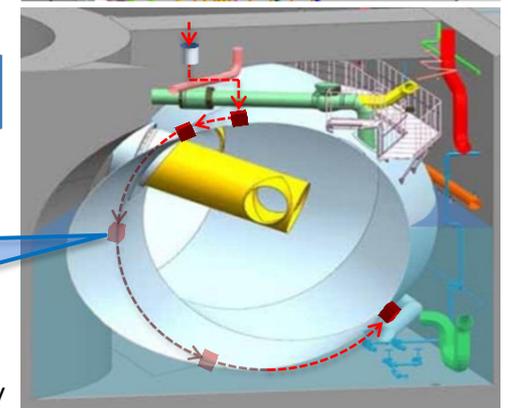


## ③ Exterior surface survey equipment for lower part of S/C

To search a hole (>30mm) on the S/C surface under water



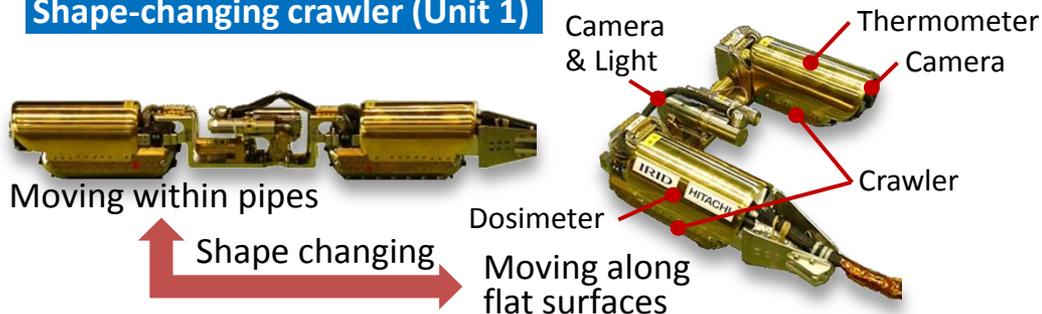
SC-ROV



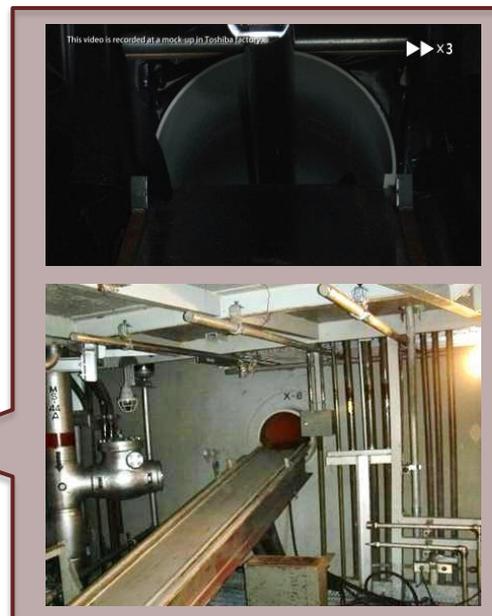
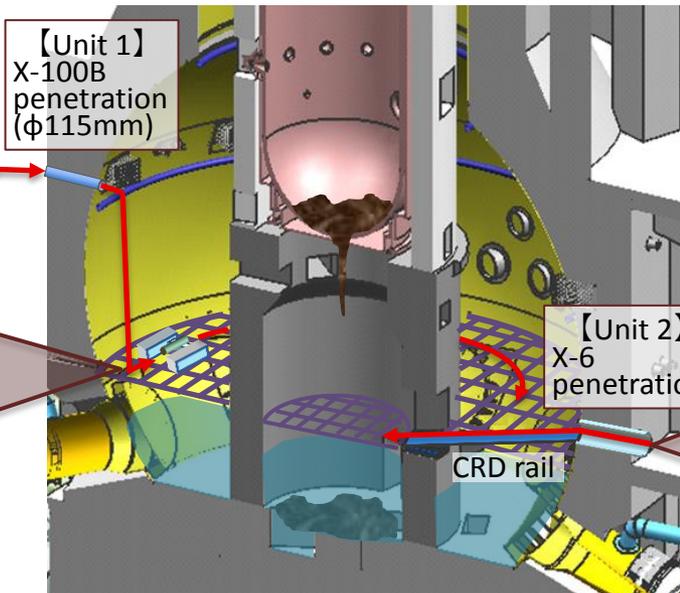
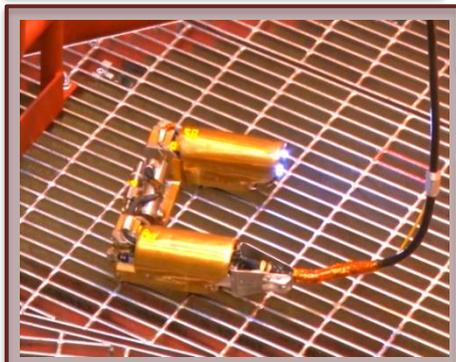
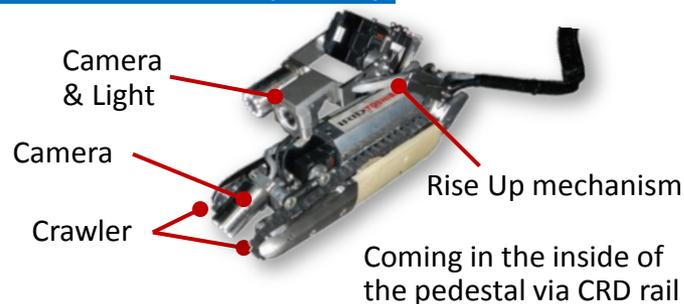
# Development of technology for investigation of the PCV interior

