



HITACHI
Air conditioning solutions

Hitachi inaugurates 'Engineering Excellence Center' in Kolkata for skill development and employability for Eastern India

Kolkata, June 27, 2018: After launching three training centers in Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai, Johnson Controls - Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited today inaugurated its fourth state-of-the-art Engineering Excellence Center (EEC) in Kolkata, in a move that would generate skilled manpower and create employability in the Eastern States.

A first of its kind training center for vocational HVAC training for the Eastern Market, Victoria- Hitachi's EEC in Kolkata is spread over an area of 780 sq. mt. (8400 sq. ft.), this center is furnished with exclusive hands-on training facilities through Practical Labs for Room AC, Variable Refrigerant Flow based AC (VRF), Packaged AC, Control Panels and Brazing. It also includes two, 25-seater class rooms. The center is also equipped with operational VRF systems having visible piping and electrical connections to further enrich the demonstration and training process. Overall, there are 7 Product labs and 2 Class Rooms which will have capacity to train 170 people at a time. This Centre also has a Customer Experience Center which provides visitors touch and feel factor through its remarkable exhaustive product range displays, which normally people don't get to see at retail outlets.

The opening of this center marks a major step for the India unit of Global HVAC giant, Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning, after Mr. Gurmeet Singh became the first Indian to take over as the Chairman and Managing Director of the company (after becoming a subsidiary of foreign promoters).

While inaugurating, **Gurmeet Singh, Chairman and Managing Director, Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Ltd.**, " The inauguration of EEC-'Victoria' is a matter of great pride for us as these centers are not only a mark of our strong presence in the regional market, but we are also generating skilled taskforce in all four corners of the country. Until now, the unskilled youth of the East (West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Jharkhand and the seven North-Eastern States) used to migrate to cities like Delhi and Mumbai to garner such kind of technical, vocational training, but with the opening of Victoria, we are bringing growth and learning opportunities to their doorsteps and generating employment opportunities as well. The center will provide a hands-on, real time experience of advanced technologies and products to Hitachi's engineers and its trade partner's technicians involved in the HVAC industry."

Since the inception of its two EECs in Delhi and Chennai in 2016, and one in Mumbai in 2018; the company has imparted training to more than **2500 trainees** and has invested more than **39000 Man Hours**. The company aims to provide technical training to more than 3000 people by the next one year. Hitachi has invested in excess of **Rs. 1500 lakhs** in establishing these four regional excellence centers. Thus, with a **cumulative floor area of 3158 sq. mt. (34000 sq. ft.)**, **Hitachi currently offers the biggest training facility for single product category in India.**

The company has created a Sales Engineering support wing to provide product information and technical assistance, a Project Support wing which ensure proper quality and workmanship in installation and 4 EEC's which will give service and installation-related training on actual operative products installed in the center.

Commenting on the occasion, **Mr. Rakesh Juneja, Head- Engineering Excellence Department** “Our initiative is in line with the Government’s Skill India project as the technicians usually lack a formal training or course needed to become a subject matter expert, and with our training centers we are not only enabling them but also improving their quality of life. We are very happy to see the positive response we are getting from our channel partners and the participation we are getting from both our Hitachi’s Service Team and our Channel Partner’s Service Teams. And, we hope that this will bridge the gap that the Indian HVAC industry has been facing till date by generating skilled taskforce and also generate employment avenues for all.”

Hitachi, a premium Japanese brand, is the third biggest player in the Indian air-conditioner market. The company which has more than 30-years’ legacy in the country has invested heavily in expansion of manufacturing facilities and development of new product models here.

In the financial year 2016-17, the company’s Room AC business grew by 22%, which was much higher than the overall industry growth rate. Company’s Telecom AC and Packaged AC segments grew by 32% and 16% respectively, which again were much higher than the respective industry growth rate.

The company posted its best performances in VRF and Chiller segment, where it grew by 73% and 58% respectively. These were again almost four times higher than the respective industry growth rate.

Thus, with its all four EECs operational, Hitachi hopes to help India by providing skilled manpower and professionally trained technical resources to the HVAC industry, which will not only generate employability but also make the consumers’ life hassle free.

About Company:

Johnson Controls – Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited is a joint venture company of Johnson Controls, U.S. and Hitachi Appliances, Japan. Through this joint venture, we have combined the rich heritage and innovative technology of Hitachi with the industry leading expertise and a global network of Johnson Controls. The partnership is aimed at addressing the cooling needs faster, smarter and much more efficiently than ever before. Our customers will stand to benefit from our world-class R&D centres, where our researchers work tirelessly to provide innovative solutions and quality products that are designed to meet every expectation. Johnson Controls – Hitachi Air Conditioning Company has global presence, out of which India unit is called “Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited”

Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited manufactures a wide range of products under Hitachi brand, such as room air-conditioners (Split & Window ACs) to commercial air-conditioners including Chiller, Cassette Air conditioners , Ductable air-conditioners, Telecom Air conditioners & VRF system. Our company is not just limited to making air conditioners but also, into trading of Refrigerators & Air Purifiers.

Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited’s headquarter is situated in Ahmedabad, Gujarat with manufacturing plant in Kadi, Gujarat. We have a total installed capacity of 900,000 Room Air conditioners per annum (in a single shift). In addition to that, the Company also has the capacity to manufacture 120,000 Tonnes of Ductable units, 9000 VRFs ODU and 300 Chillers per annum. Johnson Controls-Hitachi Air Conditioning India Limited is amongst the top air-conditioning companies in India.