



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**European Union Hitachi Science & Technology Forum**  
“Impact of ICT on European Citizens”

Hitachi Ltd.(NYSE:HIT/TSE:6501) today announced that it will sponsor the 9th EU Hitachi Science & Technology Forum, which will take place in Warsaw, Poland from May 19-21. Previous locations of the forum include Athens, Budapest and Stockholm. The impact that Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) have on the safety, trust and security of European citizens will be the theme of this year’s Forum. Forum members and their guests will discuss and debate the benefits and shortfalls of ICT for European Citizens living in an ever evolving digital age.

The Forum will be officially opened by Minister Ikuo Mizuki from the Japanese Embassy in Poland. Key note speeches on the opening night will be delivered by Professor Mieczyslaw Muraszkiwicz, from the Warsaw University of Technology, Professor Simon Davies, from the London School of Economics and the Earl of Erroll, member of the House of Lords. On behalf of Hitachi, Sir Stephen Gomersall, Chief Executive for Europe, will welcome the Forum participants.

The forum participants will split up into five panel discussions, each one dealing with an important aspect of the impact of ICT (threats, privacy, societal impact, digital divide, business model) on European citizens. The results of each of the parallel working sessions will be compiled into a summary report. This publication is seen by Hitachi as one of its major contributions to the European public policy debate. This summary will be circulated to European Commission officials, members of the European Parliament, EU Member State officials, and Hitachi’s business partners in Europe.

Members of the Forum are Europeans who have been offered internships in Japan by Hitachi at the end of their university studies, or as part of an executive training program developed jointly by the European Commission and the Japanese Government. Forum members stayed in Japan as Hitachi’s guests for periods varying from three months to three years at its plants, research laboratories or company headquarters. Approximately 150 European citizens are members of the Forum. Amongst other invitees to the Forum there are also students and academics from the Warsaw University of Technology as well as Polish government and business leaders.

The EU Hitachi Science & Technology Forum is chaired by Dr. Michiharu Nakamura, Executive Vice President & Executive Officer, Hitachi, Ltd., in charge of Worldwide R&D. He is supported by an advisory board comprised of Forum fellows.

The official opening and welcome reception will be open to the press. For security reasons please wear your press accreditation at all times during the event.

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## **About Hitachi, Ltd.**

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 356,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2005 (ended March 31, 2006) consolidated sales totaled 9,464 billion yen (\$80.9 billion). The company offers a wide range of systems, products and services in market sectors including information systems, electronic devices, power and industrial systems, consumer products, materials and financial services. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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