



# Media Backgrounder

## Fujitsu Intelligence Technology - Artificial Intelligence (AI) HQ

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Many people and businesses associate Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum-inspired technology with the distant future. They believe that despite all the buzz around AI and quantum, these technologies are not likely to become a part of their lives anytime soon. But the reality is that wide-spread commercial applications are within reach.

AI already has the capacity to extend and improve on human capabilities and, in some areas, has already proven more accurate than human experts. It is a field of innovation where Fujitsu has one of the IT world's longest, most successful heritages in research and development. During what is known as the second AI boom, in the 1980s, it built Japan's first computer equipped with AI, named FACOM $\alpha$ , and Fujitsu holds the most AI-related patent applications among Japanese IT vendors. To take just two examples, Fujitsu has worked to maximize the computational horsepower available to neural networks using supercomputers, and Fujitsu also managed to double the speed of learning for neural networks, through streamlining the memory efficiency of graphics processing units (GPUs) and optimizing associated algorithms.

### Fujitsu's quantum-inspired Digital Annealer

Fujitsu's quantum-inspired [Digital Annealer](#) is already being used today by forward-thinking organizations to enable business process optimization calculations that were previously beyond conventional computing. The Fujitsu Digital Annealer is a unique technology that combines the power and speed of quantum computing in a digital circuit architecture to solve complex optimization challenges. It calculates optimal solutions in real-time, from quintillions of possibilities, creating the potential for organizations to transform and evolve their businesses and disrupt their industries. Using quantum-inspired computing, Fujitsu's Digital Annealer technology is already being deployed by market leaders in automotive manufacturing for job-shop scheduling, engineering design and the optimization of robot positioning; [by banks for portfolio optimization](#); by utilities companies for optimized asset allocation and in the chemicals industry for advanced materials discovery. The technology also paves the way for drug discovery, supply chain optimization, disaster recovery planning, personalized digital marketing and optimal decision-making in such areas as socio-economic policies and business, which involve complex intertwined elements.

### Fujitsu Intelligence Technology – the company's AI HQ

Building on both its heritage and its power for innovation, [Fujitsu stablished a new company in 2018](#), Fujitsu Intelligence Technology (FIT), based in Vancouver, Canada. FIT is responsible for developing and growing Fujitsu's AI and quantum related business strategies globally. FIT is also focused on supporting the growing surge of applications and market needs requiring AI technology. The 'AI HQ' in Vancouver will act as Fujitsu's global hub, developing and bringing to market innovative AI and quantum-inspired technologies and solutions developed by the company in Japan and regions around the world, and by providing these to each region as global products and services.

With its AI HQ based in Vancouver, Fujitsu also aims to become a central player in the North American and global AI and quantum ecosystems. In tandem with this, it plans to forge strong ties in its community, hiring local AI talent with knowledge of the latest, leading-edge technologies. Fujitsu chose to establish the new company in Vancouver, British Columbia, since Canada is home to numerous universities and research institutions, such as the University of Toronto in Ontario, which is engaged in world-leading AI and quantum computing research. Moreover, these regions bring a wealth of innovative business ideas from the IT industry,

underpinned by a diverse business ecosystem that has witnessed the proliferation of many cutting-edge startup tech companies, including [Fujitsu's partner](#), the quantum-computing software developer [1QB Information Technologies Inc.](#) The two companies are working in both the Japanese and global markets to develop applications which address industry problems using AI developed for use with quantum-inspired technologies.

By establishing this critical location outside Japan for one of its key focus business areas going forwards, Fujitsu will focus on driving and accelerating the development of new innovative solutions and services utilizing the latest technology to help address real business problems.

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#### **About Fujitsu**

Fujitsu is the leading Japanese information and communication technology (ICT) company, offering a full range of technology products, solutions, and services. Approximately 140,000 Fujitsu people support customers in more than 100 countries. We use our experience and the power of ICT to shape the future of society with our customers. Fujitsu Limited (TSE: 6702) reported consolidated revenues of 4.1 trillion yen (US \$39 billion) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2018. For more information, please see <http://www.fujitsu.com>.

#### **About Fujitsu EMEA**

Fujitsu promotes a Human Centric Intelligent Society, in which innovation is driven by the integration of people, information and infrastructure. In the Europe, Middle East, India and Africa region (EMEA), our 27,000-strong workforce is committed to Digital Co-creation, blending business expertise with digital technology and creating new value with ecosystem partners and customers. We enable our customers to digitally transform with connected technology services, focused on Artificial Intelligence, the Internet of Things, and Cloud - all underpinned by Security. For more information, please visit <https://www.fujitsu.com/emeia/about/>