

Media Release, 9 March 2023

## **Hitachi Zosen Inova Receives Pinnacle Innovator Award**

***Hitachi Zosen Inova North America picks up prestigious local business award in Tennessee less than three years after setting up in Knoxville.***

At Knoxville's 2023 Pinnacle Business Awards, Hitachi Zosen Inova North America (HZI North America) has won the Business Award in the Innovator category. HZI North America was announced as the winner of the prestigious award at a press conference held on Tuesday, 7 March by the award organiser, the Knoxville Chamber.

### **A Thriving Clean Energy Market**

Since setting down roots in Knoxville with just a handful of employees in July 2020, HZI's North American subsidiary has grown significantly to become a team of approximately 70 employees and growing thanks to its success in the thriving renewable gas and waste to energy sectors. In November 2022, HZI North America announced the creation of 90 new jobs, strengthening its position in the North American clean energy market as well as Knoxville's progress towards becoming an innovation hub.

In the North American market, HZI specialises in converting municipal and agricultural waste into clean, renewable electricity, natural gas and hydrogen, and has further operations in Norcross (Georgia), San Luis Obispo (California) and Toronto (Ontario, Canada).

### **Business Community Recognition**

The Innovator category is for East Tennessee businesses that have developed new technologies, innovative products or services, or applied business systems or services in an innovative way.

The annual awards celebrate regional business excellence, honoring outstanding professionals in nine categories for their contributions to the local economy. Nominees are put forward by the regional business community and the winners are selected by the Knoxville Chamber Board of Directors.

### **A Proud Knoxville-based Business**

On winning the award, HZI North America Managing Director Heath Jones said, "This award is testament to the hard work and dedication of our employees over the last few years, as well as the immense support we have received from the leadership in Zurich and Osaka. It is especially rewarding to be recognised given Knoxville's business growth in recent years and the major companies which have previously received the award."

"We are proud of our longstanding international roots in Japan and Switzerland, locally we are focused on supporting Hitachi Zosen and HZI achieve their global growth aspirations from right here in Knoxville. We look forward to growing further as a proud Knoxville-based business and contributing to the culture of innovation in Tennessee and within HZI," said Jones.

## **Factsheet**

### **About Hitachi Zosen Inova**

Zurich-based green-tech company Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI) is a global leader in solutions for energy transition and circular economy including Energy from Waste (EfW) and Renewable Gas (RG), operating as part of the Hitachi Zosen Corporation Group. HZI acts as a project developer, technology supplier and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contractor delivering complete turnkey plants and system solutions for thermal and biological waste recovery. Its solutions are based on efficient and environmentally sound technologies, are thoroughly tested, and can be flexibly adapted to customer requirements. HZI's Service Solutions Group combines its own research and development with

comprehensive manufacturing and erection capabilities to provide support throughout a plant's entire plant cycle. HZI works for customers ranging from established waste management companies to up-and-coming partners in new markets. Its innovative and reliable solutions have been part of more than 1,600 reference projects worldwide.

Find out more about HZI at [www.hz-inova.com](http://www.hz-inova.com).

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