



2024 Israel-Japan Yearly Insight Report

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Israel – Japan January 2024

Japan to tap Israel envoy Mizushima as S. Korea ambassador.

January 11, 2024 (Mainichi Japan)



Koichi Mizushima. (Kyodo)

TOKYO (Kyodo) -- The Japanese government plans to name its ambassador to Israel, Koichi Mizushima, as the new envoy to South Korea, sources familiar with the matter said Thursday.

Mizushima, 62, who joined the Foreign Ministry in 1985, would replace Koichi Aiboshi, 64. Both diplomats took up their current positions in January 2021.

Mizushima served as minister at the Japanese Embassy in South Korea for two years from July 2017.



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During Aiboshi's tenure as the ambassador to South Korea, Tokyo-Seoul ties have improved since conservative South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol took office in May 2022 after years of tensions over historical and territorial issues under Yoon's predecessor, Moon Jae In.

Allegations about UNRWA staff members' involvement in the October 7 terror attack on Israel last year

(Statement by Foreign Press Secretary KOBAYASHI Maki)

January 28, 2024

1. As a United Nations agency, UNRWA plays a crucial role in providing essential services such as health and medical care, education, welfare, and food assistance to millions of Palestine refugees in cooperation with the international community. Especially in the Gaza Strip, where the humanitarian situation is deteriorating further, UNRWA plays a vital role in delivering essential humanitarian assistance to each and every resident.
2. Against this backdrop, Japan is extremely concerned about the alleged involvement of UNRWA staff members in the terror attack on Israel on October 7 last year. In response, **Japan has decided to suspend additional funding to UNRWA for the time being while UNRWA conducts an investigation into the matter and considers measures to address the allegations.**
3. Many UNRWA staff members have been dedicated to providing humanitarian assistance to Gaza. Japan has been strongly urging UNRWA to conduct the investigation in a prompt and complete manner and to take appropriate measures, including strengthening governance within UNRWA, so that UNRWA can firmly fulfill the role it should play.
4. At the same time, Japan will continue to make persistent and active diplomatic efforts to improve the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and to calm down

the situation as soon as possible by providing support to other international organizations.

South Africa's filing of an application instituting proceedings against Israel before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) (Indication of the Provisional Measures)

(Statement by Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko)

January 27, 2024

1. On 29 December 2023, South Africa filed an application instituting proceedings against Israel before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), requesting therein the indication of provisional measures. On 26 January 2024 (local time), the ICJ delivered its Order on the provisional measures, considering the request from South Africa.
2. While the ICJ has not made a determination for the present time on whether Israel is in violation of the Genocide Convention, it indicates in the Order, inter alia, that Israel shall, in relation to Palestinians in Gaza Strip, take measures to prevent genocide and its incitement, and take measures to enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance. The order of provisional measures of the ICJ, the principal international judicial organ of the United Nations, is legally binding on the parties to the dispute, and to be observed in good faith.
3. The ICJ has referred to the compliance with international humanitarian law and the release of the hostages. Japan also has unequivocally condemned the terror attacks by Hamas and others, urged the immediate release of the hostages, and has urged Israel to comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, in exercising its right to defend itself and its people.



4. As a country that attaches great importance to the rule of law in the international community, Japan avails this opportunity to reiterate its support for the ICJ's role in this regard.
5. While closely communicating with the countries and international organizations concerned, Japan will continue to urge all parties to comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, and to act in good faith based on relevant UN Security Council resolutions, and will persistently and actively continue its diplomatic efforts toward the immediate release of the hostages, improvement of the humanitarian situation, and calming down the situation as soon as possible.

Israeli Tech Entrepreneurs Aid Japan Quake Victims with Phone, Internet, And Power

[John Jeffay](#) January 8, 2024

A group of Israeli tech entrepreneurs is working to provide phone and Internet access and off-grid electricity for victims of the New Year's Day earthquake and tsunami that hit central Japan. [SmartAID](#), an Israel-based international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization, said it had two representatives stationed in Japan who immediately headed towards the Ishikawa and Toyama prefectures nearest the epicenter of the earthquake, and sent two more to help them.

The organization uses technology and innovation to alleviate suffering. It's currently working inside Israel as well due to the Gaza conflict. "It's very important for the world to know that regardless of what's happening here in Israel, that Israel is still here to help others around the world," said Shachar Zahavi, founding director of SmartAID..

SmartAid is an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organisation initiated in Israel specialising in delivering innovative technology to the field.



Honda-backed Israeli startup to use nuclear fusion to power EVs.

NT-Tao plans demonstration facilities by 2029, commercialization in the 2030s

HOUSTON, U.S. -- A nuclear fusion startup backed by Honda Motor plans to use mini fusion power generation facilities as charging stations for electric vehicles, signaling how development of the long-hoped-for energy source is accelerating.

Israeli startup NT-Tao will manufacture demonstration facilities by 2029 and aims to commercialize them in the 2030s.

The fusion power generation facilities are to have an output of 10,000 to 20,000 kilowatts. Each is to be sized to fit into a cargo container, making it easy to install even in remote areas off the power grid. Princeton University in the U.S. is cooperating, and the Israeli government is also providing financial support.

Nuclear fusion aims to artificially reproduce the same reactions inside the sun. It does not emit greenhouse gases. In 2022, a U.S. national laboratory succeeded for the first time in extracting more energy than was put into its fusion reactor.

Honda, Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance and other parties have invested in NT-Tao, which has so far raised \$28 million.

Honda is considering using fusion power generation for EV charging stations, and NT-Tao's facilities would make it possible to charge 1,000 vehicles at the same time. Other ideas include installing the mini power stations at data centers and factories.

According to NT-Tao CEO Oded Gour-Lavie, the estimated investment for a 20,000-kilowatt power generation facility would be \$70 million to \$100 million. Generation costs are assumed to be 6 cents to 13 cents per kilowatt hour.

EVs do not emit greenhouse gases when they run. On the other hand, it is difficult to provide a stable supply of electricity using only weather-dependent solar and wind power.

Liquidity Group raising \$200 million for sixth debt fund.

The Israeli fintech company currently manages five debt funds and two dedicated investment vehicles, for which \$2 billion were raised, and one equity fund, for which \$500 million were raised.

MUFG is Liquidity Group leading Investor.

Golan Hazani , 09.01.24

Israeli fintech company Liquidity Group is raising \$200 million for its sixth debt fund, Calcalist has learned. The Harel Insurance Group, which will invest \$30 million in the new fund, will be the anchor investor. This is the first time that an Israeli institutional body is investing in Liquidity's debt funds. So far, Liquidity has already secured fundraising of \$120 million.

The new fund will provide credit facilities of \$2-20 million to growth technology companies operating in Asia, Europe, and the U.S. The underwriting will be carried out by Liquidity's technological system, which the company claims has experienced zero defaults in the last three years, and just a single case since it was established in 2018.

Collaboration begins with Israeli startup Binah.ai on safety management and health management solutions using wearable devices-

NTT -EAST 23/12/2023

First collaboration step - Start of provision of various vital data acquisition services based on heart rate fluctuations using Binah.ai's proprietary technology -

Nippon Telegraph and Telephone East Corporation (Representative Director and President: Naoki Shibuya, hereinafter referred to as "NTT East") and Israeli startup Binah.ai Ltd. (CEO: David Maman, hereinafter referred to as "Binah") have announced : We are pleased to announce that we have begun collaboration to develop and provide services, including in the areas of employee safety and health management. As the first initiative in this collaboration, NTT East has announced the launch of a new lineup of Wearable Connect (hereinafter referred to as Wearable Connect), a solution for NTT East that monitors the health and safety of employees and provides peace of mind. We have started cooperation that allows you to use the various functions of Binah Connect, Binah's software that allows you to measure stress levels, etc.

1. Background and purpose

At work sites in the manufacturing and construction industries, there is an urgent need to improve workplace safety, such as preventing falls, , heat stroke, and early detection and response in the event of an accident. In addition, almost all industries are having to deal with aging populations and labor shortages, and from the perspective of securing employment, there is a need for greater safety management and management of employees than ever before, especially in industries with physically demanding work environments and work content. Health management is required.

In order to address these issues, NTT East processes and accumulates each employee's heart rate, location information, fall/stagnation detection information, etc. measured by wearable terminals and IoT sensors on the cloud, and centrally manages

and manages the status. We provide "Wearable Connect", a solution that monitors the health and safety of employees and provides peace of mind by using the information to notify employees and employees themselves.

Meanwhile, Binah's "Binah.ai solution" enables highly accurate measurement of vital signs (heart rate, respiratory rate, heart rate variability (HRV), stress level, etc.) using proprietary technology that combines signal processing and AI.. Up until now, we have been able to measure spots on the face and fingers using cameras such as smartphones, but continuous monitoring is required for safety and health management in field work, etc. In order to meet these needs, we have started providing "Binah Connect" in October 2023, which supports PPG sensors *

With this background in mind, NTT East and Binah have begun a collaboration, and as the first step in the collaboration, we will be introducing various functions of Binah's software "Binah Connect" as part of NTT East's new lineup of "Wearable Connect."

2. Solution overview

The data measured by the PPG sensor installed in the wearable terminal and "Binah Connect" is processed and accumulated on the "Wearable Connect" cloud, and the measurement data of each worker is centrally managed. In addition to heart rate, acceleration, and location information measured by the normal functions of "Wearable Connect," "Binah Connect" enables the acquisition of various vital signs (respiration rate, heart rate variability (HRV), stress level, etc.). When an abnormality is detected in each data, an alert is sent to the individual or administrator's terminal, making it possible to detect worker malfunctions and accidents early. These speeds up the initial response when accidents occur, contributing to the prevention of industrial accidents.

Four. the next deployment

In the future, the two companies will consider developing new functions, such as fatigue and drowsiness detection, in order to further advance employee safety and health management solutions using wearable devices. In addition, we aim to provide value to more customers by promoting the use of not only wearable devices but also in new fields such as healthcare.

XM Cyber and SB C&S Partner to Advance CTEM and ASM Capabilities in Japan

Partnership Agreement a Testament to XM Cyber's Advanced External Attack Surface Management and Continuous Threat Exposure Management Capabilities

HERZLIYA, Israel, Jan. 16, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [XM Cyber](#), the leader in hybrid cloud exposure management, today announced a distributor agreement with SB C&S Corp., a Japanese top IT wholesaler-distributor company. XM Cyber's partnership with SB C&S builds on its recent growth in Asia-Pacific and marks a significant expansion into the Japanese market.

In recent years, enterprise attack surfaces have significantly expanded due to remote work and cloud computing adoption. This attack surface sprawl, combined with a shortage of cybersecurity talent, has hindered effective vulnerability management and led enterprises to look to Continuous Threat Exposure Management (CTEM) for a better way forward.

SB C&S recognizes XM Cyber as one of the few vendors with a practical vision for CTEM implementation due to its ability to take the attacker's perspective to identify attack paths across the external and internal attack surface. XM Cyber enables defenders to see exactly how threats link together across cloud, on-prem, and hybrid environments by identifying the attack paths and exposures that serve as key gateway points to sensitive data or infrastructure. Armed with this intelligence, security leaders can develop an actionable remediation roadmap to systematically reduce internal and external risks.

"In recent years, the attack surface of companies has continued to expand due to the spread of remote work and cloud usage. We have been paying close attention to a new cybersecurity framework called "CTEM (Continuous Threat Exposure Management)" to manage such attack surfaces appropriately. We are very pleased to sign the first



distributor agreement in Japan with XM Cyber, one of the few companies that have a vision of CTEM in the early days of CTEM. We are looking forward to deepening our cooperation with XM Cyber and contributing to the improvement of cybersecurity in Japan through proposals to our domestic sales partners," said Mr. Hiroki Nagatani Board Director, Executive Vice President, Head of ICT Unit, SB C&S Corp.

