

Akashi Kaikyo

Akashi Kaikyo is a 3.9km-long bridge built across the Akashi Strait, a 1,500m international shipping canal that connects the Pacific Ocean to the Sea of Japan.

The suspension bridge connects the city of Kobe (mainland of Honshu) to Iwaya (Awaji Island) in Japan. The spectacular view of the bridge in the night resulted in the name, Pearl Bridge.

The bridge was opened to traffic on 5 April 1998. It forms part of the Honshu-Shikoku Highway. The original design of the bridge was prepared for both cars and trains. Later, the final design was approved only for the road way. The bridge carries nearly 23,000 cars each day.

Research revealed the need for implementing new technology and maintenance techniques for proper management and maintenance of the bridge. Dry air injection system was one of the technologies used, which was used to maintain the bridge.

