

2007/2/7 Release

2006 Okochi Memorial Production Prize awarded for “product development of perpendicular magnetic recording hard disk drive” - Recognition of many years of R&D leading to the 2.5” HDD (Travelstar 5K160) -



Certificate and Plaque



13th March Awards Ceremony

Hitachi, Ltd. and Hitachi Global Storage Technologies were awarded the 53rd (FY 2006) Okochi Memorial Production Prize by the Okochi Memorial Foundation (Director General: Hiroyuki YOSHIKAWA) for “product development of perpendicular magnetic recording hard disk drive.” The Okochi Memorial Production Prize is awarded for “distinguished industrial achievement resulting from an outstanding invention or proposal based on research in production engineering, advanced manufacturing, etc.”

Hitachi has been involved in research on perpendicular magnetic recording method since 1980, after it was first proposed by Professor Shun’ichi IWASAKI, formerly of Tohoku University (currently President, Tohoku Institute of Technology). Hitachi joined the ASET project sponsored by NEDO to develop the technology as part of an industry - academia - government research alliance. In 2000, Hitachi proved the potential of this technology to replace longitudinal magnetic recording by achieving what was at the time the world’s highest density of 52.5 Gbit/in². This award recognizes the many years of research and product development work by Hitachi and Hitachi Global Storage Technologies in applying the technology to achieve a high capacity 2.5” hard disk drive (Product Name: Travelstar 5K160).