## Hitachi's Food Service Business to Be Transferred to Nissin Healthcare Food Service Co., Ltd.

Tokyo, March 31, 2010 --- Hitachi, Ltd. (NYSE:HIT / TSE:6501) today announced that it has signed an agreement with Nissin Healthcare Food Service Co., Ltd. to transfer the food service outsourcing, food manufacture and sales business conducted by one of Hitachi Group companies to Nissin Healthcare Food Service. Specifically, Nikkyo Create, Ltd., which conducts the food service outsourcing, food manufacture and sales business, will spin out the lunch and catering business division to a new company incorporated for this transaction and transfer 90.0% of the shares of the new company to Nissin Healthcare Food Service. The transfer is scheduled to be completed on June 1, 2010.

The nursing care business, which is not subject to transfer, will continue to be operated as a business in a Hitachi Group company, Builcare Business Co., Ltd., which is partly responsible for the urban planning and development systems business in the Hitachi Group.

The food service business in Japan is witnessing rising demand for high-quality food services at a lower price because of the recent economic slowdown. Meeting this demand requires both greater economies of scale and sophisticated know-how in terms of food hygiene and other areas. In light of this, Nikkyo Create, which ranks among the top 10 companies in Japan's food service industry, has decided to make a fresh start as a group member of Nissin Healthcare Food Service, the industry's largest player, to develop further in the future.

By utilizing the respective expertise of both companies—Nissin Healthcare Food Service in food services in the healthcare field, and Nikkyo Create in food services for business sites—the aim is to create a stronger base of operations as a comprehensive food service group.

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Hitachi has designated the Social Innovation Business, which centers on the social infrastructure and information and telecommunication systems fields, as a priority and is channeling business resources into this field. In tandem, Hitachi is restructuring businesses so as to achieve steady growth in global markets. As part of this, Hitachi plans to step up the execution of specific actions to realign its business portfolio.

## **Outline of Nikkyo Create**

- (1) Company : Nikkyo Create, Ltd.
- (2) Head office : 1-8-8, Kajicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
- (3) Representative : Kazuharu Kawaguchi,

President and Representative Director

(4) Main business lines:

Food service outsourcing, food manufacture and sales

- (5) Capital : 1.0 billion yen
- (6) Establishment date : January 22, 1966
- (7) Major shareholders and shareholdingsHitachi, Ltd. 55.3%, Chuo Shoji Ltd. 40.5%, Hitachi Life, Ltd. 4.2%

## About Hitachi, Ltd.

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 400,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2008 (ended March 31, 2009) consolidated revenues totaled 10,000 billion yen (\$102.0 billion). The company offers a wide range of systems, products and services in market sectors including information systems, electronic devices, power and industrial systems, consumer products, materials, logistics and financial services. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at http://www.hitachi.com.

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Information contained in this news release is current as of the date of the press announcement, but may be subject to change without prior notice.

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