

Editors Script

The KYB Technical Review has reached a milestone with its 70th issue. This milestone is the result of the continual contribution of internal and external authors who have consistently provided excellent articles. I would also like to thank and appreciate the editorial board members who supported these publications behind the scenes. Most importantly, we must thank our readers.

This issue features a special program on the future prospects of each engineering department. When considering future growth or contributions to society, companies naturally intend to create new things. Recently, I have noticed that new terms, such as “added value creation” and “co-creation”, have become part of our daily lives. These acts are, of course, perfectly acceptable and should even be encouraged. However, they have made me realize anew that, before creating or being motivated to create, we must have a starting point: imagination.

For example, the foreword “A Prospective on the Future of Fluid Power Technology in Off-Road Applications” by Prof. Vacca and the editorial “Mechatronics: In the Mind's Eye of an Engineer” by Prof. Tanaka truly focus on engineers' imagination. I found these articles very interesting.

Currently, I feel it is difficult to foresee what the world will be like in just ten years. In the tech field, particularly the AI area, which is surging in popularity, many bold statements have been made. For example, Masayoshi Son, the chairman of SoftBank Group, stated that “in ten years from now, ASI (artificial Super Intelligence) will be 10,000 times smarter than humans”, and prominent figures in other industries have stated that “by around 2025, AGI (Artificial General Intelligence) surpassing human intelligence is expected to be realized”.

I wonder what kind of future we will be living in. While expecting a future far beyond my imagination, I find myself unable to change, unconsciously wishing for a future within my imagination or fearing otherwise.

(ITO Takashi)

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