

## Fujitsu Numazu Plant

Numazu, Shizuoka Prefecture

### Inspired by a compelling presentation

The Numazu Plant, a key production facility that also plays a major role in the development of software for Fujitsu's large-scale computers and server products, has a computer center where development data and other information is stored. Precious intellectual assets belonging to the Fujitsu group are there, including some from overseas. We have to maintain conditions there to ensure secure, reliable, and stable daily operations.

The Suruga Bay area, where the Numazu Plant is located, is part of the region that has been at risk from a major Tokai earthquake or Tonankai earthquake since long before the Great East Japan Earthquake. Based on the realization that it would be extremely difficult to recover if our development assets and data were lost, we installed seismic isolation systems at group companies in 2008 to help ensure business continuity and a higher level of reliability.

The Cloud Services Department has customer service engineers available at all times at the center to rapidly respond to the various needs that arise. One of them told us about THK's unprecedented seismic isolation technology. This happened at a time when the topic of business continuity was getting a lot of attention, and we were also engaged in facility planning, so we invited people from THK to come to the plant and explain their products.

The presentation was very convincing. They didn't put the focus on paperwork. After a brief introduction they asked about our situation, and after watching a video they determined the actual motion that would occur, using a miniature model made of clear plastic. We could see that our existing



(From left) Toru Takahashi, Team Leader, and Naoki Gunji, Manager, both of the Software Development Cloud Service Department, Software Development Technologies Division, Software Technologies Unit.

Visitors to the Fujitsu Numazu Plant's Cloud Service Department can see THK's seismic isolation system at work by moving the rack and observing the way the system responds (reservation required).

equipment would not be adequate if an unexpectedly intense inland earthquake were to strike. We were convinced because we could see it and even feel it, which doesn't happen very often.

At the time it didn't feel at all as though THK was trying to sell us something, although we still deal with the same people. They simply explained the technology that THK used for seismic isolation, with no mention of any rival products. They just said that if we accepted their proposal they would take care of us. We had high hopes for their system and really wanted to try it.

Of course, after that our bosses had to be convinced. We explained that THK's system would perform better and be more reliable than our existing seismic isolation arrangement. The miniature model that THK had loaned us was very persuasive.

If our servers were damaged or destroyed in a disaster it would still be possible to restore conditions using backup computers, but in the worst case, if our development data were lost, all such efforts would be in vain. For the sake of business continuity we have a comprehensive system in place, including backup computers at separate locations. Even so, by installing THK's seismic isolation devices, I would like to think we have taken sufficient action to safeguard a very important facility.