Robots capable of going through a 100 mm-diameter guide pipe and moving around a wide area in the PCV and having a radiation resistance strong enough to capture images and measure temperatures, radiation doses, under high radiation doses, in dark or vapor atmospheres

## Shape-changing crawler (Unit 1)



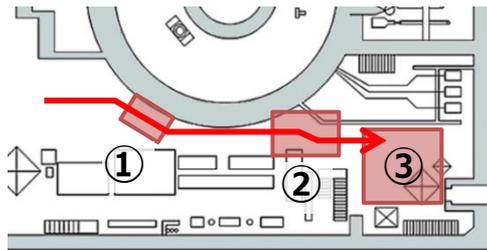
## Small size crawler (Unit 2)



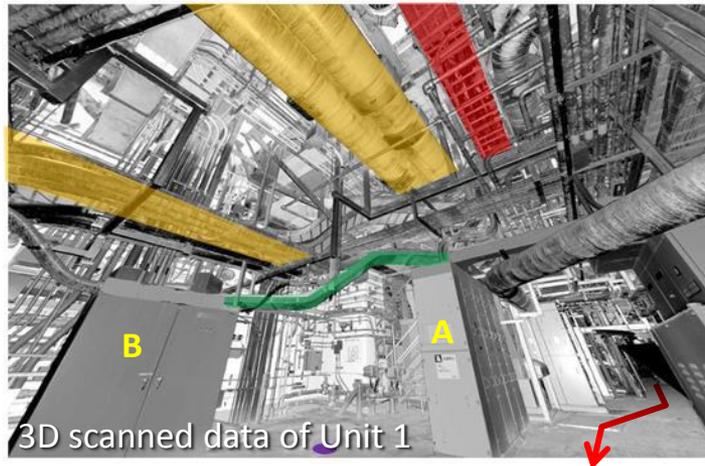
# Utilization of 3D data on the reactor building interior

(Decontamination)

3D data of the reactor building captured through laser scanning is utilized to study methods to approach high and narrow places to be decontaminated and to design the mockup facility simulating the structural condition and arrangement of each Unit.

