The Hakata Station Building and Plaza and its Central Role in the Urban Development of the Hakata District, Fukuoka City

28 November 2012
Kyushu Railway Company
Location of Fukuoka City

Finland

Japan

Fukuoka City
Basic Information about Fukuoka City

Gateway to Asia with tourist numbers increasing every year

Facts About Fukuoka
- Located in the far west of Japan
- Population of approx. 1.5 million
- Close to Shanghai, Seoul and other Asian cities
Basic Information about the Hakata District

Facts about Hakata

- Located in the center of Fukuoka City
- Has become the business center of western Japan and the gateway to Kyushu

Hakata Station is the biggest transport hub in Kyushu, used by around 400,000 people each day

Kyushu Shinkansen (Bullet Train/High-speed Rail) line fully opened in March 2011

Major changes to the Hakata District

Shinkansen (Bullet Train/High-speed Rail) in Kyushu
New Hakata Station Building Opened in March 2011

- New station building built: JR Hakata City
- Station-front plaza revamped

New Kyushu landmark was born
Presentation Topics

- Urban Development Efforts
- JR Hakata City: Structure, Features, Architectural Design
- The Kyushu Shinkansen
Urban Development Efforts
Issue Ⅲ: Insufficient Pedestrian Space

Not enough pedestrian space, even though the plaza was 15,400\,m^2
Issue Ⅲ: Insufficient Pedestrian Space

Pedestrian areas were too small
Issue: Insufficient Pedestrian Space

Station concourses were crowded or did not have enough room for walking.
Issue Ⅳ: Poor Pedestrian Safety

Area around the station not enough safe for pedestrians
Issue Ⅲ: Inconvenient Transport Connections

Plenty of transport, including the Shinkansen, other conventional trains, subways, buses and taxis, but stops were spread out over a wide area, making connections difficult.
Issue Ⅲ: Inconvenient Pedestrian Passages

Hakata underground area was very uneven with many pitches, making it more difficult to reach other parts of the station.
Issue Ⅲ: Insufficient Shopping Facilities

Not enough shopping and social functions

- Shopping area only 1/5 of the size of Tenjin shopping district
- Hakata Izutsuya (17,000m²)
- Ming (5,000m²)
- Deitos (8,000m²)
- Transport Center (11,000m²)
- Yodobashi Camera (18,000m²)

Meanwhile, sales productivity was 1.5x higher in the Hakata Station area than in Tenjin’s.

Source: Kyushu Data Book 2006 (in November 2005)
Issue Ⅱ: Few Open Spaces

Few open spaces such as parks

- Hakata Gate Station-front Plaza
- Fujita Park
- Meiji Park
- Otoha Park
- Chikushi Gate Station-front Plaza

Parks near Hakata Station were small and far apart.

- Suijo Park
- Former Fukuoka Prefecture Public Hall
- Tenjin Chuo Park
- City Hall Plaza
- Kego Park

Tenjin’s parks and open spaces are gathered in large areas.

The greenery-poor streetscape near Hakata Station.
Issue Ⅱ: Insufficient Space and Continuity between Station and Streets

- Not enough pedestrian areas that were pleasant to walk in
- Large number of three-way intersections – all people could see was streets, with little variety

All that could be seen was buildings, with little greenery
– not a pleasant place for walking
Solution Ⅱ: Make transport facilities closer together

- Public transport facilities closer together
- Plenty of pedestrian space
- More barrier-free (more even surfaces)
Solution Ⅱ: More Pedestrian Space

Plenty of pedestrian space

2nd floor deck

1st floor passage

Underground passage

Standard drop-off/pickup area
Revamped Station-front Plaza

Station-front plaza adorned with seasonal trees and sculptures

Lit up at night
JR Hakata City
(Structure, Features, Architectural Design)
Overview of JR Hakata City

Building with area of approx. 200,000 m² developed to accommodate 400,000 users per day
Overview of JR Hakata City

Restaurant Zone

Concert Halls

Shopping Zone

Department Store
Overview of JR Hakata City

- Most distinctive feature: building structure with the most efficient use of the area above and below the tracks
- Building surrounds the 8 conventional train tracks for largest area possible in limited space
Symbol of JR Hakata City

Giant clock symbolizes the station

Massive, dynamically curved roof
“Tsubame-No-Mori Hiroba” (Rooftop Garden)

Rooftop garden 60 meters above the ground

Plaza for children

“Nakamise” stalls with the feel of a festival

Railway Shrine: prayers for safe travel
Miniature Train & Observation Terrace

The miniature train is a hit with children and parents.

Observation terrace affords a view of the city.
Tile Art Project

Large work of art made with Arita tiles, a traditional craft industry of Kyushu and Japan

Tiles feature pictures of leaves, insects, and other flora and fauna submitted by the public
Series N700 “Mizuho” and “Sakura”

As symbolized by the keyword “rin” expressing the beauty, strength and dignity of Japan, the comfort of Japanese-style service is expressed.
Series 800 “Sakura” and “Tsubame”

Uniquely Kyushu design
...Thank you for your kind attention