Please note that the following is an unofficial English translation of Japanese original text of the Notice of Convocation of the 118th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. The Company provides this translation for reference and convenience purposes only and without any warranty as to its accuracy or otherwise. In the event of any discrepancy between this translation and the Japanese original, the latter shall prevail.

(Securities Code: 5334) June 4, 2018

**Dear Shareholders** 

Shinichi Odo Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

# NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.

14-18, Takatsuji-cho, Mizuho-ku, Nagoya

# NOTICE OF CONVOCATION OF THE 118th ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

You are cordially invited to attend the 118th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (the "Company"), to be held as follows.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may otherwise exercise your voting rights in writing or via the Internet. Please read the attached REFERENCE DOCUMENTS FOR THE GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS provided below. You are requested to exercise your Voting Rights before 5:00 p.m., on Monday, June 25, 2018.

- **1. Time and Date:** 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 26, 2018
- **2. Place:** 3F Nago, Nagoya Kanko Hotel
  - 1-19-30, Nishiki, Naka-ku, Nagoya

#### 3. Objectives of the Meeting:

<b>Reports:</b> 1. Reports on Business Report and Consolidated Financial Statements, as well a				
	Results of the Audits of the Consolidated Financial Statements by the Accounting Auditor and the Audit & Supervisory Board for Fiscal 2017 (From April 1, 2017, to			
	March 31, 2018)			
	<ol> <li>Reports on Non-Consolidated Financial Statements for Fiscal 2017 (From April 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018)</li> </ol>			
Agenda:				
Proposal No.1:	Election of Ten (10) Directors			
Proposal No.2:	Election of One (1) Audit & Supervisory Board Member			

**©**If any amendment is made to the REFERENCE DOCUMENTS FOR THE GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS, the Business Report, and the Consolidated and/or the Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, the amended information will be disclosed on the Company's Web site. (<u>https://www.ngkntk.co.jp/</u>)

### **REFERENCE DOCUMENTS FOR THE GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

#### **Proposals and Items of Reference**

#### Proposal No. 1: Election of Ten (10) Directors

As the terms of office of all of the current ten (10) Directors will expire at the conclusion of this General Meeting of Shareholders, we propose the election of ten (10) Directors, including three (3) candidates for Outside Director.

The Company believes it is important to ensure that the Board of Directors is composed of diverse human resources with different backgrounds that include specialized knowledge, experience, etc. In addition, by electing several Outside Directors as members of the Board of Directors, the Company places great emphasis on incorporating external perspectives in order to strengthen supervisory functions while securing transparency for decision-making processes.

Based on the aforementioned belief, in order to ensure the reasonability and the transparency, the selection of candidates for Directors is determined at the Board of Directors through the deliberation of Nomination Committee, an advisory body for the Board of Directors where the outside officers participate.

The candidates for Directors are as follows:

No.	Name		Current positions at the	Assignments
1	Shinichi Odo	Re-appointed	CompanyRepresentative Director andChairman of the BoardChief Executive OfficerPresident Officer	
2	Teppei Okawa	Re-appointed	Representative Director and Vice President Officer	Assistant to President, in charge of Internal Auditing Office, overall control of Corporate Strategy Group, Corporate Administration Group and Engineering R&D Group
3	Takeshi Kawai	Re-appointed	Member of the Board Senior Managing Officer	Overall control of Divisions, in charge of Business Planning Management Division
4	Mikihiko Kato	Re-appointed	Member of the Board Corporate Officer	In charge of Corporate Strategy Group
5	Takio Kojima	Newly appointed	Managing Officer	In charge of Engineering R&D Group
6	Toru Matsui	Newly appointed	Managing Officer	In charge of Automotive Components Sales & Marketing Division
7	Kenji Isobe	Newly appointed	Corporate Officer	In charge of Secretarial Office and Corporate Administration Group, Nagoya Factory Manager
8	Morihiko Otaki	Re-appointed Outside Director Independent Director	Member of the Board (Outside Director)	
9	Kanemaru Yasui	Re-appointed Outside Director Independent Director	Member of the Board (Outside Director)	
10	Megumi Tamagawa	Re-appointed Outside Director Independent Director	Member of the Board (Outside Director)	

