

# Singapore Government **MEDIA RELEASE**

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**28 December 2005**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SINGAPORE CONFERS PRESTIGIOUS HONORARY CITIZEN AWARD ON DR TSUTOMU KANAI AND DR ROBERT A BROWN**

Singapore will be honouring Dr Tsutomu Kanai, Chairman Emeritus, Hitachi Ltd and Dr Robert A Brown, President, Boston University, with the 2005 Honorary Citizen Award for their valuable contributions to Singapore in the electronics and education fields respectively.

2 The award is the highest form of recognition given by the Singapore Government to global talent for outstanding contributions towards the country's growth and development. It is conferred on those who have made a significant impact in the areas of business, science and technology, information communications, education, health, arts and culture, sports, tourism, community services or security.

3 Mr Wong Kan Seng, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home Affairs, who oversees population issues, commented, "The Honorary Citizen Award recognises global talent who have made outstanding contributions to Singapore. As a small country, we need to attract the best talent who can boost our economy and make a positive impact in various fields. Dr Kanai and Professor Brown are two outstanding individuals who have contributed immensely to Singapore in the fields of electronics and education respectively with their expertise, dynamism and passion for our country."

4 Dr Kanai has been instrumental in spearheading the establishment of many Hitachi subsidiaries in Singapore, making the company one of Singapore's largest investors. Over the years, he has helped Singapore build up a successful electronics cluster, which is today the largest contributor to Singapore's manufacturing GDP. Reflecting on being named Honorary Citizen, Dr Kanai says, "Receiving Singapore's Honorary Citizen Award is a great honour not only for me personally but also for the Hitachi Group. This is evidence of the Singaporean Government's recognition of our numerous business and community activities. Since my

appointment as President, we have focused on expanding our Singapore business. During the process, I have been privileged to sit on the Singapore Economic Development Board's International Advisory Council and the Ministry of Education's International Academic Advisory Panel, where I developed an enormous respect for the country's perceptive and bold action."

5 Dr Brown played a pivotal role in establishing the Singapore-MIT alliance, a collaboration between the National University of Singapore (NUS), the Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which has led to the establishment of world class graduate research and educational programmes in Singapore. Dr Brown also chaired an International Panel commissioned by the Ministry of Education (MOE) that made significant recommendations on research and development in Singapore. " Receiving the honorary citizenship is a tremendous honour for me. I never dreamed of such recognition. I have gotten tremendous personal satisfaction simply from working with leaders in Singapore for the betterment of higher education and research here. I have made numerous friendships that will last a life time and I have seen huge positive developments over a very short period of time." Dr Brown added.

6 President S. R. Nathan will confer the Honorary Citizen Award on Dr Tsutomu Kanai and Dr Robert A Brown at a ceremony to be held at the Istana on 17 Jan 2006.

7 The Honorary Citizen Award is the highest form of national recognition for a non-Singaporean. It ranks ahead of two existing National Day awards - the Public Service Star (Distinguished Friends of Singapore) award and the Public Service Medal (Friends of Singapore) award. This is the third year Singapore is conferring the Honorary Citizen Award.

8 The fact sheet on the Honorary Citizen Award and biographies of the recipients are attached in Annex A.

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## **FACT SHEET ON THE HONORARY CITIZEN AWARD 2005**

### About the Honorary Citizen Award

- The title of Honorary Citizen is a national award conferred by the Singapore government to recognise and acknowledge the contributions of foreigners who have rendered extensive and valuable services to Singapore and its people, or who have made a significant impact in the areas of business, science and technology, information communications, education, health, arts and culture, sports, tourism, community services or security.
- The Honorary Citizen Award is the highest form of national recognition for a non-Singaporean and ranks ahead of existing awards - the Public Service Star (Distinguished Friends of Singapore) award and the Public Service Medal (Friends of Singapore) award.
- 2005 is the third year this prestigious award is being conferred.
- The title of Honorary Citizen is conferred for life.
- The award does not equate to citizenship. Therefore, the rights and duties of Singapore citizens, such as voting and National Service, do not apply to Honorary Citizens.
- The privileges for Honorary Citizens include the right to live and work in Singapore for themselves as well as their dependent family members and to purchase property if they decide to stay in Singapore.

