



**HITACHI**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**reddot winner 2025**

## **New Limited Express Train Series N100 “SPACIA X” Wins the “Red Dot Award: Product Design 2025”!**

**Tokyo, July 8, 2025:** Tobu Railway Co., Ltd. (Tobu Railway) and Hitachi Rail new, jointly developed, limited express train, the Series N100 “SPACIA X,” has been awarded the prestigious “Red Dot Award: Product Design 2025,” organized by the Design Zentrum Nordrhein Westfalen in Germany.

SPACIA X, which began operation on July 15, 2023, connects Asakusa with the Nikko and Kinugawa areas. Developed under the concept of “Connect & Updatable,” the train inherits the legacy and brand identity of the conventional Series 100 SPACIA, while aiming to evolve into a more refined flagship limited express train.

The Red Dot Design Award is an international product design competition held in Germany since 1955. SPACIA X was highly praised in the Product Design category for its outstanding integration of regional characteristics, architecture, culture, and atmosphere, offering a captivating travel experience.

Following its initial recognition with the 2023 Good Design Award, SPACIA X has received multiple accolades, with this being its seventh award to date. Tobu Railway remains committed to enhancing passenger comfort and convenience through continuous innovation.

Each train set has 212 seats and includes a total of 6 formats for passengers to choose between, including luxurious Cockpit Suite, Cockpit Lounge, Compartment, and Premium Seat. On the train, you can also enjoy original craft beer and craft coffee developed in collaboration with companies in Nikko.

Designed in-house by Hitachi, the SPACIA X train cars evolved while maintaining the original SPACIA form, with the colours evoking a noble white reminiscent of the "Gofun" painted on the Yomeimon Gate, Karamon Gate and main sanctuary of Nikko Toshogu Shrine. The window frames are inspired by carefully handmade crafts such as the muntins (Kumiko) in Kanuma and bamboo weaving that have been handed down from the Edo period.



SPACIA X exterior



Cockpit Suite



Cockpit Lounge



SPACIA X logo

Overview of receiving "Red Dot Award: Product Design 2025" by the Series N100 SPACIA X

1. Award-winning vehicle  
Tobu Railway's new limited express train Series N100 SPACIA X
2. Award title  
Red Dot Award: Product Design 2025
3. Award overview  
The Red Dot Award: Product Design is a globally recognized design competition that celebrates the best products of the year. Winners are chosen by a jury of around 40 international experts, including designers, scholars, and journalists with expertise in design. Entries are assessed based on criteria such as quality, innovation, functionality, durability, and overall design excellence. The competition comprises 51 categories, spanning fields such as fashion, accessories, consumer electronics, automobiles, and furniture. SPACIA X was entered in the "Trains and Planes" category and was selected as a winner for its exceptional design.
4. What is the Red Dot Design Award?  
The Red Dot Design Award is one of the world's most prestigious and respected design competitions. Organized by the Design Zentrum Nordrhein Westfalen in Germany since 1955, it honors outstanding achievements in three main categories: Product Design, Communication Design, and Design Concept. Each year, products that demonstrate outstanding design excellence are selected and honored.



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Red Dot Award: Product Design 2025 logo

## Tobu Railway's new limited express train Series N100 SPACIA X

1. Start date of operation: 15 July 2023
2. Model name: Series N100
3. Number of cars: 24 cars in 4 trains (full operation from March 16, 2024)
4. Number of seats: 212 seats
5. Routes: Tobu Skytree Line, Nikko Line, Kinugawa Line between Asakusa and Tobu Nikko, Kinugawa Onsen
6. Vehicle overview
  - (1) Concept "Connect & Updatable"

By updating and providing various information and services beyond the physical connection of the railway, from the moment you board the train, you will be able to connect with "your own optimal Nikko and Kinugawa Onsen area", aiming for a limited express train that will make you wish to visit the same area again and again.
  - (2) Vehicle design

The conventional form of SPACIA has been evolved to the present day and incorporated into the design. The colours evoke a noble white reminiscent of the "Gofun" painted on the Yomeimon Gate, Karamon Gate, and main sanctuary of Nikko Toshogu Shrine. The window frames are inspired by carefully handmade crafts such as the muntins (Kumiko) in Kanuma and bamboo weaving that have been handed down from the Edo period.
  - (3) Seats

In addition to inheriting the private rooms in the conventional SPACIA, we will provide new types of seats, such as lounges, to provide a higher quality of space, and aim to become a limited express train that you will wish to ride many times.
  - (4) Cafe counter (GOEN CAFÉ SPACIA X)

To be a place where you can meet "your own optimal Nikko and Kinugawa Onsen area", we will actively introduce new products and offer products that you can enjoy with your five senses that can only be found here.
  - (5) Carbon neutral operation

We will reduce CO2 emissions by up to 40% compared to the conventional SPACIA, and virtually replace all of the electricity used for operations with electricity from renewable sources, making CO2 emissions net zero.
7. Other Awards and Recognitions
  - (1) 2023 Good Design Award – Japan Institute of Design Promotion
  - (2) iF DESIGN AWARD 2024 – iF International Forum Design GmbH
  - (3) 2024 Blue Ribbon Award – Japan Railfan Club
  - (4) The 23rd Japan Railway Award – Special Prize by the Japan Railway Award Selection Committee – Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
  - (5) DFA Design for Asia Awards 2024 – Hong Kong Design Centre
  - (6) Sangetsu Space Design Contest – Jury's Prize – Sangetsu Corporation

For information about SPACIA X, visit <https://www.tobu.co.jp/spaciax/en/>

**About Hitachi Rail:**

Hitachi Rail is connecting the future of mobility - helping every passenger, customer and community enjoy the benefits of more seamless, sustainable transport.

With innovative technology and world-leading delivery capabilities, Hitachi Rail is a trusted partner to customers and consortia partners globally. The company is an expert in every part of the railway: from train manufacturing and maintenance to digital signalling and smart mobility. Its pioneering products, such as the iconic high speed bullet train, enable billions of passenger journeys and the transport of millions of tonnes of freight, every year.

Drawing on the powerful expertise of the wider Hitachi group companies, Hitachi Rail is uniquely placed to further enhance its offer to customers through pioneering new digital solutions and services.

In FY22, Hitachi Rail had revenues of over €5bn. The company has around 15,000 employees in 38 countries, and it invests in its diverse and talented teams.

Hitachi Rail's business is local, but its reach is global. With deep roots in its communities, the company is committed to delivering sustainable progress for all.

Find out more by visiting [hitachirail.com](https://hitachirail.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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