No.	Name	Brie	of Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of
190.	(Date of Birth) and Significant Positions Concurren		and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held
1	Shinichi Odo (April 3, 1954)	Apr. 1977 Feb. 2003 Jul. 2005 Jun. 2007 Jun. 2010 Jun. 2011 Apr. 2012 Apr. 2016	Marketing Dept., Sales & Marketing Div., Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. President, NGK Spark Plugs (U.S.A.), Inc. Member of the Board, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	17,774 shares
	Reason for appointme			1 1
	e	0 1	beration and management including domestic/overseas s	ales divisions
			businesses for many years, and he has been serving as ent, the most senior corporate officer for the business op-	arations of the
			mpany has continuously selected Mr. Odo as a candidate	
			xtensive business experiences at the Company and insig	
	global business operat		Atomsive ousmess experiences at the company and msig	into the
<u> </u>	Stobal Dusiness operation			

No.	Name		ef Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of
	(Date of Birth)		and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held
		Apr. 1981 Oct. 2006	Joined NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. General Manager of Technical Control Dept., Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Jun. 2007	General Manager of Planning Dept., Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Jun. 2009	General Manager of New Mission-Critical-System Office, Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Apr. 2010	General Manager of SCM Office, Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Feb. 2011	General Manager of Procurement Dept., Procurement Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Jun. 2011	Member of the Board, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	10,823 shares
2	Teppei Okawa	Apr. 2012	Member of the Board Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
2	(July 11, 1955)	Jun. 2012	Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Jun. 2013	Member of the Board Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Apr. 2014	Member of the Board Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Apr. 2015	Member of the Board Senior Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	
		Apr. 2016	Representative Director and Vice President Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)	
		(Assignmen		
			President, in charge of Internal Auditing Office,	
			rol of Corporate Strategy Group, Corporate ion Group and Engineering R&D Group	
	Reason for appointme			1
	Mr. Okawa has been e	engaged in tec	hnical, planning divisions concerning automotive comp	
			n for many years, and he has been serving as Representation	
			since April 2016. The Company has continuously select	
			based on the judgment that he has extensive business expering corporate strategy and corporate administration.	periences at
	ine company and kno			

No.	Name	Brie	of Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of
110.	(Date of Birth)	8	and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held
3	Takeshi Kawai (October 13, 1962)		General Manager of Sensor Engineering Dept. II , Sensor Div., Automotive Components Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Member of the Board Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Member of the Board Senior Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)	2,048 shares
	Reason for appointme			
			ineering division in the Sensor Division for many years	
	served as General Manager of Automotive Components Group, he currently serves as Member of the			
			charge of the Business Planning Management Division t	
			s. The Company has continuously selected Mr. Kawai as	
			that he has extensive business experiences at the Compa	any and
	knowledge concerning	g business ope	erations.	

No	Name	Brie	of Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of	
No.	(Date of Birth)	a	and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held	
4	Mikihiko Kato (August 18, 1962)	Apr. 1985 Feb. 2012 Aug. 2012 Oct. 2015 Apr. 2016 Jun. 2017 (Assignmen In charge of	SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. President, Ceramica e Velas de Ignicao NGK do Brasil Ltda General Manager of Corporate Planning Dept., NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. Member of the Board Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)	3,498 shares	
	Reason for appointme				
	Mr. Kato has been engaged in accounting and corporate planning divisions for many years, and after he served as President of our group company, he currently serves as Member of the Board Corporate Offic in charge of the Corporate Strategy Group. The Company has continuously selected Mr. Kato as a candidate for Director based on the judgment that he has extensive business experiences at the Compan and knowledge concerning business operations.				

