
From the Editor

The social trends relevant to railway systems are undergoing rapid changes along with changes in society and advances in technology.

Given this changing environment, what can Hitachi do to aid the ongoing development of the railway industry? I believe it is important for us to always keep this question in mind.

As a total system integrator for the railway industry, involved in traffic and power management systems and information services as well as rolling stock and traction drive control equipment, Hitachi is developing advanced technology to contribute to ongoing progress toward faster trains, higher traffic densities, more punctual services, and reliable operation. While railways are closely tied to the regions they serve, there is growing demand for the technologies they use to be designed for global use. Accordingly, Hitachi is developing technologies that comply with the requirements of different countries and regions such as the UK and China as well as Japan.

In terms of technical developments in individual fields, namely rolling stock, Hitachi is working to achieve lighter weight, and on developments that include battery-based techniques for saving energy and next-generation traction drive systems. To improve passenger comfort and provide barrier-free accessibility, meanwhile, Hitachi supplies passenger information services that use on-board displays and is equipping its products with barrier-free fittings.

For wayside systems, Hitachi is developing more advanced traffic management systems and technology for providing trains with emergency power using a stationary energy storage system. It is also taking steps to improve the productivity of maintenance and inspection work.

In an initiative aimed at improving energy efficiency, an energy management system is being developed to coordinate on-board systems with wayside systems for traffic management, substations, and power management. This issue of Hitachi Review focuses on describing this work.

Hitachi is seeking to combine its comprehensive railway industry capabilities built up over time with technologies from across the Hitachi Group to contribute to innovation in the next generation of railway systems that place less of a load on the environment.

I hope this issue of Hitachi Review will help you gain a better understanding of the activities of Hitachi's Social Innovation Business.

Editorial Coordinator



Fujihiko Yokose

Senior Engineer
R&D Planning Office,
Corporate Development & Strategy Division
Rail Systems Company
Hitachi, Ltd.
