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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MICROSOFT SELECTS HITACHI CONSULTING FOR EXCLUSIVE WINDOWS AZURE INNER CIRCLE

Company recognized for proven competencies and application development capabilities in leveraging Microsoft's cloud platform

DALLAS — January 12, 2012 — Hitachi Consulting, a leading provider of [IT consulting](#) and [management consulting](#) solutions and services, today announced it has been selected by Microsoft® to become a member of its [Windows Azure™](#) Circle Program, an exclusive community of partners who support Microsoft's cloud platform. Already a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner, Hitachi Consulting was chosen because of its strong working relationship with Microsoft, significant commitment to Windows Azure, as well as its proven competencies and demonstrated application development capabilities leveraging Microsoft's cloud platform.

Hitachi Consulting is dedicated to offering strategic, cost effective [cloud services and solutions](#). The company has invested heavily in certifying a team of practitioners on Windows Azure to better help clients migrate their applications to the cloud. It has also cultivated a trained global delivery network of onshore and offshore architects and developers who use best practice processes and tools to help efficiently and consistently deliver its cloud solutions.

"We are honored Microsoft values our experience and resolve in supporting the Windows Azure platform, and recognizes our vision and leadership when it comes to developing for the cloud," said Drew Naukam, Senior Vice President of Hitachi Consulting's Microsoft Platform Practice. "As a Windows Azure Circle Partner, we will have expanded access to Azure resources that will ultimately help us craft more robust and flexible cloud computing solutions for our customers."

Hitachi Consulting understands the challenges the cloud represents and developed a cloud enablement solution specifically to help clients navigate its complexities. Our cloud application solution include

assessment, design, development, delivery, and support – a comprehensive bundle that can help accelerate development, enhance quality, and reduce costs for clients looking to transition applications to the cloud.

About Hitachi Consulting Corporation

Hitachi Consulting is the global business and IT consulting company of Hitachi Ltd. with operations throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The company is a recognized leader in delivering proven business and IT strategies and solutions to Global 2000 companies across many industries. With a balanced view of strategy, people, process and technology, we work with companies to understand their unique business needs, and to develop and implement practical business strategies and technology solutions. From business strategy development through application deployment and maintenance, our consultants are committed to helping clients quickly realize measurable business value and achieve sustainable ROI. Hitachi Consulting's client base includes 25 percent of the Global 100 as well as many leading mid-market companies. We offer a client-focused, collaborative approach and transfer knowledge throughout each engagement. For more information, call 1.877.664.0010 or visit www.hitachiconsulting.com.

About Hitachi, Ltd.

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 360,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2010 (ended March 31, 2011) consolidated revenues totaled 9,315 billion yen (\$112.2 billion). Hitachi will focus more than ever on the Social Innovation Business, which includes information and telecommunication systems, power systems, environmental, industrial and transportation systems, and social and urban systems, as well as the sophisticated materials and key devices that support them. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at www.hitachi.com.

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