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

March 8, 2017

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

Notice on Execution of Investment in aptpod, Bi-Directional Cloud System Provider, Applicable to Autonomous Driving

Financing for becoming a global player in the industry, envisaging IoT era

Tokyo (March 6, 2017) – SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX) hereby announces that "Mirai Creation Investment Limited Partnership" (Fund), has executed a new investment (amount not disclosed) in aptpod, Inc. (aptpod), a solution company which provides bi-directional cloud system, applicable to autonomus driving. Using this capital, aptpod will accelerate its recruitment activities for large scale or global deals, enhancement of its products functions, and new R&D activities so that aptpod will be able to play a big role in IoT society where everything connects to the Internet.

■ Overview of Investment

aptpod (HQ: Shinjuku, Tokyo), was founded in 2006. With the projects of municipilities and Japanese automakers, aptpod has been accumulating its knowledge and skills on telematics services. In broadband era, when we can easily send and receive big data interactively. More and more people are interested in aptpod technology with which it can collect, analyze huge, short cycle and high-definition data, what is called fast data, and provide solutions. This is a must technology for autonomous driving. Currently, aptpod has been cooperating with a few auto companies, for the "Connected Car" projects.

■ 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 a general partner and 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 its 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

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

"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

"Notice on the Execution of Investment in Magellan, Japan's Satellite Navication Systems Company" dated February 20, 2017.
https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE170220-01.pdf

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