

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Executive Changes of Hitachi Europe**

**London, UK, 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2017** --- Hitachi Europe Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., today announced that Mr Akira Shimizu has been appointed as Chairman of the Board, Hitachi Europe. Mr Shimizu, who also serves as Vice President and Executive Officer, General Manager of the Government and External Relations Division of Hitachi, Ltd., succeeds Mr Klaus Dieter Rennert in this role. The new appointment will be effective on 1 April 2017 and forms part of Hitachi's new business structure as announced earlier in the year.

Having joined Hitachi in 1979, Mr Shimizu has served as Vice President and Executive Officer of Hitachi, Ltd. since April 2013 and General Manager of the Government and External Relations Division of Hitachi, Ltd. since April 2016. Prior to this, Mr Shimizu was responsible for Hitachi Group's global operations and strategy. Mr Shimizu also has previous experience at Hitachi Europe, having served as Managing Director of the regional headquarters from 2010 to 2012.

In order to promote the execution of Hitachi's Social Innovation Business at a regional level, Mr Kazuo Abe, Managing Director of Hitachi Europe, will work together with Mr Hicham Abdessamad, who will assume the position of Deputy General Manager of the Social Innovation Business Division, Hitachi Ltd., leading the Social Innovation Business.

Mr Rennert will resign from his role as Chief Executive for EMEA-CIS, Corporate Officer of Hitachi, Ltd. and Chairman of the Board, Hitachi Europe Ltd., after having worked in various positions within the Hitachi Group in Europe for more than 14 years. During his time as Chief Executive for EMEA-CIS, Mr Rennert has led a number of key projects, developing the company's European strategy for Industrie 4.0 and Energy Efficiency.

In February 2017, Hitachi announced that effective from 1 April 2017, it will strengthen its business structure in order to achieve further growth through the global rollout of Social Innovation Business using digital technologies. The executive changes of Hitachi Europe Ltd. at this time forms part of Hitachi's global structural change to pull together various channels, business units and resources required, to promote Social Innovation Business through digital technologies in Europe.

#### **About Hitachi Europe Ltd.**

Hitachi Europe Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., is headquartered in Maidenhead, UK. The company is focused on its Social Innovation Business - delivering innovations that answer society's challenges. Hitachi Europe and its subsidiary companies offers a broad range of information & telecommunication systems; rail systems, power and industrial systems; industrial components & equipment; automotive systems, digital media & consumer products and others with operations and research & development Laboratories across EMEA. For more information, visit <http://www.hitachi.eu>.

#### **About Hitachi, Ltd.**

Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, delivers innovations that answer society's challenges. The company's consolidated revenues for fiscal 2015 (ended March 31, 2016) totaled 10,034.3 billion yen (\$88.8 billion). The Hitachi Group is a global leader in the Social Innovation Business, and it has approximately 335,000 employees worldwide. Through collaborative creation, Hitachi is providing solutions to customers in a broad range of sectors, including Power / Energy, Industry / Distribution / Water, Urban Development, and Finance / Government & Public / Healthcare. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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