

The Study on Management Work Support Systems for Privatization of Local Governments

Whole term

2006.6~2008.3

(Purpose)

The notice about the “Promotion of Comprehensive Privatization in Management and Maintenance of Wastewater Facilities (March 2004)” was issued by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Government of Japan. With such policies in place, the local governments introducing comprehensive privatization are increasing. There is an expectation for using high technological capability and cost reduction effects of private companies. Meanwhile, it is concern that to introduce comprehensive privatization may keep local government employees away from the practical work, reduce their technical ability, and undermine their capability to conduct appropriate supervision and evaluation of maintenance and management work.

This study’s aim is, by utilizing constantly advancing IT technology, to construct the system (Management and Supervision Work Support System) for management and supervision of the service level of private companies to be used by the local governments when they introduce comprehensive privatization. And to prevent weakening of technical ability of local governments, the study is also intended to propose the Knowledge Database Systems under which the specific cases of routine management and maintenance, and responses to problems will be inherited and shared as know-how.

(Contents)

(1) Study Subjects

Fig.1 shows the flow of this study.

1) Research of current situations and Review of issues

Hearing at local governments that are introducing operational or comprehensive privatization, and review of privatization management situations, issues and requirements such comprehensive privatization.

2) Construction of support systems

Examination and construction of the system functions that support management and supervision work of local governments.

3) Proposals of Knowledge Database Systems

Examination and proposals of the methods to collect and accumulate know-how and to share and utilize information.

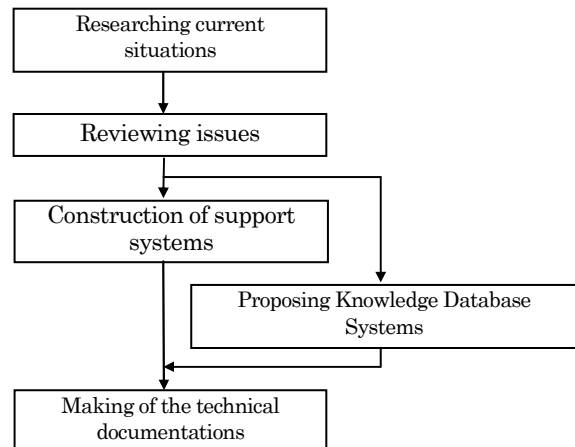


Fig 1 Study Flow

(2) Past Results of Study

1) Research of Current Situations, and Review of Issues

Hearings and questionnaires were conducted, the issues and support items were reviewed, and the reviewing results are shown in Table1.

Table 1 Issues and Support Items

	Issues	Support Items
Management and Supervision Work Support System	Not many local governments assign their employees to be regularly at work sites, therefore it is difficult to grasp the situations of facility operation.	The function to supervise the facility operation situations. The function to support to confirm the fulfillment of contracts.
	It is difficult to determine whether the equipment deterioration is caused by aging or maintenance problems. There is not an indicator manual. Therefore, there are differences among individuals in determining equipment deterioration.	Indication of appropriate inspection time determined by combined use of equipment ledgers, guidelines and manuals. Easy assessment of whether equipment maintenance is properly performed or not.
Knowledge Database System	Facility operation depends largely on experienced and skilled persons, therefore, there is concern about losing the facility operation know-how when they resign or retire.	Information on meetings, reporting sessions, study meetings and e-mail are compiled into electronic data and database.

(Future Schedules)

Based on the reviewed support items, the system will be examined to make of the technical documentations including the following items.

- 1) The system planning and design of the Management and Supervision Support Systems, maintenance and management techniques, etc.
- 2) Technical matters used for system planning and design of the Knowledge Database Systems, etc.

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Key words

comprehensive privatization, maintenance, IT, work support, knowledge