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### Passive relay device and passive relay method

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#### Abstract

A passive relay device (**100**) relays radio communication between the inside of a radio wave shielding structure (**200**) and the outside of the radio wave shielding the structure (**200**), and the device includes an internal antenna (**10**) which connects with the inside, an external antenna (**20**) which connects with the outside, and a connection part (**30**) which connects the internal antenna (**10**) and the external antenna (**20**).

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### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Fujino et al. (2018) "Relay radio technology that reliably accommodates IoT terminals in places where radio waves are difficult to reach" NTT Technical Journal vol. 30, No. 7, pp. 15-18. cited by applicant

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## Background/Summary

### CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

(1) This application is a U.S. National Stage Application filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 claiming priority to International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2020/004630, filed on 6 Feb. 2020, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

### TECHNICAL FIELD

(2) The present invention relates to a passive relay device and a passive relay method.

### BACKGROUND ART

(3) Conduits, instruments, and other items are provided in underground structures (in radio wave shielded spaces) such as reinforced concrete manholes buried underground, but since it is difficult to inspect them from above the ground, workers must enter these underground structures periodically to inspect the equipment provided inside or the underground structures themselves. However, it requires complicated preparation for entering because toxic gas and stagnant water may exist inside an underground structure, and if the underground structure exists in a roadway, permission to use the roadway may be necessary. Therefore, in order to eliminate the necessity to

enter into the underground structure or to reduce the frequency of entering, there have been studies about a method for providing measurement devices such as strain sensors, water level sensors, and cameras inside the underground structure and transmitting data obtained from these devices to the outside of the underground structure (see, for example, NPL 1).

## CITATION LIST

### Non Patent Literature

(4) [NPL 1] Fujino, et al, "Relay Wireless Technology for Ensuring Network Accommodation of IoT Terminals in Locations where Radio Waves are Hard to Reach," NTT GIJUTU Journal, July 2018, pp. 15-18 (2018)

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

### Technical Problem

(5) However, when a measurement device is provided in an underground structure and data is transmitted to the outside of the underground structure, data transmission using high frequency radio waves for example by Wi-Fi® is limited to very short distances because high frequency radio waves cannot easily penetrate the soil around the underground structure or the materials of the structure. When a relay device is provided to amplify the signal strength in order to transmit high-frequency radio waves over long distances, each of the measurement device and the relay device requires electric power, and multiple power supplies must be provided or a power distribution installation from a single large-capacity power supply to these devices must be provided, which complicates the structure.

(6) With the foregoing in view, it is an object of the present invention to provide a passive relay device and a passive relay method which allow long distance radio communication to be carried out between a radio wave shielded space and the outside in a simple configuration.

### Means for Solving the Problem

(7) A passive relay device according to one embodiment of the present invention relays wireless communication between the inside of a radio wave shielding structure and the outside of the radio wave shielding structure, and the device includes an internal antenna which connects with the inside, an external antenna which connects with the outside, and a connection part which connects the internal antenna and the external antenna.

(8) A passive relay method according to one embodiment of the present invention is a passive relay method for a passive relay device which relays wireless communication between an internal device provided inside a radio wave shielding structure and an external device provided outside the radio wave shielding structure, the passive relay device includes an internal antenna which transmits/receives radio waves to/from the internal device, an external antenna which transmits/receives the radio waves to/from the external device, and a connection part which connects the internal antenna and the external antenna, and the method includes the steps of receiving data from the internal device and transmitting the data to the external antenna through the connection part by the internal antenna and receiving the data from the internal antenna through the connection part and transmitting the data to the external device by the external antenna.

### Effects of the Invention

(9) According to the present invention, it is possible to provide a passive relay device and a passive relay method which allow long-distance wireless communication to be carried out between a radio wave shielded space and the outside in a simple configuration.

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## Description

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

(1) FIG. 1 is a view of an exemplary structure of a passive relay device according to one embodiment of the present invention.

