

Overview



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The number of broadband subscribers was 28.7 million in Japan as of the end of March 2008. The significance of the communication networks as social infrastructure to support general consumers and corporate activities is increasing accompanied by the rapid spread of the Internet.

Conventional broadband services have been provided via best-effort IP networks, which are now considered to be insufficient in terms of communication stability, quality of services, and security, as the number of subscribers continues to steadily increase.

The rapidly growing next generation network has been introduced as new social infrastructure which utilizes the openness of the Internet while maintaining the reliability and the security of the conventional telephone network system (Public Switched Telephone Network). The deployment of the next generation network is expected to reduce prices of conventional services and to create new enhanced services which are to change individual lifestyles and corporate business models drastically.

Mitsubishi Electric, based on our accumulated technological assets in optical access systems, wavelength division multiplexing transmission systems, submarine cable systems, etc., promotes not only standardization activities, but also the development of various technologies and products in fields such as transportation systems and customer premises equipment for the realization of the next generation network. This issue introduces Mitsubishi Electric's activities for those technological developments.