

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hitachi, Mitsubishi Electric, and Intel jointly propose IoT testbed for the manufacturing industry at IIC, and obtain approval

Contributing to business innovations in the global manufacturing industry through the open IoT platforms that combine FA and IT

Tokyo, June 30, 2016 --- Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE:6501, "Hitachi") announced that along with Mitsubishi Electric Corp. and Intel K.K. (Japan), it proposed, and received approval for Factory Automation Platform as a Service (FA PaaS) Testbed*¹ in the field of next-generation factories at the Industrial Internet Consortium(IIC*²).

The goal of this testbed is to test open IoT platforms that seamlessly integrate Factory Automation (FA) in the front lines of manufacturing and Information Technologies (IT) that support management and operation, in collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric and Intel. Hitachi will incorporate the results of these tests into the IoT platform "Lumada", and create new solutions along with customers and partners.

In recent years, amid increasingly intense global competition in the manufacturing industry, there has been a growing demand for more rapid product development and market introduction, quality improvements and shorter lead times in order to quickly respond to the rapidly changing market environments and management environments through the introduction of new technologies and collaborations between companies. In this backdrop, there has been a growing expectation for overall optimization that uses data related to manufacturing in the increasingly global supply chain to connect the front lines of manufacturing with management, suppliers, and customers. This in turn has given rise to a need for secure connections between a variety of devices in FA environment and cutting-edge IT services (e.g., Big Data and the cloud) and for the accelerated development of applications in the field of next-generation factories.

These platforms include IoT data processing platforms that processes Big Data, IoT head end systems, and IoT gateways that securely connect the service platform layer with FA environment, and FA edge devices that provide functions unique to FA applications, and which also enable communications with FA devices in the field of next-generation factories. In addition, the advantage of IoT platform tested in this testbed is that it can accelerate application development for next-generation factory by making available of integrated environment between FA environment and service platform layer.

- more-

Hitachi is in charge of IT related products (IoT data processing platforms, IoT head end systems etc), software which connects each devices in this testbed, and system integration of the testbed. Mitsubishi Electric is in charge of FA environment (FA edge devices, applications, PLC^{*3}, and drive units), and Intel is in charge of IoT gateways, and supportive coordination with IIC. Hereafter, under collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric and Intel, Hitachi will complete tests of secure connections between FA environment and service platform layer, as well as tests of the effectiveness of testbed functions and the flow of operational data from the perspective of the front lines of manufacturing, by June 2017. After that, it will conduct “use case” tests with IIC member companies and customers.

Hitachi offers an extensive lineup of solutions that comprise products, services, consulting, and backbone operation systems such as SCM^{*4} and ERP^{*5}, as well as frontline systems such as MES^{*6} and SCADA^{*7}. These solutions are based on expertise in core operations cultivated through Collaborative Creation with customers in the manufacturing industry, along with security technologies, the Big Data analysis tool “Pentaho”, and “Hitachi AI Technology/H” solutions, which utilize cutting-edge artificial intelligence (AI).

In May 2016, Hitachi began to provide the IoT platform “Lumada,” which combines IT with highly reliable Operational Technologies (OT) that have been cultivated over many years. Lumada comprises open and highly versatile systems, so it can be linked easily with other platforms and systems not only in the manufacturing industry, but in a broad range of other applications and industries as well. Hitachi will incorporate the results of these tests into Lumada, and contribute to the business innovations in the manufacturing industry with partners like FA devices vendors and application providers by connecting data of the front lines of manufacturing with management, suppliers, and customers. Hitachi will also work with a variety of partners in Japan and around the world to submit joint proposals to proliferation agencies in addition to the IIC.

*1: Testbed:

Testing platform based on reference model of IIC which enables to test solutions in the situations similar to the real world.

*2: Industrial Internet Consortium (IIC):

Global nonprofit organization for realizing growth acceleration which is consisted of over 240 organization with public-private partnership.

*3: Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC):

Sequence controllers for equipment and facilities

*4: Supply Chain Management (SCM):

Management methods for optimizing the supply chain as a whole, including raw materials, components, and completed products.

