

## Seiko Shirasaka

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Place of Birth: Fukuyama, Japan Current Residence: Tokyo, Japan

"We have successfully launched four HTVs. We are preparing the fifth one."

Domain: Aerospace

Years in systems engineering: 15 years

Year joined INCOSE: 2000

Role in INCOSE: Academic Council representative

In one sentence, how would you describe INCOSE to someone who had never heard about the organization?

INCOSE is a professional society of system thinkers, with access to state-ofthe-art information and an opportunity to build an important professional network. If we want to work as system thinkers, we have to belong to INCOSE. The most valuable benefit of being an INCOSE member is the information we get from the network of professionals.

## Tell us one memory you have about INCOSE.

When I was invited to the Corporate Advisory Board (CAB) meeting and dinner at the INCOSE International Symposium in 2000 before Mitsubishi Electric Corporation became the first Japanese CAB member, I had a chance to make a short speech. It was the very first step for a Japanese systems engineering society to join INCOSE.

## What has been your most fun and/or challenging systems engineering project?

HTV (H-II Transfer Vehicle) project: It is an unmanned automated transfer vehicle from ground to the international space station. I have worked on that project for 15 years. We have successfully launched four HTVs. We are preparing the fifth one.

If you could work as a systems engineer in any industry (not your own), what would it be? Why?

It would be a human space vehicle. It was the reason why I selected astronautics as my major.

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