Operating and Financial Review

Operating Results

Summary

Years ended March 31:	Billions of yen 2017	2018	Percent change
Revenues	¥9,162.2	**¥9,368.6**	2%
EBIT	475.1	**644.2**	36%
Income from continuing operations, before income taxes	469.0	**638.6**	36%
Net income attributable to Hitachi, Ltd. stockholders	231.2	**362.9**	57%

Analysis of Statement of Operations

Revenues increased 2% to ¥9,368.6 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, despite the effect of the move to transform the business portfolio such as conversion of Hitachi Capital Corporation and Hitachi Transport System, Ltd., into equity-method affiliates and deconsolidation of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. (now Koki Holdings Co., Ltd.) in the year ended March 31, 2017. This increase was due mainly to higher revenues in the Construction Machinery segment, in which overseas sales increased mainly in China, and in the High Functional Materials & Components segment, in which sales of electronics- and automotive-related products increased.

Cost of sales increased 1% to ¥6,866.5 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, and the ratio of cost of sales to revenues was 73%, a decrease of 1% from the year ended March 31, 2017. Gross profit increased 5% to ¥2,502.0 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were ¥1,787.4 billion, which was the same level as for the year ended March 31, 2017, and the ratio of selling, general and administrative expenses to revenues was 19%, as compared with 20% for the year ended March 31, 2017.

Adjusted operating income increased by ¥127.3 billion to ¥714.6 billion yen, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. The increase was due mainly to higher profits owing to increased revenues in the Construction Machinery segment, profitability improvement for the industry & distribution field, the power and energy business, and the industrial equipment business in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment. The increase was also attributable to higher profits in the Information & Telecommunication Systems segment owing to an improvement in the profitability of the system integration business in Japan and the effect of the structural reform implemented in the year ended March 31, 2017.

Other income decreased ¥88.6 billion to ¥12.0 billion and other expenses decreased ¥5.8 billion to ¥140.6 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, respectively. The details are as follows. Net gain on sales and disposal of fixed assets worsened by ¥17.6 billion and turned to a loss of ¥2.5 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Impairment losses decreased ¥19.9 billion to ¥48.6 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This mainly reflected impairment losses on intangible assets, etc., in the Information & Telecommunication Systems segment. Net gain on business reorganization and others decreased ¥71.5 billion to ¥9.7 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, due mainly to the absence of the partial sale of the shares of Hitachi Transport System, Ltd. and the sale of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. shares recorded in the year ended March 31, 2017. Special termination benefits decreased ¥8.9 billion to ¥15.7 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Expenses related to competition law and others increased ¥7.5 billion to ¥14.2 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Financial income (excluding interest income) was ¥7.0 billion, the same level as for the year ended March 31, 2017, and financial expenses (excluding interest charges) decreased ¥14.9 billion to ¥11.2 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Share of profits of investments accounted for using the equity method was ¥62.4 billion, an improvement of ¥109.6 billion from the year ended March 31, 2017, for which an impairment loss for the uranium enrichment business at a U.S. equity-method associate was posted in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment.

As a result of the foregoing, EBIT increased ¥169.0 billion to ¥644.2 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Interest income increased ¥2.0 billion to ¥14.9 billion and interest charges increased ¥1.5 billion to ¥20.5 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, respectively.

Income from continuing operations, before income taxes increased ¥169.5 billion to ¥638.6 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Income taxes increased ¥6.5 billion to ¥131.7 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, due mainly to increased income from continuing operations, before income taxes.

Loss from discontinued operations increased ¥10.0 billion to ¥16.0 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Net income increased ¥152.8 billion to ¥490.9 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Net income attributable to non-controlling interests increased ¥21.1 billion to ¥127.9 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

As a result of the foregoing, net income attributable to Hitachi, Ltd. stockholders increased ¥131.7 billion to ¥362.9 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Revenues by Geographic Area

The following is an overview of revenues attributed to geographic areas based on customer location.

Years ended March 31:	Billions of yen 2017	2018	Percent change
Japan	¥4,757.6	**¥4,643.0**	-2%
Overseas Revenues Subtotal	4,404.5	**4,725.5**	7%
Asia	1,860.7	**2,081.1**	12%
North America	1,144.0	**1,177.5**	3%
Europe	972.6	**964.4**	-1%
Other Areas	427.1	**502.3**	18%
Total Revenues	¥9,162.2	**¥9,368.6**	2%

Japan

Revenues in Japan decreased 2% to ¥4,643.0 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to reduced revenues in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment, etc. and due to the conversion of Hitachi Transport System, Ltd. and Hitachi Capital Corporation to equity-method associates in the previous fiscal year, despite increased revenues in the High Functional Materials & Components segment.

