

Voyage to the Future



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Leonardo da Vinci may be the first who sketched the behaviour of flow by his own scientific eyes. Flow visualization has often appeared in the epoch-making stages of the history of science and engineering related to the flow phenomena.

In Japan, interest on flow visualization has grown steadily from the early days. In 1938, the experimental aeroplane *Kokenki*, built by the Aeronautical Research Institute of the University of Tokyo, set a new world record for long-distance flight of 11,851 km, recognized by the International Aircraft Federation. This remarkable feat achievement was performed in part through the use of flow visualization during the design stages.

As a result, leading the world, the First Symposium on Flow Visualization was held in 1973 in Japan. Since then, interest worldwide has led to the foundations of the International Symposium on Flow Visualization (1977) and the Flow Visualization Society of Japan (the predecessor of the Visualization Society of Japan) (1981).

Great inventions of the century, such as the Laser, and advances in computer technologies have brought fantastic development in the field of visualization, leading to the establishment of the Visualization Society of Japan (VSJ) (1990). Nowadays, many of the scientific societies hold *Visualization* as an important interdisciplinary item.

To reflect these advances, the first issue of the Journal of Visualization was published in 1998, and now is attained its Tenth Anniversary by the constant efforts of the colleagues deeply concerned.

When the VSJ started, I gave a message as follows:

The scope of the VSJ is far broader than that of the predecessor, reflecting the inclusion of computer-aided technologies. The VSJ is also intending to place great emphasis on interdisciplinarity, embracing all fields of science and technologies including physics, engineering, medical and biological sciences, agriculture, athletics, etc.

I think that this message could be still alive, and further development will be expected for the Journal of Visualization with the strong cooperation of you all.

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