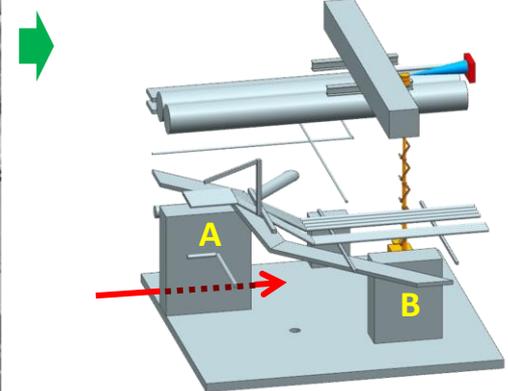


Traveling route from outside of Unit 1 to the target area of decontamination



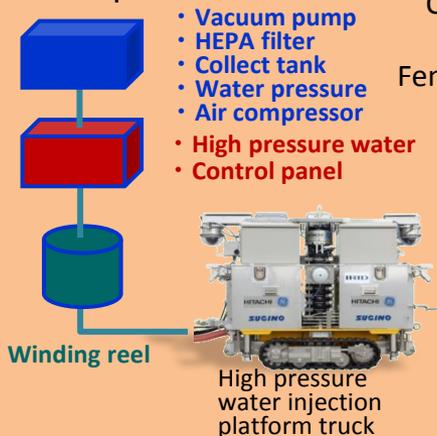
3D scanned data of Unit 1

3D Model on CAD

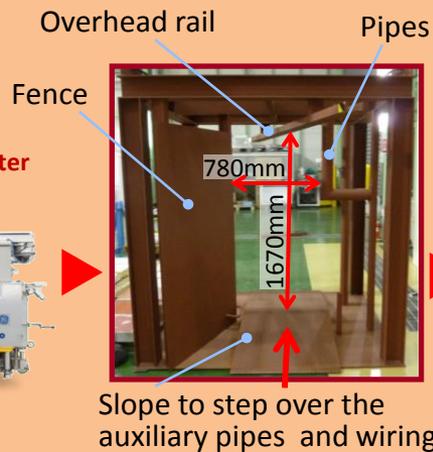


Designing Mock up facility

## Integration test at mock-up facilities



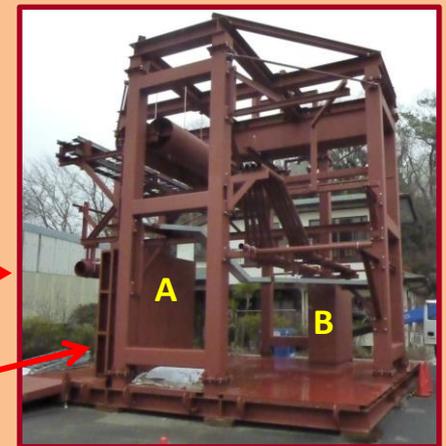
### ① Narrowest place



### ② Dogleg passage in narrow place

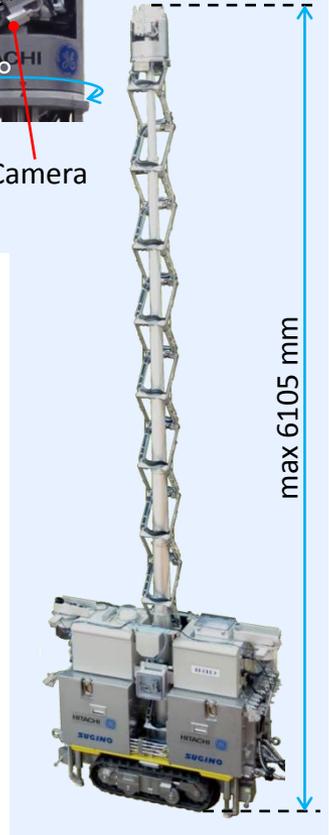
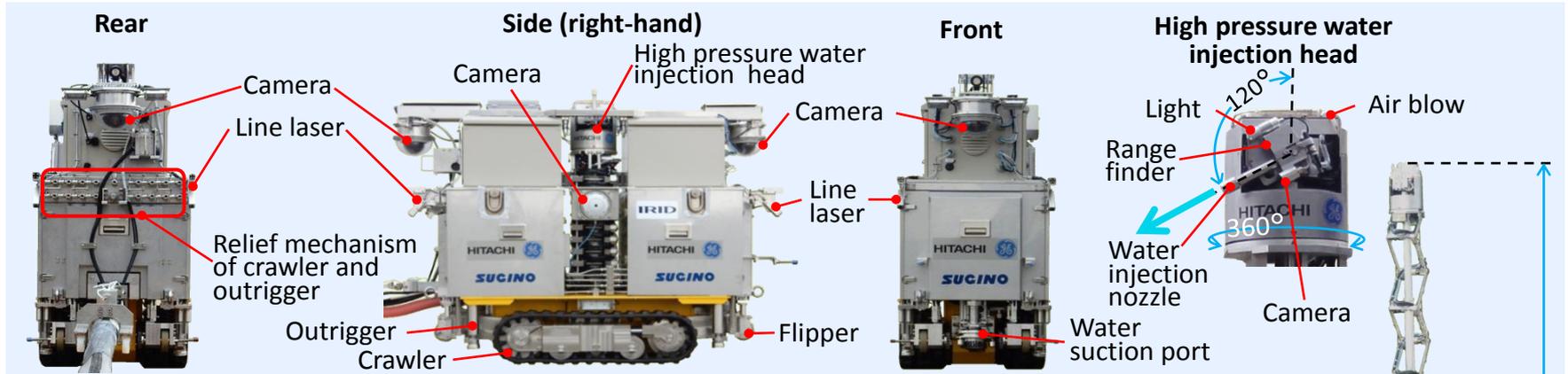