- (2) FIG. 2 is a view of an exemplary structure of a manhole iron cover having a built-in passive relay device according to one embodiment of the present invention.
- (3) FIG. 3 is a view for illustrating the directionality of an internal antenna according to one embodiment of the present invention.
- (4) FIG. 4 is a flowchart for illustrating an exemplary passive relay method according to one embodiment of the present invention.
- (5) FIG. 5 is a view of an exemplary measuring system for measuring signal reception strength according to an inventive example and a comparative example.
- (6) FIG. 6 illustrates an example of results of measuring signal reception strength according to the inventive example and the comparative example.

#### DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS

- (7) One embodiment of the present invention will be described in detail in conjunction with the drawings.
- (8) <Passive Relay Device>
- (9) With reference to FIGS. 1 to 3, an exemplary structure of a passive relay device **100** according to one embodiment of the present invention will be described.
- (10) The passive relay device **100** includes an internal antenna **10**, an external antenna **20**, and a connection part **30**. The passive relay device **100** does not need a power supply system and relays wireless communication between an internal device **1000** provided inside a radio wave shielding structure and an external device **2000** provided outside the radio wave shielding structure.
- (11) The internal device **1000** may, for example, be a strain sensor, a water level sensor, or a camera for performing measurement at a prescribed location inside the radio wave shielding structure. The external device **2000** may, for example, be a server for managing various kinds of information in the radio wave shielding structure. The internal device **1000** and the external device **2000** are connected over a wide area network such as LTE (Long Term Evolution) and LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area Network) through the passive relay device **100**.
- (12) The radio wave shielding structure is made of a material which shields radio waves. Examples of the material which shields radio waves include metal, concrete, and resin concrete. The inside of the radio wave shielding structure is a radio wave shielded space where radio waves are shielded. The outside of the radio wave shielding structure is a radio wave unshielded space where radio waves are not shielded. Herein, the term “radio wave shielded space” refers to a space where radio waves are completely or substantially shielded while the term “radio wave unshielded space” refers to a space where radio waves are completely unshielded or substantially unshielded.
- (13) As shown in FIGS. 1 and 2, the radio wave shielding structure may, for example, be a manhole **200** buried in an underground location A. The inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** is a radio wave shielded space. The outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200** is a radio wave unshielded space.
- (14) The manhole **200** includes a neck part **210**, a case body **220**, and an iron cover **230**. The neck part **210** and the case body **220** may, for example, be of reinforced concrete. The neck part **210** has a substantially cylindrical shape and has a radio wave shielded space inside. The case body **220** has a substantially rectangular parallelepiped shape and has a radio wave shielded space inside. The iron cover **230** has a substantially cylindrical shape and a through hole C is provided at the entrance/exit of the manhole **200**.
- (15) As shown in FIG. 2, the iron cover **230** is provided with first and second through holes C.sub.1 and C.sub.2 which communicate the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** and the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**. The worker passes the connection part **30** through the first and second through holes C.sub.1 and C.sub.2 and connects the connection part **30** and the external antenna **20** in the vicinity of the first through hole C.sub.1 for example through a connector. The worker further connects the connection part **30** and the internal antenna **10** in the vicinity of the second through hole C.sub.2, so that the passive relay device **100** is incorporated into the iron cover **230**. The passive relay device **100** is incorporated in the iron cover **230**, so that the passive relay device **100**

can transmit radio waves received from the internal device **1000** at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** to the external device **2000** at the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**. In this way, long distance radio communication is allowed between the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** and the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**.

(16) The length K of the connection part **30** is preferably at least equal to the thickness T of the iron cover **230**. For example, when the thickness T of the iron cover **230** is 46 mm, the length K of the connection part **30** is preferably at least 46 mm.

(17) The through hole C needs only to have a size large enough to allow the passive relay device **100** to be incorporated in the iron cover **230**. Preferably, when for example the internal antenna **10** has a width of 50 mm, the external antenna **20** has a width of 40 mm, and the connection part **30** has a length of 120 mm in the passive relay device **100**, the diameter D.sub.1 of the first through hole C.sub.1 is about 55 mm, the length L.sub.1 of the first through hole C.sub.1 is about 20 mm, the diameter D.sub.2 of the second through hole C.sub.2 is about 30 mm, and the length L.sub.2 of the second through hole C.sub.2 is about 30 mm.

