

Appendix 5

Speech by Takeshi Kinoshita at the 25th ITTC Banquet

It is my privilege to introduce the Proceedings of the 25th International Towing Tank Conference on behalf of the Organizing Committee, the Japan Society of Naval Architects and Ocean Engineers.

The full conference took place in Japan the first time in 1966 at Tokyo, and the second in 1987 at Kobe. This time the venue is Fukuoka. So we made a 42 year tour of such three industrial and academic centers of the naval architecture in Japan.

In 1966 Japanese Ship Building industry and related research activities were on catch-up stage. We learned a lot of things from the ITTC community. In 1987 Japanese Ship Building industry and related research activities were leading the top with other countries. Now we all are facing many issues such as global warming. The ITTC community should contribute to supporting the development of economical, safe and environmentally friendly maritime transportation, and offshore oil and gas extraction.

The Proceedings of the Conference this time include very high quality reports produced by the 25th ITTC General and Specialist Committees and the Quality System Group. The Chairmen, Secretaries and the Members of the Committees and Group are to be congratulated on their excellent contributions. On behalf of the Members of the 25th ITTC Executive Committee I thank all those just mentioned for sparing their time and efforts in producing these most valuable reports.

Finally the Organizing Committee greatly appreciate tremendous efforts by the Colleagues of the Research Institute for Applied Mechanics and the Department of Maritime Engineering, Kyushu University. It is also my personal pleasure to acknowledge and thank all my colleagues of the Organizing Committee, especially Professors Masashi Kashiwagi and Yasuuki Toda, who have been unstinting in their efforts to plan and arrange this Conference and those on the Executive Committee for their support.

I hope that you all have a very fruitful time during the conference and enjoy the social programme and your stay with us.