### ③ Target area of decontamination



# Evaluation of robot performance (Decontamination)

Robot that meets specified requirements not only for decontamination performance but also for remote control , linkage with other system components and safety performance



Evaluation Item	Target
Decontamination performance	<b>Work area 3mSv/h, Travel pass 5mSv/h</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to remove 80% contaminated material</li> <li>• to collect injected water on the floor                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&lt; 1mm water level @ flat floor</li> <li>&lt; 10mm water level @ hollow place</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Remote control performance	<b>Decontamination work</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to access to 8m high place and operate the decontamination work</li> </ul> <b>Travelling</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to move the machine dragging a long harness behind through the narrow passage in the mock up facilities</li> </ul>
Safety performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to avoid falling down during the decontamination work @ 8m high place</li> <li>• to make emergency stop on abnormal condition</li> <li>• to draw the machine back using traction tool on emergency stop state</li> </ul>

# Reliability improvement through testing

(Investigation of the PCV interior)

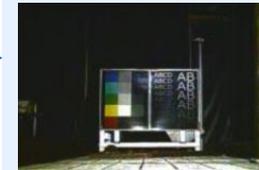
To develop a highly reliable robot, it is vital to repeatedly examine robots under environments that simulates the PCV.

## Improved points at postulated severe situation in the PCV

- Dark and foggy circumstance
  - LED light with condenser and distant from the camera
  - Image processing
- Difficulty in grasping site situation though remote control operation
  - Two cameras give a good visual field, overlooking picture around of the robot and close up picture in front of the robot
  - Rear camera gives wide area view with Pan/Tilt mechanism
- Roll over
  - Self-righting using the rise up mechanism
- Out of control
  - Cable delivery system has the cable cutoff mechanism

### Visibility test in water vapor

Transparency 100%



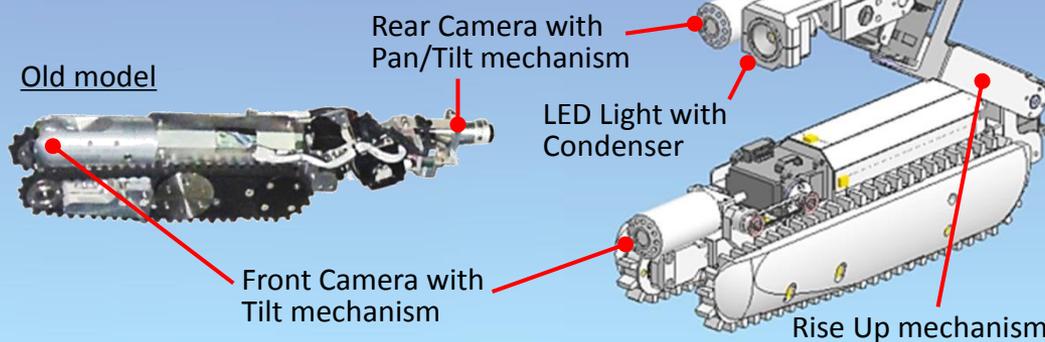
Transparency 20%



Image processing



### Points of improvement



This video is recorded at a mock-up in Toshiba factory.



The robot is self-righting, so rollovers are not a concern.

