Broadband-access and Transport Products for Supporting Establishment of Next-generation Networks

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Aiming at realization of NGNs (next-generation networks), telecommunication carriers are substantiating their plans and the International Telecommunication Union-Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) are continuing their standardization activities. The aim of NGNs is to establish all-IP (Internet Protocol) networks to ensure high speed and high reliability while maintaining high security for flexible services economically. Establishing NGNs is expected to provide the necessary infrastructure for realizing the "ubiquitous information society"—which will enable communication "anytime, anywhere, on any device, by anyone" while satisfying safety and security demands.

At Hitachi, making use of our collective strength regarding ICT (information and communication technology), we are not only consistently supplying network devices, various servers, and home-information appliances, but also providing numerous system-integration schemes, applications, and services. Moreover, applying this collective strength to NGNs, we are implementing "end-to-end" solutions while making efforts to provide innovative value for carriers and businesses as well as for enhancing people's lives and communities.

In this special issue, among Hitachi's solutions aimed at establishing NGNs, our family of products positioned in the transport layer for realizing the mobile networks and fixed networks that underpin an NGN are focused on. Regarding products for optical transport, optical access, gigabit switches, and 3.5G mobile communication network, details of our characteristic technical developments are also introduced.

Although these solutions are only part of Hitachi's family of products, I hope that these articles will help in understanding the required technologies for realizing NGNs.