

Hitachi Takes on IoT With Lumada

Written by Marco Attard
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Hitachi announces a \$2.8 billion investment in the Internet of Things (IoT)-- one involving the creation of the IoT-focused Hitachi Insight Group and Lumada, an enterprise-grade IoT core platform.



The Japanese company already has a significant presence in IoT. At the IoT World conference it revealed related revenues were worth \$5.4bn in 2015, generated by a portfolio of 33 IoT solutions covering a wide range of verticals, including energy, transportation, utilities, financial institutions, governments and cities. As such, the consolidation of such efforts and the Lumada platform represent something of a logical next step.

Designed to leverage on Hitachi OT and IT expertise and technologies, Lumada promises a "uniquely open and adaptable" architecture making it applicable to a variety of applications and partner technologies. The company also says security is top priority through the use of Pentaho data orchestration, visualisation and analytics software, as well as the Hitachi Streaming Data Platform (HSDP).

"IoT platforms unquestionably have an important role to play in the development and deployment of IoT solutions. However, they can introduce new layers of complexities, which can hinder the implementation and benefits of the solutions themselves," analyst 451 Research says in the Hitachi release. "While it is still very early days in the IoT platform market, the landscape is crowded, making it difficult for new vendors to differentiate themselves. Hitachi's extensive expertise in OT and IT gives them a unique understanding of the fundamental requirements to build and deploy IoT solutions at scale. This allows Hitachi to help customers get actionable business insight that translates into real business value, faster."

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