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

January 4, 2018

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

Mirai Creation Fund Invests in Ficha Inc. an AI Start-Up Developing Software for In-Vehicle Image Recognition

–Leading the Image Recognition Market with its Proprietary Machine Learning Technology, in Preparation for an Autonomous Driving Society–

Tokyo (January 4, 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 Ficha Inc. ("Ficha"), an image recognition software provider. Ficha developed this software, which combines a high degree of accuracy with realistic performance, using its proprietary machine learning technology.

■ Overview of Investment

Kenichiro Waki and Cao Hui, experts in image processing and image recognition, founded Ficha as a start-up to develop image recognition software for in-vehicle cameras. The image recognition software developed by Ficha can, with accuracy and quickness, simultaneously detect people, vehicles, signs, and other objects from images taken by in-vehicle cameras, such as drive recorders, using the company's proprietary machine learning algorithms. As the automotive industry moves toward an autonomous driving society, Ficha aims to lead the image recognition market by further developing its sophisticated algorithms.

■ 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 September 2017, 20 companies have invested in the Fund and AUM reached 36.7 billion yen. The Fund has been investing in about 30 companies in US, UK, Israel and Japan. (https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/en/)

■ 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.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1297754

“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 Navigation Systems Comp“dated February 20, 2017.
https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE170220-01.pdf

“Notice on Execution of Investment in aptpod, Bi-Directional Cloud System Provider, Applicable to Autonomous Driving” dated March 8, 2017.
https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE170308-01.pdf

“Notice on Execution of Investment in GoldIp Legal Tech Company” dated March 21, 2017.
https://www.sparxgroup.com/press/uploads/PressE170321-01.pdf

“Notice on Execution of Investment in SLAMcore Limited., a low-energy, modular-type SLAM system company” dated May 10, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1467516

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 on Execution of Investment in Guardian Optical technologies Ltd., a company which develops next generation sensor for monitoring the safety." dated May 10, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1467515

"Notice on Execution of Investment in JapanTaxi, Provider of Japan's Biggest Taxi Distribution Network App, dated June 1, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1481565

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Autotalks, Leading V2X Communication Chipsets Company, dated June 26, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1489278

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Exvision High-Speed Vision Development Platform Company, dated June 29, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1490717

"Notice on Execution of Investment in RT Corporation, Service Robots and Artificial Intelligent Development, dated July 10, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1494908

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Sansan, Inc. Provider of "Sansan", Cloud-Based Business Card Management Services, dated August 7, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1504039

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Flydata Inc., Data Integration Solution Provider" dated September 4, 2017.
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1512367

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Realtime Robotics, Inc., robotics motion-planning technology company, October 31, 2017. "
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1524123

"Notice on Execution of Investment in iQPS Inc.,developer of the 1m resolution World's Lightest Small Radar Satellite, November 6, 2017. "
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1527521

"For new generation of robot "LOVOT" Mirai Fund and GROOVE X conclude investment agreement, December 4, 2017. "
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1537644

"SPARX Establishes a Representative Office in the US, December 4, 2017. "
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1537642

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 on Execution of Investment in Intuition Robotics, Inc., the Developer of Social Companion Robots for Older Adults, December 22, 2017. "
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1541075

"Notice on Execution of Investment in Meltin MMI, a Robotics Start-Up Conducting R&D on Cyborg Technology, December 25, 2017"
http://v4.eir-parts.net/v4Contents/View.aspx?cat=tdnet&sid=1541400

■ Contact Information

Finance & Management Control
SPARX Group Co., Ltd.
Telephone: +81-3-6711-9100
Fax: +81-3-6711-9101