

A.L.I. to Participate in the Demonstration of Highway Infrastructure Management Promoted by NEXCO Central Japan in cooperation with Marubeni

~Towards the Practical Application of Highway Inspection
Solutions using Drones~

A.L.I. Technologies Inc.

A.L.I. Technologies, Inc. (Main office: Tokyo, Minato-ku; CEO: Daisuke Katano; hereinafter A.L.I.) will participate in the demonstration experiment of highway infrastructure management, which will be conducted by Marubeni Corporation (Main office: Aichi pref., Nagoya City; CEO: Masumi Kakinoki; hereinafter Marubeni) as a representative organization in the *Innovative Expressway Consortium*, promoted by Central Nippon Expressway Company Limited (Main office: Aichi pref., Nagoya City; CEO: Yoshihito Miyaike; hereinafter NEXCO Central).

The *Innovative Expressway Consortium* was established by NEXCO Central in July 2019 in order to realize the goals of *i-MOVEMENT*, and has since been examining the feasibility of proposals from more than 105 companies, including road operators and domestic manufacturers.

In cooperation with fellow consortium member Marubeni, based on the theme of Expressway Infrastructure Management, A.L.I. will be involved in surface inspections and the verification of the potential for improvement upon current infrastructure inspection methods.

■ Demonstration Outline

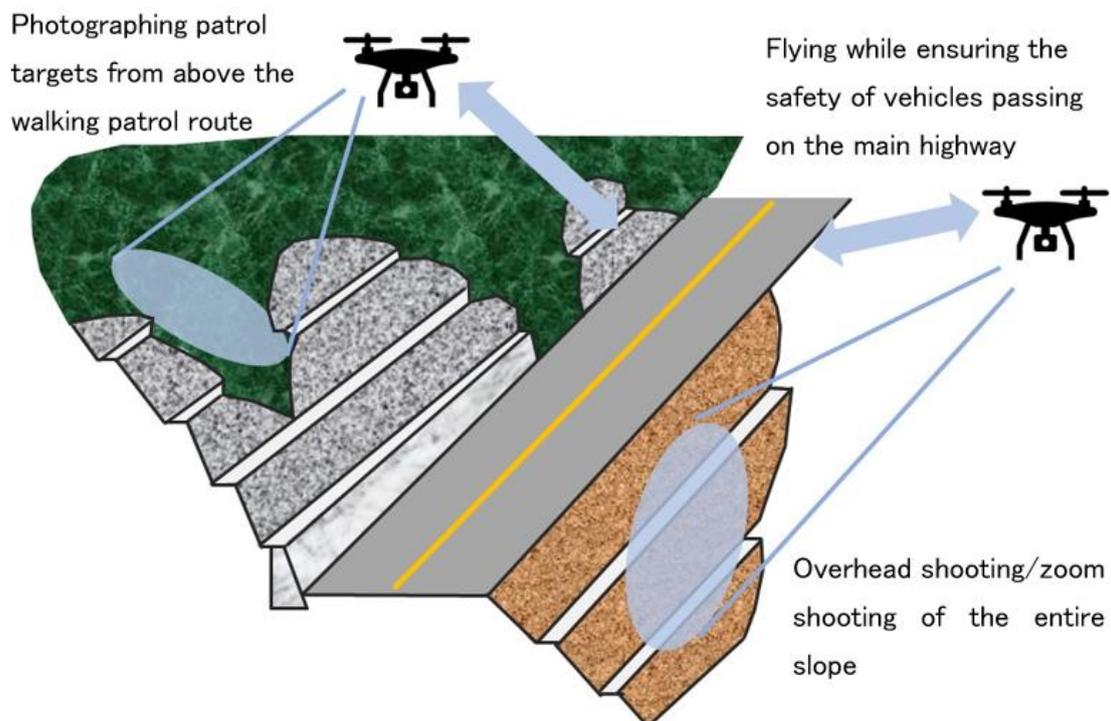
【Start Date】 May 2021

【Location】 Expressways in the NEXCO Central Japan service area

【Objective】 To demonstrate the effectiveness of using drones and high-performance cameras to capture images and use the data to improve the efficiency of surface inspections and patrols of road sites.

【Demonstration Content】 Inspections of slopes and site patrol is conducted by workers on foot and by visual inspection, and there is a need to decrease the workload and increase the safety of these inspections, particularly in areas that are dangerous due to the topography. In this demonstration, a high-performance camera mounted on a small, unmanned aircraft (drone) will be used to capture images of the area to be inspected and patrolled, and the data will be used to demonstrate the efficiency and effectiveness of the inspection and patrol work. At the same time, we will set up flight routes that can guarantee the safety of expressways and confirm the efficiency of flight operations.

【Example Inspection】 Drainage facility damage, sediment runoff, presence of fallen trees, presence of illegal dumping, etc.



▲ Slope inspection and road site patrol using drones and high-performance cameras
For some time, A.L.I. has been actively involved in demonstrating the usefulness of drones for the inspection of public infrastructure. We believe that infrastructure inspection is an area where resources and safety, such as reducing personnel shortages and worker hazards, as well as saving time and improving the efficiency of work and analysis, are extremely necessary.

We will continue to develop and participate in demonstrations to realize low-cost, high-performing highway inspection solutions using drones for infrastructure inspection, maintenance, and upkeep.

Announcement from NEXCO Central:

https://www.c-nexco.co.jp/corporate/pressroom/news_release/5080.html

A.L.I. is a drone technology and AI business that develops business solutions for a wide range of industries. Such solutions include AI equipped drones, a computing power sharing service that boasts an autonomous distributed processing system, and the world's first practical hoverbike.

A.L.I. will continue to innovate by developing products that creatively utilize technologies such as drone, blockchain, and AI.

Official site : <https://ali.jp/en/>

For any inquiries, please contact : info@ali.jp (PR Unit)