(18) The internal antenna **10** connects with the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200**. More specifically, the internal antenna **10** is a transmission/reception antenna to transmit/receive radio waves to/from the internal device **1000**. The internal antenna **10** is provided in the vicinity of one end side of the through hole C at the iron cover **230**. The internal antenna **10** is preferably a directional antenna. An example of the directional antenna is a horn antenna. When the internal antenna **10** is a directional antenna, the antenna preferably has a directionality with respect to a radio wave reception angle calculated on the basis of the shape of the radio wave shielding structure.

(19) Now, with reference to FIG. 3, the directionality of the internal antenna **10** will be briefly described. The directionality of an antenna refers to the property that the reception or transmission strength of a radio wave depends on the direction in which the radio wave is received or transmitted. The directionality of the internal antenna **10** may, for example, be adjusted by setting, as appropriate, the radio wave reception angle at the internal antenna **10**. The radio wave reception angle at the internal antenna **10** is calculated on the basis of the shape of the radio wave shielding structure. When the radio wave shielding structure is for example the manhole **200**, the neck part **210** of the manhole **200** as an introduction inlet into the radio wave shielded space limits the radio wave reception angle at the internal antenna **10**. Therefore, the radio wave reception angle  $\theta$  at the internal antenna **10** can be represented by the following expression.

[Math . 1]

$$(20) \quad \theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc} \quad a = x_1 + x_2, b = \sqrt{x_1^2 + y^2}, c = \sqrt{x_2^2 + y^2} \quad (1)$$

(21) In the expression, a is the diameter of the neck part **210**, y is the length of the neck part **210**, x.sub.1 is the distance between the position of the passive relay device **100** and one end of a prescribed diameter of the iron cover **230**, and x.sub.2 is the distance between the position of the passive relay device **100** and the other end of the prescribed diameter of the iron cover **230**.

(22) The radio wave reception sensitivity at the internal antenna **10** increases in a region Z.sub.1 where the radio wave reception angle at the internal antenna **10** satisfies the reception angle  $\theta$  according to the above expression and decreases in a region Z.sub.2 where the radio wave reception angle at the internal antenna **10** does not satisfy the reception angle  $\theta$  according to the above expression. Therefore, the directionality of the internal antenna **10** of the passive relay device **100** incorporated in the iron cover **230** can be adjusted by setting the reception angle  $\theta$  according to the above expression as appropriate.

(23) Since the internal antenna **10** is a directional antenna, radio wave interference at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** is reduced, the passive relay device **100** can receive radio waves transmitted by the internal device **1000** at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** with high efficiency. In this way, the passive relay device **100** can transmit radio waves received from the

internal device **1000** at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** to the external device **2000** at the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200** with high efficiency. Therefore, radio wave attenuation can be reduced in wireless communication between the internal device **1000** provided at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** and the external device **2000** provided at the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**. As a result, the passive relay device **100** which allows highly efficient long distance wireless communication to be carried out can be implemented.

(24) Note that when the internal antenna **10** is not a directional antenna, the internal device **1000** may be provided with a directional antenna, so that the same effects can be provided. More specifically, as the internal device **1000** is provided with a directional antenna which transmits radio waves in a direction in which the internal antenna **10** is present, the passive relay device **100** can receive radio waves transmitted by the internal device **1000** with high efficiency.

(25) The external antenna **20** connects with the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**. More specifically, the external antenna **20** is a transmission reception/antenna which transmits/receives radio waves to/from the external device **2000**. The external antenna **20** is provided in the vicinity of the other end side of the through hole C at the iron cover **230**. The external antenna **20** is preferably a non-directional antenna with a simple structure. Examples of the non-directional antenna include a dipole antenna, a monopole antenna, an L-shaped antenna, and an inverted F-shaped antenna.

(26) The external antenna **20** may be a directional antenna, but when the external antenna **20** is a directional antenna, the radio wave transmission/reception directions are limited. Therefore, in order to increase the performance of the antenna of the passive relay device **100** in a particular direction, it is useful to use a directional antenna for the external antenna **20**.

(27) The connection part **30** connects the internal antenna **10** and the external antenna **20**. The connection part **30** may be a coaxial cable or a waveguide. The connection part **30** may include connectors at opposed ends thereof. The connection part **30** is for example connected with the internal antenna **10** through the connector at one end. The connection part **30** is for example connected with the external antenna **20** through the connector at the other end. The connection part **30** is preferably adapted to operate in a radio wave frequency band used for wireless communication between the internal device **1000** provided at the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** and the external device **2000** provided at the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**.

