Corporate Social Responsibility

The Hitachi Group believes corporate social responsibility (CSR) is founded on the understanding and practice of each individual employee. To this end, Hitachi has formulated the CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group as a shared policy for the entire Hitachi Group to meet the expectations of today’s society. Based on the “CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group,” we make an effort to enhance CSR activities.

The Hitachi Group’s Approach to CSR

Since its founding, the Hitachi Group has endeavored to “contribute to society through the development of original technology and products” and we have long cherished our founding spirit encapsulated by the words, “harmony,” “sincerity” and “pioneering spirit” in all our business activities. And to meet the expectations and demands of today’s society, the Hitachi Group is strengthening CSR activities based on fundamental credo and founding spirit.

CSR, as defined by the Hitachi Group, means engaging in activities to increase social, economic, environmental and human value. We understand that such activities must be pursued within a framework of the clear commitment of top management and a policy of strengthening corporate governance and rooted in a culture of compliance and high ethical standards. Put another way, the mission of the Hitachi Group is to contribute to the solution of fundamental global issues, and to pursue the realization of better, more prosperous global society, through utilizing the true collective strengths of the group, characterized by its knowledge and technology. This is also the Hitachi Group’s vision for CSR.

To fulfill these missions and to meet the expectations of today’s society, Hitachi in March 2005 formulated the CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group as a shared group policy. The Hitachi Group promotes CSR activities worldwide based on this policy.

Instilling and Enforcing the CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group

In fiscal 2005, to promote better understanding of the CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group, Hitachi issued Japanese, English and Chinese versions of the Hitachi Group Corporate Social Responsibility Guidebook. Furthermore, in March 2006, Hitachi offered an e-learning course to employees in Japan, which summarized the main points of this guidebook.

We also had an opportunity to dialogue with various stakeholders. Hitachi worked to promote communications with stakeholders in order to promote better understanding of the Hitachi Group’s CSR activities.
Formulation of the Hitachi Group Three-Year Corporate Social Responsibility Roadmap

The Hitachi Group is promoting various activities to become a leading global CSR company by 2010, the company’s 100th anniversary year. As part of these actions, Hitachi has formulated the Hitachi Group Three-Year CSR Roadmap that began in April 2006. This roadmap outlines medium-term activities to guide the group’s efforts for the future development of society and the Hitachi Group.

By comparing the expectations and demands of society with the past activities of the Hitachi Group, the roadmap identifies a number of goals and challenges for each item in the CSR Policy of the Hitachi Group. By pushing forward with these sorts of measures, the Hitachi Group will earn the trust of its various stakeholders and increase its corporate value.

Contributing to Society Through Technology

The Hitachi Group conducts activities on a daily basis to fulfill its founding credo of contributing to society through the development of original technology and products. For example, amid increasing interest in the broadly defined area of security, which includes safeguarding personal information and upgrading security at key facilities, Hitachi’s solutions based on the group’s collective strengths underpin the safety and security of society. These solutions include security PCs, digital watermarking systems and explosives trace detection systems.

Besides supplying products and services, the Hitachi Group is actively engaged in youth development and initiatives to raise interest in science and technology. Specific activities include offering, primarily through research laboratories, science seminars to give elementary and junior high school children the opportunity to learn more about science through hands-on study. Hitachi also cooperates with the Spring Science Camp sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan. These and other activities are intended to expose young people to the excitement and wonders of science and technology.

Formulation of the Hitachi Group’s Environmental Vision 2015 and The Second Term Environmental Strategy

The Hitachi Group has formulated Environmental Vision 2015, a medium-term plan under which the Hitachi Group will implement innovative measures on a global basis to realize a corporate community and recycling-oriented society that are in harmony with the natural environment. At the same time, Hitachi announced The Second Term Environmental Strategy, a five-year action plan for translating this vision into reality. Activities under this strategy began in April 2006. The new vision’s central theme is to achieve “emission neutral” status across the Hitachi Group by fiscal 2015. Emission neutral is a concept whereby Hitachi’s goal is to cancel out “direct loads” by reducing “social loads” by the same amount.

*1 Direct loads: energy used in production activities, such as the acquisition of basic materials and processing and refining of parts; greenhouse gases emitted from factories; and energy used for recycling waste and for transportation.

*2 Social loads: electricity consumed by products and energy used for recycling end-of-life products, among other items.