"We are thrilled to announce our partnership with SB C&S, Japan's leading cybersecurity solution distributor. With our advanced solutions and SB C&S's expertise, we aim to revolutionize the way Japanese businesses approach their security strategy, providing comprehensive attack surface management. Now enterprises can manage their entire attack surface, from risky breach points on the outside to the attack paths that attackers can take to breach the organization's critical assets on the inside. With these critical insights, organizations get context of risk and prioritized remediation guidance on the most important exposures to disrupt attack paths efficiently and prevent attacks. Together, we will help clients fortify defenses against emerging threats in a rapidly evolving threat landscape," said Noam Erez, CEO and Co-founder of XM Cyber.

About XM Cyber

XM Cyber is a leading hybrid cloud exposure management company that's changing the way organizations approach cyber risk. XM Cyber transforms exposure management by demonstrating how attackers leverage and combine misconfigurations, vulnerabilities, identity exposures, and more, across AWS, Azure, GCP, and on-prem environments to compromise critical assets. With XM Cyber, you can see all the ways attackers might advance, and all the best ways to stop them, pinpointing where to remediate exposures with a fraction of the effort. Founded by top executives from the Israeli cyber intelligence community, XM Cyber has offices in North America, Europe, Asia Pacific-Japan, and Israel.

About SB C&S Corp.

SB C&S inherited the IT distribution business, which is where it all began for the SoftBank Group, and continue to swiftly generate new business models in response to changes in the market environment. For corporate clients, we provide product solutions

by leveraging advanced technologies, including cloud computing and artificial intelligence, through the largest sales network in the country. For consumers, we harness our own planning and development capabilities to expand a product lineup that consists of everything from software and mobile accessories to IoT products and services. Please visit our website for more information.

Tower collaborates with Renesas to manufacture SiGe-based beam-forming ICs

17 January 2024 <https://www.semiconductor-today.com/>

Specialty analog foundry **Tower Semiconductor Ltd** of Migdal Haemek, Israel is collaborating with **Renesas**, leveraging Tower's high-volume and high-performance silicon germanium (SiGe) BiCMOS technology to manufacture SiGe-based beam-forming ICs. Renesas' portfolio of beam-forming products has already achieved design wins with key worldwide players across 5G, satcom, and aerospace & defense markets.

The satcom terrestrial terminal market is growing rapidly as satellite-based Internet services proliferate globally. According to market research firm Euroconsult, 71 million people were connected to satellite broadband services in 2022. With the rapid deployment of LEO satellite constellations, this is expected to double to over 150 million users in 2031. This translates to an increase of \$400m in the average annual total addressable market (TAM) for SiGe wafers over the coming decade.

"The unique advantages of Tower's SiGe BiCMOS technology have empowered us to design and manufacture highly integrated and power-efficient semiconductors that set new industry benchmarks," says Naveen Yanduru, VP of RF Communications at Renesas. "As evidenced by our design wins and volume shipments, the displacement of mechanical antennas by highly agile electronically steered antennas (ESAs) is well underway and will continue to drive exponential SAM [serviceable addressable market] growth for beam-forming ICs in the coming years," he adds. "With the continuously surging demand for millimeter-wave technology, our collaboration with Tower Semiconductor has positioned Renesas as a market leader."



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Renesas provides solutions for the telecoms industry and, through its collaboration with Tower, has made strides in the satcom and 5G markets. This capability played a significant role in enabling Renesas to establish and solidify its market leadership.

"Our global capacity and engineering agility will ensure Renesas has both the ability to develop new, high-performance products and deliver these in high-volume to their tier-1 customers," says Tower's president Dr Marco Racanelli.

Renesas' portfolio of beam-forming products has achieved design wins with several strategic global customers including a tier-1 base-station manufacturer, a tier-1 satellite broadband service provider, a major defense contractor, and an antenna supplier for a major aircraft manufacturer, among others.

"Production for these design wins has commenced, and we are now shipping in volumes," says Tumay Kanar, director at Renesas. "Volume production is being supported by Tower with its high yield and high reliability," he adds.

Japan's NYK suspends Red Sea sailings.

<https://www.tbsnews.net/world/> 17/01/2024

Japanese shipping firm Nippon Yusen said Wednesday it is joining other major companies in suspending routes through the Red Sea over Houthi rebel attacks on vessels in the vital waterway.

"We have suspended navigation through the Red Sea by all ships we operate," a spokesman for the firm, also known as NYK Line, told AFP, adding the decision was to "ensure the safety of crews."

Since Friday, US and British forces have been bombing scores of targets inside Houthi-controlled Yemen in response to the attacks by the rebels, who say they are targeting Israeli-linked shipping in the Red Sea in solidarity with Gaza.

Diverting around the southern tip of Africa takes longer and is more expensive.



Two other major Japanese shipping firms -- **Kawasaki Kisen and Mitsui O.S.K. Lines** -
- have also suspended navigation through the Red Sea, Japanese business daily Nikkei reported Tuesday.

Officials of the two companies were not immediately available for comment on the report.

Last month, Ocean Network Express, a container shipping business jointly set up by the three Japanese firms said that they would avoid the Red Sea.

In November, the Houthi rebels said that they had seized a ship owned by an Israeli businessman and rerouted it to Yemen's coast.

The vessel is operated by Nippon Yusen, which said it had set up a task team to gather information to ensure the safety of the 25-strong crew.

As of Wednesday, however, Nippon Yusen has no fresh information on the seized ship, the spokesman said.

"We have received no information, while we are worried about" the fate of the vessel and its crew, he said.

KDDI and SONY Innovation invest in SECURITY Firm, Secret Double Octopus Ltd

Secret Double Octopus, Renowned Leader in Enterprise Workforce Authentication, Secures a Series C Funding Round to Propel Global Expansion of Innovative Passwordless Technology

The strategic investment will accelerate customer growth and scale the company's worldwide partnerships network to bring its revolutionary solution to new markets

January 16, 2024

MENLO PARK, Calif.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--**Secret Double Octopus**, the market leader in **Passwordless solutions** for the enterprise workforce, announced today the successful closure of a Series C funding round. Since 2022, the company has raised another \$15 million in capital, including this most recent equity round led by BGV. The investment, which has the backing of both new and existing strategic investors including JVP, SCV & KDDI, will help the company satisfy the increasing demand for its workforce centered Passwordless authentication solution.

Secret Double Octopus' innovative approach to workforce authentication has positioned it as a technology leader in the Passwordless space and a strategic player in the larger IAM market. The company's authentication platform enables an enterprise-wide Passwordless reality for employees and IT teams at a high scale and in a wide range of verticals such as financial firms, defense contractors, local and municipal governments, industrial manufacturing, and other heavily regulated industries. Its unique Passwordless solution leverages several patented technologies to offer a secure and seamless user experience while enhancing the overall cybersecurity posture across the enterprise.

The funds from this latest round will be used to accelerate revenue growth and expand the company's global partnership network. Thus, Secret Double Octopus aims to capitalize on the growing need for modern phishing-resistant authentication solutions for the workforce, especially where heavy reliance on on-premises and hybrid infrastructure is a necessity.



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Since its previous funding round, Secret Double Octopus has significantly scaled its presence in many Fortune 500 companies across the globe, serving several hundreds of thousands of employees daily, and facilitating more than 750 million authentications annually. This trend encourages the company's commitment to solving cybersecurity challenges through user-friendly, cutting-edge technologies that align with industry trends and position it as a prominent innovator in the IAM market.

Raz Refaeli, Secret Double Octopus' CEO and Co-Founder, expressed enthusiasm about the company's trajectory and the support received from investors.

"We are excited to reinforce our partnership with Secret Double Octopus as they revolutionize authentication standards for the enterprise workforce," said **Eric Benhamou, Founder and General Partner at BGV**.

As organizations increasingly recognize the importance of securing their digital assets without hindering employees' workflows, Secret Double Octopus is better positioned than ever to meet these challenging demands. The Series C funding announced today will enable the company to keep investing in its trailblazing R&D and massively scale its global distribution network and market presence.

About SDO

Secret Double Octopus is a leader in next-generation workforce authentication solutions. The Octopus platform enables organizations to bolster security while making the authentication experience seamless and universal for employees.

Secret Double Octopus' solution is remarkably unique in 3 key areas: the range of enterprise use cases covered, ease of deployment on any infrastructure, and the customized transition options to being fully Passwordless. Fortune 100 enterprises and mid-sized companies use the Octopus platform to manage all employee authentications for better security, better productivity, and lower costs. The company has been designated a Gartner "Cool Vendor", named "Best-in-Class" Passwordless provider by AITE Group, and a 2023 SINET16 Innovator

Electreon enters the private vehicle market together with Toyota and Denso.

January 30, 2024 <https://techttime.co.il/2024/01/30/electreon-26/>

The three companies will develop wireless charging solutions that can be installed in both new and existing vehicles. Until today, Electreon operated in the public transport market. The stock soars

Electreon announced on Tuesday a strategic collaboration with two of Japan's leading car companies: the car manufacturer Toyota and the systems supplier (Tier-1) Denso. As part of the collaboration, the three companies will develop a wireless charging solution for private vehicles, new and those that are also on the road (aftermarket). In its collaborations to date, Electreon has focused on adapting its wireless charging solution to the world of public transportation, such as buses and shuttles, and this is the first significant collaboration aimed at the private vehicle market. The solution that the three companies are currently developing will also allow private vehicles to charge the vehicle's battery while driving on a road where a wireless charging infrastructure is installed, or while parking.

Electreon's wireless charging technology is based on electromagnetic induction that is created between a coil installed on the road and a coil in the vehicle. To adapt Electreon's solution to the private vehicle market, the companies will develop a wireless charging kit designed for simple installation on existing vehicles as well as a wireless charging system that will be integrated integrally during the production of new vehicles. The development project is for a period of two years, at the end of which the three companies will jointly own the intellectual property and share the royalties. Electreon's stock jumps by about 10% in trading in Tel Aviv, as of this morning, and the company trades at a market value of about NIS 966 million.

Electreon stated: "Denso and Toyota bring with them a deep familiarity with the automotive market and the high standards used in it, reliability in design and planning, including aspects of the integration of vehicle parts with different types of vehicles, and proven and market-leading capabilities when it comes to mass-scale production. The company considers the cooperation with Toyota and Denso as a strategic partners.



Cydome opens office in Japan.

Cydome will bring award-winning maritime cyber protection solutions to the world's 3rd-largest market (by deadweight tonnage) and mitigate growing cyber risks.

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, December 11, 2023 /[EINPresswire.com](https://www.einpresswire.com/)/ — [Cydome](#), the leading maritime cybersecurity company, today announced the opening of a new global office in Tokyo, Japan. Through this new location, Cydome will bring its award-winning [maritime cyber protection solutions](#) to the world's third-largest market (by deadweight tonnage) and mitigate growing cyber risks.

The Office in Tokyo will be led by Mr. **Hiroshi Matsumoto**, who has 35 years of experience in the IT technology sector, including channel, software licensing, OEM, and cloud. In his new role, he will work to bring Cydome's maritime cybersecurity solutions to companies in the region.

With the world's third-largest economy, Japan relies heavily on marine transport—the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism reports that nearly 100 percent (99.7 percent) of all goods involved in foreign trade pass through the country's ports and harbors. While maritime is critical to the country's economy, cyber threats have become an increasing concern exacerbated by the growing pressure to digitize vessels to increase efficiency and safety while improving ESG impact.

Cydome estimates a cyberattack targeting a maritime company occurred every three days on average between September and October 2023. But these incidents are not only increasing in frequency, they are also becoming more severe and costly. Earlier this year, the Port of Nagoya, Japan's largest maritime port and the main gateway of Toyota exports, was the victim of a ransomware attack that forced the port to shut down operations for more than three days.

"With the third largest fleet in the world, Japan's maritime industry is vital to the country, yet it faces significant threats that could result in costly disruptions impacting all Japanese citizens and the larger global economy," said Nir Ayalon, Founder and CEO, Cydome. "We're excited to open the new Tokyo office, where our team led by Hiroshi



Matsumoto will work with the shipping companies and local organizations, such as the Japanese classification society ClassNK, to meet their unique cybersecurity needs and help ports and ships fend off maritime cybercrime through the monitoring, detecting, and rectifying of cyber threats.”

