Hitachi Accepts an Order for Two New Proton Beam Therapy Systems in the U.S.

Tokyo, May 10, 2011 --- Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE:6501/NYSE:HIT) today announced that it has entered into an agreement to provide Mayo Clinic with its proton beam therapy (PBT) system. This next-generation technology has spot scanning capability for treating certain forms of cancer. The agreement includes PBT system maintenance for both facilities for 10 years following completion of the systems' installation.

Hitachi will provide Mayo Clinic with two sets of PBT systems. The systems will be installed at facilities in Rochester, Minnesota and Phoenix, Arizona. The new program will employ intensity modulated proton therapy — based on spot scanning — which is a more precise form of proton therapy treatment that allows greater control over radiation doses, shorter treatment times and fewer side effects. It is also believed to be more cost effective in selected patients.

At each facility, there will be four treatment rooms with the rotating gantry systems and one fixed beam room initially used for research and development. The PBT systems installed will be a compact design with a foot print that is approximately 40 percent smaller than that of the conventional system. Construction for both facilities is scheduled to commence later this year, and proton therapy patient treatment is expected to be offered in the summer of 2015 and spring 2016, respectively.

Hiroaki Nakanishi, Representative Executive Officer and President of Hitachi, said, "It is an honor to have our technology recognized and to be selected to provide our PBT system. We are especially proud of the fact that this is the first time multiple proton therapy systems are being provided under a single contract. Hitachi pioneered proton beam therapy technology in Japan and devoted research and development resources to improve this technology over the past 20 years. Hitachi's expertise in accelerators, irradiation and control systems played a key role in the development and refinement of PBT systems. Hitachi will continue to contribute to improving treatment outcomes for people with cancer by promoting PBT business globally." PBT is an advanced type of cancer radiotherapy. Protons, the atomic nucleus of hydrogen, are accelerated at high speed and its energy is concentrated on tumors. PBT improves the quality of life for cancer patients since patients experience no pain during treatment and the procedure has fewer impacts on bodily functions. In most cases, patients can continue with their normal daily activities while undergoing treatment.

Spot scanning technology became feasible by advancing the uniform quality beam extraction technology from the accelerator and beam control technology with high accuracy, which includes three primary benefits: (1) more accurate irradiation which can reduce the side effects to the healthy tissues surrounding the tumor compared with conventional double scattering irradiation; (2) patient-specific collimators and boluses are not necessary; and (3) proton beam usage factor is high, reducing unnecessary secondary radiation.

Since the 1990's, interest in proton beam therapy as a form of cancer treatment has been rapidly increasing in the U.S. Given the growing demand for more advanced and less detrimental treatment modalities, interest in proton therapy is on the rise, with more and more hospitals and cancer treatment facilities venturing into this area. In December 2007, for the first time in the U.S., Hitachi cleared the FDA Premarket Notification Special 510(k) for spot scanning irradiation technology.

About Hitachi

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 360,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2009 (ended March 31, 2010) consolidated revenues totaled 8,968 billion yen (\$96.4 billion). Hitachi will focus more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes information and telecommunication systems, power systems, environmental, industrial and transportation systems, and social and urban systems, as well as the sophisticated materials and key devices that support them. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at http://www.hitachi.com.

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