

# Leading Change in Today's World through our Social Innovation Business

*Hitachi Technology* is an annual magazine that showcases notable activities Hitachi has been involved in over the past year. To mark the publication of this year's edition, *Hitachi Technology 2018*, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your ongoing support of these activities, and also to pass on a few words about Hitachi's vision for leading change in today's world through its Social Innovation Business.

In recent years, global markets have seen an increasing number of unpredictable events in politics, economics, and other areas. Moreover, the challenges facing society are growing progressively more complex and diverse. This includes energy and resource shortages, a heavier load on the environment, widening economic inequality, and the problem of poverty. Despite these challenges, there has been technological progress, especially digitalization, which is boosting people's productivity and steadily adding to the richness of society on a variety of fronts.

Amid these developments, the global community has begun to take steps toward sustainability, looking for ways to combine economic progress with solutions to societal challenges. With the United Nations' adoption of Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs), the entire world is collectively taking on the challenge of achieving global sustainability. Meanwhile, initiatives aimed at bringing innovation to both industry and to people's lives through digitalization are spreading to all corners of the globe, with the Society 5.0 vision promoted by the Japanese government being one such example.

Corporations like Hitachi play a key role in achieving global sustainability. Our corporate mission, which dates back to the time of our founding, is to "Contribute to society through the development of superior, original technology and products." On this basis, we have sought to lead the world by taking on the task of resolving a variety of societal challenges. We approach this task through our global Social Innovation Business, which combines Hitachi's main strengths – advanced information technology (IT), and operational technology (OT) that operates and controls social infrastructure systems – with digital technologies.

Given the background of a rapidly changing world, collaborative creation with customers and other partners is essential for creating new value and for responding nimbly to increasingly complex and diverse challenges. While continuing to enhance the Lumada IoT platform, which we launched in 2016 to respond with more speed and agility to the challenges people face, we are also forging a global chain of innovation by increasing the pace of collaborative creation around the world.

I look forward to 2018 being a year of great activity as we seek to become a genuine "Innovation Partner for the IoT Era" in today's rising tide of digitalization.

Leading the pace of change through our Social Innovation Business, Hitachi will continue striving to create a hopeful future together with you.



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