

## Hitachi's Involvement in Building Social Infrastructure Systems



Yuji Nakata  
*Senior Chief Engineer*  
*Information & Control Systems Company*  
*Hitachi, Ltd.*

WHEREAS the social infrastructure in developed economies continue to age, in emerging economies such as China and India there is an urgent need to provide new social infrastructure to cope with rapid economic growth. The actions that countries are taking in response to global warming are also a major driver behind the rebuilding of social infrastructure and new social infrastructure systems are being built all around the world.

The aims behind the building of social infrastructure systems are shifting away from objectives like greater efficiency and productivity toward quality of life improvements for the people who make up that society. To achieve this, it is necessary to look at the big picture from a user's perspective and combine a range of different technologies to optimize the overall performance. That is, rather than being limited to individual technologies or combining parts of technologies, many different functions need to be brought together and integrated.

At Hitachi, we believe it is possible to build systems that satisfy users from the very outset by combining control technologies for automating and optimizing plant and equipment with information technologies that deliver advanced services. This issue includes articles that describe how Hitachi is building systems for a wide range of fields including power, transportation, water supply and sewage, and industry.

Japan has built infrastructure systems of which it can be proud through suppliers working together to enhance their technology and through collaboration between customers and suppliers like those mentioned above. Enhancing these systems building capabilities further and supplying systems to the global market will not only contribute to Japan's economic growth, it is also something expected of it by the world.

I hope that the activities, advanced technologies, and other capabilities of Hitachi described in this issue will prove of some help to readers.