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Presentation title:

TRAFFIC SAFETY MEASURES WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE INFORMATIONSTREAMING SYSTEM WITH THE HAILSTONE DETECTOR

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Summary:

Japan is located in the mid-latitude region, and in winter, on the expressways facing the Sea of Japan, there are frequent hailstorms caused by the seasonal winds (Siberian high pressure systems) blowing from continental China. At the beginning of the winter season, the road surface in the vicinity of the exits of the series of tunnels (between Asahi IC and Joetsu JCT) on the Hokuriku Expressway, facing the Sea of Japan, is suddenly screened in white by hail falling rapidly from the sky. This gives rise to traffic accidents and hinders snow and ice control. Thus far, information based on snowfall measurements obtained by patrols and meteorological observation equipment has been provided for each interchange section. However, its efficacy as an alert has faded because information may be provided even when there is no snowfall. Therefore, in order to enhance the effectiveness of alerts, there has been a need to provide proper real-time information on changes in road surface conditions to drivers of running vehicles.