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 26, 2018

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

Notice on Decision of Investment in "JapanTaxi" Operator of Japan's Largest Taxi Dispatch App, "Zenkoku Taxi"

The Firm to Further Improve App Functionality and Strengthen the Platform

Tokyo (February 26, 2018) – SPARX Group Co., Ltd. (SPARX) announces that "Mirai Creation Investment Limited Partnership" (Fund), established in November 2015, has decided a new investment (JPY1.05 billion) in JapanTaxi Co., Ltd. ("JapanTaxi"), developer and operator of "Zenkoku Taxi", the taxi dispatch app with the largest user and registered taxi base in Japan. JapanTaxi is a subsidiary of the Nihon Kotsu Group, Japan's largest taxi company.

This is the Fund's second contribution to JapanTaxi since June 2017. JapanTaxi is engaged in developing and improving "Zenkoku Taxi". Currently, the app is improving its position as the leader in Japan's taxi dispatch app market, with more than four million downloads and nearly 60,000 taxis registered, approximately one-quarter of all taxis in Japan.

With this round of fundraising, JapanTaxi will further improve its app's functionality, enhance the rider experience of its users, and reinforce its platform —built with integrated software and hardware—to promote digitalization among taxi operators.

■ Overview of Investment

JapanTaxi—founded by its parent Nihon Kotsu Group, the taxi company with the highest revenue in Japan —is an IT start-up that develops software and hardware for the mobility sector. Founded on the idea of "Enriching Lives Through Better Transportation System" the firm is creating a new public transportation infrastructure that includes Japan's biggest taxi app "Zenkoku Taxi", in-taxi signage advertising "Tokyo Prime", and multilingual tablets with built-in payment functionality.

■ 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 December 2017, 20 companies have invested in the Fund and AUM reached 36.7 billion yen, and the Fund has been investing in about 40 companies in US, UK, Israel and Japan. (https://mirai.sparx.co.jp/en/)

■ Contact Information

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