# Development of a step-by-step investigation

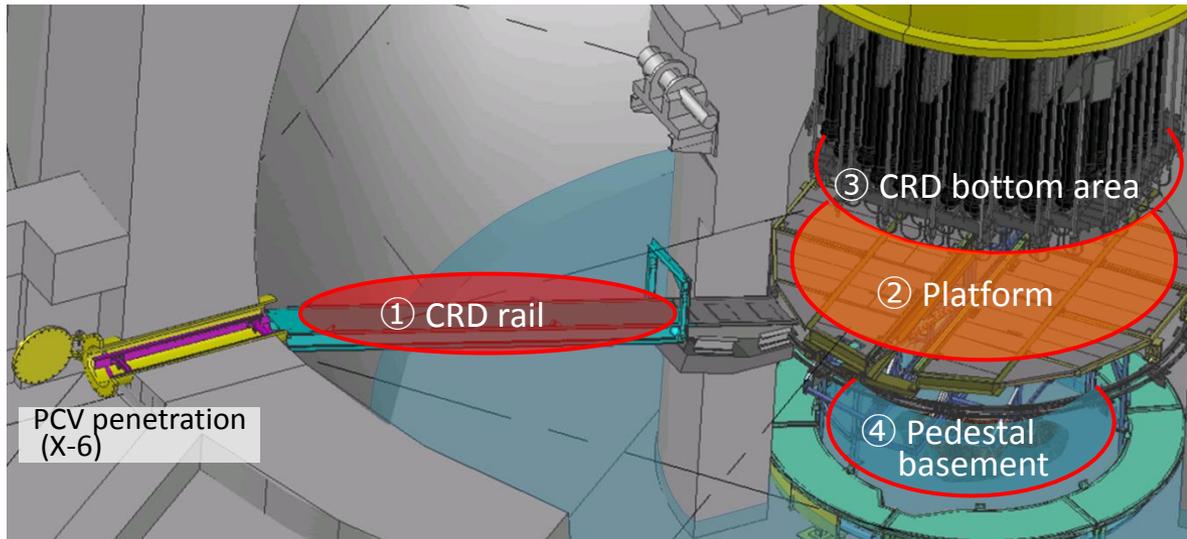
(Investigation of the PCV interior)

Since the situation inside the PCV is not much known, we have divided the investigation of the fuel debris in the PCV into several steps in order to reflect results from the current investigation step to the next step.

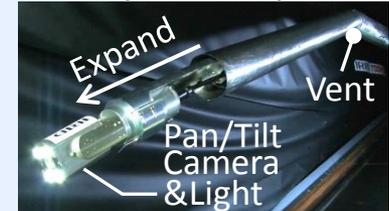
## Steps for the PCV interior investigation

- ① CRD rail condition (2014)
- ② Platform condition (on-going)
- ③ CRD bottom area condition (from FY2016)
- ④ Pedestal basement condition (from FY2017)

## Refine the Procedure and method of the Fuel Debris Retrieval



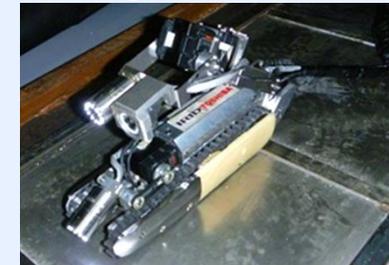
Camera on foldable and expandable pole



Deposit removing robot



Investigation robot



CRD: Control Rod Drive

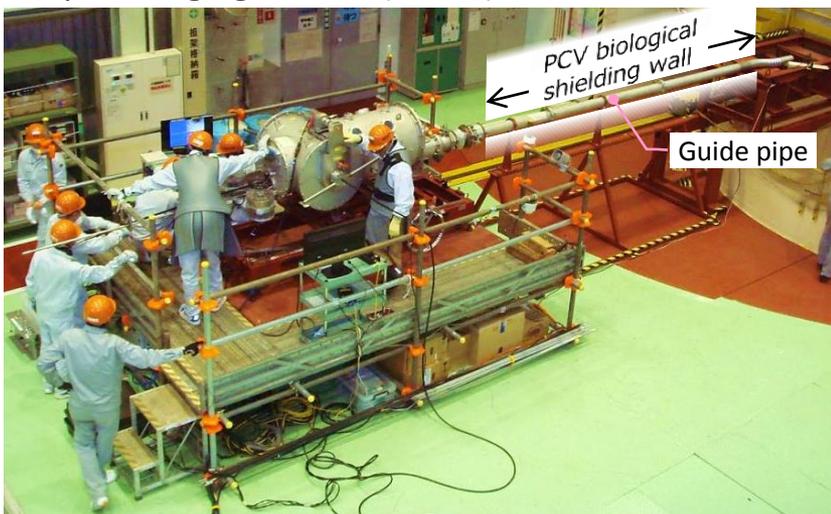
# Technology for preventing radioactive material diffusion

(Investigation of the PCV interior)