Cydome’s maritime-specific system offers real-time, fleet-wide cyber protection, proactive risk management, and compliance for IT and OT assets and networks on board vessels and onshore. Cydome’s real-time anomaly detection uses AI specifically trained with maritime data and for maritime use cases, making it the best cyber security product to protect maritime trade. By using this technology, ship owners can maintain compliance with critical regulatory requirements focused on the cyber protection and cyber resiliency of vessels, including IMO 2021, NIS2, BIMCO, and IACS UR E26/E27.

At the same time, Cydome’s systems help ship owners automate much of the tedious process of compliance and mandatory documentation (including, for example, asset inventory) required on their part. In addition to ships, Cydome provides a cyber risk management solution for maritime ports, enabling them to expand their defense perimeter with early detection of potential threats.

About Cydome

Cydome provides the world’s most advanced maritime cyber protection and risk management solution. Its award-winning products secure and simplify cyber protection with fleet-wide visibility, real-time intrusion detection and protection (IDS/IPS), endpoint protection, cyber risk management, and maritime cyber compliance. Cydome’s maritime-certified products use advanced AI specifically trained with maritime data to cover all on-vessel and back-office assets: IT, OT, and communications, offering complete “zero-touch” operation with no need for IT resources on board.

Forsea Unveils First Cultured Eel

FoodTech start-up collaborates with SAIDO restaurant to craft prized Japanese dishes based on cultivated eel.

REHOVOT, Israel, Jan. 22, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Cell-cultured seafood start-up **Forsea** Foods, Ltd. sails on its mission to save wild eel populations from near extinction by unveiling its first prototype of cell-cultivated freshwater eel. Forsea successfully replicated the traditional Japanese **unagi eel** (*Anguilla japonica*) featuring the same tender, succulent texture and rich savory flavor as real eel.



Forsea Unveils First Cultured Eel. Credit: Anatoly Michaello

The visionary start-up has been working together with the celebrated executive **chef Katsumi Kusumoto** to create two popular traditional Japanese dishes – *unagi kabayaki* (marinated grilled eel over rice) and *unagi nigiri*. Kusumoto runs the vegan restaurant SAIDO in Tokyo, which was voted the world's best vegan restaurant in 2019 by the online vegan and vegetarian restaurant guide Happy Cow.

The company has achieved a working proof-of-concept that embodies the sensory attributes of real eel meat and is now prepped for scale-up. In the collaboration, Forsea

contributes its novel technology for cell-cultivating eel cuts, while Kusumoto contributes his culinary mastery to refine the product to perfection in texture and flavor. Forsea was the winner of the Startup Pitch Hour Prize at the Asia-Pacific Agri-Food Innovation Summit last October in Singapore.

"Unagi is an enduring favorite in Japan," informs Kusumoto. "Its timeless appeal, however, is impacted by a growing awareness among the Japanese population of the need to take a more sustainable approach. It's been a thrilling journey to join forces with emerging innovators and working together to deliver the traditional unagi indulgence with a clear eco-conscience."

Forsea was founded in 2021 with a mission to turn the tide on the downward spiral of the ocean's seafood populations by developing a cell-cultivated alternatives. Overfishing of eels has turned this aquatic delicacy into an endangered species. The immense popularity of eel meat in Asia, Europe, and the US likewise poses significant challenges for suppliers who struggle to keep up with the surging demand. This leads to supply bottlenecks, illegal trade, and high prices.

"This milestone marks a major leap in our journey to deliver delicious, cultured seafood products," claims **Roe Nir, CEO** and co-founder of Forsea. "Forsea is pioneering the fusion of traditional, high-quality Asian cuisine with groundbreaking technology to create the world's first cultured unagi—one that will provide the consumer with a genuine seafood experience without putting further strain on aquatic life."

Beyond its contribution to ocean conservation, Forsea's cell-cultivated eel offers a nutritious alternative that is free from any antibiotics, hormones or ocean pollutants.

Forsea readying scale-up to fulfill vision of abundant eel supply

Unique to its proprietary method for culturing seafood is its application of organoid technology which allows for the crafting of 3D microtissues composed of fat and muscle. These spontaneously differentiate into edible cells, mimicking the natural process of cell

formation. The cell lines self-organize into tissue structures without the need for scaffold support, simplifying the production process, and enhancing scalability.

This approach should effectively overcome major industry challenges and will ease some of the supply bottlenecks for eel meat. The proprietary practice also allows for the efficient and cost-effective production of cultivated meat by significantly decreasing reliance on costly growth factors.

Forsea projects that its inaugural product will be ready for commercial launch in 2025 as it seeks strategic partners in Japan (the largest consumer of freshwater eel) and across Asia. EU and the US also are also on its radar as rapidly developing markets.

Mayu Sugisaki appointed to lead Asia venture

To accelerate progress, Forsea has expanded its team, forming new engineering and food applications departments. Nir has appointed Mayu Sugisaki as business development manager in Japan to cement its presence in the Asian food market.

About Forsea

Forsea was founded by biotech engineer Roei Nir, MBA; Moria Shimon, PhD; Itzhak Nachman, PhD; and Yaniv Elkouby, PhD with support from the Israeli Innovation Authority (IIA) and The Kitchen Hub . It has garnered seed backing from Target Global, PeakBridge VC, Zora Ventures, FoodHack, and M&H Ventures. Forsea's organoid approach to cultivating fish tissue involves creating an ideal environment for fish cells to spontaneously form their natural composition of native fat and muscle. They grow as a three-dimensional tissue structure, just as in nature.

Israel – Japan February 2024

Japanese investments in Israel dropped 57% in 2023.

Investments by Japanese companies in Israel returned to 2018 levels, even though the number of transactions remained stable.

[Meir Orbach](#) 15:37, 25.02.24

Investments by Japanese companies in Israel in 2023 amounted to \$662 million, compared to \$1.55 billion the previous year and close to \$3 billion in the record year 2021. According to a report by Harel-Hertz Investment House, which specializes in the Japanese market, investments by Japanese companies returned to 2018 levels.

In spite of the big drop, Japanese investments in Israel in 2023 increased to 13% of all foreign investments compared to 12.8% in 2022.

The number of Japanese investments remained stable, with 62 investments, similar to the previous year's 66. This indicates that as the risk increased in Israel, the investments decreased in size.

The decline in investments was especially acute in the second half of 2023. Fear of governmental stability and the outbreak of the war against Hamas in the last quarter brought an almost complete halt to Japanese investments.

This year, only one acquisition of an Israeli company by a Japanese company was completed, with Oxide purchasing Israel's Raicol.

Another characteristic of Japanese investments is the prominent element of strategic investments. About half of the investments were made by industrial companies seeking to develop joint technologies and achieve future advantages over their competitors with the help of Israeli entrepreneurship.

In terms of areas of investment in the high-tech industry, 16% were directed to medicine, 13% to urban and maritime transport, and 11% to security and cyber sectors. 19% of Japanese investments were directed to fintech industries and various funds.



Another reason that deterred Japanese investors was the steep fall of the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar from 115 in January 2023 to 147-150 in early 2024.

Harel-Hertz does not foresee a dramatic change in the scope of Japanese investments in Israel as long as there are restrictions on visits and travel, the resumption of the activities of local offices, and the end of the war with the restoration of stability in the region.

Mizuho Taps Credit Suisse Israel Investment Banking Head.

Mizuho Bank new Rep Office to cover fast growing Israeli companies

Tue, February 20, 2024

(Bloomberg) -- Ben Chakir, who was most recently head of Israel investment banking at Credit Suisse, is joining Mizuho Financial Group Inc., according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The Tel Aviv-based banker is set to help Mizuho cover fast-growing Israeli companies, said one of the people, who requested anonymity discussing confidential information.

He joined Credit Suisse in 2020 and previously worked for Rothschild & Co., The Nuriel Group and Discount Capital, according to his LinkedIn profile.

Chakir and representatives for Mizuho and UBS Group AG, which is in the process of integrating Credit Suisse, didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

A slew of companies with Israeli roots have gone public on US exchanges in recent years, including Playtika Holding Corp., Mobileye Global Inc., Monday.com Ltd., Enlight Renewable Energy Ltd. and Oddity Tech Ltd.

Supply chain management startup Sensos raises \$22M in funding.

<https://siliconangle.com/2024/02/07/>

BY MIKE WHEATLEY

Mitsui-backed fund, Sumitomo, JAL Ventures injects \$20m into AI-powered supply chain firm.

Supply chain management startup **SensosLabz.io Ltd.** said today it has closed on a \$20 million early-stage funding round led by Magenta Venture Partners in order to build out its platform and expand its go-to-market efforts.

Investors that included JAL Ventures, Israel Cargo Logistics and Sumitomo Corp. also participated in the Series A round.

The startup, which is a **spinoff of Sony Semiconductor Israel**, is building what it says is a more proactive logistics platform that relies on an artificial intelligence-powered “control tower” to keep track of products as they move through the supply chain and manage inventories. Another of its innovations is a unique cellular label, which can be applied to almost any kind of box or package in order to collect and analyze data regarding its transportation and storage, and generate useful insights for logistics teams.

As to why Sensos has done this, the company explains that the logistics industry has not yet fully digitized and that many of the processes and technologies it relies on are siloed and fragmented. With its partial reliance on paper documents and error-prone manual labor, supply chains today remain inefficient and wasteful, while visibility is extremely limited.

As a result, companies face increased operating costs as they’re forced to keep larger than necessary inventories and apply wider production margins to ensure no shortages. That can have a significant impact on profitability, and it means more damage done to the environment, too.



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To address these inefficiencies, Sensos aims to provide more accurate logistics tracking capabilities and insights, enabling companies to manage their inventories more efficiently and reduce their operational costs.

The key innovation is Sensos' globally connected, disposable cellular labels, which are the size of a credit card and can easily be attached to any package. Because the labels are paper-thin, they won't be knocked off accidentally during transportation, ensuring that products can be tracked globally with GPS precision, no matter where they are in the supply chain.

But it's not just the location that matters. Companies must also be able to ensure the quality of products as they move through the supply chain, which is why Sensos' labels also monitor the temperature, pressure, tilt and shock of any shipment in real time.

Sensos says its labels are "zero-touch," meaning that they're activated automatically the moment they're applied to a package, without any human intervention. In addition, they're equipped with nonintrusive sensors that can detect whenever the parcel or package is opened and closed, supporting automatic proof-of-consumption and protecting against tampering.

Each label can be set up and managed in the cloud, with teams able to choose a real-time status reporting frequency of between once every five minutes up to once a month.

The cellular labels are managed by the Sensos AI control tower, which is a kind of hub that automates supply chain management, allowing teams to immediately identify the location and status of any shipment and generate insights that can improve inventory management processes.

Ori Israely, Magenta VP's managing general partner, said the supply chain industry needs Sensos because it continues to suffer from a lack of real-time and actionable data, even as logistics operations in most industries continue to scale and grow in complexity. "We see a growing need for solutions that enable greater supply chain accountability and agility," he said.

The startup says its offering is especially useful for tracking the shipment of cold chain life science products, consumer electronics, mission-critical shipments and high-value goods. Its clients include global enterprises such as Bayer AG and DB Schenker Inc.

Sensos Chief Executive Aviv Castro said today's investment is a clear vote of confidence in the company's team and product. "By using the Sensos solution, companies can optimize production planning, inventory levels and shipping efficiency and at the same time monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions meeting ESG regulations," he explained.

Israeli "Flying Sportscar" Is Getting a Customized Japanese Motor

Published: 23 Feb 2024 <https://www.autoevolution.com/news>

AIR and Nidec Motor Corporation have officially joined forces to develop a customized motor for the Air One eVTOL (electric vertical takeoff and landing), partly supported by the US.