(28) The connection part **30** is provided in the through hole C at the iron cover **230**. The length of the connection part **30** is preferably at least equal to the thickness of the iron cover **230** (see FIG. 2). As the length of the connection part **30** is at least equal to the thickness of the iron cover **230**, the passive relay device **100** can efficiently relay radio waves between the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200** and the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200**.

(29) The element which connects the internal antenna **10** and the external antenna **20** is not limited to a coaxial cable or a waveguide.

(30) The passive relay device **100** according to the embodiment has the internal antenna **10** which connects with the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200**, an external antenna **20** that connects with the outside S.sub.2 of the manhole **200** and the connection part **30** which connects the internal antenna **10** and the external antenna **20**. In this way, the passive relay device **100** can have a simpler structure because a power supply system is not necessary. When the passive relay device **100** according to the embodiment is used for wireless communication between the internal device **1000** provided inside the radio wave shielding structure and the external device **2000** provided outside the radio wave shielding structure, radio wave attenuation can be reduced, so that highly efficient long-distance wireless communication is allowed.

(31) <Passive Relay Method>

(32) Now, with reference to FIG. 4, a passive relay method according to one embodiment of the present invention will be described.

(33) In step **S101**, the internal antenna **10** receives data from the internal device **1000**. The data is data transmitted and received between the internal device **1000** and the external device **2000** such

as strain data related to the strain of the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200**, water level data related to the water level of the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200**, and image data related to an image of the inside S.sub.1 of the manhole **200**.

(34) In step **S102**, the internal antenna **10** transmits the data to the external antenna **20** through the connection part **30**.

(35) In step **S103**, the external antenna **20** receives the data from the internal antenna **10** through the connection part **30**.

(36) In step **S104**, the external antenna **20** transmits the data to the external device **2000**.

(37) The passive relay method described above is carried out using the passive relay device **100** according to the embodiment, so that radio wave attenuation can be reduced in wireless communication between the internal device **1000** provided inside the radio wave shielding structure and the external device **2000** provided outside the radio wave shielding structure. As a result, the external device **2000** can reliably and efficiently collect various kinds of data from the internal device **1000** if the distance between the internal device **1000** and the external device **2000** is large. In this way, for example the causes of failures in underground structures can be analyzed and aging underground infrastructures such as water pipes can be monitored with high accuracy and high efficiency.

(38) <Comparison of Signal Reception Strength>

(39) As shown in FIG. 5, the signal reception strengths received by the external device **2000** was measured using a simulated manhole **200A**.

(40) The frequency of the radio wave was set to 2.45 GHz. The neck part **210A** and the case body **220A** in the simulated manhole **200A** were shielded to prevent radio wave leakage. The distance between the center O of the simulated manhole **200A** and the external device **2000** was set to 6 m. The angle  $\phi$  of the straight line connecting the center O of the simulated manhole **200A** and the external device **2000** with respect to the ground B was varied in the range of  $0^\circ \leq \text{angle } \phi \leq 180^\circ$  (see the arrow in FIG. 5).

(41) As Comparative Example 1, the iron cover **230A** was removed from the simulated manhole **200A**, and the signal reception strength was measured without using the passive relay device **100**.

(42) As Comparative Example 2, the iron cover **230A** was fitted to the simulated manhole **200A**, and the signal reception strength was measured without using the passive relay device **100**.

(43) As Inventive Example 1, an iron cover **230A** was fitted to the simulated manhole **200A**, and the signal reception strength was measured using the passive relay device **100**. The passive relay device **100** was incorporated into the iron cover **230A** so that the passive relay device **100** was placed near the center O of the simulated manhole **200A**. In the passive relay device **100** used in Inventive Example 1, the width of the internal antenna **10** was 50 mm, the width of the external antenna **20** was 40 mm, and the length of the connection part **30** was 120 mm.

(44) FIG. 6 shows an example of the measurement results of the reception strength of signals received by the external device **2000**.

