

## RESEARCH BRIEF

# ISR-HONDA VISITING SCIENTIST PROGRAM

### About the program

Since 1999, the ISR-Honda Visiting Scientist Program has brought early career engineers from Honda Research and Development in Japan to ISR for a 14-month immersion in English language and American culture. During their time here, the engineers work with ISR faculty on projects suited to their mutual interests.

The flexible program has been designed to meet Honda's strategic needs. The research conducted is strongly oriented towards Honda's practical and strategic problems, and has strengthened the technical interaction between ISR and Honda.

The program has proven so valuable that it has become a regular component of Honda's staff development program.

Mr. Naritomo Higuchi, one of the first Honda engineers to participate, says, "Thanks to the Visiting Scientist Program, I developed strong relationships with U.S. researchers. I learned about American universities, industries and their close cooperation through the program. These experiences brought lots of benefits for my current work at Honda. I believe this program will offer really valuable opportunities to every young engineer."

Mr. Yuichi Kato, another of the engineers who took part in the program, says, "Of course, I developed my English communication skills. However, the biggest benefit of this program was to learn the American way of thinking and that of doing research work. I strongly recommend for young engineers to experience this program."

### Program specifics

ISR matches the Honda visiting scientist with a faculty member, provides office space; grants laboratory and computing resources; supports the visitor in university classes (typically English-language courses); assists with processing university, U.S. Visa and Social Security paperwork; and helps with relocation needs.

Honda provides its visiting scientists with full salary, local housing and transportation support; and ISR with a cash gift to support the visitors.

### Benefits of the program

Jeff Coriale, ISR's Director of External Relations, says, "This is a win-win situation for both Honda R&D and

ISR. The Honda engineers have gained and demonstrated significant expertise while here. The ISR and faculty hosts' research programs have benefitted through the industrial expertise and insights provided by the Visiting Scientists."

Mr. Masanori Satake, Honda's

Visiting Scientist Program Manager, says, "I think this program is very unique because it gives challenging experiences to our young engineers. We hope they will become great engineers in the future because of these experiences."

### Customizable for any company

An ISR Visiting Scientist Program can be developed for your company, tailored to your specific needs and research goals.

### Contact

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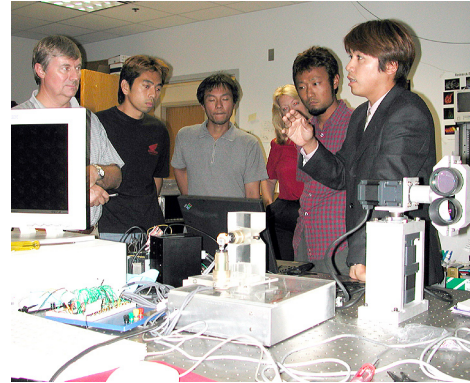
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**Mr. Kazutomo Nishida (far right) designs electrical components for general purpose commercial engines as an engineer with Honda Motor Company in Japan. He conducted research with Professor Christopher Davis (far left) and designed the hardware and mounting assembly for the motor movement in a prototype optical wireless tracking system.**

**Mr. Nishida's work helped ISR researchers to win a Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) grant with a local company, LumenLink, to continue and extend its research results.**