

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of
Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. and consolidated subsidiaries as of March 31, 2004 and 2003, and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended March 31, 2004, expressed in Japanese yen. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to independently express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Hitachi Koki Co., Ltd. and consolidated subsidiaries as of March 31, 2004 and 2003, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended March 31, 2004, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan.

The U.S. dollar amounts in the accompanying consolidated financial statements with respect to the year ended March 31, 2004 are presented solely for convenience. Our audit also included the translation of yen amounts into U.S. dollar amounts and, in our opinion, such translation has been made on the basis described in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.

KPMG A28A * Co.

Tokyo, Japan
June 25, 2004