

December 20, 2019
SBI Holdings, Inc.
(TOKYO: 8473)

Notice Regarding Investment into Boerse Stuttgart Digital Exchange GmbH, and Boerse Stuttgart Digital Ventures GmbH, providing a Digital Asset-Related Business in Europe

SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President & CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao; hereinafter “SBI Holdings”) hereby announces that it will invest in Boerse Stuttgart Digital Exchange GmbH (Head Office: Stuttgart, Germany) and plans to invest in Boerse Stuttgart Digital Ventures GmbH (Head Office: Stuttgart, Germany). The two companies are subsidiaries of Boerse Stuttgart Group, which operates the second-largest stock exchange in Germany, and conduct digital asset-related businesses in Germany and Europe.

Boerse Stuttgart Digital Exchange GmbH is a joint venture of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH, Axel Springer SE and finanzen.net GmbH. It is the technical operator of Boerse Stuttgart Digital Exchange (BSDEX), Germany’s first regulated trading venue for digital assets. BSDEX meets the regulatory requirements in accordance with section 2, paragraph 12 of the German Banking Act and combines all the potential of blockchain technology with the reliability of an established financial market player.

Boerse Stuttgart Digital Ventures GmbH is leading the digitization strategy of Boerse Stuttgart Group. Its subsidiaries are SowaLabs GmbH, that has developed the cryptocurrency trading app BISON, and blocknox GmbH, a custodian for digital assets. Boerse Stuttgart Digital Ventures GmbH is aiming to advance innovative fields that will lead to the next generation of finance while complying with regulations in the digital asset field.

The SBI Group has begun to establish its digital asset ecosystem from the early 2016. Recently SBI SECURITIES and 5 other Japanese brokerage firms established the Japan Security Token Offering (STO) Association, as of October 1, 2019, chaired by Yoshitaka Kitao. The SBI Group has also supported the launch of the first Japan-Vietnam money transfer service using blockchain technology, in partnership with U.S. Ripple, as announced in November 15, 2019.

Yoshitaka Kitao, President and Representative Director of SBI Holdings, stated

"Given that the digital asset has the characteristic of decentralized value, the highest priority upon establishing our digital asset ecosystem is to find trustable financial partners globally. The SBI Group, including its crypto-asset trading platform and other related business operating companies, will fully make use of the collaboration with Boerse Stuttgart Group, to well-establish the actual demands of the digital asset throughout the world"

Alexander Höptner, Chairman of the Management Board of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH, stated

“Asia and Europe are the fastest growing markets for digital assets at the moment. With the SBI Group, we have found an ideal partner to push forward our vision of a highly efficient, global ecosystem along the value chain of digital assets. Besides the exchange of knowledge and technology, possible fields of collaboration include the cross



issuance and listing of digital assets, trading and brokerage as well as the creation of the first global custody bridge.”

SBI Group and Boerse Stuttgart Group will be a partner in Europe and Asia, including Japan, in the digital asset business. Both partners will collaborate in order to create a truly global end-to-end ecosystem for digital assets, utilizing blockchain technology.

For further information, please contact:

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