(45) The graph **301** represents an example of the signal reception strength in Comparative Example 1. The graph **302** represents an example of the signal reception strength in Comparative Example 2. The graph **303** represents an example of the signal reception strength in Inventive Example 1.

(46) As can be seen from comparison between the graphs **301** and **303**, the signal reception strength in Comparative Example 1 is about 10 dB higher than the signal reception strength in Inventive Example 1 where  $0^\circ \leq \text{angle } \phi \leq 60^\circ$  or  $120^\circ \leq \text{angle } \phi \leq 180^\circ$ . As can be seen from comparison between the graphs **301** and **303**, the signal reception strength in Comparative Example 1 is about 5 dB higher than the signal reception strength in Inventive Example 1 where  $60^\circ < \text{angle } \phi < 120^\circ$ .

(47) More specifically, it can be seen that the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** removed of the iron cover **230A** is higher than the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** having the passive relay device **100** incorporated in the iron cover **230A**.

(48) As can be seen from comparison between graphs **302** and **303**, the signal reception strength in

Comparative Example 2 is about 10 dB lower than the signal reception strength in Inventive Example 1 where  $0^\circ \leq \text{angle } \phi \leq 180^\circ$ .

(49) More specifically, the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** without the passive relay device **100** incorporated in the iron cover **230A** is lower than the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** with the passive relay device **100** incorporated in the iron cover **230A**.

(50) As can be seen from FIG. 6, the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** with the iron cover **230A** fitted thereto is lower than the signal reception strength for the simulated manhole **200A** removed of the iron cover **230A**. However, it can be seen that the signal reception strength can be improved by at least 10 dB by incorporating the passive relay device **100** into the iron cover **230A** in the simulated manhole **200A**.

(51) Therefore, it can be considered that when the passive relay device **100** according to the embodiment is used for wireless communication between the internal device **1000** provided inside the radio wave shielding structure and the external device **2000** provided outside the radio wave shielding structure, radio wave attenuation can be reduced, and highly efficient long-distance wireless communication is allowed.

(52) <Modifications>

(53) In the above description of the embodiment, a manhole is used as a radio wave shielding structure by way of illustration. However, the radio wave shielding structure is not limited to the manhole and may, for example, be a handhole, a shield tunnel, and a sludge storage tank.

(54) In the above description of the embodiment, the passive relay method includes the step of receiving data from the internal device **1000** and transmitting the data to the external antenna **20** through the connection part **30** by the internal antenna **10** and the step of receiving the data from the internal antenna **10** through the connection part **30** and transmitting the data to the external device **2000** by the external antenna **20** by way of illustration. However, the steps of the passive relay method are not limited to the above. The passive relay method may further include the step of receiving data from the external device **2000** and transmitting the data to the internal antenna **10** through the connection part **30** by the external antenna **20** and the step of receiving the data from the external antenna **20** through the connection part **30** and transmitting the data to the internal device **1000** by the internal antenna **10**.

(55) <Other Modifications>

(56) The present invention is not limited by the above embodiments and modifications. For example, the various kinds of processing described above may be performed in parallel or individually according to the processing capability of the device used to perform the processing or as required as well as in time series as described above. Other modifications can be made as appropriate without departing from the scope and spirit of the present invention.

(57) Although the embodiments have been described above as typical examples, many modifications and substitutions will be apparent to those skilled in the art within the scope and spirit of the present invention. Therefore, the present invention should not be construed as limited by the above-described embodiments, and various modifications and changes are possible without departing from the scope of the claims. For example, the order of steps described in the flowchart according to the embodiment is not limited to the above and can be changed as appropriate. Multiple steps can be combined into one or a single step may be divided into steps.