Overseas

(Asia)

Revenues in Asia increased 12% to ¥2,081.1 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to higher revenues in the Electronic Systems & Equipment segment, Construction Machinery segment, and High Functional Materials & Components segment, etc., despite reduced revenues as a result of the conversion of Hitachi Transport System, Ltd. and Hitachi Capital Corporation to equity-method associates.

(North America)

Revenues in North America increased 3% to ¥1,177.5 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to the higher revenues in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment gained by the industrial products business expansion by acquisition and higher revenues in the Construction Machinery segment, despite reduced revenues in the Electronic Systems & Equipment segment due to the impact of the deconsolidation of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd.

(Europe)

Revenues in Europe decreased 1% to ¥964.4 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to the impact of deconsolidation of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. and the conversion of Hitachi Capital Corporation to an equity-method associate. This decrease was almost partially offset by higher revenues in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment, reflecting substantial sales growth in the railway systems business, and higher revenues in the High Functional Materials & Components segment due mainly to acquisitions.

(Other Areas)

Revenues in other areas increased 18% to ¥502.3 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to higher revenues in Construction Machinery segment owing to acquisitions, etc.

As a result of the foregoing, overseas revenues increased 7% to ¥4,725.5 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, and the ratio to total revenues was 50%, which was 2% increase as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

Summary of Financial Condition, etc.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our management considers maintaining an appropriate level of liquidity and securing adequate funds for current and future business operations to be important financial objectives. Through efficient management of working capital and selective investment in new plants and equipment, we are working to optimize the efficiency of capital utilization throughout our business operations. We endeavor to improve our group cash management by centralizing such management among us and our overseas financial subsidiaries. Our internal sources of funds include cash flows generated by operating activities and cash on hand. Our management also considers short-term investments to be an immediately available source of funds. In addition, we raise funds both in the capital markets and from Japanese and international commercial banks in response to our capital requirements. Our management policy is to finance capital expenditures primarily by internally generated funds and to a lesser extent by funds raised through the issuance of debt and equity securities in domestic and foreign capital markets. In order to flexibly access funding, we maintain our shelf registration with the maximum outstanding balance of ¥300.0 billion.

We maintain commitment line agreements with a number of domestic banks under which we may borrow in order to ensure efficient access to necessary funds. These commitment line agreements generally provide for a one-year term, renewable upon mutual agreement between us and each of the lending banks, as well as another commitment line agreement with a contract term of three years ending on July 29, 2019. As of March 31, 2018, our unused commitment lines totaled ¥503.2 billion, including those of ¥400.0 billion which the Company maintained.

We receive debt ratings from Moody's Japan K.K. (Moody's), Standard & Poor's Rating Japan (S&P), as well as Rating and Investment Information, Inc. (R&I). Our debt ratings as of March 31, 2018 were as follows:

Rating Company	Long-term	Short-term
Moody's	A3	P-2
S&P	A–	A-2
R&I	A+	a-1

With our current ratings, we believe that our access to the global capital markets will remain sufficient for our financing needs. We seek to improve our credit ratings in order to ensure financial flexibility for liquidity and capital management, and to continue to maintain access to sufficient funding resources through the capital markets.

Cash Flows

Years ended March 31:	2017	2018
	Billions of yen	
Net cash provided by operating activities	¥ 629.5	**¥ 727.1**
Net cash used in investing activities	(337.9)	**(474.3)**
Net cash used in financing activities	(209.5)	**(321.4)**
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(16.1)	**1.3**
Change in cash and cash equivalents	65.9	**(67.2)**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	699.3	**765.2**
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	¥ 765.2	**¥ 697.9**

(Cash Flows from Operating Activities)

Net income in the year ended March 31, 2018 increased by ¥152.8 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Net cash outflow from a change in inventories increased by ¥158.4 billion, as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Net cash flow from a change in trade payables deteriorated by ¥13.6 billion. Net cash flow from a change in trade receivables improved by ¥244.0 billion. As a result, net cash outflow from changes in working capital decreased. As a result of the foregoing, net cash provided by operating activities was ¥727.1 billion in the year ended March 31, 2018, an increase of ¥97.5 billion compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

