Hitachi Review
Volume 65 Number 1 March 2016

From the Editor

The use of information technology (IT) has spread to all corners of modern society, having been incorporated into the infrastructure that ensures the reliable functioning of that society. There are growing expectations for the potential of IT to help overcome the challenges facing Japan. Meanwhile, with the increasing quantity of digital information, the handling of this information is giving rise to concerns about the safety and stability of society as a whole. Amid these changing circumstances, public-sector IT solutions support the IT infrastructure of society and encourage ongoing growth.

This issue of *Hitachi Review* describes the role that Hitachi envisages for public-sector IT solutions; the technologies, products, and solutions for achieving this; and examples of work in this field by Hitachi's information and telecommunications divisions. This issue's Expert Insights is an article contributed by Saw Sanda Aye, a Rector at the University of Information Technology, Yangon, about the training of IT staff to facilitate the development of Myanmar. In Technotalk, we invited Hideo Hamashima, a past Counsellor in the Cabinet Secretariat and Kazuo Yoshida, Senior Manager, Industrial Technology Bureau, Japan Business Federation (Keidanren) to discuss the "Declaration to be the World's Most Advanced IT Nation" that was approved by the Cabinet in June 2015 and to provide an overview of the policy on the use of IT as a public management resource and the hopes for the future.

Other articles consider two sought-after aspects in public-sector IT, namely, how IT can be used to put Japan's national policy into practice in initiatives aimed at encouraging Social Innovation, and how systems are being made more convenient and reliable in initiatives aimed at contributing to social stability.

I hope that this issue of *Hitachi Review* will prove useful to you in your work by giving you an appreciation of our activities in the field of public-sector IT solutions.

Editorial Coordinator,
"Public-sector IT Solutions Supporting Social Infrastructure" Issue

Yoshinori Hosoya

Vice President
Government & Public Corporation Information Systems Division
Information & Telecommunication Systems Company
Hitachi, Ltd.