*5: Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP):

Methods for achieving integrated management of corporate assets (manpower, capital, facilities, information, etc.) to optimize the management structure

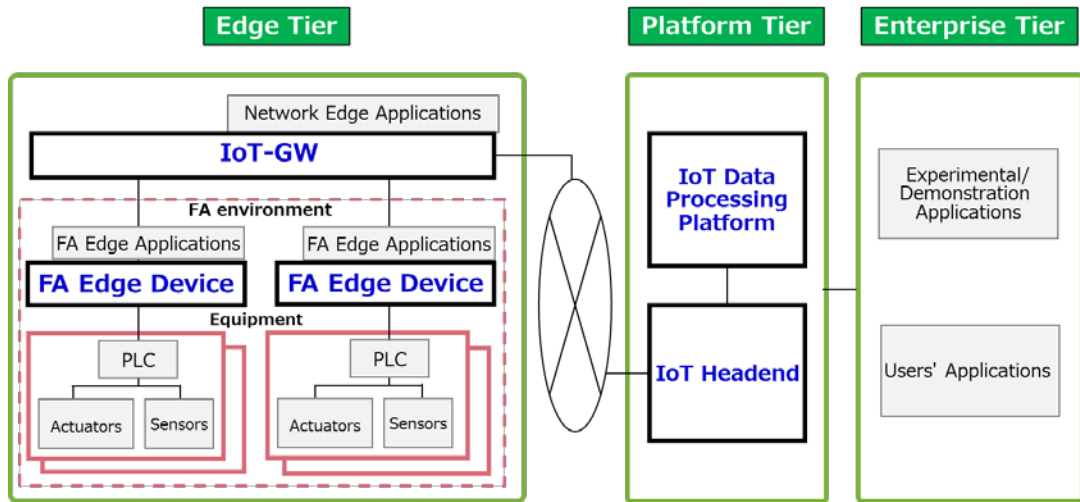
*6: Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES):

Systems for connecting production lines with various other elements to monitor and manage facilities and workers

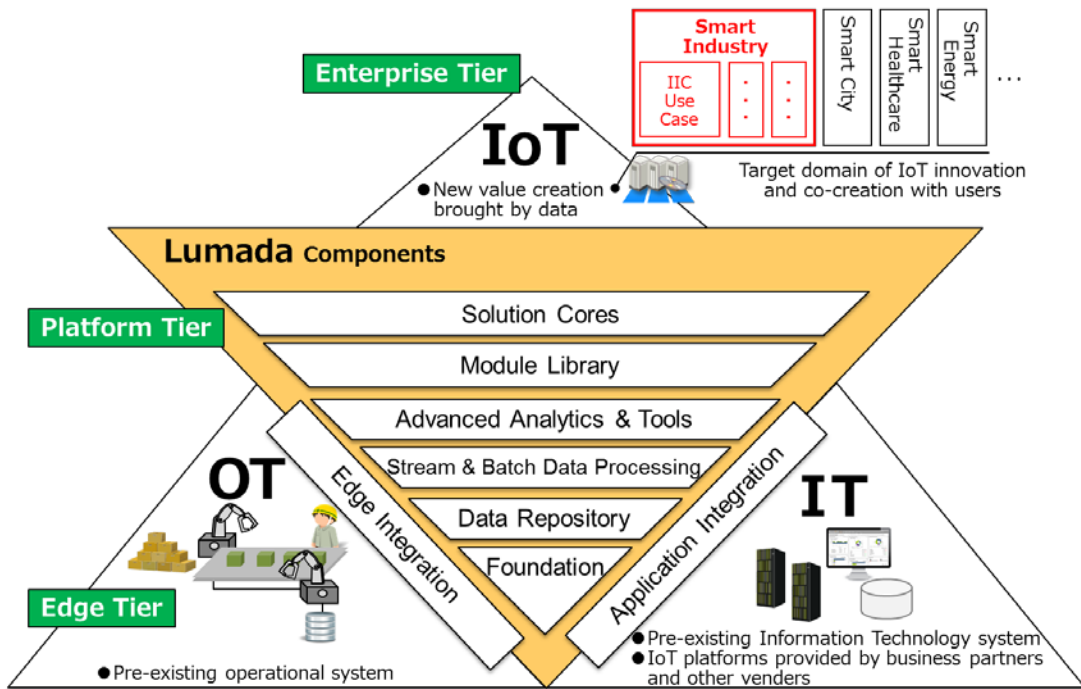
*7: Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA):

A type of industrial control system that uses computers to monitor systems and control processes

■ Outline of IIC Testbed



■ Positioning of IIC Testbed in Lumada



About Hitachi, Ltd.

Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, delivers innovations that answer society's challenges. The company's consolidated revenues for fiscal 2015 (ended March 31, 2016) totaled 10,034.3 billion yen (\$88.8 billion). The Hitachi Group is a global leader in the Social Innovation Business, and it has approximately 335,000 employees worldwide. Through collaborative creation, Hitachi is providing solutions to customers in a broad range of sectors, including Power / Energy, Industry / Distribution / Water, Urban Development, and Finance / Government & Public / Healthcare. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

###

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.