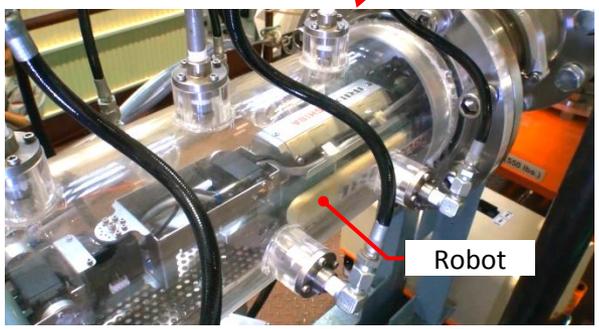
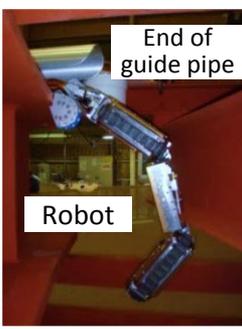
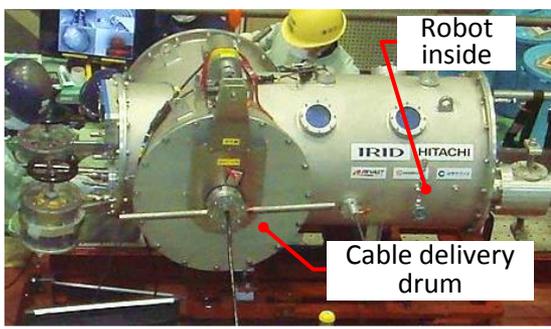
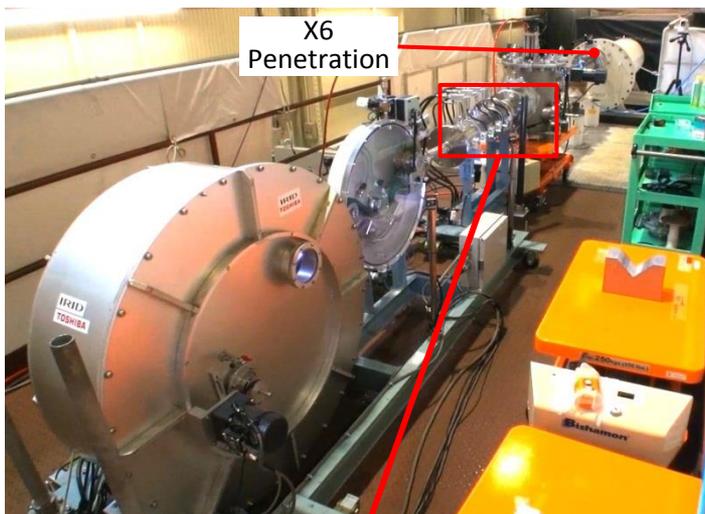
Before putting the robot into the PCV, we must build a boundary to avoid an opening of the PCV from diffusing radioactive materials .

## Radioactive material diffusion preventing device (Chamber)

Shape-changing crawler (Unit 1)



Small size crawler (Unit 2)

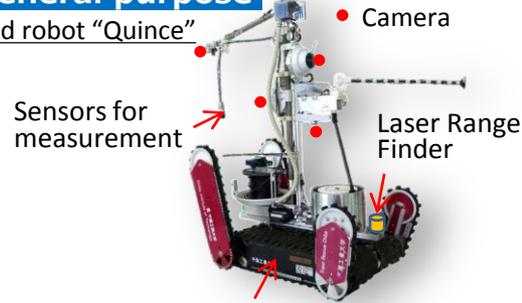


# Radioactive resistant performance

The requirement for radioactive resistance of each robot is specified, according to a dose rate of a place where the robot works.

## General purpose

Field robot "Quince"



CPU module, Battery, Motor driver

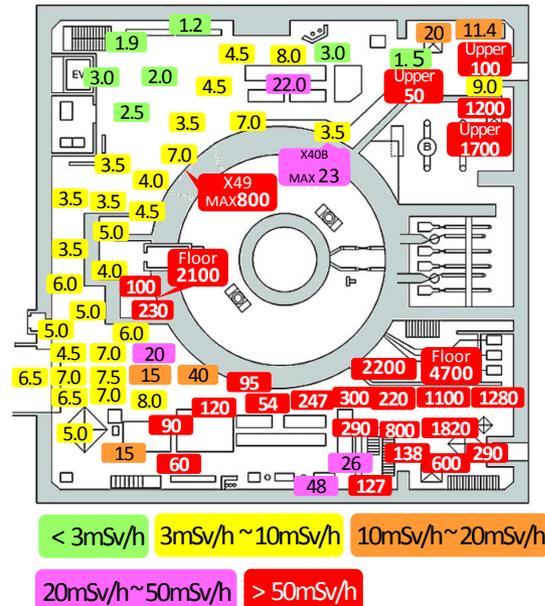
Dose tolerance test (Cobalt 60)