	Name	Brief Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of	
No.	(Date of Birth)	and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held	
5	Takio Kojima (October 12, 1961)	<ul> <li>Apr. 1984 Joined NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Feb. 2011 General Manager of Next Generation Product Project, Product Planning Center, Engineering R&amp;D Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Apr. 2012 General Manager of Next Generation Product Project, New Business Advancement Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Oct. 2013 General Manager of R&amp;D Center, Engineering R&amp;D Group, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Apr. 2014 Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Apr. 2018 Managing Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)</li> <li>(Assignments) In charge of Engineering R&amp;D Group</li> </ul>	4,009 shares	
	Reason for appointment as a candidate for Director			
		engaged in research and development division for many years, and aft		
1		f R&D center, he currently serves as Managing Officer in charge of th		
		oup. The Company has newly selected Mr. Kojima as a candidate for I		
	5 0	t that he has extensive business experiences at the Company and know	vledge	
	concerning research an	nd development.		

N	Name	Brief Personal Hi	story, Positions and Assignments	Number of	
No.	(Date of Birth)				
6	Toru Matsui (February 14, 1962)	Apr. 2011 President of Oct. 2013 General Ma Sales and M Group, NGI Dec. 2014 President of CO., LTD. Apr. 2015 Corporate C Jul. 2016 President of TRADING Apr. 2018 Managing C (up to the pr (Assignments)	Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	5,504 shares	
	Reason for appointme	as a candidate for Direct	or		
	Reason for appointment as a candidate for DirectorMr. Matsui has been engaged in sales and marketing division concerning automotive componentsbusinesses for many years, and after he served as President of our group company, he currently serves asManaging Officer in charge of the Automotive Components Sales & Marketing Division. The Companyhas newly selected Mr. Matsui as a candidate for Director based on the judgment that he has extensivebusiness experiences at the Company and knowledge concerning sales and marketing.				

No.	Name	Brief Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of		
10.	(Date of Birth) and Significant Positions Concurrently Held		Shares Held		
7	Kenji Isobe (August 9, 1963)	<ul> <li>Apr. 1986 Joined NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Jul. 2011 General Manager of Accounting &amp; Finance Dept., NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Apr. 2013 General Manager of Corporate Planning Dept. and Public Relations Office, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Dec. 2015 General Manager of Accounting &amp; Finance Dept., Corporate Administration Group and General Manager of Public Relations Office, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.</li> <li>Apr. 2016 Corporate Officer, NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)</li> <li>(Assignments)</li> <li>In charge of Secretarial Office and Corporate Administration Group, Nagoya Factory Manager</li> </ul>	7,653 shares		
		nt as a candidate for Director			
	Mr. Isobe has been engaged in accounting, management planning and public relations divisions for many years, and after he served as Deputy General Manager of Corporate Administration Group, he currently serves as Corporate Officer in charge of Corporate Administration Group. The Company has newly selected Mr. Isobe as a candidate for Director based on the judgment that he has extensive business experiences at the Company and knowledge concerning finance and accounting.				

No.	Name	Brief Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of
INO.	(Date of Birth)	and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held
	Morihiko Otaki (June 11, 1954)	<ul> <li>Aug. 1996 President and CEO, Johnson &amp; Johnson K.K. Vision Care Company</li> <li>Aug. 2011 Vice Chairman, Director, Pasona Inc.</li> <li>Jun. 2013 Member of the Board (Outside Director), NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)</li> <li>Jun. 2016 Director, Henry Schein Japan K.K. (up to the present)</li> <li>Aug. 2016 Vice Chairman, Pasona Inc. (up to the present)</li> <li>(Significant Positions Concurrently Held)</li> <li>Director, Henry Schein Japan K.K.</li> </ul>	418 shares
8	He will have held a of this General Meetin [Reason for appoint Mr. Otaki has exten an Outside Director provides advice to the based on the judgm Company's corporat corporate governan order to enhance tra [Regarding the indep Mr. Otaki had serv Company involving accounts for an extra relationship betweet the reasons above, for independent of Company intends	he 14 Board of Directors' Meetings held in Fiscal 2017. a position as Outside Director of the Company for five (5) years at the ag of Shareholders. ment as a candidate for Outside Director] sive experience with global companies and keen insight as a business or, he oversees business execution by the Company's management the team. The Company has selected Mr. Otaki as a candidate for Out ent that he will continue to contribute to the maintenance and reinfor the governance, as he has been playing a key role in strengthening the access by actively speaking out at the Company's Board of Directors insparency in decision-making. bendence of candidates for Outside Director] red as Director of Pasona Inc., which maintains a business relation g personnel placement services. However, the Company's business remely small percentage of Pasona sales (less than 0.1%). Also, there in Henry Schein Japan K.K., for which he serves as Director, and the we deem that his independence is sufficiently assured and that the elficers (please refer to page 13) set by the Company are met. Ac to notify the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the Nagoya Stock Exc net as Independent Outside Director, upon approval of his re-election	executive. As ent team and ttside Director recement of the ne Company's ' Meetings in aship with the s with Pasona is no business Company. For lection criteria cordingly, the change of his

