

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 20, 2017

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

Notice on the Execution of Investment in Magellan Japan's Satellite Navigation Systems Company

Envisaging the launch of Japanese GPS service, it accelerates
the R&D on base technologies for self-driving

Tokyo (February 20, 2017) – SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX) has executed a new investment (amount not disclosed) in Magellan Systems Japan, Inc. (Magellan), a Japanese company in the area of satellite navigation systems, global positioning system (GPS), from “Mirai Creation Investment Limited Partnership” (Fund), established in November 2015. Using this capital, Magellan will accelerate its R&D investment in next generation high precision satellite position system and the downsizing of receivers which will be a must technology for self-driving.

■ Overview of Investment

Magellan (HQ: Amagasaki, Hyogo), has been developing with its mission, diffusion of technologies in the area of satellite navigation systems, including GPS, which can provide precise position and accurate time. In the first Gulf War, people started recognizing mobile GPS which spreads its appearance with the diffusion of car navigation system. In these days, satellite navigation system is inevitable technologies for self-driving of devices, like agricultural machines, drones, and robots. In 2018, people expect the launch of the higher precision satellite navigation system, led by QZSS (Quasi-Zenith Satellite System), what is called Japanese GPS, which will expand business widely both in the area of industrial and consumer usages. Celebrating 30th anniversary of Magellan, it aims to be a leading R&D type company, which can provide accurate position of all items which would be necessary information for the “Connected Society”.

■ Overview of the Fund

The Fund targets 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>

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“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>

“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>

“Notice on the Execution of Investment in MJi, Consumer Communication Robots Company” dated February 17, 2017.

<https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE170217-01.pdf>

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