Component parts	Dose tolerance
Laser range finder	124Gy(Sv)
CCD camera	169Gy(Sv)
CPU module, Battery, Motor driver, Radio Tx/Rx, LAN HUB, etc...	> 200Gy(Sv)

Management guideline

- Unmanned heavy machine  
20Sv total dose
- Portable field robot  
30Sv total dose
- "Guideline on Rad-Hardness Estimation and Management for Robotics, Unmanned Construction Machine and others" 2011.4.27 (Original document is Japanese)
- "Radiation resistance and decontamination of robots in the field of atomic energy"  
IEEE Telerobotics Summer School 2013, Shinji Kawatsuma, Japan Atomic Energy Agency, Japan

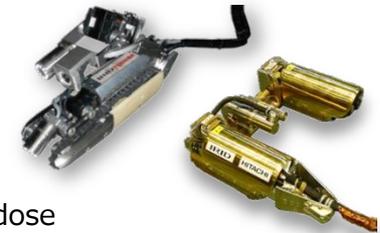
Dose rate map in the Unit 1  
(measured 2012 ~ 2013)



## Investigation of Inside PCV

Requirements

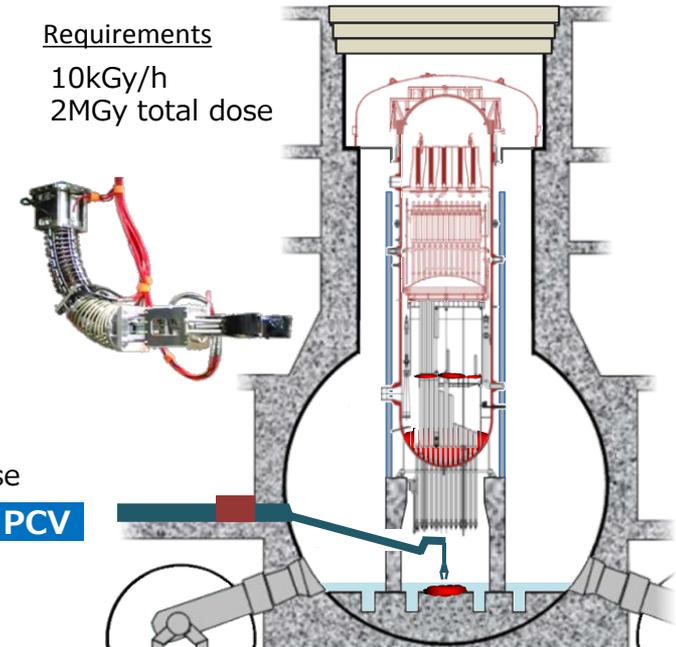
- 100Gy/h
- 1000Gy total dose



## Fuel debris retrieval

Requirements

- 10kGy/h
- 2MGy total dose



## Decontamination

Requirements

- 3Sv/h ~ 20Sv/h