All electric air taxi makers are fighting to secure the best suppliers in the industry for their [flagship aircraft](#). The Israel-based AIR added an important name to its list. **Nidec Motor Corporation** is not only an established motor expert but also one of the biggest electric motor manufacturers in the world. Together, the two plan to develop a customized version for the **Air One two-seat aircraft**.

It's not the Japanese giant's first encounter with the world of eVTOLs. Last summer, it officially announced the birth of a joint venture named Nidec Aerospace, the result of a collaboration with aviation giant Embraer. This new manufacturer is set to focus exclusively on electric propulsion systems for the aerospace sector. Also, it was confirmed that its launch customer would be Eve Air Mobility, which is the AAM (Advance Air Mobility) subsidiary of Embraer.

Nidec Aerospace will be headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, but will also benefit from

Embraer and Nidec's additional infrastructure in Brazil and Mexico.

For now, [AIR](#) hasn't revealed more details about the future motor and its estimated performance. Often described as a "flying sportscar," the Air One eVTOL was initially designed as a private electric aircraft. Performance-wise, it promises a 100-mile (160 km) range on a single charge, coupled with a top speed of 155 mph (250 kph).

In terms of design, the Air One stands out due to its compact structure with a patented folding mechanism, allowing the wings to be folded in under five minutes. Plus, it takes just 30 minutes to recharge the aircraft from 20% to 80%. This private air taxi will be fitted with eight motors but will be able to function with only four of them running in case of emergency (what is known as double propulsion redundancy).

When it comes to money, the Israeli startup and the Japanese motor giant aren't in this alone. The project is funded by the BIRD Foundation (Israel-US Binational Industrial R&D Foundation) through the BIRD Energy Program. This program is meant to support joint initiatives related to clean energy.

On the other hand, Air One also caught the attention of the US military. AIR's participation in the well-known AFWERX Agility Prime program reached the flight testing phase earlier this year, confirming that this speedy and compact eVTOL can be more than a leisure aircraft for personal use.

And it doesn't stop here. The Israeli eVTOL maker also kicked off a pioneering collaboration with the International SeaKeepers Society (an educational entity for all yachting lovers) with the goal of exploring potential eVTOL uses as part of the auxiliary equipment for [superyachts](#).



A Drink for YOUR Mood - The Future Is HERE!

Today, together with **ITO EN and NEC**, We **-Solo-** have launched a new "personalized service" that analyzes emotions from customers' facial expressions through cameras and recommends products that match their mood.

The project will begin with demonstration experiments in vending machines, supermarkets, and restaurants.

The goal of the project is to contribute to the healthy and enriched lives of customers by enabling communication according to the physical and mental health conditions of individual customers.

This approach is different from conventional mass marketing!

The technology will also be used to develop more accurate "personalized services" by analyzing emotional and sales data by business type without identifying individuals.

The project will promote new initiatives such as the development of diverse products and the provision of value that contributes to the health management of client companies!

This project is due to our amazing Head of APAC [Yuichi Shigeie](#),

Our partners at ITOEN and [NEC Corporation](#)

And [Kei Takagi](#) from NEC Israel for Introducing us.

SOLO <https://www.imsolo.ai> /is developing an emotional wellbeing AI to help the population improve mental health using facial bio markers and emotion-based insights.

The technology detects, analyzes and monitors emotional wellbeing in real time using a device's built in camera in a non-invasive, easy to use, science-backed way.



NTT Group partners with SparkBeyond to deliver AI-powered solutions to their global customer base.

This partnership, connected by NTT Innovation Laboratory in Israel, has launched several successful commercial projects with multiple NTT subsidiaries in a variety of industries and locations

[Cybertech](#) | 4/02/2024

NTT Group announced a strategic collaboration with SparkBeyond, a leading developer of enterprise AI, to deliver comprehensive generative-AI solutions for NTT's global customer base.

In its first project, with one of the world's leading medical devices companies, SparkBeyond's AI engine was used to identify specific customer groups to help inform product pricing, with creative yet precise ideas from its AI-generated hypotheses. This showcases how SparkBeyond's technologies align with NTT's strategic priorities, such as edge-as-a-service and Generative AI while offering differentiation based on SparkBeyond's IP.

SparkBeyond's platform leverages generative AI to discover hidden patterns in complex data at scale. It generates millions of data-driven ideas in minutes to brainstorm solutions, bypassing human bias and cognitive bottlenecks. NTT and its customers will benefit from the platform's creativity in its search for patterns in data, its exhaustive approach to covering the internal and external data space, and transparency through its explainable, natural language outputs.

The resulting outputs of the AI engine are actionable insights, data-informed conversational interfaces and adaptive, transparent predictive models that can be implemented to deliver rapid and significant business value. NTT and their customers can embed SparkBeyond's IP into existing applications (e.g. CRM, ERP). The SparkBeyond platform is also designed to reveal data-derived truths to enterprise LLMs like GPT-4, enriching them with grounded insights and trusted, proprietary knowledge.



This partnership was facilitated by NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel (NTT Israel), which works to integrate technologies into NTT's services and products. NTT Israel sources products that can be distributed and marketed to NTT's global clients worldwide, offering agile collaboration processes with a dedicated cadence.

Together, NTT Group and SparkBeyond are helping NTT clients build robust analytical foundations across their operations, facilitate intelligent, unbiased decision-making with automated hypothesis generation, and make actionable discoveries that drive business impact across their entire range of KPIs.

"The opportunity to join forces with the NTT Group and bring Generative-AI problem-solving to their global customer base shows the natural alignment of SparkBeyond's technologies with NTT's strategic priorities," said Sagie Davidovitch, President and Co-Founder of SparkBeyond. "We look forward to this exciting collaboration and demonstrating the power of Generative-AI combined with enterprise data in driving client impact."

"The NTT Innovation Lab in Israel was established to promote and find startups for collaborations and investments." said Noa Asher, CEO of the NTT Israel Innovation Lab. "SparkBeyond is an excellent and innovative company, we are excited to expand our partnership and keep introducing their technology to more companies around the world."

Asgent Partners with LayerX to Transform Browser Security Landscape in Japan

February 08, 2024

TEL AVIV, Israel & TOKYO--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Asgent, a leading provider of advanced network security solutions, announces its strategic partnership with [LayerX](#), the leading Enterprise Browser Extension. Starting this February, Asgent will be the official distributor of LayerX's cutting-edge browser security platform in Japan, marking a

significant milestone in our commitment to enhancing cybersecurity defenses in the region.

Through this partnership, Asgent will offer LayerX's browser security platform, designed to protect against online threats directly at the point of entry – the browser. LayerX's innovative solution is designed to effectively safeguard from a range of cyber threats including phishing, malware, ChatGPT data exfiltration, malicious browser extensions, and others. LayerX's technology offers real-time protection and proactive threat prevention without disrupting the user experience, ensuring a secure and productive browsing experience for users in organizations.

"This new alliance with LayerX is a game-changer for the cybersecurity landscape in Japan," said Takahiro Sugimoto, President & CEO of Asgent. "We live in an age where web-borne threats are increasingly prevalent. At the same time, organizations need to allow employees to work with SaaS apps and use both managed devices and BYOD. LayerX's innovative browser security provides advanced and proprietary technology so organizations can protect against threats and risks without compromising the user experience or their own productivity."

"At LayerX, we recognize that the browser is the central interface of the modern enterprise, a hub where significant business activities occur. This understanding is at the core of our Browser Security Platform," says Or Eshed, CEO of LayerX. "LayerX is uniquely browser-native, allowing us to integrate seamlessly into any browser for comprehensive visibility into all browsing events. LayerX can execute a wide array of protective actions, ranging from disabling risky features on a web page to terminating a web session entirely if necessary. This level of control and precision ensures that LayerX protects any browser against all web-borne risks. I am excited to work with Asgent, whose reach and expertise will allow bringing these capabilities to Japan."

About LayerX

LayerX Browser Security Platform was purpose-built to monitor, analyze, and protect against web-borne cyber threats and data risks. Delivered as an enterprise browser

extension, LayerX natively integrates with any browser, transforming it into the most secure and manageable workspace – while maintaining top user experience. Using LayerX, customers gain comprehensive protection against all browsing risks and threats that either target the browser directly or attempt to utilize it as a bridge to the organization's devices, apps, and data.

About Asgent

Asgent, Inc. (4288: TSE Standard) is a distributor and developer and provider of pioneering network security solutions and services for government agencies, large enterprise and medium-sized organizations across Japan. With an eye on the future and a reseller base of more than 100 System Integrators, the company is dedicated to creating new markets and making network security markets aims to make, both from overseas and in-house, developed network security solutions and services highly successful in the country. Providing a high level of sales and technical support as well as wide range of services for over 20 years, Asgent has come to be known by the market for its reliability and ability to maintain profitable business.

Israeli visual generative AI co BRIA raises \$24m

Sumitomo Corporation's IL Ventures makes a second investment in the company.

21 Feb, 2024 **Globes correspondent**

Israel visual generative AI open platform **BRIA** today announced the completion of a \$24 million Series A financing round jointly **led by GFT Ventures, Intel Capital, and Entrée Capital with additional investors including, Publicis Groupe, Getty Images, Samsung Next, IN venture (Sumitomo Corporation, Japan), Atinum Investment**

(South Korea), Z Venture Capital (LY Corporation, Japan), Mirae Asset Venture Investment, J-Ventures, and others.

The latest investment will build on BRIA's success and strengthen its rich variety of generative capabilities such as text-to-video facilities, continue to enhance its open platform for developers and build its operations globally.

BRIA allows companies to tailor their visual requirements and let developers seamlessly integrate generative AI capabilities into any existing product, solution, or system as a source code and pre-trained model, API, and SDK. BRIA collaborates with many of the world's leading stock image providers and manages over one billion licensed images. These images are used to train BRIA's text-to-image foundation models while ensuring the original creators, artists, and media companies receive royalties to fairly compensate for their images' contribution to the final generated output.

BRIA founder and CEO Dr. Yair Adato said, "With the rapid adoption of generative AI in commercial operations, and as 70% of CEOs agree with the need to act urgently on generative AI to avoid giving their competitors a strategic advantage, it is vital that final outputs are developed from ethical, unbiased, and licensed sources without holding the foundation models in a walled garden. It is essential that companies are equipped with generative AI capabilities as part of their core technology stack so they can seamlessly scale their operations and ensure they own intellectual property and data. This is precisely what BRIA is providing to any company using our licensed-sourced platform and we are thrilled with this opportunity to empower more businesses with the ability to generate AI responsibly."

Japan's Itochu to end cooperation with Israel's Elbit after ICJ Gaza order.

Itochu plans to end the collaboration after the ICJ ordered Israel last month to prevent acts of genocide against Palestinians and do more to help civilians.

The New Arab Staff & Agencies 06 February, 2024

Itochu Corp's aviation unit will end its strategic cooperation with Israeli arms firm Elbit Systems Ltd by the end of February amid the war in Gaza, the Japanese trading house's executive said on Monday.

Itochu plans to end the collaboration after the International Court of Justice ordered Israel last month to prevent acts of genocide against Palestinians and do more to help civilians, Itochu Chief Financial Officer Tsuyoshi Hachimura said.

"The partnership is based on a request from the Japan's defence ministry for the purpose of importing defence equipment for the Self-Defense Forces necessary for Japan's security and is not in any way related to the current conflict between Israel and Palestine," Hachimura told an earnings press conference.

"Taking into consideration the International Court of Justice's order on January 26, and that the Japanese government supports the role of the Court, we have already suspended new activities related to the MOU, and plan to end the MOU by the end of February," he said.

Itochu Aviation, Elbit Systems and Nippon Aircraft Supply (NAS) signed the strategic cooperation memorandum of understanding (MoU) in March 2023, seven months before the outbreak of the war.

As for Israel-related business, Itochu has small fintech investments and a car sales business, but it faces no problems with debt collection or other issues, Hachimura said.

It posted a profit of 611.7 billion yen (\$4.1 billion) in the nine months through 31 December compared with 682.2 billion yen a year earlier.



