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**HITACHI BRINGS OIL FREE AIR TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS TO
NORTH AMERICA**

TARRYTOWN, NY, October 1, 2006 -- Hitachi America, Ltd., Industrial Systems Division, today announced entry into North America with its Air Technology Group Products. Providing value via technology is the cornerstone of the Air Technology Group, leveraging the applications experience and efficiency of Hitachi inverters, motors and compressors.

To fulfill requirements for a wide variety of customers, Air Purity is achieved via incorporation of Oil-Free Rotary Screw, Oil-Less Scroll & Oil-Free Vortex Blower compressor technologies. Hitachi's Air Technology Group Products are incorporated into many market applications such as medical, food & beverage, pharmaceutical; electronics etc. With nearly 100 years of experience in air compression, Hitachi is able to provide the customer with proven, reliable and efficient options.

Hitachi's Air Technology Group is to be based in Charlotte, NC. The facility will be the center for all Air Technology Group business operations, warehousing, and training for Distribution Partners and OEMs.

For more information, please visit www.hitachi.us or contact airtechinfo@hal.hitachi.com.

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Hitachi America, Ltd., Industrial Systems Division, supplies a broad range of industrial products and services. The division supplies sophisticated industrial equipment, components and services for application in pharmaceutical plants, food & beverage processing, steel making, mass transit systems, chemical plants, and other manufacturing facilities.

Hitachi America, Ltd., a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd., markets and manufactures a broad range of electronics, computer systems and products, and consumer electronics, and provides industrial equipment and services throughout North America. For more information, visit <http://www.hitachi.us>.

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 356,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2005 (ended March 31, 2006) consolidated sales totaled 9,464 billion yen (\$80.9 billion). The company offers a wide range of systems, products and services in market sectors including information systems, electronic devices, power and industrial systems, consumer products, materials and financial services. For more information on Hitachi, please visit the company's website at <http://www.hitachi.com>.

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