(Date of Birth)	•	Positions and Assignments to concurrently Held	Number of Shares Held
		Tied public accountant	Shares Held
	Apr. 1999 Partner, Chuo Aud	1	
	Sep. 2006 Partner, Misuzu Au	-	
	-	Co. (currently KPMG AZSA	
	•	20. (currently KPWIG AZSA	
	LLC.) Jun. 2008 Managing Partner,	Director of No cover Drongh	
(78)	66	Director of Nagoya Branch, ently KPMG AZSA LLC.)	
	Jun. 2013 Retired from AZSA	•	174
		rtified Public Accountant Office	174
1 1 1 L	(up to the present)	Timed Fublic Accountant Office	shares
		ard (Outside Director), NICHIHA	
Kanemaru Yasui	Corporation (up to		
(February 22, 1951)		ard (Outside Director), NGK	
		., LTD. (up to the present)	
	Significant Positions Concurrer		
	Certified Public Accountant	ary ricia)	
He attended all of th		a hald in Figural 2017	
	14 Board of Directors' Meeting	ne Company for four (4) years at th	a conclusion
of this General Meetin		te Company for four (4) years at th	e conclusion
team and provides a Director based on reinforcement of th strengthening the Co of Directors' Meetir not contributed to co above, the Company Director. [Regarding the indep Mr. Yasui has an em	vice to the team. The Company the judgment that he will co e Company's corporate govern mpany's corporate governance le gs in order to enhance transpare rporate management in a capaci has determined that he will be ndence of candidates for Outside loyment background with KPM	G AZSA LLC, the Company's audit accounting audits of the Company. I	te for Outside ntenance and key role ir npany's Board Mr. Yasui has or the reasons ies of Outside

N	Name	Brie	of Personal History, Positions and Assignments	Number of		
No.	(Date of Birth)		and Significant Positions Concurrently Held	Shares Held		
		Aug. 1990	Registered as certified public accountant			
		Feb. 1991	Joined BDO Toyo & Co.			
	-	Oct. 2000	Manager, Accounting Department, Japan Branch,			
			General Electric International Inc.			
		Oct. 2004	Joined MARUYAHONSHA Co., Ltd.			
		Mar. 2006	Representative Director, MARUYAHONSHA Co.,	180		
			Ltd.	shares		
		Mar. 2016	Director, MARUYAHONSHA Co., Ltd.	shares		
			(up to the present)			
	Megumi Tamagawa	Jun. 2016	Member of the Board (Outside Director), NGK			
	(May 10, 1958)		SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. (up to the present)			
			Positions Concurrently Held)			
			ARUYAHONSHA Co., Ltd.			
			of Directors' Meetings held in Fiscal 2017.			
			Outside Director of the Company for two (2) year at th	e conclusion		
10	of this General Meetin	ig of Sharehol	lders.			
10						
			didate for Outside Director	C4		
			erience and keen insight as a corporate manager in a dif y as well as expert knowledge accumulated as a certifie			
			or, she oversees business execution by the Company's n			
			eam. The Company has selected Ms. Tamagawa as a car			
			Igment that she will continue to contribute to the mainte			
			corporate governance, as she has been playing a key role			
			porate governance by actively speaking out at the Comp			
			enhance transparency in decision-making.	5		
	[Regarding the independence of candidates for Outside Director]					
	We deem that Ms. Tamagawa's independence is sufficiently assured given that there is no business					
	relationship between MARUYAHONSHA Co., Ltd., for which she serves as Director, and that the					
	election criteria for	r independent	t officers (please refer to page 13) set by the Compa	any are met.		
			nds to notify the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the N			
		ontinued app	pointment as Independent Outside Director, upon app	roval of her		
	re-election.					