The trading company stuck to its full-year profit forecast through end-March of 800 billion yen, below the 821 billion yen mean estimate in a poll of nine analysts compiled by LSEG.

(Reuters)

Japan “Deeply Concerned” about Israeli Military Operation in Rafah

.Jiji Press 11:46 JST, February 13, 2024

Tokyo (Jiji Press)—Japan is “deeply concerned” about an Israeli military operation in Rafah, the southernmost city of the Gaza Strip, Japanese Foreign Ministry Press Secretary Maki Kobayashi said in a statement.

Japan urges all parties, including Israel, to “act in good faith” based on relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, said the statement, which was released on Monday.

“Over one million Palestinian people in Gaza have been displaced in Rafah, which is a particularly important location for the delivery of humanitarian supplies,” the statement noted.

Reiterating the importance of the protection of civilians, the statement said Japan urges all parties to act in accordance with international law and ensure humanitarian assistance.

Courtesy Call on H.E. Mr. Israel KATZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel, by State Minister for Foreign Affairs TSUJI Kiyoto

February 28, 2024

On February 28, commencing at 6:35 p.m. (local time, 28, 11:35 a.m. JST) for approximately 45 minutes, **Mr. TSUJI Kiyoto, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**, paid a courtesy call to H.E. **Mr. Israel KATZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel**, during his visit to Israel. The overview of the meeting is as follows.

1. At the outset, State Minister TSUJI congratulated H.E. Mr. Israel KATZ's appointment as foreign minister. He stated that the terror attack by Hamas and others on October 7th should never be tolerated, and Japan has unequivocally condemned such acts. He once again expressed Japan's deepest condolences and sympathies for the victims of the terror attack, and that Japan is deeply worried about the people who were taken hostage, and that all of them must be released immediately.
2. State Minister TSUJI stated that Japan is deeply concerned about the critical humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, and that Japan believes a humanitarian ceasefire needs to be realized promptly in such a way as to ensure a conducive environment for sufficient humanitarian assistance activities as well as to lead to the release of the remaining hostages, therefore resulting in the realization of a sustainable ceasefire.
3. State Minister TSUJI also stated that Japan has consistently supported a two state-solution, and peace can be achieved only through dialogue between the stakeholders.
4. In response, Foreign Minister Katz explained Israel's position on post-war relations with Palestine as well as regional cooperation, in addition to the current situation.



5. Both sides concurred on continuing close communication in order for the stability in the region.
6. After the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, State Minister Tsuji, in the presence of Foreign Minister Katz, met for approximately 30 minutes with families of those who were killed or kidnapped in the Hamas terror attacks. The families explained the situation on the day of the attack and requested cooperation towards the early release of the hostages and towards a world without terrorism. State Minister Tsuji thanked the families for sharing their stories under such difficult circumstances and stated that he would make every possible effort towards the release of the hostages and a world free of terrorism.

On February 28, commencing at 8:05 p.m. (local time, 28, 1:05 p.m. JST) for approximately 35 minutes, Mr. TSUJI Kiyoto, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, paid a courtesy call to H.E. **Mr. Tzachi Hanegbi, Head of the National Security Council/National Security Adviser**, during his visit to Israel.

Same topics as above were discussed and emphasizes.

Grant signing ceremony for GGP Japan-funded project to expand an elementary school northwest of Jerusalem.

RAMALLAH, Wednesday, February 7, 2024 (WAFA) - A Grant Contract for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) was signed today by Nakashima Yoichi, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and the Representative of Al-Jeeb Municipality at the Representative Office of Japan in Ramallah, for a total amount of \$127,286.

Al-Jeeb Municipality will use a fund of \$127,286 to expand Al-Jeeb Elementary School in the Al-Jeeb town. The project aims to enhance the educational environment and ensure access to primary education in Al-Jeeb.

According to a press release issued by the Representative Office of Japan, the municipality plans to construct three additional classrooms in the school. Approximately 120 students are expected to benefit from this project.

During the signing ceremony, Nakashima Yoichi congratulated the representatives of Al-Jeeb Municipality and wished them success in the project.

He also emphasized Japan's firm commitment to supporting the Palestinian people from a human security perspective, as well as the importance of implementing social and economic development projects needed for Palestinian communities.

Since 1993, the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance, amounting to approximately USD 2.4 billion, to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through the Ministry of Finance since 2010.

Japan eyes providing \$32 mil. in additional humanitarian aid to Gaza

[KYODO NEWS](#) - 15 hours ago - 11:46

Japan is considering providing \$32 million in additional humanitarian aid for civilians in the Gaza Strip, Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa said Wednesday, as the conflict between Israel and Palestinian militant group Hamas drags on.

At a Group of 20 ministerial gathering in Rio de Janeiro, Kamikawa voiced her "serious concern" about the "critical humanitarian situation" in the Hamas-ruled Palestinian enclave amid Israel's bombardment and besiegement of the area, Japan's Foreign Ministry said.

Reiterating criticisms of the "terrorist attacks" on Israel by Hamas on Oct. 7 and expressing "deep concern" over recent Israeli military operations in Gaza's Rafah district, Kamikawa demanded all parties "act from the humanitarian viewpoint," the ministry added.

The planned humanitarian assistance would be delivered through international institutions but would not be provided via the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, a Japanese government official said.

Along with the United States and other Western nations, Japan has suspended funding for UNRWA following allegations that its staff members might have been involved in Hamas' surprise attack on Israel.

In October and November last year, Japan announced plans to offer humanitarian aid for the Gaza Strip of \$10 million and \$65 million, respectively.

At the foreign ministerial meeting, Kamikawa also condemned Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine launched in February 2022 as an "outrageous act that shakes the foundation of G20's cooperation" and a "serious challenge to the rule of law," the ministry said.

Among the other participants at the two-day G20 gathering in the Brazilian city through Thursday are U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, while China's top diplomat Wang Yi skipped the event.



On the sidelines of the G20 talks, Kamikawa held bilateral meetings on Wednesday with her counterparts from countries such as France, South Korea and Britain.

Courtesy Call on the President of Palestine by State Minister for Foreign Affairs TSUJI Kiyoto.

February 28, 2024

On February 28, commencing at 1 a.m. (local time, 27, 6:00 p.m. JST) for approximately 30 minutes, **Mr. TSUJI Kiyoto, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**, paid a courtesy call to H.E. Dr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of Palestine, during his visit to Palestine. The overview of the meeting is as follows.

1. At the outset, State Minister TSUJI extended his gratitude to President Abbas for his letter of sympathy and condolences to Prime Minister KISHIDA on the Noto Peninsula earthquake and the airplanes collision at the Haneda Airport. He also expressed his sympathy for the civilian casualties and hardships in the difficult humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip.
2. Regarding the situation surrounding Israel and Palestine, State Minister TSUJI stated that he is concerned about the increasing violence by settlers and others in the West Bank. On the situation surrounding the Gaza Strip since the terror attack by Hamas and others occurred last October, he also stated that Japan has been persistently making diplomatic efforts towards calming down the situation as soon as possible, and also has been providing a series of humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip. He also stated that it is necessary to ensure a conducive environment for sufficient humanitarian assistance activities.
3. In response, President Abbas expressed his appreciation for Japan's long-standing assistance for Palestine including the recently announced additional humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip, and stated that he hopes Japan will continue to play its role.

4. On the Middle East Peace, State Minister TSUJI stated that Japan's consistent support for a two-state solution will remain unchanged, stressing the necessity to concert efforts to achieve it. For his part, President Abbas explained the situation surrounding Palestine-Israeli relations, and highly valued Japan's commitment to the Middle East Peace.
5. Both sides concurred on continuing close cooperation in order for the stability in the region.

Japan-Jordan Defence Ministers' Meeting (Overview)

February 20, 2024 Japan Ministry of Defense

On February 19, Defense Minister Kihara held a meeting with H.E. Dr. Bisher Hani Al-Khasawneh, Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan at a hotel in Tokyo. Overview of the meeting is as follows;

At the outset of the meeting, Minister Kihara welcomed Minister Khasawneh's visit to Japan. Minister Kihara conveyed his appreciation toward the support from Jordan for JSDF's transportation of Japanese nationals, etc, from Israel and expressed his respect for Jordan which plays a significant role for peace and stability in the Middle East region. In response, Minister Khasawneh welcomed the deepening of bilateral cooperation, including in the defense field, and expressed his expectation for further development.

Both Ministers confirmed that they will further promote defense cooperation and exchanges between Japan and Jordan, which are strategic partners, considering that this is a memorable year that marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Jordan. They also exchanged views on future defense cooperation and exchanges between two countries, and shared the view to continue to closely communicate between defense authorities for the peace and stability of the region, through working-level dialogues and other platforms.

Israel – Japan March 2024

Israel decided to participate in the Expo fair in Japan,

Ynet 29.3.2024

Israel informed Japan that it will participate in the "Expo Osaka 2025". However, this time with a modest pavilion, at a cost of NIS 10 million, due to budget constraints in view of the war

After deliberations the State of Israel decided to participate in Expo Osaka 2025, the , prestigious international fair held once every five years. However, unlike the "Expo Dubai 2020" where Israel erected a huge pavilion at a cost of NIS 70 million - this time Israel will settle for a modest pavilion at a cost of only NIS 10 million to save costs. This is how Ynet .learned

Israel's ambassador to Japan, Gilad Cohen, today (Friday) sent a letter on the matter to .the Japanese Expo Minister Hanako Jiml and informed her of Israel's official decision

The decision was made by Foreign Minister Israel Katz, Head of the National Assembly Tzachi Hanegbi and Director General of the Prime Minister's Office Yossi Shelli. The .Prime Minister's and Foreign Offices took on the task and shared the budget.

The government was supposed to approve Israel's participation in the fair at the cabinet meeting on October 11. But following the war, all moves for approval were frozen. The Japanese government has informed Israel on several occasions that the last and definitive deadline to make a decision is January 25th. In the end, the last time to reply to the .Japanese was extended until March 31

The Expo Fair is the showcase for the countries of the world to present their achievements and Israel as the "start-up and high-tech nation" could not be absent from it. It was learned that the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Tsuji Kyoto, who visited the country at the end of February, met with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Katz and asked them for Israel to participate. It should be noted that Japan prevented Russia's participation in the fair but .wanted Israel's participation



The first thought for a large pavilion (A) with an investment of 74 million shekels was dropped as mentioned due to budget constraints in view of the war, so it was decided on a type C pavilion, with an area of 80 square meters, in a shared space with another 80 countries, including the Palestinians and developing countries, some of which are even financed by the Japanese. Only 57 countries are allowed to build a type A pavilion

According to Minister Katz, "Especially now, when we are fighting our just war against a murderous terrorist organization, the participation of the State of Israel in the important event in Japan is of enormous importance. We will arrive with an upright head and present the many achievements and contributions of the State of Israel to the world in a variety of fields. Our participation will further strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation between Israel and the international community

Israel's ambassador to Japan Gilad Cohen said: "We are happy that the efforts have borne fruit and that Israel will be represented at the most important fair in the world to promote exports, innovation and investments in Israel "

Cyber Defense Company Claroty Secures \$100 Million in Funding

Toshiba joins the round as a new investor. And Mitsui Global makes a follow up investment. Claroty says it will pursue a public offering when market conditions are right.

<https://siliconangle.com/2024/03/06/>

Industrial cybersecurity startup Claroty Ltd. today announced that it has raised \$100 million in strategic growth financing to scale up its platform's approach to cyber-physical systems protection, global expansion, research and development, and to expand existing strategic partnerships.

Founded in 2015, Claroty offers an industrial cybersecurity solution designed to empower organizations to secure cyber-physical systems across industrial, healthcare, commercial and public sector environments — collectively, what some call the extended internet of things. The platform connects with customers' existing infrastructure and

programs while providing a full range of industrial cybersecurity controls for visibility, threat detection, risk and vulnerability management.

