

The following is an English version of the official Japanese announcement, which has been given to the JASDAQ and the media in Tokyo, Japan.



February 17, 2017

Company: SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
(JASDAQ Standard Code: 8739)

Notice on the Execution of Investment in MJJ Consumer Communication Robots Company

Financing to enhance R&D in Artificial Intelligence and accelerate global expansion

Tokyo (February 17, 2017) – SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX) hereby announces that “Mirai Creation Investment Limited Partnership” (Fund), established in November 2015, has executed a new investment (amount not disclosed) in MJJ Inc. (MJJ), a company which develops, manufactures and markets consumer communication robots “Tapia”. Using this capital, MJJ will enhance its R&D in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and accelerate global expansion.

■ Overview of Investment

MJJ (HQ: Minato, Tokyo), was established in July 2015 with the slogan, “MORE JOYFUL INNOVATION”, and it develops communication robots, “Tapia”, which provide not only convenient but also joyful and exciting life. MJJ has exhibited “Tapia” in CES (Consumer Electronics Show) for 2 consecutive years and it is already on sale in Japan.

■ Overview of the Fund

The Fund aims to invest in enterprises and projects that possess innovative technologies in the core fields of AI, robotics, technologies to help achieving a hydrogen-based society, as well as other related projects. The Fund began its operations in November 2015 with SPARX as an operator, with investment of 13.5 billion yen by Toyota Motor Corporation, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and SPARX. At the end of January 2017, 19 companies have invested in the Fund and AUM reached 35.1 billion yen.

■ Related Press Release

“Toyota and Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation to Invest in New Investment Fund Established by SPARX Group Co., Ltd.” dated November 4, 2015.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE151104-01.pdf>

“Notice Concerning the Execution of First Investment Project by Mirai Creation Fund” dated January 5, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160105-01.pdf>

“Notice Concerning the Execution of New Investment by Mirai Creation Fund” dated January 13, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160113-01.pdf>

“Notice Concerning the Execution of First Investment In Energy Storage Venture by Mirai Creation Fund” dated March 30, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160330-01.pdf>

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“INCJ, SPARX Group and Mitsubishi UFJ Capital to invest in 3D MEDiA Co., Ltd. Company develops and markets world's first "3D robot vision system" dated May 26, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160526-01.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In WHILL, Revolutionary Next-Generation Personal Mobility Device Company” dated June 1, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160601-01.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In SORACOM, M2M Connection Service, which is Crucial in IoT Era” dated July 6, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160706-01.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In a FoF, Composed By a U.S. Venture Capital Firm” dated July 11, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE160711-01.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In GROOVE X New Generation Robot for Consumer Appliances” dated October 4, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE161004-01.pdf.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In Getaround Peer to Peer Car Sharing Service and Car Rental” dated November 1, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE161101-01.pdf>

“Notice On the Execution of Investment In freee Japan's Leading Market Share Company In Cloud Accounting Software” dated December 26, 2016.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE161226-01.pdf>

“Notice of Investment in FiNC Japan's Mobile Health Technology Venture” dated January 13, 2017.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/170113EF%20Mirai%20FiNC.pdf>

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