

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



September 6, 2018

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

## **Mirai Creation Fund Executes an Investment in ThinCI Inc., Artificial Intelligence Start-Up**

The company develops its artificial intelligence and vision processing solutions to meet the needs for autonomous driving, smart cities, data centers, and surveillance.

Tokyo (September 6, 2018) –Today, SPARX Group Co., Ltd. ("SPARX") announced that Mirai Creation Investment Limited Partnership ("Fund") has executed a new investment (the amount is not disclosed) in ThinCI Inc., ("ThinCI"), an Artificial Intelligence (machine learning, deep learning, neural networks) and vision processing computing architecture company. Making best use of this financing, ThinCI will develop its Artificial Intelligence and vision processing solutions to meet the needs for autonomous driving, smart cities, datacenters, and surveillance.

### ■ Overview of Investment

ThinCI is a venture-backed, Artificial Intelligence start-up based in El Dorado Hills, California with teams in California, Hyderabad, India and the UK. The company was founded by a highly skilled technical team with years of experience in massively parallel processing architectures and the software structures to execute on these computing engines. The company is currently in the final phase of developing its Artificial Intelligence and vision processing solutions comprising hardware platforms, proprietary silicon, comprehensive SDK and application software that can be integrated into a wide range of applications, including advanced driver assistance systems in automotive, intelligent agents for personal electronics, home automation systems, commercial applications, smart cities management, and data centers.

### ■ Overview of the Fund

The Fund targets investment in enterprises and projects that possess innovative technologies in the core fields of AI, robotics, technologies to enable 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 June 2018, 20 companies have invested in the Fund and AUM reached 36.7 billion yen. The Fund has been investing in about 50 companies, in US, UK, Israel, Singapore and Japan. (<https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/en/>). On 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018, SPARX announces to launch Mirai Creation Fund II (two). In addition to the three categories of Intelligent Technology (e.g. artificial intelligence), robotics, and technologies for a hydrogen-powered society that Fund I (one) focused on, the Mirai Creation Fund II mandate also includes electrification and new materials.

### ■ Contact Information

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## Examples of Invested Companies by Mirai Creation Fund

Category	Company Name	Features
AI	Xevo Inc. (Prev. UIEvolution, Inc.)	Develops middle ware smoothly accessible UX (user experience) from vehicles, hotels and luxury liner.
AI	Getaround	A venture develops car sharing system "The Airbnb for car rental" Establishes a strategic relationship in Toyota "connected vehicle" project.
AI	freee, K.K.	The Japan's leading market share company in the area of cloud accounting and payroll software.
AI	FiNC Inc.	A digital health company providing personalized health and wellness recommendations to individuals via a combination of healthcare experts and AI, based on various data including genetic tests, medical diagnostics and lifestyle habits.
AI	aptpod, Inc.	Bi-directional cloud system provider, applicable to autonomous driving.
AI	Guardian Optical Technologies Ltd.	Accelerates its R&D efforts and aims to enable car manufacturers with more advanced safety systems by offering rich data regarding the occupants in the vehicle.
AI	Autotalks Ltd.	Prepares and expands its operations for the upcoming start of mass productions of the chipsets as well as continues to develop communication solutions for both connected and autonomous cars.
AI	Japan Taxi Co., Ltd	Adds new functions, such as "pre-fixed tariff" and "ride together system" to the app and aims to triple its market share from current 22% to 60% by the year of 2022 in the taxi distribution network, thereby making it a "national taxi app."
AI	Sansan, Inc.	Accelerates the spread of Eight, Japan's biggest business network based on business cards, within Japan and internationally, while aiming to become Asia's number one business platform.
AI	Fly Data Inc.	Aims to be a total solution provider for data applications by offering solutions in the industry IoT and AI sectors in addition to its data integration solutions.
Robotics	GROOVE X	Aims to create a global standardized home robot by utilizing experiences via developing Pepper .
Robotics	Kymeta Corporation	Technology of satellite antenna which will realize high data capacity and high-bandwidth connected mobility.
Robotics	3D MEDiA Co., Ltd.	Contributing to industrial robots' intelligence by providing function of eye and brain.
Robotics	WHILL Inc.	Develops, produces and sells high end e-wheelchairs complex of hardware and software.
Robotics	MJI Inc.	Develops communication robots, "Tapia", which provide not only convenient but also joyful and exciting life.
Robotics	Magellan Systems Japan, Inc.	R&D on base technologies for self-driving with envisaging the launch of Japanese GPS service.
Robotics	Exvision Corporation	Enhances technology development for its High Speed Vision Development Platform and deepens the penetration of its application system portfolio via expanded global sales and marketing efforts.
Robotics	RT Corporation	By utilizing deep learning, aims to develop the prototyping of next generation multi articulated robot with artificial intelligence, which can pick up not solid item, like food stuff in the food production factory. In addition, hiring new talents to strengthen the fundamentals of its growth.
Robotics	Realtime Robotics Inc.,	Accelerates R&D efforts on its proprietary motion planning processor architecture, which enables robotic systems to calculate paths to avoid obstacles and determine optimized routes at a much faster speed, with less power consumption and a much lower cost. Also it aims to accelerate its growth by applying this technology in collaboration with big global players in industrial robots and autonomous car industries.
Robotics	iQPS Inc.	Aims to build cutting-edge social infrastructure through which "earth observation is instantly available at any time" by launching many small SAR satellites.
Robotics	Intuition Robotics, Inc.	Its multidisciplinary team of roboticists, industrial designers, full stack developers, android developers, gerontologists, and machine learning experts, are currently developing ELLIQ, the active Aging Companion.
Robotics	Meltin MMI	Successfully reproduced fine finger movements using its proprietary bio signal processing and robotic mechanism control technologies. The technologies developed by it are promised a wide range of applicants, starting in the medical and nursing care fields.
Hydrogen	Exergy Power System Co., Ltd.	Has unique technology on hybrid-hydrogen batteries and hydrogen production.