The Claroty platform is tuned to cater to the highly specialized requirements of industrial infrastructure such as factory control systems covering three main uses — finding vulnerable devices, detecting malware and allowing administrators to access industrial hardware securely over the network.

Another area of focus for Claroty is simplifying the task of connecting to industrial equipment. Legacy systems require administrators to log into industrial systems frequently in order to perform maintenance tasks such as troubleshooting.

However, access to sensitive systems is often isolated from the rest of the network and can only be accessed through a jump server — a server that acts as a tunnel between the less sensitive part of an industrial company's network and the high-priority isolated parts. Claroty's platform negates the need for a jump server to make secure connections to industrial equipment, simplifying the connection process.

With a simplified way of connecting to industrial systems, Claroty has found a willing audience. The company says it's now working with 20% of the Fortune 100. Claroty surpassed \$100 million in annual recurring revenue in 2023 and has seen 300% growth in customers since 2020.

The company also has strategic technology alliances with companies including CrowdStrike Holdings Inc., ServiceNow Inc., Amazon Web Services Inc., IBM Corp., Rockwell Automation Inc., Schneider Electric SE, NTT Data Corp. and eSentire Inc..

“The past year has brought unprecedented geopolitical, macroeconomic and regulatory changes that have created new trends and challenges for those charged with protecting the world's critical infrastructure,” Chief Executive Yaniv Vardi said in a statement. “With our deep domain expertise, unmatched technological capabilities in our comprehensive platform, and extensive partner ecosystem, Claroty is uniquely equipped to help CPS defenders navigate these changes.

Delta-v Capital led the growth financing round, with AB Private Credit Investors at AllianceBernstein, Standard Investments Ltd., Toshiba Digital Solutions Corp., SE Ventures LLC, Rockwell Automation Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank Inc. also participating.

Including the new funding, Claroty has raised \$735 million to date, including rounds of \$400 million in December 2021 and \$140 million in June 2021.

Hailo Appoints NEXTY Electronics as Sales Promotion Partner in Japan to Support Automotive Market Expansion

Mar 12, 2024,

The partnership will expand Hailo's presence in the burgeoning automotive market, providing mass market vehicles with access to advanced ADAS and AD solutions.

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL, March 12, 2024 /[EINPresswire.com](https://www.einpresswire.com/)/ -- Hailo, the pioneering chipmaker of edge artificial intelligence (AI) processors, announced today that it has appointed NEXTY Electronics, one of the core members of the Toyota Tsusho Group's electronics business, as Hailo's second sales partner in Japan, where it will focus on further advancing Hailo's AI solutions within the automotive market.

The appointment comes on the heels of Hailo's recent announcement that leading autonomous driving solutions provider iMotion selected the Hailo-8 AI accelerator and Renesas R-Car V4H SoC (System-on-Chip) to power the iMotion iDC High domain controller for advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) and automated driving (AD). A Chinese automaker is expected to begin mass production with the iMotion iDC High domain controller in the second half of this year.

"ADAS is a key area of growth for Hailo and our partnership with NEXTY Electronics will be critical to help us expand our market presence," said Nori Kojima, General Manager of Hailo Japan. "Hailo's edge AI processors are cost effective and offer high-

performance data processing and low power consumption to the automotive market, making advanced ADAS and autonomous driving features accessible for mass market vehicles. We're thrilled to partner with NEXTY Electronics to be able to offer their automaker and Tier 1 customer base a wider range of AI options that can tackle even the most challenging automotive scenarios."

NEXTY Electronics is one of the key companies in the electronics business sector of the Toyota Group Tsusho and specializes in automotive electronics, IT, communication, and industrial solutions to support smart factories, robotics and more.

The appointment of NEXTY Electronics marks another significant milestone in Japan for Hailo, which has been working with Macnica, Japan's largest distributor of semiconductors and the fifth largest in the world to serve a variety of Japanese sectors including smart retail, cities, homes, and Industry 4.0, since 2021.

It also underscores the momentum of Hailo's global expansion. With its products already serving over 300 clients worldwide through a robust network of distributors across the world, Hailo announced last week agreements with two new distributors – J-Squared Technologies in North America, and Macnica DHW in South America.

With offices in Tokyo, Taipei, Shenzhen, Seoul, Munich, Silicon Valley, and Chicago, coupled with a growing range of distributor partners in Asia, America, Europe and Australia, Hailo is positioned for sustained growth and innovation on a global scale.

About Hailo

Hailo, an [edge AI-focused chipmaker](#), is developing specialized AI processors that enable data center-class performance on edge devices. Hailo's processors are the product of a rethinking of traditional computer architecture, enabling smart devices to perform sophisticated deep learning tasks such as object detection and segmentation in real-time, with minimal power consumption, size, and cost. The processors are designed to fit into a multitude of smart machines and devices, impacting a variety of sectors including automotive, security, industry 4.0, and retail.

LeddarTech Concludes Licensing Arrangement With Renesas

QUEBEC CITY, March 20, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- LeddarTech Holdings Inc.

("LeddarTech") (Nasdaq: [LDTC](#)), an automotive software company that provides patented disruptive AI-based low-level sensor fusion and perception software technology, [LeddarVision](#)™, for ADAS, AD and parking applications, is pleased to announce that it has concluded a long-term licensing arrangement with Renesas Electronics America Inc. to commercialize the LCA2 and LCA3 programmable system-on-chip (SoC) product families.

LeddarTech collaborated with Renesas (formerly IDT) to develop the LCA2 and LCA3 programmable SoC products. LeddarTech's distinctive LiDAR software, combined with AI-based low-level fusion and perception, formed the foundation of LeddarTech's ADAS and AD offerings to automotive OEMs and Tier 1-2s. This agreement with Renesas is one of the outcomes of LeddarTech's strategic transition to a pure-play automotive software company, building on the LeddarVision AI-based low-level fusion and perception software for advanced driver assistance systems and AD. In connection with this transition, LeddarTech is pursuing a licensing model with strategic partners and customers for its solid-state LiDAR products and technology, and this arrangement with Renesas is currently one of the most prominent licenses established in this process.

"I am very pleased to have concluded this licensing arrangement with Renesas," stated Frantz Saintellemy, President and CEO of LeddarTech. "Renesas has been a significant strategic partner of LeddarTech for several years, and this agreement will benefit both organizations and the LiDAR market, leveraging our joint investments in developing these products. Under this licensing arrangement, Renesas will leverage its global sales force and customer base. LeddarTech will strive to maximize the value of our foundational solid-state LiDAR technology assets for many years to come," Mr. Saintellemy concluded.

About LeddarTech

A global software company founded in 2007 and headquartered in Quebec City with additional R&D centers in Montreal, Toronto and Tel Aviv, Israel, LeddarTech develops and provides comprehensive AI-based low-level sensor fusion and perception software

solutions that enable the deployment of ADAS, autonomous driving (AD) and parking applications. LeddarTech's automotive-grade software applies advanced AI and computer vision algorithms to generate accurate 3D models of the environment to achieve better decision making and safer navigation. This high-performance, scalable, cost-effective technology is available to OEMs and Tier 1-2 suppliers to efficiently implement automotive and off-road vehicle ADAS solutions.

LeddarTech is responsible for several remote-sensing innovations, with over 150 patent applications (80 granted) that enhance ADAS, AD and parking capabilities. Better awareness around the vehicle is critical in making global mobility safer, more efficient, sustainable and affordable: this is what drives LeddarTech to seek to become the most widely adopted sensor fusion and perception software solution.

Foresight: Eye-Net and Softbank Corp. Successfully Complete Technology Validation Phase for Connected Mobility Applications in Japan

Ness Ziona, Israel, March 22, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), an innovator in automotive vision solution, announced today that its wholly owned subsidiary, Eye-Net Mobile Ltd. ("Eye-Net"), announced today that SoftBank Corp. (Tokyo: 9434) ("SoftBank") will collaborate with its business partners to initiate commercial validation efforts of Eye-Net's products in Japan following the successful completion of Eye-Net's technology validation.

As previously announced on November 6, 2023, SoftBank and Eye-Net have entered into a multi-phase agreement initiated in a paid technological proof of concept (POC) project. The technological POC was confirmed to be successful after the Eye-Net Protect product met all of Softbank's predefined key performance indicators.

During the POC, Eye-Net's location services were deployed on SoftBank's multi-access edge computing (MEC) infrastructure. This deployment follows extensive testing in

diverse environments, including closed areas as well as open roads. The testing confirmed the system performance and full compatibility with both long-term evolution (LTE) and 5G cellular networks, paving the way for connected mobility applications.

As a result of the successful completion of the POC, the parties will initiate sales efforts with SoftBank's key business partners in order to move forward with the commercial validation of Eye-Net's solutions for improved collision prevention in the Japanese market.

"We are thrilled that SoftBank has confirmed the successful completion of the technology validation phase and the compatibility of Eye-Net's technology for both LTE and 5G cellular networks. This milestone marks the beginning of collaborative efforts with SoftBank for commercial validation of Eye-Net's products in Japan," said Dror Elbaz, CEO of Eye-Net Mobile. "Eye-Net is grateful to collaborate with SoftBank on the visionary path towards introducing a new social road safety approach. Our collaboration aims to offer an accident prediction and prevention solution that could protect millions of users from non-line-of-sight collisions and contribute to a safer Japanese mobile society," Mr. Elbaz concluded.

About Foresight

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX) is a technology company developing smart multi-spectral vision software solutions and cellular-based applications. Through the Company's wholly owned subsidiaries, Foresight Automotive Ltd., Foresight Changzhou Automotive Ltd. and Eye-Net Mobile Ltd., Foresight develops both "in-line-of-sight" vision systems and "beyond-line-of-sight" accident-prevention solutions.

Foresight's vision solutions include modules of automatic calibration and dense three-dimensional (3D) point cloud that can be applied to different markets such as automotive, defense, autonomous vehicles, and heavy industrial equipment. Eye-Net's cellular-based solution suite provides real-time pre-collision alerts to enhance road safety and situational awareness for all road users in the urban mobility environment by incorporating cutting-edge AI technology and advanced analytics.

Announcement by the Government of Israel regarding settlements

(Statement by Press Secretary KOBAYASHI Maki)

March 8, 2024

1. The Government of Israel announced its decision to approve plans for the construction of around 3,500 housing units in settlements in the West Bank. The Government of Japan remains seriously concerned by and once again expresses deep regret over the continued settlement activities by the Government of Israel despite repeated calls by Japan and the international community.
2. Settlement activities are in violation of international law and undermine the viability of a two-state solution. The Government of Japan strongly urges the Government of Israel to reverse the decision and fully freeze its settlement activities. The Government of Japan once again calls for the need to refrain from actions that escalate tensions especially before Ramadan, taking into account the critical humanitarian situations in the Gaza Strip and the occurring violence and collision in the West Bank.

Japan to Join Maritime Aid Delivery to Gaza

Politics Mar 15, 2024 22:16 (JST)

deliver aid supplies to Gaza by sea from the Mediterranean island nation of Cyprus, Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa said Friday.

The Japanese government plans to coordinate promptly with other related countries to deliver food, medical and hygiene supplies through the maritime corridor.

The initiative was launched on Tuesday, mainly led by Cyprus, the United States and the United Arab Emirates.



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At a press conference on Friday, Kamikawa pointed out that the maritime corridor can avoid constraints at borders in ground transportation. "We will work promptly on the matter," she said.

Japan's Kamikawa, U.N. Head Reaffirm Cooperation on Gaza

Tokyo, March 19 (Jiji Press)--Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa and U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres have reaffirmed they will continue cooperation to improve the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, the Foreign Ministry said.

In their meeting in New York on Monday, Guterres informed Kamikawa of progress in U.N. investigations into allegations that workers of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, or UNRWA, were involved in the massive attack on Israel by the Palestinian militant group Hamas on Oct. 7 last year.

The Japanese government has suspended funding to UNRWA in response to the allegations.

Kamikawa and Guterres also exchanged opinions on the Ukraine situation and North Korea, which launched ballistic missiles Monday.

