

## ● Strong local interest in seismic isolation to protect large buildings ●

When we rebuilt our house, our first concern was to make it safe. Our old house was made of wood and it was quite comfortable, but that kind of construction is out of date. Plus, the city of Toyota and the surrounding area are in the Tokai earthquake zone, so we always worried whenever there was an earthquake.

When I was working in Nagoya, they started doing seismic isolation work on the western building of the prefectural government complex, and that got me thinking about seismic isolation for our house. They were using seismic isolation devices from THK. Later on I visited a model house and saw and heard about another company's seismic isolation system, but it seemed kind of one-dimensional. We had hired a builder called Haneda Construction, and they showed us some sample seismic isolation devices that THK had loaned them. We both decided that this was what we were looking for. The THK units use LM Guides, so they can handle vertical tremors quite well, and the fact

that there are no running costs is big plus. We're using the same system they use in huge buildings like the prefectural government offices, so we feel very safe.

While the construction work was being done, neighbors who saw the seismic isolation units laid out on the foundation congratulated us on building such a sturdy house and told us that, if an earthquake struck, they'd be heading for our house. In a way our house has probably become an advertisement for THK's seismic isolation systems. I hope that helps motivate more people around here to equip their own homes with seismic isolation, because it will bring peace of mind to the whole area.



Foundation for a residence, built by Haneda Construction.



Homeowner Yasuo Haneda (second from left) with Kazumi Haneda of Haneda Construction (far right).