

New Solutions that Support Safe and Comfortable Railway Systems



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JAPANESE railways have come to be recognized for providing the most accurate and reliable services in the world. Amid intense competition with automobiles and other transportation systems, however, there have been even greater demands for improved quality in transport services, for both travelers and cargo. In addition to safety and comfort, these demands focus on the creation of new services that offer even greater convenience.

At the same time, as urgent measures to prevent global warming are being undertaken around the world, there are high expectations for railways as an environment-friendly means of transportation, and one that will further reduce environmental impact in the future. Activities targeting international standardization—particularly in Europe—are growing ever stronger, and amid economic trends toward the elimination of trade barriers, railway systems will be soon be required to respond to the resulting increase in demand.

It is safe to say, then, that there is a very great need for high-quality (safe, reliable, and low-cost) railways systems that are environment-friendly and oriented toward global standards. Hitachi has focused its efforts on technological development

to respond to these needs, and looks forward to contributing to the development of railway systems as a “Total System Integrator.”

Based on this approach, in this special issue, we will introduce the following “Railway Solutions.”

- “A-Train” railcar system that offers even better quality rolling stocks which run more quietly and more safely, and reduces costs through modularization.
- “B-System” that offers higher quality control and information services through the application of broadband communication technologies.
- IT-based signaling systems installed on the train cars to achieve safer and more flexible signaling.
- Compact, environment-friendly electrical transformer systems that minimize losses as well as maintenance requirements.
- Hitachi’s fully automated subway systems.

The technologies introduced here represent only a small portion of the technologies under development at Hitachi, but we believe that these development activities will support the further advancement of railway system technologies worldwide. Our goal is to respond to the needs of the global transport industry as a trusted and respected partner.