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Notice Regarding the Joint Establishment of the Governance Verification and Enhancement Task Force

Our company and GMO Internet, Inc. (Securities Code: 4784, TSE Prime Market; hereinafter "GMO Internet (4784)"), a consolidated subsidiary of our company (together, hereinafter "both companies"), once again deeply apologize for the considerable concern and inconvenience caused to our customers, business partners, shareholders and investors, and all other parties concerned by the unauthorized access by a third party to "Onamae.com Desktop Cloud," which is provided by GMO Internet (4784), and the various incidents arising therefrom (collectively, hereinafter the "Incident"), as well as by both companies' response to them.

Both companies position their response to the Incident as their most important management issue and are giving top priority to supporting the customers affected. We are also taking measures to ensure the security of our systems, and are endeavoring to implement further measures to prevent recurrence and to make appropriate disclosures.

We also recognize that there were issues in the process of responding to the Incident. We believe it is necessary to further enhance the objectivity, expertise, and effectiveness of decision-making in emergency response, and to verify and enhance the governance of both companies.

Accordingly, the Board of Directors of each of our company and GMO Internet (4784) deliberated and resolved today to jointly establish the "Governance Verification and Enhancement Task Force" (hereinafter the "Task Force"), which will be centered on outside directors and supported by external experts as advisors. We hereby announce this establishment.

1. Purpose of Establishing the Task Force

Both companies have responded to the Incident under an emergency response structure centered on the Representative Director and the executive officers in charge at GMO Internet (4784), while receiving advice and oversight from outside directors and external experts. The response to the Incident is wide-ranging, encompassing support for affected customers, ensuring technical security, preventing recurrence, and external communications.

In light of this situation, we have decided to jointly establish the Task Force in order to further strengthen the conventional emergency response structure and to systematically leverage the oversight function of the outside directors of our company and GMO Internet (4784), the management resources within the group, and the knowledge of external experts. The Task Force also aims to verify and enhance the governance of both companies in light of the response to the Incident, and to make future emergency responses more appropriate.

2. Composition of the Task Force

The Task Force will consist of the following six members.

Titles omitted.

Role	Composition	Number
Leader	Kaname Masuda (Outside Director and Audit and Supervisory Committee Member of our company; Attorney at Law)	1
Deputy Leader	Takuya Ayukawa (Outside Director and Audit and Supervisory Committee Member of GMO Internet (4784); Attorney at Law)	1
Members	Junko Kotakemori (Outside Director and Audit and Supervisory Committee Member of our company; Certified Public Accountant) Miyuki Iwahama (Outside Director and Audit and Supervisory Committee Member of GMO Internet (4784); Certified Public Accountant; Certified Information Systems Auditor) Masashi Yasuda (Director, Executive Vice President and Group CFO of our company) Hiroyuki Nishiyama (Director, Executive Vice President and Group COO of our company)	4
Total		6

The Task Force will be operated centered on the Leader, the Deputy Leader, and the Members who are outside directors of our company and GMO Internet (4784), four in total, and will deliberate on the matters described in 3. below, utilizing the management resources within the group, including its other members.

In addition, to ensure expertise and agility, the Task Force will be supported by the following external advisors: Kuniyoshi Shirai, a crisis management expert; Nishimura & Asahi (Gaikokuho Kyodo Jigyo); and Yakumo Law Office. Furthermore, to incorporate perspectives from outside our group for cybersecurity investigation and verification and for future improvements to our systems, we will receive support from LAC Co., Ltd., including technical investigation and verification of the Incident, evaluation of the appropriateness of the response, and advice on developing and enhancing cybersecurity systems. Fact-finding, determination of response policies, and implementation of measures will be carried out by both companies and the Task Force on the basis of their respective authority and responsibility. In addition, to enhance the thoroughness of verification and to contribute to strengthening systems across the entire group, we will invite directors or higher-level officers of group companies who have relevant knowledge to participate as observers, with a view to making more effective recommendations.

3. Roles and Authority of the Task Force

The Task Force will deliberate on the following matters, formulate response policies, and make recommendations and reports to the Boards of Directors of both companies.

(1) Post-incident response, including customer support

Matters concerning understanding the extent of damage, support for affected customers, compensation policies and other necessary remedial measures, and policies for responding to the attackers (including not paying ransom and offering a reward).