- 1000Sv ~ 2000Sv total dose

## Investigation of leak of PCV

Requirements

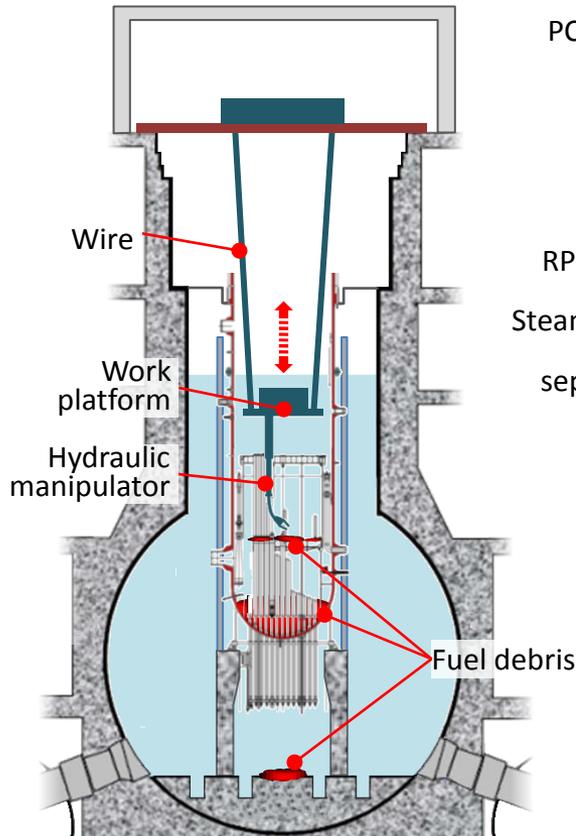
- 4Sv/h ~ 10Sv/h
- 200Sv total dose

# Study of fuel debris retrieval method

We will study multiple method for fuel debris retrieval to meet different condition of damaged PCV and scattering fuel debris at each unit

## Submersion method

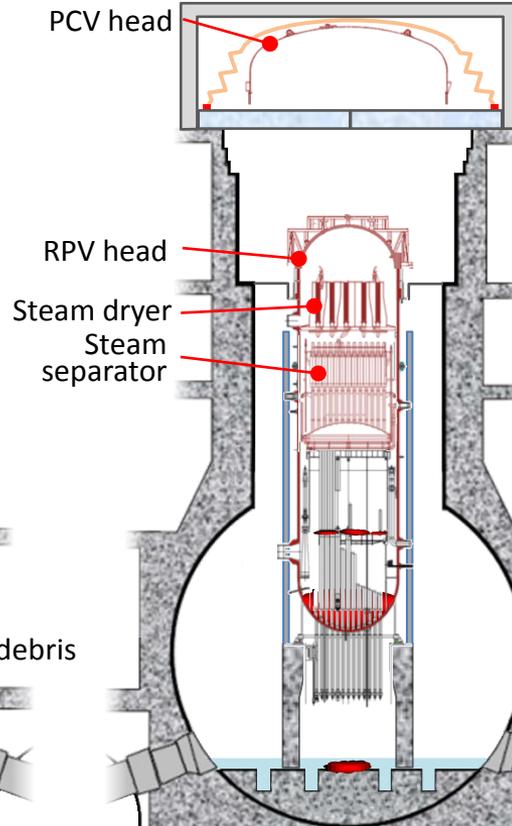
Most favorable approach for minimizing the radioactive exposure of workers



## Partial submersion method (In-air work)

Development of technology which prevents scattering radioactive materials from PCV is needed to remove PCV contents in-air work

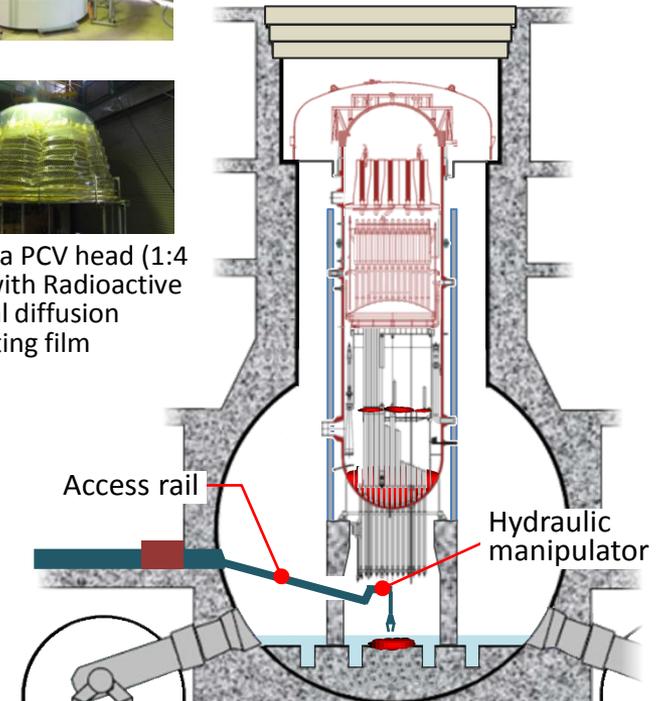
### Top entry



Sealing a PCV head (1:4 scale) with Radioactive material diffusion preventing film

### Side entry

When fuel debris spreads over pedestal outskirts, the side entry method is to be selected



Thank you for your attention