

Message from the Planners

Hitachi operates its Social Innovation Business globally, supplying social infrastructure systems underpinned by highly efficient and reliable information technology (IT). In particular, these business operations focus on emerging economies, etc. Meanwhile, Hitachi is also working to strengthen its locally managed research and development (R&D) organizations so that it can satisfy the diverse needs of different nations and regions. This issue of *Hitachi Review* describes social infrastructure businesses in fast growing emerging economies and Hitachi's locally managed approach to infrastructure systems R&D, looking in detail at its operations in America, China, Europe, and India.

In this issue's "One Person's View," Kazuo Watanabe, Ambassador for Science and Technology Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, gives his thoughts on science and technology cooperation with emerging economies. In "Technotalk," a panel made up of key people involved in business operations and R&D in different parts of the world discusses the challenges and required responses for achieving global scale in Hitachi's Social Innovation Business.

A number of articles provide specific examples of R&D. One article from the USA describes model-based design and the development of cyber-physical systems, technologies used in automotive embedded systems. Another from Europe gives an overview of Hitachi's railways business operations in Europe and how they are underpinned by R&D.

As a nation experiencing remarkable economic growth, China is facing the dual challenge of satisfying an increase in energy demand while also protecting the environment. Articles in this issue describe how Hitachi is responding to these challenges through participation in energy-efficient eco-city construction projects, and through R&D strategies that are formulated to suit Chinese smart grids and smart systems.

India is another country where growth in social infrastructure investment is ongoing and an article inside describes Hitachi's business strategy for electric power systems and other fields, as well as the establishment of an R&D center in India to provide support for these infrastructure businesses from the research stage.

Elsewhere, other articles about emerging regions expected to experience strong economic growth cover Russia, which is seeking to move toward achieving this growth through innovation rather than through a dependence on resource extraction, and Brazil, where Hitachi has had business operations for more than 70 years.

Hitachi aims to satisfy the diverse needs for social infrastructure systems in different parts of the world through partnerships that span the entire globe. We hope that readers of this issue of *Hitachi Review* will find it to be useful and informative.

HITACHI REVIEW

Volume 61 Number 5 September 2012

Planners for this special issue
 "Social Infrastructure Business in Emerging
 Economies and Global R&D for Regional Needs"



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