

HANEDA D-Runway Report (No.4) OKITEN PROJECT(2)

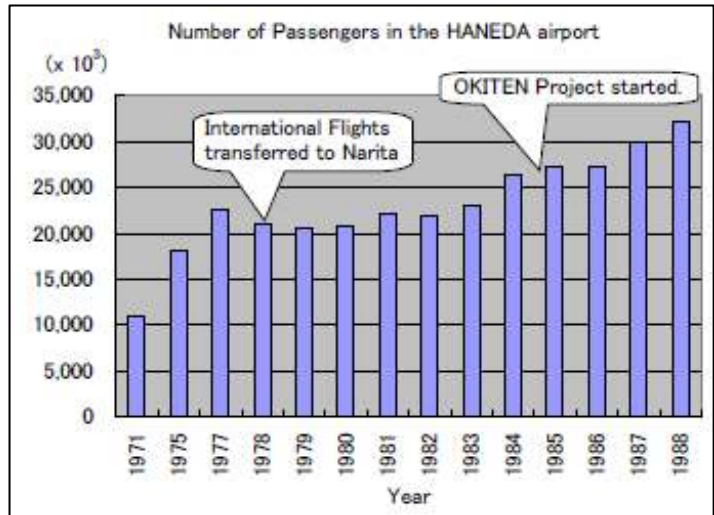
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Tokyo International Airport (HANEDA Airport)
HANEDA Airport Construction Office
<http://www.pa.ktr.mlit.go.jp/haneda>

BEFORE OKITEN PROJECT

The number of passengers in the HANEDA airport, even after the opening of the NARITA airport for international flights in 1978, had already reached the upper limit due to old fashioned airport facilities.

After the launch of the OKITEN project in 1984, which was the first large scale seaward expansion project in Japanese airports and started before the construction of the KANSAI international airport from 1987, the number of passengers gradually increased by large size aircrafts, such as the B747 for domestic flights introduced by JAL in 1984. However, the flights were still in a limited condition, and the expansion project was strongly expected to be completed as soon as possible in the whole of Japan.



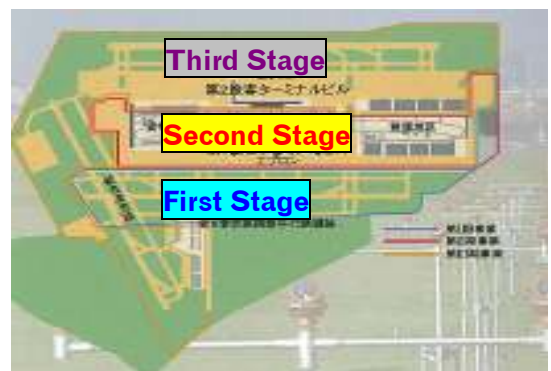
OKITEN PROJECT (2)

The construction work of the first stage of the OKITEN project started on site in January 1985, and the new A-runway of 3,000m length was opened in July 1988. By the completion of the new A-runway, the number of flights was expected to increase to 180,000 from 160,000 a year.

Then, in the second stage, the Passenger Terminal 1 called "Big Bird" was opened in September 1993. At that time, the number of flights was able to be handled up to 210,000 a year, with other facilities' completion.

In the third stage, the new C-runway of 3,000m length was opened in March 1997, the new B-runway was opened in March 2000, and the Passenger Terminal 2 was opened in December 2004. By these completion, the number of flights increased 255,000 a year, about 1.6 times larger than the number before the project.

The OKITEN project has also the characteristics of a battle against disposal soils, which was tremendously soft like "mayonnaise". To achieve this, the huge amount of soil improvement work by vertical drainage was done. The total number of sand or plastic board vertical drainage reached 4,120,000, which lead to about 79,000km length, about 2 times longer than the earth's circumference.



Thus, the OKITEN project has the characteristics of not only function strengthening of the airport by expansion, but also the battle against the soft ground of paste-like soils. (To be continued)