The Hitachi Group Identity and Social Innovation Business

Grounded in the Hitachi Group Identity, we will raise the social, environmental and economic value we provide to customers and aim to achieve a sustainable society by focusing on our Social Innovation Business.

The present world is said to be an era of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity (VUCA), in which the future is difficult to predict. Looking around the world, we can see a wide variety of steadily approaching change that will have an impact on people's lives, including climate change, resource shortages, demographic changes due to aging and problems related to urbanization.

Since its establishment, Hitachi has operated under the Mission expressed by its founder: “Contribute to society through the development of superior, original technology and products.” In accordance with this Mission, we have solved challenges facing society during each era through the development of social infrastructure technologies while raising people's quality of life (QoL) and, in recent years, contributing to the achievement of a sustainable society.

Originally set by Hitachi founder Namiki Odaira, the Mission has been carefully passed on to generations of employees and stakeholders throughout the Company’s 100-year history. The Values reflect the Hitachi Founding Spirit, which was shaped by the achievements of our company predecessors as they worked hard to fulfill Hitachi’s Mission. The Vision has been created based on the Mission and Values. It is an expression of what the Hitachi Group aims to become in the future as it advances to its next stage of growth. The Mission, Values and Vision are made to be shared in a simple concept: Hitachi Group Identity.

Our Social Innovation Business accelerates collaborative creation with customers using the latest digital technologies in a wide range of fields, including social infrastructure. It also solves various issues faced by society and customers by taking advantage of the Hitachi Group’s business bases; its total solutions, which combine the operational technology (OT), IT, products and systems it has cultivated over many years; digital solutions such as Lumada; and open innovation achieved through partnerships with operators worldwide.
Six years after its establishment, Hitachi employees proudly sit in front of a generator and a water turbine installed at the power station of the Hitachi mine. From this photo, we can distinctly feel their senses of accomplishment and fulfillment, as well as their hopes for the future.

However, shortly after the station started operating, the generator broke down due to defective parts, which had a serious impact on the operation of the mine, leading our founder, Namihei Odaira, to prepare an unofficial resignation. The employees worked tirelessly to restore the generator and investigate the cause of the breakdown. In addition to problems involving the generator, our employees faced difficult issues every time they set about making products. They raised quality, cultivated technology and gained trust through their devoted and resolute work on solving each and every one of these issues.

These efforts crystallized into Hitachi’s Founding Spirit, which remains alive and well to this very day.

In 1910, Hitachi was founded as a mining machinery repair shop in Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan. At a time when Japan was relying on imported products and technology, Hitachi founder Namihei Odaira formed a team that chose to rely on a different resource—themselves. With perseverance and enduring passion, the team created, developed, and delivered original products and technologies.

The driving force behind the team was Odaira’s noble belief: “Contribute to society through the development of superior, original technology and products.” This belief was the starting point for the Hitachi Group. Today, it forms Hitachi’s Mission, which is the overarching concept of the Hitachi Group Identity.

In 1916, Hitachi employees proudly sit in front of a generator and a water turbine installed at the power station of the Hitachi mine.

The power station at the Hitachi mine (1916)