

Independent Auditor's Report

May 9, 2024

Mr. Keiji Kojima, President & CEO

Hitachi, Ltd.

Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC
Tokyo, Japan

Koji Fujima
Designated Engagement Partner
Certified Public Accountant

Teruyasu Omote
Designated Engagement Partner
Certified Public Accountant

Shinya Yoshida
Designated Engagement Partner
Certified Public Accountant

Opinion

Pursuant to Article 444, Paragraph 4 of the Companies Act, we have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position, the consolidated statement of profit or loss, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, and the notes to the consolidated financial statements of Hitachi, Ltd. and its consolidated subsidiaries (the Group) applicable to the fiscal year from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position and results of operations of the Group applicable to the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) (however, certain disclosures are omitted pursuant to the second sentence of Article 120, Paragraph 1 of the Regulations on Corporate Accounting).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Japan, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Group's business report and its supplementary schedules. Management is responsible for preparation and disclosure of the other information. The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Group's reporting process of the other information.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and the Audit Committee for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRSs (however, certain disclosures are omitted pursuant to the second sentence of Article 120, Paragraph 1 of the Regulations on Corporate Accounting) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and disclosing, as required by IFRSs (however, certain disclosures are omitted pursuant to the second sentence of Article 120, Paragraph 1 of the Regulations on Corporate Accounting), matters related to going concern.

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- Consider internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for our risk assessments, while the purpose of the audit of the consolidated financial statements is not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation in accordance with IFRSs (however, certain disclosures are omitted pursuant to the second sentence of Article 120, Paragraph 1 of the Regulations on Corporate Accounting).
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Audit Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Audit Committee with a statement that we have complied with the ethical requirements regarding independence that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Japan, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied to reduce threats to an acceptable level.

Interest Required to Be Disclosed by the Certified Public Accountants Act of Japan

Our firm and its designated engagement partners do not have any interest in the Group which is required to be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of the Certified Public Accountants Act of Japan.

(Note)

This is an English translation of the Japanese language Independent Auditor's Report issued by Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC in connection with the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the Company, prepared in Japanese, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024. Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC has not audited the English language version of the consolidated financial statements for the above-mentioned year.

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Designated Engagement Partner
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Opinion

Pursuant to Article 436, Paragraph 2, Item 1 of the Companies Act, we have audited the accompanying financial statements, which comprise the balance sheet, the statement of operations, the statement of changes in net assets, the notes to the financial statements, and its supplementary schedules of Hitachi, Ltd. (the Company) applicable to the 155th fiscal year from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and results of operations of the Company applicable to the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Japan, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information

The other information comprises the information included in the Company's business report and its supplementary schedules. Management is responsible for preparation and disclosure of the other information. The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Company's reporting process of the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and the Audit Committee for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern and disclosing, as required by accounting principles generally accepted in Japan, matters related to going concern.

The Audit Committee is responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
- Consider internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for our risk assessments, while the purpose of the audit of the financial statements is not expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan.

We communicate with the Audit Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Audit Committee with a statement that we have complied with the ethical requirements regarding independence that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Japan, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied to reduce threats to an acceptable level.

Interest Required to Be Disclosed by the Certified Public Accountants Act of Japan

Our firm and its designated engagement partners do not have any interest in the Company which is required to be disclosed pursuant to the provisions of the Certified Public Accountants Act of Japan.

(Note)

This is an English translation of the Japanese language Independent Auditor's Report issued by Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC in connection with the audit of the unconsolidated financial statements of the Company, prepared in Japanese, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024. Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC has not audited the English language version of the unconsolidated financial statements for the above-mentioned year.

AUDIT REPORT

We, the Audit Committee of the Company, audited the performance by Directors and Executive Officers of their duties during the 155th business term (from April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024). We hereby report as follows on the method and results thereof:

1. Method of Audit

- 1) We received periodical reports, obtained required explanations, and clarified opinions regarding the state of implementation and operation of the contents of the resolutions of the Board of Directors concerning the matters as listed in Article 416, Paragraph 1, Item 1 (ro) and (ho) of the Companies Act, and the status of the systems (internal control systems) established thereunder.
- 2) In accordance with the audit policy, assignment of audit duties, etc., as determined by the Audit Committee, and, in collaboration with the relevant departments, we attended important meetings, received reports or heard from the Directors, Executive Officers, etc. on matters concerning the execution of their duties, requested explanations as necessary, inspected important decision documents, etc., and made investigation into the state of activities and property at the head office and principal business offices of the Company.
- 3) As regards subsidiaries, we sought to communicate and exchange information with the Directors, Auditors, and others of the subsidiaries, received reports on their business operations, requested explanations as necessary, and conduct interviews and other tasks for their Head Offices and principal business offices by visiting to the offices or using the Internet, etc.
- 4) We examined the contents of the fundamental policy on the conduct of persons influencing decision on the Company's financial and business policies set forth in the business report giving due consideration to such things as the circumstances of deliberations by the Board of Directors and others.
- 5) Further, we monitored and examined whether the Accounting Auditors maintained their independence and performed their auditing duties adequately, as well as received reports from the Accounting Auditors on the performance status of their duties and requested explanations as necessary.
- 6) We also received a notice from the Accounting Auditors to the effect that "structures for ensuring that duties are appropriately performed" (matters stipulated in each item under Article 131 of the Regulations of Companies' Financial Statements) were being developed pursuant to the "Quality Management Standards for Auditing" (Business Accounting Council) and requested explanations as necessary.

We examined the business report and its supplementary schedules, the unconsolidated financial statements (the unconsolidated balance sheet, the unconsolidated statement of operations, the unconsolidated statement of changes in net assets, and the notes to unconsolidated financial statements) and their supplementary schedules, as well as consolidated financial statements (the consolidated statements of financial position, the consolidated statements of profit or loss, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, and the notes to consolidated financial statements) for this business term in accordance with the foregoing method.

2. Results of Audit

(1) Results of Audit on Business Report etc.

We are of the opinion:

- 1) that the business report and its supplementary schedules fairly present the state of the Company in accordance with the laws, regulations and the Articles of Incorporation;
- 2) that, in connection with the performance by Directors and Executive Officers of their duties, no dishonest act or material fact of violation of laws, regulations or the Articles of Incorporation exists;
- 3) that the contents of the resolution by the Board of Directors concerning internal control systems are appropriate. Further, there is nothing to note with respect to the performance by Directors and Executive Officers of their duties and description of the business report related to said internal control systems;
- 4) that the fundamental policy on the conduct of persons influencing decision on the Company's financial and business policies set forth in the business report are appropriate.

(2) Results of Audit on Unconsolidated Financial Statements and Their Supplementary Schedules

We are of the opinion that the method and results of the audit made by the Company's Accounting Auditors, Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC are appropriate.

(3) Results of Audit on Consolidated Financial Statements

We are of the opinion that the method and results of the audit made by the Company's Accounting Auditors, Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC are appropriate.

May 9, 2024

Audit Committee, Hitachi, Ltd.
Hiroaki Yoshihara
Katsumi Ihara
Ikuro Sugawara
Helmuth Ludwig
Mitsuaki Nishiyama (Standing)

Note: Messrs. Katsumi Ihara, Ikuro Sugawara, Hiroaki Yoshihara and Helmuth Ludwig are outside Directors pursuant to Article 2, Item 15 and Article 400, Paragraph 3 of the Companies Act.