Dispatch of Ambassador UEMURA Tsukasa, Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace to the Middle East region

March 27, 2024

Regarding the current situation surrounding Israel and Palestine, the Government of Japan has been making various efforts to calm down the situation as soon as possible and to improve the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, while closely communicating with the countries and international organizations concerned.



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As part of these efforts, the Government of Japan decided to dispatch Ambassador UEMURA Tsukasa, Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace, to Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates(UAE) from 27 March to 3 April.

Ambassador Uemura will meet with senior officials of these countries and exchange views on the situation surrounding Israel and Palestine.

Japan To Resume Funding to UN Palestinian Refugee Agency

By AFP - Agence France Presse March 28, 2024

Japan is preparing to resume funding to the UN's crisis-hit Palestinian refugee agency (UNRWA), which coordinates nearly all aid to Gaza, the government said.

Once the sixth-largest contributor to the agency, Japan joined more than a dozen countries in pausing funding after Israel claimed that 12 of UNRWA's 13,000 Gaza employees were involved in the deadly October 7 Hamas attack.

Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa met UNRWA chief Philippe Lazzarini in Tokyo on Thursday to discuss measures taken by the agency to strengthen governance and transparency.

"Japan and the UNRWA confirmed that they will advance final coordination about necessary efforts to resume Japan's contribution," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

Japanese media reports said the resumption of funding, which was suspended in January, was expected to come in the first half of April.

Kamikawa on Thursday "pointed out the importance of ensuring transparency and traceability of fund flows and the neutrality of UNRWA staff", the ministry says.



The abrupt suspension of funding has threatened UNRWA's efforts to deliver desperately needed aid in Gaza, where the UN has warned of an impending famine.

This month, Australia, Canada, Sweden and others said they were resuming aid.

Japan welcomes formation of new Palestinian government.

Arab News Japan 31/3/2024

TOKYO: The government of Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio has welcomed the formation of a new Palestinian government on Sunday, with Mahmoud Abbas as its president.

A statement issued by Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko said, "The Government of Japan welcomes the new Palestinian government formed under Dr. Mahmoud Abbas, President of Palestine, on March 31."

"The Government of Japan expects that reform agenda in various fields will be translated into action by the new government under Dr. Muhammad Mustafa, Prime Minister/Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates."

Kamikawa added that Japan will continue to work toward the realization of a two-state solution in which Israel and a future independent Palestinian state live side by side in peace and security. She said this would be achieved in cooperation with relevant countries and international organizations and through Japan's own assistance to Palestine.

Israel – Japan April 2024

UNITED STATES-JAPAN JOINT LEADERS' STATEMENT.

... As our Alliance cooperation reaches new heights, we are expanding our engagement to reflect the global nature of our partnership.

To advance our global partnership, today we announce several new strategic initiatives to strengthen our defense and security cooperation; reach new frontiers in space; drive technology innovation; bolster economic security; accelerate climate action; partner on global diplomacy and development; and fortify the ties between our peoples. Through our global partnership, we are also synchronizing our strategies, and our two nations have never been more united as we work together to address the most pressing challenges and opportunities of the future.

... We once again **unequivocally condemn the terror attacks by Hamas and others on October 7 of last year**, and reaffirm **Israel's right to defend itself and its people consistent with international law**. At the same time, **we express our deep concern over the critical humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip**. We affirm the imperative of securing the **release of all hostages** held by Hamas and **emphasize that the deal to release hostages would bring an immediate and prolonged ceasefire in Gaza**. We affirm the imperative of realizing an immediate and sustained ceasefire in Gaza over a period of at least six weeks as part of a deal that would release hostages held by Hamas and allow for delivery of essential additional humanitarian assistance to Palestinians in need. We underscore the urgent need to significantly increase deliveries of **life-saving humanitarian assistance throughout Gaza and the crucial need to prevent regional escalation**. We reiterate the importance of complying with international law, including international humanitarian law, as applicable, including with regard to the

protection of civilians. **We remain committed to an independent Palestinian state with Israel's security guaranteed as part of a two-state solution** that enables both Israelis and Palestinians to live in a just, lasting, and secure peace.

Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk

April 3, 2024

On April 3rd, commencing at 6:40 p.m. (Japan Time) for approximately 35 minutes, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a telephone talk with H.E. Mr. Israel KATZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel, to discuss the situation surrounding Israel and Palestine. The overview is as follows:

1. At the outset, Foreign Minister Kamikawa stated that Japan, in light of the dire humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip and UNRWA's measures to strengthen its governance, announced to lift the suspension of financial contributions to UNRWA on April 2nd. She also stated that Japan will ensure the propriety of projects funded by Japan through the establishment of a Japan-UNRWA Project Management and Monitoring Mechanism and receive periodic progress reports.
2. Specifically, Foreign Minister Kamikawa stated that Japan is deeply concerned about the possibility of large-scale military operation in Rafah. She then stated that Japan strongly believes a humanitarian ceasefire needs to be realized promptly in such a way as to ensure a conducive environment for sufficient humanitarian assistance activities as well as to lead to the release of the remaining hostages, thereby resulting in the realization of a sustainable ceasefire, and once again called for action for that cause. She also emphasized the critical importance of compliance with international law including international humanitarian law. Additionally, Foreign Minister Kamikawa mentioned that Japan is deeply concerned about the deaths and injuries of aid workers that occurred

on April 2nd, and requested a proper investigation and measures taken to prevent recurrence of such incident. She also reiterated Japan's position that settlement activities are in violation of international law, and called for effective measures. Furthermore, Foreign Minister Kamikawa stressed the necessity to avoid further spillover of the conflict into the region.

3. Foreign Minister Katz made remarks based on Israel's position, including on the current situation in Gaza and its military operations.
4. Both sides concurred to continue close communication to develop the bilateral relations and to achieve the stability in the region.

Japan strongly condemns Iran's attack on Israel: foreign minister.

[KYODO NEWS](#) - 2 hours ago - 15:23 , April 15th 2024.

TOKYO - Japan "strongly condemns" Iran's retaliatory attack on Israel, Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa said Sunday, as an escalation that will further destabilize the Middle East.

Japan is "deeply concerned," the statement said, after Iran launched an unprecedented attack on Israel from Saturday evening to the following morning in response to a recent deadly strike on the Iranian embassy complex in Syria.

Tokyo will take all possible measures to protect Japanese nationals abroad, Kamikawa said, while expressing "renewed determination to continue various necessary diplomatic efforts to prevent further deterioration of the situation."

The statement came after Iran launched dozens of missiles and drones toward Israel, marking the first time that Tehran has directly launched an attack on Israeli territory.



"Peace and stability in the Middle East region is extremely important for our country and we are urging the parties concerned to calm the situation," the Japanese foreign minister said.

The security situation in the Middle East has sharply deteriorated in the wake of a surprise attack by Hamas on southern Israel on Oct. 7 last year, triggering an ongoing Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip that local health officials say has left more than 33,000 people dead.

The latest escalation comes after Iran vowed to retaliate against Israel for bombing an Iranian consulate complex in Damascus on April 1. The attack killed seven Iranian officers, including a top commander, of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Valens Semiconductor Collaborates with Sony Semiconductor Solutions

To Complete EMC Testing of an Interoperable A-PHY Chip System, Progressing Toward Maturity of Automotive's First Ever Long Reach Connectivity-Integrated Sensor.

HOD HASHARON, Israel, April 10, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, Valens Semiconductor (NYSE:[VLN](#)) announced that it has collaborated with Sony Semiconductor Solutions Corporation (Sony) to complete Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) testing of a multi-vendor A-PHY link, progressing towards a mature Sony A-PHY-integrated image sensor that is compatible with Valens' VA7000 deserializer chip. The landmark Sony solution will be the first in the automotive industry to include an integrated high-speed connectivity solution, leading to a significantly less expensive, smaller form factor, lower power consumption camera for enhanced advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) applications.

MIPI A-PHY is the first standard in the automotive industry for in-vehicle high-speed connectivity, and the only technology that is optimized to support sensor integration.



Since its release in 2020, it has attracted a growing ecosystem of companies designing products based on the technology. Today, several automotive OEMs and Tier 1s are evaluating VA7000 MIPI A-PHY-compliant chipsets for integration into their next-generation systems.

The two companies successfully completed Interoperability Testing (IOT) and Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) testing, passing Bulk Current Injection (BCI), RF Ingress and Transients On Line (ToL) testing, including on a 15m/40ft cable that had been aged to simulate the entire lifecycle of the vehicle. This validates the ability of the devices to operate without interference in a real-world automotive environment, essential for ensuring the safety and reliability of electronic systems in vehicles for advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) and autonomous driving applications.

Deepening the collaboration, Valens and Sony are developing an 8 Megapixel A-PHY camera module for ADAS systems that will be prepared in the coming months.

"We are rapidly moving towards bringing to market the first-ever sensor with integrated high-speed connectivity, and these IOT and EMC tests are testament to the maturity of the A-PHY standard and our camera solution," said Kenji Onishi, Deputy Senior General Manager of the Automotive business Division in Sony Semiconductor Solutions. "We believe that A-PHY is uniquely positioned to meet automotive OEM requirements for enhanced ADAS systems. The standard offers a unique combination of unprecedented performance alongside sensor integration, which enables us to lead the market with a cutting-edge camera with a simplified design."

"One of the key benefits of MIPI A-PHY technology is its optimization of the transmitter, which is small, inexpensive, and simple. This allows for direct integration of the connectivity inside the sensor – a benefit that no competing solution can provide," said Eyran Lida, Chief Technology Officer at Valens Semiconductor. "The EMC testing proves, once again, the superior performance of A-PHY technology and the ability to build a truly interoperable ecosystem."

"From the beginning, MIPI A-PHY was designed to reduce complexity on the sensor side while delivering exceptional EMC performance throughout the lifecycle of the vehicle," said Sanjiv Desai, MIPI Alliance chair. "This collaboration demonstrates both these

goals, and we commend Valens and Sony for achieving this milestone. We're pleased to see the continued growth and development of the A-PHY ecosystem."

About Valens Semiconductor

Valens Semiconductor (NYSE:[VLN](#)) is a leader in high-performance connectivity, enabling customers to transform the digital experiences of people worldwide. Valens' chipsets are integrated into countless devices from leading customers, powering state-of-the-art audio-video installations, next-generation videoconferencing, and enabling the evolution of ADAS and autonomous driving. Pushing the boundaries of connectivity, Valens sets the standard everywhere it operates, and its technology forms the basis for the leading industry standards such as HDBaseT® and MIPI A-PHY.

Oisix La Daichi's CVC "Future Food Fund" invests in Forsea Foods, which conducts research and development of cultured seafood.

Oisix La Daichi Co., Ltd. March 1, 2024 12:00

Future Food Fund Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan) is an investment subsidiary of **Oisix La Daichi Co., Ltd.** (Headquarters: Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo; President: Kohei Takashima; hereinafter referred to as Oisix La Daichi), which provides food subscription services. "Future Food Fund No. 2" (*1), a CVC fund specializing in the food innovation field managed by Shinagawa Ward, Representative Director: Kohei Matsumoto, hereinafter referred to as "Future Food Fund", is an Israeli-based company founded by **Forsea Foods**, which conducts research and development of cultured seafood. In January 2024, we made a new investment in **Forsea Foods, Ltd.** (Headquarters: Rehovot, Israel, Representative Director, CEO and Founder: Roei Nir).

This is the 7th investment project in the fund "Future Food Fund No. 2" which is currently being established,

■Eel supply is decreasing year by year

In recent years, eel, which has become popular not only in Japan but also overseas, is threatened with extinction worldwide. (*2) Furthermore, the supply of eel in Japan has significantly decreased from approximately 160,000 tons in 2000 to approximately 50,000 tons in recent years. (*2) Forsea Foods is taking an approach to solving these seafood problems using its unique cell culture technology.