### **Honorary Citizen Award recipients 2005 (biographies attached separately, high-resolution pictures available for download)**

- Dr. Tsutomu Kanai
- Dr. Robert A. Brown

### **Honorary Citizen Award recipients 2004 (biographies available upon request)**

- Sir Richard Brook Sykes
- Mr Lodewijk Christiaan Van Wachem

### **Honorary Citizen Award recipients 2003**

- Dr Sydney Brenner
- Mr Pasquale Pistorio



## **DR. TSUTOMU KANAI**

**Chairman Emeritus  
Hitachi, Ltd.**

Dr. Tsutomu Kanai is Chairman Emeritus of Hitachi, Ltd., a post that he assumed in June 2005.

After joining Hitachi in 1958, he served in the Central Research Laboratory developing nuclear reactors. From 1961 to 1962, he was engaged in research in nuclear physics at the Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois, U.S.A.

From 1968 to 1985, he worked in the heavy electric business field at Hitachi Works, the largest business division within Hitachi, Ltd. at the time.

In 1985, Dr. Kanai was elected Executive Managing Director and Group Executive of the Power Group. He assumed the position of Senior Executive Managing Director in 1987 and the positions of Executive Vice President and Director in 1989. During his vice-presidency, he was responsible for Hitachi's power and industrial systems business. At that time, he also headed a corporate strategic committee for the company's global operations. He was elected President and Representative Director in 1991, and named to Chairman of the Board and Director in 1999. After Hitachi adopted the Committee System of Management, he continued to serve as Chairman of the Board from June 2003 until June 2005.

As an active board member of various organizations outside the company, he chairs the Japan Machinery Federation, the Japan Accreditation Board for Conformity Assessment and others. He is also Honorary Chairman of the Hitachi Foundation, an independent nonprofit philanthropic organization established in 1985, whose broad purpose is to enhance the well-being of economically and socially isolated people throughout the United States.

Since being appointed as president of Hitachi, Dr Kanai has focused intensive efforts on revitalizing the company's business in Singapore.

In recognition of his contribution to the Singapore economy, and his participation as a member of the International Advisory Council of the Singapore Economic Development Board, he was honored with the Public Service Star at the Singapore National Day Awards in August 1999.

In 2005, Dr Tsutomu Kanai was named an Honorary Citizen of Singapore for his outstanding contributions to the development of Singapore.

Dr. Kanai received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tokyo. He is also qualified as a Registered Nuclear Chief Engineer (Japan) and Professional Engineer in Nuclear Engineering (USA).

***About Hitachi, Ltd.***

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 347,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2004 (ended March 31, 2005) consolidated sales totaled 9,027.0 billion yen (\$84.4 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>

***About Hitachi Asia Ltd.***

Hitachi Asia Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd. Established in 1989 as the regional headquarters in Singapore, it has ten offices in seven countries in Asia, excluding East Asia. The company offers a wide range of systems, products and services in market sectors such as information systems, power and industrial systems, digital media systems and consumer products. For more information about Hitachi Asia, please visit <http://www.hitachi.com/asia>



## **DR. ROBERT A. BROWN**

### **President, Boston University**

Robert A. Brown, Ph.D., 10th president of Boston University, is a distinguished scholar of chemical engineering and an innovative leader in higher education. He assumed the presidency of Boston University in September 2005.

Dr. Brown, 54, a Texas native, earned a B.S. and an M.S. in chemical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. He earned a Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota.

Prior to his appointment at Boston University, Dr. Brown was provost and Warren K. Lewis Professor of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and numerous other prestigious professional societies.

In 1979, Dr. Brown joined the faculty of MIT as assistant professor. During the last 25 years, he advanced his scholarly and administrative career, serving as co-director of the MIT Supercomputer Facility, Head of the Department of Chemical Engineering, and Dean of Engineering. In 1998, Dr. Brown was appointed Provost of MIT.

Dr. Brown has published approximately 250 papers in areas related to mathematical modeling of phenomena associated with materials processing, fluid mechanics of viscoelastic fluids, interface morphology, and modeling of semiconductor processing.

His illustrious career also included serving as consultant to major international corporations and to Governments. In 2005, Dr. Brown was named an Honorary Citizen for his outstanding contributions to the Singapore Government.

During his tenure at MIT, Dr. Brown led the creation of multi-disciplinary research centers including the McGovern Institute for Brain Research; the Broad Institute, a world-renowned genomics research collaboration with Harvard University, its affiliated hospitals and the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research; and the development of the Ray and Maria Stata Center as a facility for teaching, research and student life focused on computer and intelligent sciences. Dr. Brown also oversaw the creation of the Biological Engineering Division and the Division of Engineering Systems as new interdisciplinary units in teaching and research.

Dr. Brown lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, with his wife Beverly, a health care professional with a doctorate in biochemistry. They have two grown sons.