# Remarks for Special Issue on Enterprise Solutions to Support a Safe, Secure and Comfortable Life

We are facing diverse social challenges on a planetary scale. The newly developing countries are witnessing a population explosion, while developed countries are experiencing declining birth rates and an aging population. Demand for limited energy, water and food resources is growing. Natural disasters are increasing in severity in step with global warming and climate change. Migration to urban areas continues to fuel population growth in the cities, and widen the economic gap between urban and rural areas. Daily life is facing a growing threat of terrorism and cyber crime. This is the world we live in.

Focusing our efforts on our Solutions for Society – solutions that contribute to greater safety, security, efficiency and equality, and enrich people's lives. NEC is meeting these challenges with innovative social infrastructure that is a fusion of cutting-edge ICT, diverse knowledge and ideas.

The social infrastructure that makes, carries and sells things to consumers is the most familiar and the most intimate part of our daily lives. These social infrastructure functions are performed by the manufacturing, logistics, retail and the service industries which come under the enterprise domain.

Our customers in the enterprise domain are confronting a variety of issues including the multi-polarization of global markets that has accompanied the economic growth of the newly developed countries; the increasing sophistication and diversification of user needs in mature markets, and the



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growing challenge of product differentiation and fierce price competition. In order to solve these issues and not only survive but also win in this global competition, NEC is tackling social value creation in the belief that the realization of "value chain innovation" will be indispensable in providing new value to the people, things and processes that are linked together in the supply chain comprising "MAKE," "CARRY" and "SELL."

Technology that networks objects, also known as IoT (Internet of Things), will open the door to new advances such as mass customization which leverages automation and autonomous intelligent operation for multi-product, variable quantity production, or the realization of new value-added services crafted to satisfy user needs identified through the IoT-aided visualization of product and service usage.

The consumer lifestyles diversify. In such a trend, NEC will continue to support a safer, more secure and comfortable life for consumers by realizing omni-channels that fulfill consumer desires anytime and anywhere, providing services that can be used with confidence 24/365, and improving global traceability and quality.

The realization of these innovations requires the structuring of processes for value creation based on data collection, analysis and the results. From our development of the world's highest level of image recognition technology and Big Data analytical engines to our state-of-the-art network and security technologies, NEC has been supporting the advance of ICT

including IoT.

Every day, over 1,000 NEC researchers at 9 R&D centers around the world, are paving the way for emerging technologies with an endless stream of ICT innovation. In order to create innovation, NEC collaborates closely not only with key partners in industry and academia, but also with technology partners around the world, keeping our fingers on the pulse of socioeconomic trends and nimbly responding to both evolutionary and revolutionary changes, and together with our customers, we are continuously creating innovative value for society. Moreover, we will continue to provide strong support for the global operations of our customers through "NEC Global Enterprise Solutions", which systematically combine ICT and solutions with our cumulative experience, know-how and comprehensive support.

In this special issue on "Enterprise Solutions to Support a Safe, Secure and Comfortable Life," NEC would like to present various case studies and introduce you to the kinds of value provided by our ICT and solutions.

NEC hopes that this special issue will provide you with a better understanding of how we are working with you to orchestrate a better world. On behalf of all of us at NEC, I would like to extend our wishes for your future success and our hope that we will continue to receive your invaluable trust and encouragement.

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Vol.10 No.1

December, 2015

