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**Title: V2X moving into full swing**

— **Connected Car scheme accelerates** —

**Smaller, low-cost DSRC units being materialized**

Use of V2X systems is now moving into full swing on highways in North America. Praveen Singh, CEO of Arada Systems, visited Japan on the occasion of JSAE 2015 held in Yokohama May 20-22. Arada Systems is a leading Canadian manufacturer of the roadside devices for ITS and on-board DSRC units. At the event, Mr. Singh introduced Arada's small-size DSRC units, and attended a seminar at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo to explain the ongoing Connected Vehicle projects.

Ideas of V2X to help make road traffic safer and more efficient with the use of wireless vehicle-to-vehicle or vehicle-to-roadside infrastructure communication were included already in the early stage of ITS or Intelligent Transport Systems, but V2X remained in the stage of demonstration tests until recently due to the technological and high-cost constraints.

In February 2014, however, the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced a new regulatory measure to mandate all cars to be equipped with DSRC units and then moves rapidly accelerated to put the technology to practical use. Then General Motors announced in September 2014 that it will mount its Cadillac models with the DSRC system. In October, Canada announced a new Connected Vehicle plan, followed by the U.S. Ministry of Transport (MOT). The development by Arada Systems of a smaller, low-cost DSRC unit served as the key to the rapid moves toward wider practical use of the V2X technology.

Arada Systems has so far installed its DSRC units in roadside infrastructure in Ann Arbor City and the southeastern part of Michigan, under contract with the MOT. It is also building DSRC systems in El Camino Real district, California, Washington, D.C., and Pittsburg City, Pennsylvania, under contracts with those municipalities. It plans to spread use of its DSRC units across the U.S. to more than 20,000 cars and along 100 miles of highways.

One typical example of use of the Arada Systems technology is Canada's Connected Vehicle project, "ACTIVE-AURORA."

This project calls for installing DSRC systems along all the highways in Edmonton, the key traffic point in Alberta, where the temperature falls to minus 40 degrees C in winter. With the help of the DSRC systems, vehicles can detect "black ice" on roads and send the information on the existence and location of black ice to a traffic center via roadside device. On the basis of information on road situations brought to the center, the traffic center then decides on what action to take – such as scattering salt on the highway or alert coming cars about the black ice to prevent accidents. In the area, many accidents on highways are caused by frozen surface of the road, and since the region's economy will be affected once trucks get stuck in accidents on highways, great expectations are now placed on the ACTIVE-AURORA project.

The Canadian company will also install DSRC units along the highway linking Seoul to Pyeong Chang, the site of the 2018 Olympic Winter Games, to help ensure smoother road traffic during the Olympics. Arada is eager to expand its business in Japan, saying that, just as in the Korean case, it hopes to be able to cooperate for the Tokyo Olympics in 2020.

During the seminar at the Canadian Embassy, Arada CEO Singh stressed his expectations for acceleration and expansion of V2X systems in practical use, saying that the "chicken or egg" debate is over – the debate over which should come first, infrastructure building or mounting more cars with the V2X system. He added that whether it is technologically possible is no more a problem and that it now is a matter of time – when it is done – and not a matter of whether or not it can be done.

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