

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: Kelly Smith Hitachi Europe Ltd. +44-1628-585379 kelly.smith@hitachi-eu.com

Koray Özkal Frost & Sullivan +1-347 305 6059 koray.ozkal@frost.com

# Hitachi Europe and Frost & Sullivan Host "Hitachi Social Innovation Forum in Munich"

**Munich, 15th October 2015** --- Hitachi Europe (HEU) Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE:6501), today announced that it is hosting a "Hitachi Social Innovation Forum in Germany." The goal of the Forum is to discuss the need for sustainable solutions to address the critical issues facing today's cities and societies. It will take place at Max-Joseph Sal, München Residenz on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015.

The Social Innovation Forum is being held in partnership with business consulting firm Frost & Sullivan and builds on the success of previous Forums held in Istanbul, Berlin and London. The Munich event forms part of this wider series taking place across Europe in 2015, introducing Hitachi Group's wide-range of solutions and technologies to a European-wide audience.

The German Social Innovation Forum will comprise of two main sessions. The morning session will focus on Social Innovation in Energy, while the afternoon will focus on Industrie 4.0. Around 150 industry leaders, professionals, government officials and academics will attend to listen to live panel discussions and also take part in roundtables to discuss opinions and solutions to Germany's current and future challenges, such as the flexibility of manufacturing and the digital transformation of industry.

The Social Innovation Forum will provide an opportunity to discuss technological answers to these challenges, spanning intelligent renewable energy solutions and looking at the role of digital transformations. Opening speeches from Dieter Rennert, Chief Executive for EMEA-CIS, Hitachi Ltd, and Klaus Huhn, Head of DACH Operations at Frost & Sullivan, will explore new mega trends in Social Innovation and the technologies driving these opportunities.

Delegates will also be able to hear from experts such as; Thorsten Herdan, Director-General Energy Policy Department, Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy; Michael Wuebbels, CEO, Verband Kommunaler Unternehmen and Markus Hilkenbach, MD, Stadtwerke Coesfeld.

New research findings led by Frost & Sullivan will also be revealed, looking at the challenges of the digitisation of energy and how driving Social Innovation in Energy can tackle these, moving towards the concept of 'Innovating to Zero' – a mega vision of a world with zero emissions – and meeting the global challenges in energy with Social Innovation in Action.

Hitachi's global business development is centered on its expertise in Social Innovation, providing market-leading infrastructure solutions underpinned by highly reliable and highly efficient Information and Telecommunications technology. The company has set a goal of achieving an overseas sales ratio of 50% in fiscal 2015, through expanding business in global markets.

Hitachi aspires to drive innovation together with all of its stakeholders in ways that make positive contributions to society and seeks to inspire a world that provides safety, comfort and convenience to people throughout the planet, as well as for future generations.

Following the German event on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, the next Social Innovation Forum will take place in Istanbul on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The first 2015 Forum was held in London this June.

## 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, financial services; 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 with our talented team and proven experience in global markets. The company's consolidated revenues for fiscal 2014 (ended March 31, 2015) totaled 9,761 billion yen (\$81.3 billion). Hitachi is focusing more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes power & infrastructure systems, information & telecommunication systems, construction machinery, high functional materials & components, automotive systems, healthcare and others. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at http://www.hitachi.com.

#### **About Frost & Sullivan**

Frost & Sullivan, the Growth Partnership Company, works in collaboration with clients to leverage visionary innovation that addresses the global challenges and related growth opportunities that will make or break today's market participants. For more than 50 years, we have been developing growth strategies for the global 1000, emerging businesses, the public sector and the investment community. Is your organization prepared for the next profound wave of industry convergence, disruptive technologies, increasing competitive intensity, Mega Trends, breakthrough best practices, changing customer dynamics and emerging economies?

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