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NHK Technology

FPU Reception System Used in Golf Relay Broadcast

An FPU* reception system operating in the microwave band and developed for covering road races has proved to be a powerful tool in relay broadcasts of golf tournaments. This system automatically selects and combines a maximum of four receiving signal lines with the least noise from a total of sixteen receiving signal lines, outputting a single video signal stream without noise. Unmanned receiving antennas were installed throughout the course of the Japan Golf Tour Championship that took place between June 2 and June 5, 2011 (Figure 1). They received uninterrupted Hi-

Vision (HDTV) video signals, even in wooded areas that tend to distort video signals sent through them. This system's compatibility with a conventional manned antenna system helped to ensure a stable mobile relay broadcasts of the Japan Women's Open Golf Championship (Sep 29 to Oct 2, 2011) and the Japan Open Golf Championship (Oct 13 to Oct 16, 2011).

* FPU: Field Pick-up Unit, a wireless transmission/reception system used in relay broadcasts.

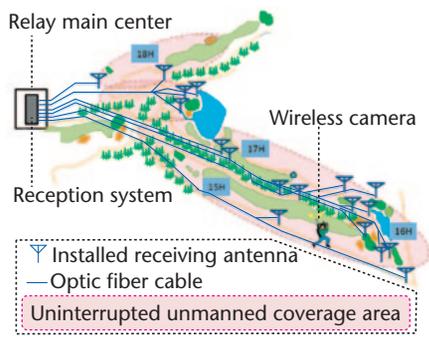


Figure 1: Receiving antenna arrangement and reception area



Figure 2: Receiving antenna (upper left); Reception system (lower left); Reception quality (right) (Japan Open Golf Championship)

From the Editors

NHK's new three-year corporate plan started in FY2012. NHK, as a trusted public broadcaster, will continue to deliver distinctive programs and services, as well as strengthen our broadcasting capabilities in order to build a prosperous and secure society, and promote the development of culture of the new era. NHK Science and Technology Research Laboratories (STRL) has established its own three-year plan in line with the overall corporate plan. Along with early practical use of Hybridcast, a service using the latest technology created by the convergence of broadcast and telecommunication, we will promote research on Super Hi-Vision and 3D television. We will also promote user-friendly broadcasting, by augmenting services such as close-captioning and sign language, so that all viewers can enjoy NHK's broadcasts. To benefit all viewers and deliver a rich variety of broadcasting services, NHK STRL will continue to pursue a wide range of R&D. We ask for your continued support in our endeavors.

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