#### REFERENCE SIGNS LIST

(58) **10** Internal antenna **20** External antenna **30** Connection part **100** Passive relay device **200**  
Manhole (radio wave shielding structure) **210** Neck part **220** Case body **230** Iron cover

## Claims



1. A passive relay device which relays wireless communication between an inside of a radio wave shielding structure and an outside of the radio wave shielding structure, the inside of the radio wave shielding structure defining a first enclosure with an outer edge and a height measured perpendicular to the outer edge, and a second enclosure adjacent to the first enclosure, the passive relay device comprising: an internal antenna which connects with the inside, the internal antenna including a directional antenna disposed in the first enclosure and directed toward the second enclosure located farther from the internal antenna than the first enclosure, the directional antenna having a directionality with respect to a radio wave reception angle that is adjustable based on a distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure and the height of the first enclosure; an external antenna which connects with the outside; and a connection part which connects the internal antenna and the external antenna.
2. The passive relay device according to claim 1, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is a manhole buried underground, the manhole has an iron cover provided with a through hole, the connection part is provided at the through hole, the internal antenna is provided in the vicinity of one end side of the through hole, the external antenna is provided in the vicinity of the other end side of the through hole, and the connection part has a length at least equal to the thickness of the iron cover.
3. The passive relay device according to claim 2, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is made of a material including metal and concrete or resin concrete.
4. The passive relay device according to claim 2, wherein the connection part is a coaxial cable or a waveguide.
5. The passive relay device according to claim 1, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is made of a material including metal and concrete or resin concrete.
6. The passive relay device according to claim 1, wherein the connection part is a coaxial cable or a waveguide.
7. The passive relay device according to claim 1, wherein the second enclosure has a greater volume than the first enclosure.
8. The passive relay device according to claim 1, wherein the radio wave reception angle ( $\theta$ ) is calculated using an expression:  $\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$ ,  $a = x_1 + x_2$ ,  $b = \sqrt{x_1^2 + y^2}$ ,  $c = \sqrt{x_2^2 + y^2}$ , wherein  $x_{\text{sub.1}}$  is a first distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure,  $x_{\text{sub.2}}$  is a second distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure located opposite from the first distance, and  $y$  is the height of the first enclosure.
9. The passive relay device according to claim 8, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is a manhole buried underground, and a sum of  $x_{\text{sub.1}}$  and  $x_{\text{sub.2}}$  equals a diameter of the manhole measured at ground level.
10. A passive relay method for relaying wireless communication between an internal device inside a radio wave shielding structure and an external device outside the radio wave shielding structure, the radio wave shielding structure defining therein a first enclosure with an outer edge and a height measured perpendicular to the outer edge, and a second enclosure adjacent to the first enclosure, the method comprising: receiving data from the internal device located in the second enclosure; transmitting the data to an external antenna through the connection part by an internal antenna, the internal antenna including a directional antenna disposed in the first enclosure and directed toward the second enclosure located farther from the internal antenna than the first enclosure, the directional antenna having a directionality with respect to a radio wave reception angle that is adjustable based on a distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure and the height of the first enclosure, wherein the internal antenna transmits/receives radio waves to/from the internal device, the external antenna transmits and receives the radio waves to/from the external device, and the connection part connects the internal antenna and the external antenna; receiving the data from the internal antenna through the connection part; and transmitting the data

to the external device by the external antenna.

11. The passive relay method according to claim 7, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is a manhole buried underground, the manhole has an iron cover provided with a through hole, the connection part is provided at the through hole, the internal antenna is provided in the vicinity of one end side of the through hole, the external antenna is provided in the vicinity of the other end side of the through hole, and the connection part has a length at least equal to the thickness of the iron cover.

12. The passive relay method according to claim 10, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is made of a material including metal and concrete or resin concrete.

13. The passive relay method according to claim 10, wherein the connection part is a coaxial cable or a waveguide.

14. The passive relay method according to claim 10, wherein the second enclosure has a greater volume than the first enclosure.

15. The passive relay method according to claim 10, wherein the radio wave reception angle ( $\theta$ ) is calculated using an expression:  $\theta = \cos^{-1} \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$ ,  $a = x_1 + x_2$ ,  $b = \sqrt{x_1^2 + y^2}$ ,  $c = \sqrt{x_2^2 + y^2}$ , wherein  $x_{\text{sub.1}}$  is a first distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure,  $x_{\text{sub.2}}$  is a second distance from the passive relay device to the outer edge of the first enclosure located opposite from the first distance, and  $y$  is the height of the first enclosure.

16. The passive relay method according to claim 15, wherein the radio wave shielding structure is a manhole buried underground, and a sum of  $x_{\text{sub.1}}$  and  $x_{\text{sub.2}}$  equals a diameter of the manhole measured at ground level.

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