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Press Release

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Notice on Memorandum Regarding the Receipt of Investments from SBI Investments Co., Ltd.

bitFlyer, Inc. (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo, CEO: Yuzo Kano, hereinafter referred to as “bitFlyer”) is pleased to announce of a memorandum of understanding that was concluded from SBI Investment Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo. Representative Director and President: Katsuya Kawashima. Hereinafter referred to as “SBI Investment”) – a subsidiary of SBI Holdings, Inc.(Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo. Representative Director, President & CEO:Yoshitaka Kitao. Hereinafter referred to as “SBI Holdings”) which operates and manages venture capital funds, regarding the receipt of investments through the “FinTech Fund” (full name: FinTech Business Innovation Investment Limited Partnership. Hereinafter referred to as “the Fund”).

About SBI Group

The SBI Group is primarily involved in the three business branches of: “financial services,” which provides a variety of financial products and services mainly through the Internet; “asset management,” which invests in foreign and domestic startups; and “bio-related business,” which involves R&D, marketing, and sales of pharmaceuticals, health foods, and cosmetics on a global scale.

With SBI Group companies (including SBI Sumishin Net Bank, SBI Insurance, and SBI SECURITIES, which has achieved a 40% share in terms of individual stock brokerage trading value) steadily growing their clientele, SBI Group's overall client base has exceeded 18 million.

About SBI Investment

SBI Investment is the core of the SBI Group's asset management sector, and it operates and manages venture capital funds. Based on the management philosophy of becoming a leading company responsible for the creation and development of the 21st century's core industries as a “new industry creator,” SBI Investment is involved in growth-supporting activities and investment in growth sector startups. So far, a total of JPY 365 billion has been invested in unlisted companies in the growth sector's next-generation IT sector.

About the Fund

The Fund was founded with the goal of promoting the introduction and utilization of FinTech by investors while also increasing the value of investee companies by backing open innovation between investors and investee companies. Its founding was made possible by taking advantage of SBI Investment's experience investing in the growth sector and the knowledge cultivated by the SBI Group's online financing business to invest in promising startups in the booming FinTech field.

About bitFlyer

bitFlyer is Japan's largest bitcoin/blockchain business and has received funding from investors including Mitsubishi UFJ Capital Co., Ltd., Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Venture Capital Co., Ltd., Recruit Holdings Ltd., and Dentsu Digital Holdings, Inc. They manage the comprehensive Bitcoin platform, bitFlyer, whose platform includes Bitcoin sales and exchange, Bitcoin payment services, and Bitcoin advertisement services. They also carry out surveys, analysis, research, and development of new services that utilize blockchain technology.

Related Links

SBI Holdings : <http://www.sbigroup.co.jp/english/>

SBI Investment : <http://www.sbinvestment.co.jp/>

The Fund : http://www.sbigroup.co.jp/news/2015/1222_10002.html

bitFlyer : <https://bitflyer.jp/en/>