(Cash Flows from Investing Activities)

Net amount of investments related to property, plant and equipment*1 was ¥406.4 billion, a decrease of ¥56.1 billion as compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Proceeds from sales of investments in securities and other financial assets (including investments in subsidiaries and investments accounted for using the equity method) decreased by ¥70.7 billion compared with the year ended March 31, 2017 for which partial sales of the shares of Hitachi Transport System, Ltd. and Hitachi Capital Corporation, and the sale of all shares of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. were conducted. Purchase of investments in securities and other financial assets (including investments in subsidiaries and investments accounted for using the equity method) increased ¥65.8 billion, compared with the year ended March 31, 2017, due mainly to payment for the acquisition of "Sullair" air compressor business. As a result of the foregoing, net cash used in investing activities was ¥474.3 billion in the year ended March 31, 2018, an increase of ¥136.3 billion compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

*1 The sum of the purchase of property, plant and equipment, the purchase of intangible assets and the purchase of leased assets, less the proceeds from sale of property, plant, equipment and intangible assets, the proceeds from sale of leased assets and the collection of lease receivables

(Cash Flows from Financing Activities)

The net cash outflow from a change in short-term debt decreased by ¥128.9 billion compared with the year ended March 31, 2017. Payments related to long-term debt*2 in the year ended March 31, 2018 were ¥113.5 billion, as compared with ¥115.5 billion of proceeds related to long-term debt in the year ended March 31, 2017. As a result of the foregoing, net cash used in financing activities was ¥321.4 billion in the year ended March 31, 2018, an increase of ¥111.9 billion compared with the year ended March 31, 2017.

*2 The proceeds from long-term debt, less the payments on long-term debt

As a result of the above items, as of March 31, 2018, cash and cash equivalents amounted to ¥697.9 billion, a decrease of ¥67.2 billion from March 31, 2017. Free cash flows, the sum of cash flows from operating and investing activities, were an inflow of ¥252.8 billion in the year ended March 31, 2018, a decrease of ¥38.7 billion from the year ended March 31, 2017.

Assets, Liabilities, and Equity

As of March 31, 2018, total assets amounted to ¥10,106.6 billion, an increase of ¥442.6 billion from March 31, 2017. This was due mainly to the acquisition of "Sullair" air compressor business in the Social Infrastructure & Industrial Systems segment and corporate acquisitions undertaken by Hitachi Chemical Company, Ltd. in the High Functional Materials & Components segment. Cash and cash equivalents as of March 31, 2018 amounted to ¥697.9 billion, a decrease of ¥67.2 billion from the amount as of March 31, 2017.

As of March 31, 2018, total interest-bearing debt, the sum of short-term debt and long-term debt, amounted to ¥1,050.2 billion, a decrease of ¥126.3 billion from March 31, 2017 as a result of bond redemption and repayment of borrowings. As of March 31, 2018, short-term debt, consisting mainly of borrowings from banks and commercial paper, amounted to ¥121.4 billion, a decrease of ¥74.9 billion from March 31, 2017. As of March 31, 2018, current portion of long-term debt amounted to ¥117.1 billion, a decrease of ¥73.0 billion from March 31, 2017. As of March 31, 2018, long-term debt (excluding current portion), consisting mainly of debentures, and loans principally from banks and insurance companies, amounted to ¥811.6 billion, an increase of ¥21.6 billion from March 31, 2017.

As of March 31, 2018, total Hitachi, Ltd. stockholders' equity amounted to ¥3,278.0 billion, an increase of ¥310.9 billion from March 31, 2017. This is due mainly to posting net income attributable to Hitachi, Ltd. stockholders. As a result, the ratio of total Hitachi, Ltd. stockholders' equity to total assets as of March 31, 2018 was 32.4%, compared with 30.7% as of March 31, 2017.

Non-controlling interests as of March 31, 2018 were ¥1,233.6 billion, an increase of ¥103.7 billion from March 31, 2017.

Total equity as of March 31, 2018 was ¥4,511.6 billion, an increase of ¥414.6 billion from March 31, 2017. The ratio of interest-bearing debt to total equity was 0.23, compared with 0.29 as of March 31, 2017.