(2) Ensuring technical security and preventing recurrence

Matters concerning technical verification centered on external experts, ensuring system security, formulating measures to prevent recurrence and confirming their implementation status, and verifying the causes of the Incident and the circumstances leading to it.

(3) External communications and information disclosure

Matters concerning the content and implementation policies of external announcements and other important communications regarding the Incident, and, in light of these, the future approach to dialogue with stakeholders, including shareholders and investors.

(4) Enhancement of risk and crisis management systems and governance

Matters concerning verification of the development and operation status of reporting systems within the company and the group in normal times and in emergencies, appropriate information sharing and decision-making processes, risk and crisis management systems, and organizational measures within the company and the group to prevent recurrence, in light of the response to the Incident.

(5) Other

Verification of the corporate culture of the group, and other matters the Task Force deems necessary.

The Task Force may, as necessary, request explanations or the submission of materials from the officers and employees of both companies and the group companies concerned.

Matters that require a decision by the Board of Directors or other body of our company, GMO Internet (4784), or other group companies concerned under laws and regulations or internal rules will be decided by the body with the relevant authority, taking into account the Task Force's deliberations.

4. Division of Roles with the Representative Directors

With the establishment of the Task Force, important future response policies and external communications regarding the Incident will be subject to deliberation by the Task Force.

Emergency technical responses and other measures necessary to prevent the spread of damage will be prioritized for prompt action and reported to the Task Force promptly afterward.

The Representative Directors of both companies will continue to be responsible for the ordinary business operations and the promotion of the management strategy of their respective companies, and will perform the business execution necessary for responding to the Incident, taking into account the Task Force's deliberations and the decisions of the Board of Directors of each company.

In this way, while ensuring the continuity of ordinary business operations, both companies will further strengthen cross-company oversight and expert judgment on emergency response to the Incident through the Task Force.

5. Ensuring the Objectivity and Fairness of the Task Force

The Task Force will conduct appropriate conflict-of-interest management in order to ensure the objectivity and fairness of its deliberations and decisions.

(1) Handling of Conflicts of Interest of Individual Members

If a member is found to have a possible conflict of interest in a particular matter for deliberation, appropriate measures will be taken, such as excluding that member from the deliberation and decision on that matter.

If a possible conflict of interest is found for the Leader, the Deputy Leader will lead the deliberation on that matter.

If a possible conflict of interest is also found for the Deputy Leader, appropriate measures will be taken, such as having another outside director with no conflict of interest lead the deliberation.

(2) Handling of Conflicts of Interest between Our Company and GMO Internet (4784)

The Task Force will also conduct appropriate conflict-of-interest management with respect to matters in which the interests of our company and GMO Internet (4784) may conflict.

In particular, with respect to the bearing of compensation costs, the allocation of responsibility within the group, financial support, and other matters in which the interests of the two companies may differ, we will give due consideration to the interests of each company and of minority shareholders, and ensure a fair decision-making process.

For such matters, as necessary, members with an interest will be excluded from deliberation and decision, and the Board of Directors or other body with the relevant authority of each company will make its decision through appropriate procedures.

(3) Use of External Experts

In addressing the above conflicts of interest, we will, as necessary, receive advice from external experts.

Through these measures, we will ensure the objectivity and fairness of the Task Force's decisions.

6. Technical Confirmation and Advice from External Experts

Both companies will receive technical confirmation and organization, as well as advice based on specialized knowledge, from an external cybersecurity specialist organization regarding the technical cause and scope of impact of the Incident, recovery measures, and the effectiveness of measures to prevent recurrence.

The Task Force will receive reports on the technical confirmation and advice from the external specialist organization and, with reference to them, will consider and implement necessary improvement measures.

Regarding public announcements concerning the Incident, the Task Force will determine their content and timing, giving consideration to information security confidentiality and the rights and interests of the parties concerned.

7. Term of the Task Force and Reporting on Its Activities

The Task Force is initially scheduled to be established for 90 days. However, taking into account the status of the response to the Incident and other necessary circumstances, the term may be shortened or extended following the necessary resolutions of the Boards of Directors of both companies.

The Task Force will periodically report the status of its activities and the progress of major response matters to the Boards of Directors of both companies.

We will continue to work to further strengthen and enhance the security management systems, risk and crisis management systems, and corporate governance of the entire group.