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Hitachi Expands Capabilities of Educational Technology Outside the Classroom

With Hitachi StarBoard Viewer for Interactive Whiteboards and Panels

– Free download offers industry-first capabilities for educators. –

CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA, May 27, 2008 — Hitachi Software Engineering America, Ltd. today announced the release of its StarBoard Viewer software for interactive whiteboards and panels. Hitachi StarBoard Viewer is a free download that not only allows users to open any file formatted with Hitachi's industry-leading StarBoard software, but also to make edits and save work—even while disconnected from Hitachi StarBoard presentation products. StarBoard Viewer is the only software of its kind that allows users to save their changes for later use on interactive whiteboards panels and tablets.

The Hitachi StarBoard Viewer allows users to view, modify and save StarBoard Software files on any computer and present the material using any brand of interactive whiteboard. The software is an open license application with features similar to Hitachi's StarBoard 3.0 Light Edition software. It offers core interactive whiteboard tools including virtual whiteboard space, digital inks, the ability to manipulate objects, and the StarBoard toolbar. StarBoard Viewer differs from competitive viewers in its ability to save changes to files, enabling it to help build and deliver lessons outside of regular class time.

“Often times, there's a divide between what students and teachers can do with learning technology in the classroom and what can be taken home. Our goal with StarBoard Viewer is to close that gap,” said John Glad, Product Manager for Hitachi Home Electronics (America), Inc. Business Group.. “With a

free download of StarBoard Viewer, educators and students can view and work with classroom presentations even when they're away from the presentation products they use at school.”

Hitachi StarBoard Viewer allows new flexibility for teachers using tablets and interactive whiteboards in their classrooms. They can use the viewer to perfect their plans and presentations outside of the classroom, enabling smoother transitions between lessons when class is in session. For educators who switch schools or boards regularly, the viewer allows teachers to continue to use StarBoard files as they go from class to class.

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Students will also benefit from availability of the free StarBoard Viewer download. Because all work done on Hitachi interactive whiteboards and tablets can easily be saved and shared, the StarBoard Viewer software ensures that students can open and review lessons as they were first experienced in class. Children out sick can have classroom board work sent to them and opened with the viewer, ensuring that they keep up with their classmates. Because work can be edited and saved using the viewer, students can also create presentations at home for use in class, increasing time for classroom presentation.

“At Hitachi, we realize that educators choose their classroom technology very carefully and that they want only those products capable of providing them with the most flexible, long-lasting use,” added Mr. Glad. “We’re focused on ensuring that educators get the very most from their classroom technology, and StarBoard Viewer was created to help expand usage of StarBoard products outside the classroom.”

The StarBoard Viewer is available for download on the Hitachi Software Engineering America website: http://StarBoard.hitachi-soft.com/jsp/hitachi/hitachisoft/icg/StarBoard_viewer/download_t.html

ABOUT HITACHI

Hitachi Home Electronics (America), Inc., Business Group, subsidiary of Hitachi America, Ltd., markets LCD projectors, interactive panels and whiteboards and security and observation system products through value added resellers, system integrators, distributors and OEM.

Hitachi Software Engineering America, Ltd. develops advanced interactive communications tools for education, training and boardroom applications including interactive whiteboards, plasma displays and tablets all powered by the company's category-leading StarBoard software. Go to www.hitachi-soft.com.

Hitachi has a unique position in the marketplace by manufacturing and developing its own core technologies to provide consumers and businesses with optimal product performance in each of Hitachi's product categories. For Business products go to www.hitachi.us/digitalmedia. For consumer products, please visit www.hitachi.us/tv.

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

Hitachi, Ltd., (NYSE: HIT / TSE: 6501), headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is a leading global electronics company with approximately 390,000 employees worldwide. Fiscal 2007 (ended March 31, 2008) consolidated revenues totaled 11,226 billion yen (\$112.2 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 www.hitachi.com.

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