Notes:

- 1. Each candidate for Director has no special interest in the Company.
- 2. The number of shares of the Company each candidate holds includes the shares that each candidate holds in NGK SPARK PLUG under officer stock ownership.
- 3. Morihiko Otaki, Kanemaru Yasui and Megumi Tamagawa are candidates for Outside Director as stipulated in Article 2, Paragraph 3, Item 7 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act.
- 4. Although Kanemaru Yasui currently serves as Outside Director of NICHIHA Corporation, he is scheduled to retire from this position at the conclusion of the company's Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders to be held on June 26, 2018.
- 5. In December 2017, the Company was ordered to pay fine by the Ontario Superior Court of Justice for a violation of the Canadian Competition Act in connection with the past sales of spark plugs to a certain customer as agreed with the Canadian Competition Bureau. In February 2018, the Company was also notified by the European Commission of its decision imposing a fine for an infringement of the EU competition law in connection with the past sales of spark plugs in Europe. The Company considers ensuring legal compliance is an important management issue and its Outside Directors Morihiko Otaki, Kanemaru Yasui and Megumi Tamagawa have been emphasizing the importance of ensuring legal compliance and stating opinions about the issue at Board of Directors' Meetings and on other occasions in the course of their duties. Following the detection of such facts, in addition to past statements about legal compliance, the Outside

Directors expressed their opinions on elimination of any violation of antitrust law, including that of overseas, further improvement of the Group's compliance system, and promotion of compliance initiatives, and thus they are fulfilling their duties.

6. In order that the Outside Directors may perform the roles expected of them, the Company has established rules in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, enabling the conclusion of a liability limitation agreement with each Outside Director, which limits Outside Directors' compensation for damages to the minimum liability amount established by laws and regulations.

Mr. Morihiko Otaki, Mr. Kanemaru Yasui, and Ms. Megumi Tamagawa have each already concluded a liability limitation agreement with the Company, and upon approval of their re-election as Outside Directors, the Company intends to continue the said agreements with them.

#### Proposal No. 2: Election of One (1) Audit & Supervisory Board Member

As current Audit & Supervisory Board Member Kenichi Masuda will resign at the conclusion of this General Meeting of Shareholders, we propose the election of one (1) Audit & Supervisory Board Member.

The terms of office of the Audit & Supervisory Board Members to be elected by this General Meeting of Shareholders will be until the conclusion of the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders for the last business year that ends within four (4) years following his election.

This proposal has been approved in advance by the Audit & Supervisory Board.

The candidate for Audit & Supervisory Board Member is as follows:

The candidate for Adult & Supervisory Doard Member is as follows.			
Name	Brief Personal History, Positions		Number of
(Date of Birth)	and Significant Positions Concurrently Held		Shares Held
	Apr. 1976	Joined The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd.	
	Jun. 2003	Executive Officer, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi,	
		Ltd.	
	May. 2007	Managing Executive Officer, The Bank of	
	-	Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd. (retired in June 2009)	
	Jun. 2009	Managing Director, MARUNOUCHI YOROZU Co,	
		Ltd	
		Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member, The	0
		Nanto Bank, Ltd.	0 ah arras
Akihiko Minato	Jun. 2010	Representative Director and Vice President,	shares
(October 16, 1953)		Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting Co., Ltd.	
Candidate for	Jun. 2012	Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member,	
Outside Audit &		Mitsubishi Materials Corporation	
Supervisory Decad Member	Sep. 2016	Chairman, MST Insurance Service Co., Ltd.	
Board Member	-	(up to the present)	
(Significant Positions Concurrently Held)			
Chairman, MST Insurance Service Co., Ltd.			
[Peacon for appointment as a condidate for Outside Audit & Supervisory Roard Member]			

[Reason for appointment as a candidate for Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member] Mr. Minato has held important positions at financial institutions and has extensive knowledge on finance as well as abundant experience and broad insight as a corporate manager. The Company believes that Mr. Minato can perform appropriate audits of the Company's overall management as an Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member and selected him as a candidate for Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member.

