

IPA News Letter

Event Report: 15th IPA Seminar on Press-in Engineering in Tokyo 2026

IPA Secretariat

The 15th IPA Seminar on Press-in Engineering was held on February 20, 2026, in Tokyo. The event brought together approximately 240 participants, including policymakers, researchers, engineers, construction contractors, and students.

This year's theme, "Countermeasures and Challenges for Aging Underground Infrastructure," addressed an issue that continues to draw attention worldwide. In Japan in particular, the road collapse in Yashio City, Saitama Prefecture, in January 2025 reminded many of the urgent need to strengthen the maintenance and management of underground systems.

Speakers from industry, government, and academia were invited to share their insights across a wide range of topics, including administrative practices, geotechnical engineering, construction methods, sensing technologies, and infrastructure management. Their presentations not only highlighted their areas of expertise but also emphasized the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration. The passion and sense of responsibility expressed by the speakers made the seminar a meaningful and inspiring event for all who attended.

Seminar Presentation Materials *in Japanese

URL: <https://www.press-in.org/ja/page/15thSeminar>

Seminar Video Recording (IPA members only) *in Japanese

IPA members' site: <https://member.press-in.org/en/login>

Below are the program details and photos from the seminar.

Opening Remarks	Dr. Yukihiro Ishihara Director of IPA	
Lecture 1	Overview of the Road Collapse in Yashio City Mr. Takeo Kitada Saitama Prefecture	
Lecture 2	Mechanism of the Road Collapse in Yashio City Prof. Jiro Kuwano Saitama University	

IPA News Letter

Lecture 3 Application of the Press in Method in the Restoration Work for the Road Collapse in Yashio City

Mr. Tsutomu Taniguchi
TAISEI CORPORATION

Mr. Masayuki Kitamura
GIKEN SEKO CO., LTD.



Lecture 4 Current Conditions and Challenges Related to Ground Cavities Caused by Aging Buried Infrastructure

Prof. Reiko Kuwano
Institute of Industrial Science, The University of Tokyo



Lecture 5 Latest Trends in Sinkhole Prevention Using Subsurface Cavity Survey Technology

Mr. Masatsugu Saika
GEO SEARCH CO.,LTD.



Lecture 6 A Major Shift in Infrastructure Management Strategies Following the Road Collapse in Yashio City

Prof. Hitoshi Ieda
The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies



Lecture 7 Case Studies on Monitoring Buried Infrastructure (Online Lecture)

Prof. Kenichi Soga
University of California, Berkeley



Closing Remarks

Dr. Yoshiaki Kikuchi
Director of IPA



Fig 1. Program

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Photo 1. Group photo at the seminar



Photo 2. During the seminar