Tomoyuki Izu

President, Enroute Co., Ltd.

Mr. Izu joined Hewlett-Packard Japan in 1985, after graduating from the Electronic Engineering Department of Kinki University.

At HP, Mr. Izu engaged in the marketing of products such as microprocessor development tools, engineering workstations, and E- commerce. He also developed sales tools including the book "HP Dynamism" for HP-UX developers, CRM books, and promotional videos.

In 2006, Mr. Izu established enRoute Co., Ltd. a radio control model manufacturer and he has continued to be the president, successfully developing a comprehensive solutions system which includes the use of UAVs. Mr. Izu started the development of multicopters for industry use in 2011 through joint research with Tohoku University. In 2014, enRoute engaged in three separate national research projects one with Tohoku University, one with Hitachi, and the third with Kawada Industries.

Research with Tohoku University included using UAVs in areas where there have been volcanic disasters to create a real-time database which contains images and 3D terrain data. The development of such a database creates the ability to predict the debris/lava/mud flow. Mr. Izu was responsible for the parts of this project pertaining to the transportation, installation, and communication with the UAV as it collected the image and 3D terrain data.

Research with Hitachi focused on developing an on-ground taxiing or air-moving complex robot system that could perform surveys of disaster areas. His main responsibility was creating semi-autonomous and remote-operated unmanned survey platform vehicle systems.

With Kawada Industries, Mr. Izu's research was focused on the development of a bridge inspecting system using multicopters. He was responsible for the development of systems of the high-resolution image taking multicopters, as well as the development of the bridge-detachable type multicopters (which are used for a method of performing bridge inspections where the multicopters adhere to the bottom of a steel bridge).