[Regarding the independence of candidates for Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member]

Mr. Minato served as Managing Executive Officer at The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd. (currently, MUFG Bank, Ltd.), a business partner of the Company. However, he retired in 2009 and has not been involved in the business execution since his retirement. Also, there is no business relationship between MST Insurance Service Co., Ltd., for which he serves as Chairman, and the Company. For the reasons above, we deem that his independence is sufficiently assured and that the election criteria for independent officers (please refer to page 13) set by the Company are met. Accordingly, the Company intends to notify the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the Nagoya Stock Exchange of his appointment as Independent Outside Auditor, upon approval of his election.

#### Notes:

- 1. The candidate for Audit & Supervisory Board Member has no special interest in the Company.
- 2. Mr. Akihiko Minato is a candidate for Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member as stipulated in Article 2, Paragraph 3. Item 8 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act
- Paragraph 3, Item 8 of the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act.
- 3. In order that the Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members may perform the roles expected of them, the Company has established rules in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation, enabling the conclusion of a liability limitation agreement with each Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member, which limits Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members' compensation for damages to the minimum liability amount established by laws and regulations.

The Company intends to conclude the aforementioned liability limitation agreement with Mr. Akihiko Minato

upon approval of his election as Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Member.

4. Mr. Akihiko Minato has many years of experience working in the financial businesses and has considerable knowledge about finance and accounting.

#### (Reference)

Criteria for Independence of Outside Directors and Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members

In addition to the qualifications of outside directors and outside audit & supervisory board members specified in the Companies Act and the criteria on the independence of independent officers specified by financial instrument exchanges, the Company adopted its own Election Criteria of Independent Officers\* set forth below and elects only persons who meet all of those criteria as independent outside officers.

- 1. Persons who in the preceding three (3) years have not served as a director, audit & supervisory board member, executive, manager, or other employee (including Corporate Officers but excluding outside directors and outside audit & supervisory board members; referred to as "Directors etc.") of a trading partner with which transactions accounted for 2% or more of the consolidated net sales of the Company, its subsidiaries or affiliate companies (referred to as "the Group") or the trading partner's consolidated net sales in any of the preceding three (3) years.
- 2. Persons who are not currently principal shareholders of the Group, or who are not Directors etc. of a company one of whose principal shareholder is the Group (a principal shareholder holds 10% or more of voting rights).
- 3. Persons who have not been employed by a principal lender of the Group in the preceding three (3) years (a principal lender is a financial institution or other financial creditor that is essential for the procurement of capital by the Group and on which the Group relies to a degree that it is irreplaceable).
- 4. Persons who are not attorneys, certified public accountants, consultants, or providers of other professional services who currently receive compensation from the Group.
- 5. Persons who have not received donations of ¥10 million or more from the Group in any of the preceding three (3) years.\*\*
- 6. Persons who are not Directors etc. of companies or subsidiaries of such companies, to which Directors etc. have been seconded by the Group.
- 7. Persons who are not relatives within two (2) degrees of consanguinity of a current or former Director etc. of the Group.

8. Persons who are not likely to give rise to substantive conflicts of interest with the Group on a regular basis. Notes;

\*However, in cases where there are grounds for a clear explanation of independence that can be provided to third parties against a backdrop of corporate merger or other unintended circumstances, even when these criteria are not met, approval may be given after giving consideration to the opinions of Independent Officers.

\*\*However, even in cases where a donation of ¥10 million or more is made, if there are grounds for a clear explanation of the lack of impact resulting from such donation on the judgement of the independence of the candidate Independent Officer that can be provided to third parties, for example, the case that the donation was made to a different professor in the same research lab or a different research lab at the same university with which the candidate Independent Officer is affiliated, approval may be given after giving consideration to the opinions of Independent Officers.

End