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**Hitachi Gathers Top ASEAN, Japan Campus Leaders in Bangkok for the 12<sup>th</sup> Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative; High-Profile Regional Leaders Attending**

*-- Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Finance Kittiratt Na-Ranong delivers opening address --*

*-- H.E. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Shigekazu Sato, Embassy of Japan to the Kingdom of Thailand (Japan) remarks on Day 1--*

*-- Former ASEAN Secretary-General Dr. Surin Pitsuwan keynotes on Day 2 --*

**Bangkok, Thailand, July 01, 2013** – Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE:6501) today announced that the 12<sup>th</sup> Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative (HYLI) brought together 28 of ASEAN’s and Japan’s top university student leaders and high-profile regional opinion leaders to discuss pressing challenges in the ASEAN region.

The 12<sup>th</sup> HYLI, happening from July 1 to July 5, 2013, aims to identify and nurture potential Asian leaders and offers them a unique platform to broaden their regional and global outlooks while promoting Asian values and cross-cultural understanding.

“Hitachi is confident about the success of the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of the HYLI,” said Mr. Masahide Tanigaki, Representative Executive Officer, Senior Vice President and Executive Officer, Hitachi, Ltd. “Through the years, we’ve seen that HYLI has become a great platform for engaging a diverse set of young leaders. Through open and constructive discussions we will see at the end of the event recommendations from our students regarding some of the difficult challenges facing ASEAN.”

Under the theme “The Road Ahead: ASEAN’s Role in Asia and the Global Economy”, the speakers will touch on various topics under the two sub-themes:

(1) The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015: What can ASEAN really expect and Asia's significance in the global economy and (2) Connectivity: The driver of ASEAN competitiveness

Providing significant insights on ASEAN affairs and issues to the HYLI delegates during the five-day event are (in order of speech):

- Ms. Huda Bahweres, Assistant Deputy for Regional Economic Cooperation and Financing, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs (Indonesia)
- Mr. Shigehiro Tanaka, Deputy Director-General for International Regional Policy, APEC Senior Official, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Japan)
- Mr. Wirat Uanarumit, Executive Vice President, Corporate Finance, PTT Public Company Limited, (Thailand)
- YBhg. Datuk Noharuddin Nordin, Chief Executive Officer, Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) (Malaysia)
- Mr. Rolando Tungpalan, Deputy Director-General for Investment Programming of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) (Philippines)
- Mr. Lee Yoong Yoong, Senior Manager, Yamato Asia Pte Ltd., Former Research Associate, Institute of Policy Studies, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (Singapore)
- Dr. Chula Sukmanop, Director-General, Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning (OTP) , Ministry of Transport (Thailand)
- MA. Pham Thanh Tung, General Director of the International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Transport (Vietnam)

“Hitachi is really grateful for the backing and enthusiasm of our invited regional leaders. These demonstrations of support provide inspiration and motivation not only to us, but to our young leaders as well,” said Mr. Kiyooki Iigaya, Chief Executive for Asia, Hitachi, Ltd. and Chairman of Hitachi Asia Ltd.

Since its inauguration in Singapore in 1996, HYLI has been successful in bringing the best and brightest students in Asia together. Each year, four outstanding students below the age of 28 are chosen to represent their country for the programme. These students come from seven ASEAN countries namely Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan.

For the 12<sup>th</sup> HYLI, a total of almost 222 applications were received from 36 universities in the region. All student applicants were put through a rigorous selection process based on their academic results, participation in extra-curricular activities, awards achieved, fluency in the English language and knowledge of current regional issues. A total of 28 students were selected to represent their countries for the event.

Apart from various forums and workshops designed to ensure students rich networking and learning opportunities, Hitachi has also specially organised a visit to Thailand's leading state-owned power utility company, the Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT).

#### **About Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative (HYLI)**

The "Hitachi Young Leaders Initiative" (HYLI) is a community relations programme that aims to identify and nurture potential Asian leaders by bringing them together to discuss regional issues with influential government officials, prominent business leaders, academics and NGO representatives. Since its inauguration in Singapore in 1996, the HYLI has been successful in bringing the best and brightest students in Asia together. Currently, the seven HYLI participating countries are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan. The initiative offers student participants a unique platform to broaden their outlook on regional and global issues while promoting Asian values and cross-cultural understanding. For more information, please visit <http://www.hitachi.com/society/global/hyli/>.

#### **About Hitachi Asia Ltd.**

Hitachi Asia Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., was established in Singapore in 1989 and operates across seven Asian countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam). Business includes information systems, power and industrial systems and digital media systems. For more information about Hitachi Asia, please visit <http://www.hitachi.com.sg>.

**About Hitachi, Ltd.**

Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 326,000 employees worldwide. The company's consolidated revenues for fiscal 2012 (ended March 31, 2013) totaled 9,041 billion yen (\$96.1 billion). Hitachi is focusing more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes infrastructure systems, information & telecommunication systems, power systems, construction machinery, high functional material & components, automotive systems and others.

For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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