PRESS RELEASE: Hitachi Energy – New Partner in the Digital Futures Industrial & Societal Partnership Program

Joining forces to accelerate a sustainable energy future through digitalization

Stockholm, 16 September 2025 – Digitalization has the potential to create a more resource-efficient and sustainable society. Through a new partnership between Digital Futures and Hitachi Energy, research and innovation capabilities in sustainable energy will be strengthened – with a particular focus on digital solutions for the power grids of the future.

Digital Futures is an interdisciplinary research center with the vision of shaping a sustainable society through digital transformation. The center was jointly established by KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University, and RISE Research Institutes of Sweden, and runs more than 200 projects addressing global societal challenges including energy consumption, climate change, healthcare, transportation, and inclusive societies.

"Hitachi Energy is a global technology leader in electrification and an important partner in our shared ambition for a sustainable energy future. By combining their more than a century of groundbreaking technology with our research environment and digital innovation capacity, we can jointly meet the growing demand for electricity while at the same time reducing carbon emissions," says Karl H Johansson, Director of Digital Futures.

Energy systems in rapid transition

The energy sector is undergoing a historic transformation. The increasing use of renewable power, the electrification of the transport, industrial, and building sectors, and the growing electricity consumption driven by AI are fueling a dramatic change in our power systems. The power grids of the future will be flexible, scalable, and composed of distributed energy sources, microgrids, and advanced energy storage.

Digitalization is key to managing this complexity – from analyzing massive amounts of data to optimizing energy use both locally and across entire systems.

"We are very excited about our new collaboration with Digital Futures. By combining their innovative research with our extensive technical expertise, we believe we can create improved testing opportunities and contribute to a more electrified and sustainable world," says Tobias Hansson, Country Managing Director at Hitachi Energy in Sweden.

About Hitachi Energy

Hitachi Energy is a global technology leader in electrification, powering a sustainable energy future with innovative power grid technologies with digital at the core. Over three billion people depend on our technologies to power their daily lives. With over a century in pioneering mission-critical technologies like high-voltage, transformers, automation, and power electronics, we are addressing the most urgent energy challenge of our time – balancing soaring electricity demand, while decarbonizing the power system. With an unparalleled installed base in over 140 countries, we cocreate and build long-term partnerships across the utility, industry, transportation, data centers, and infrastructure sectors. Headquartered in Switzerland, we employ over 50,000 people in 60 countries and generate revenues of around \$16 billion USD.

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About Digital Futures

Digital Futures is a leading cross-disciplinary research centre in Stockholm, Sweden. Founded in 2020 by KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm University, and RISE, and supported by the Swedish Government's Strategic Research Area initiative, the centre unites academia, industry, and the public sector to drive digital transformation. With more than 200 research groups and twelve partner institutions, Digital Futures focuses on sustainable cities, digitalized industry, health and well-being, and education. Research themes include artificial intelligence, machine learning, cybersecurity, and connected and cyber-physical systems — all with the goal of shaping a sustainable and digitally empowered future.

https://www.digitalfutures.kth.se

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