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The 11th Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative is now Open for Student Applications

- - *Top Students to Represent Thailand in Regional Forum held in Vietnam* - -

Bangkok, Thailand, May 11, 2011 – Hitachi Asia Ltd. today announced that the 11th Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative (HYLI) is now open for interested students from five participating universities to represent Thailand in a regional forum to be held in Hanoi, Vietnam, from 9-13 January 2012.

Established by Hitachi, Ltd. in 1996, HYLI is an award-winning regional thought-leadership and corporate social responsibility programme which aims to identify Asia's future leaders. The initiative offers an opportunity for top students in Asia to discuss key issues with prominent regional opinion leaders from the private, public and academic sectors.

From now until 20 June 2011, applications are open for students from the five participating universities of HYLI. They are: Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, Kasetsart University, Chiang Mai University and Mahidol University.

To qualify for the HYLI programme, students will have to meet the following criteria:

1. Nominated candidates will be undergraduate students (3rd or 4th year) or post-graduate students, 28-years-old or younger at the time of the initiative
2. The candidate is required to display strong leadership abilities, as well as a good track record in academic excellence and extra-curricular activities
3. The candidate must have a keen interest in regional and global affairs
4. The candidate must be fluent in the English language

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Students who meet the HYLI Selection Criteria and/or are nominated by the universities will be required to undergo an interview with the Thailand Student Selection Panel in the final selection.

Thereafter, the four university students chosen to represent Thailand will join their counterparts from Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, The Philippines, and Vietnam.

The theme for the 11th HYLI is:

The New Stage for Asia – taking an Asian perspective to manage sustainable development and economic integration

1. *Energy and the Environment*
2. *Economic Partnership and Integration*

The week-long initiative comprises a two-day forum, student workshops, a community work programme and other activities to promote interaction among the HYLI participants. During the forum, the selected students meet with distinguished regional speakers and opinion leaders to discuss the theme and sub-themes.

Over the years, HYLI has brought together many talented student participants and provided an opportunity for them to become more involved in creating the societies they wish to live in. Themes relevant to their future are chosen for discussion and debate. The speakers invited include prominent regional government officials, business leaders, and academia. A white paper, based on the discussions in the student workshops, is published and distributed to educational institutions, business executives and government institutions for their reference.

Interested students from participating universities may ask for an application form from the Student and University Affairs Division of their respective university or call 02-343 6067 for further information.

About Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative (HYLI)

Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative (HYLI) is a regional corporate social responsibility programme which aims to identify young Asian leaders by providing a platform for top students to discuss key issues and establish contacts with prominent regional opinion leaders from the private, public and academic sectors. Four of the best university students from each participating country are selected to represent their country at each HYLI. For more information, please visit at

<http://www.hitachi.com/society/global/hyli/>

About Hitachi Asia Ltd.

Hitachi Asia Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., established in Singapore in 1989, operates across seven Asian countries (India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam). Business includes information systems, power and industrial systems, digital media systems, and international procurement. For more information about Hitachi Asia, please visit the website at

<http://www.hitachi.com.sg>.

About Hitachi, Ltd.

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 360,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2009 (ended March 31, 2010) consolidated revenues totaled 8,968 billion yen (\$96.4 billion). Hitachi will focus more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes information and telecommunication systems, power systems, environmental, industrial and transportation systems, and social and urban systems, as well as the sophisticated materials and key devices that support them. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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