

May 14, 2020  
SBI Holdings, Inc.  
(TOKYO: 8473)

**Notice Regarding Establishment of a Joint Venture Fund with Redstone Digital GmbH,  
a Venture Capital Firm in Germany**

SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President & CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao) hereby announces that it has established a joint venture fund (hereinafter “the Fund”), with Redstone Digital GmbH (Head Office: Berlin, Germany; Managing Director: Samuli Siren, hereinafter “Redstone”).

The Fund targets to invest in promising startups in Europe-centric regions that possess “Industry 4.0” related innovative technologies, which is expected to change the manufacturing industry in the near future fundamentally, through digitalization. Germany has been promoting Industry 4.0 as a massive project in collaboration with the public and private sectors. The Fund is co-founded and operated with Redstone, a European-leading company in the CVC (corporate venture capital) sector that has a significant investment track record and expertise in growing sectors.

Redstone was founded in Berlin, Germany, in 2014 and has worked with over 40 leading European companies, including Porsche, Deutsche Bahn (German Railways), Daimler, KONE, AXA, etc. The company has invested in more than 300 startups, mainly those of the early-stage, as well as supporting CVC management of their clients. Moreover, Redstone itself is a digital-focused venture capital firm, and the company ranks over 800,000 startups worldwide, by analyzing and structuring the data and trends by utilizing a proprietary AI-driven sourcing platform.

The investment targets of the Fund are mainly European startups, that have core elemental technologies for the next-generation manufacturing industry, on the theme of “decentralized ledger technology”, “sustainability”, “connectivity” and “security”. Specifically, fields such as smart manufacturing, industrial robotics, industrial cybersecurity, circular economy, business efficiency, fintech on industrial systems, and decentralized ledger technology will be focused. The Fund will provide investors in European and Asian regions, including Japan, with opportunities of strategic alliances with portfolio companies, and open innovation by pilot projects etc. In doing so, the SBI Group will contribute in strengthening and improving the international competitiveness of these participating companies.

Today, Germany, Europe and Japan are facing on the common challenges, such as aging society, digitalization, necessary transformation of industrial structure and necessity for the further economic growth. In order to address these social issues, SBI Holdings will actively contribute to further improve industrial competitiveness of both regions, by utilizing its expertise on the operation of the fund.

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