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■About Forsea Foods' unique technology and cell culture

When it comes to commercializing cell culture, cost and manufacturing capacity issues can be an issue. Forsea Foods has succeeded in simplifying the manufacturing process, improving scalability, and reducing manufacturing costs by applying Organoid technology, which realizes the formation of three-dimensional microstructures consisting of fat and muscle.

■ About investment background

One of the reasons behind the investment is the hope that Forsea Foods' new technology development will help create a sustainable fishing industry and protect Japan's traditional food culture.

In addition, in recent years, Israel, where Forsea Foods is headquartered, has focused on innovation in the food field, which has a large impact on the global environment, in order to respond to climate change. Currently, more than 250 food tech startups based in Israel are developing and launching food-related technologies and products into the world, and are leading the world in food tech. Support from the government is also substantial, and Forsea Foods has been selected by The Kitchen Hub, a food tech incubation program promoted by the Israeli government, and is receiving funding and business development support.

Through this investment, we will provide support and collaborate, and we will learn a lot from their approaches to food tech, build relationships, and hope that in the future, Israel and Japan will work together to create a better world's food in the food field. I hope to make this a reality.

The Future Food Fund will support the development of regulations regarding the distribution of cultured seafood, including Forsea Foods' cultured eel, and will also support sales through services operated by Oisix La Daichi if distribution becomes possible in Japan. We would like to actively support joint product development and collaboration with LPs that invest in the Future Food Fund.

■Forsea Foods, Ltd.

Headquarters: Rehovot, Israel

Representative: Representative Director CEO and Founder Roei Nir

Company website: <https://www.forseafoods.com/>

An Israeli startup company that conducts research and development of cultured seafood. We have successfully developed cultured eel and are currently working on expanding our business in Asia, including Japan.

Comment from Roei Nir, Representative Director, CEO and Founder

Forsea Foods, Ltd. Representative Director CEO and Founder Roei Nir

We are very pleased that Future Food Fund has decided to join us as a long-term partner.



Forsea Foods, Ltd. Mayu Sugisaki

Forsea Foods is a cellular seafood company that grows cells to produce fish and seafood. We are developing a fish version of so-called cultured meat.

We will do our best to deliver delicious and safe food to consumers as a new option. In addition, we would like to work with our partners, including the Future Food Fund, to create new food possibilities that can only be realized by using ingredients called "cells," without being bound by the framework of alternatives.

■Comment from Hasegawa, Investment Manager, Future Food Fund

High production costs are always cited as one of the major challenges with cultured meat. Forsea Foods, in which we have invested, is developing a unique Organoid technology that enables significant reduction and efficiency of elements and processes that lead to high costs. We believe that if this technology becomes compatible with commercial-scale production, it will have a major impact in many areas, including stabilizing quality and prices in future seafood production, as well as reducing the burden on the marine environment and resources.

Forsea Foods plans to produce cell culture of various fish species in the future, but it is focusing on Asia, the world's largest seafood market, as the first market it will enter. I find your selection interesting. For species such as eel, which is difficult to fully farm and is currently an endangered species, cell culture production is an important way to connect Japan's food culture to the future, as well as the development of aquaculture technology and efforts to protect marine resources. I think this could be one of the methods. We decided to invest in this project because we believe that it can contribute to the protection of the global environment and marine ecosystem while making the production and consumption of seafood sustainable for people, and that our fund can provide a lot of support from Japan.

About Future Food Fund Co., Ltd.

Future Food Fund Co., Ltd. is an investment subsidiary that operates a CVC fund that aims to invest in domestic and overseas startup companies specializing in the food innovation field in order to create a Japanese food startup ecosystem in August 2019. was established by Oisix La Daichi Co., Ltd. Together with partner companies, we are able to proactively invest in advanced food, agriculture, and healthcare fields both domestically and internationally, as well as support sales and product development, building an ecosystem that supports startup companies in Japan. We are aiming for ("Future Food Fund" site URL: <https://futurefoodfund.co.jp/>)

About Oisix La Daichi Co., Ltd.

Oisix La Daichi Co., Ltd. (Representative: Kohei Takashima) provides home delivery services for safe and secure foods such as organic and specially cultivated vegetables and processed foods that use as few additives as possible. We operate under three brands: Daichi wo Mamoru Kai.



Our company's philosophy is ``Future dining tables, future fields'' and we are promoting businesses that use business methods to solve food-related social issues.

Japan Resumes Funding To UNRWA With Contribution Of US\$ 35 Million In Support Of Palestine Refugees [EN/AR]

News and Press Release 18 Apr 2024

The Government of Japan has resumed funding to UNRWA with a contribution of US\$ 35 million in support of Palestine Refugees.

Japanese Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, Yoichi Nakashima, and the Director of Partnerships with the UNRWA Department of External Relations and Communications, Karim Amer, signed the agreement in East Jerusalem last week.

“Recognizing UNRWA’s indispensable role in Gaza, even as it works to enhance governance and manage risks, the Government of Japan decided to resume funding to help UNRWA provide basic services to families in need,” said Ambassador Nakashima.

This critical contribution allows UNRWA to continue providing core services – including healthcare and relief and social services – to millions of Palestine Refugees across its five fields of operation. It also supports the Agency’s Emergency Appeals for Syria, Lebanon and Jordan and the occupied Palestinian territory.

“Of the US\$ 35 million, around US\$ 10 million will be used for improving sanitary conditions and delivering essential items for women and newborns in the Gaza Strip, with the remainder going to support Palestine Refugees in the West Bank, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria,” said Amer.



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“The reinstatement of Japan's funding will bring hope and stability to a community in desperate need and continue over 70 years of vital partnership between UNRWA and Japan in support of Palestine Refugees,” he added.

Japan is a dedicated donor to UNRWA, having supported the Agency since 1953. In 2023, it was the sixth largest contributor to the Agency. It is thanks to the enduring support of such donors that UNRWA is able to provide vital services to Palestine Refugees across the Middle East in the face of its continuing financial challenges.

Israel – Japan May 2024

Message from Ambassador ARAI Yusuke

May 29th 2024

I am pleased to address you as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Israel.

I arrive in Israel in the midst of people still experiencing difficulties, challenges and pain, following the eruption of the war since October 7th. As Ambassador of Japan in Israel I would like to cooperate with you to the greatest extent in order to overcome these difficult days together.

I'd like to reassure you that the bilateral relation between Japan and Israel is at a strong point in terms of our political ties, economic cooperation and cultural relations. Our Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko visited Israel last November clearly demonstrating Japan's solidarity with Israel. And despite the recent hardships and sad occurrences during the latter part of 2023, the latest report shows that investment from Japan to Israel continues steadily. I am also excited to learn that there are many enthusiasts of Japanese cuisine, anime and culture in Israel, and that the passion and love to Japan have not been changed rather being expanded even in these difficult days, with direct flights to Japan being almost fully booked on every flight.

Our friendship with the Jewish people goes back to even before the establishment of the state of Israel. During World War II a large number of Jews arrived in Japan, escaped Europe with visas issued by Mr. SUGIHARA Chiune, who was at that time the vice consul of Japan in Lithuania. In 1985 Yad Vashem honored Mr. SUGIHARA as "Righteous Among the Nations" for his courageous and humanitarian act to save Jews from the Holocaust. In 2022, two other Japanese, Dr. KOTSUJI Setsuzo and Mr. OSAKO Tatsuo, have been similarly honored by the Knesset for their selfless and kindhearted behavior to save Jewish people. I hope that the spirit of this special friendship will continue to be fostered.



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With the aim of further strengthening our relationship, I am looking forward to working with you and your kind cooperation would be highly appreciated.

Together with you, I sincerely hope that all hostages will soon be back to their homes, and tranquility and calm will soon prevail in Israel.

Japan's ACSL drones to use Elsie Halo tech for BVLOS missions

[Bruce Crumley](https://dronedj.com/2024/05/28/japans-acsl-drones-to-use-elsight-halo-tech-for-bvlos-missions/) | May 28 2024 - <https://dronedj.com/2024/05/28/japans-acsl-drones-to-use-elsight-halo-tech-for-bvlos-missions/>

Long distance connectivity tech specialist **Elsight** has established its first foothold in Japan's developing UAV market through a [partnership it announced](#) with the country's leading drone manufacturer, **ACSL**.

Israel-based Elsie said the deal involves ACSL drones being equipped with its Halo connectivity tech. The carrier-agnostic, AI-powered solution uses a variety of communications options to ensure reliable, unbroken contact with UAVs – an essential factor in burgeoning beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) flights that enterprise operators around the world hope to scale soon.

Elsight said that ACSL, "Japan's largest drone manufacturer," will use Halo tech to strengthen its drones' LTE communications, especially around the nation's many mountains. While the country's regulators are looking to approve increased BVLOS operations, the many hills and mountains across the Japanese landscape make uninterrupted connectivity with craft a problem.

Whereas many alternative solutions rely mostly on one mode of transmission, Elsie's Halo integrates LTE, 5G, and satellite communications in a tech specifically designed for BVLOS flights. Security is assured by breaking data into various packages, and sending those encoded bunches through different channels, making interception of one, or even a few of those useless.



Elsight is pursuing the association with ACSL through its regional drone **partner Navicom Aviation**, whose president **Koji Hiratsuka** hailed the tie-up.

“The main challenge for drone large market adoption has been the hilly terrain in Japan,” he said. “Our partnership with Elsieht has been an excellent technology and business fit with our region’s requirements. Seeing the success with ACSL is the sign of market acceptance of logistic applications from deliveries to first responders like in disaster management and recovery.”

ACSL CEO Satoshi Washitani said the assured connectivity Elsieht Halo tech provides its drones will open the company up to business across a range of sectors and enterprises keen to expand operation to BVLOS.

“Elsieht’s products have a track record of being adopted in logistics drones in various countries, and we believe that by improving the quality of our logistics drones, we can expand the areas where drones can be used and contribute to promoting the social implementation of drones in the logistics field in Japan,” Washitani said. “We are very pleased to be able to collaborate with a partner with innovative technology to ensure the stability of the communication environment, which is one of the most important issues in the logistics field.”

WEKA Nets \$140M in Series E Funding at \$1.6B Valuation

HITACHI VENTURES CONTINUE ITS INVESTMENT IN THE COMPANY

Company Achieves Unicorn Status in Oversubscribed Round Led By Valor Equity Partners with Participation From NVIDIA, Generation Investment Management, Atreides Management and Others to Spur Continued Hypergrowth

CAMPBELL, Calif., May 15, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- WekaIO ([WEKA](#)), the AI-native data platform company, has raised \$140 million in an oversubscribed Series E funding round comprised of a combined primary and secondary transaction led by [Valor Equity](#)



[Partners](#), a previous investor in the company. Under the terms of the deal, Valor's founder, CEO and Chief Investment Officer, Antonio Gracias, will join WEKA's board.

The round brings WEKA's post-money valuation to \$1.6 billion. The funds will augment the company's considerable cash reserves, giving it ample options for how it can scale its business rapidly to meet accelerating global demand for AI-native data infrastructure while expanding its investments in developing its data platform software and providing liquidity to WEKA employees.

With over 300 of the world's largest AI and GPU deployments running on the WEKA® Data Platform, the investment comes at a time of unprecedented business growth as the company expands to meet significant global demand for modern data infrastructure that efficiently and sustainably addresses the scale and performance demands of advanced technologies like generative AI and high-performance GPUs.

"The recent acceleration of generative AI and enterprise cloud adoption has triggered a sharp increase in customer demand, driving an unprecedented number of eight-figure ARR deals—an impressive feat when you factor in that WEKA is a software-based business," said Intekhab Nazeer, chief financial officer at WEKA. "It was an opportune time to fortify our cash reserves, allowing our investors to increase their position in the company while minimizing share dilution for our employees."

WEKA's Series E round is unique in that it was raised entirely with existing investors, like Valor, seeking to increase their positions in the company. Generation Investment Management, NVIDIA, Atreides Management, 10D, Hitachi Ventures, Ibex Investors, Key1 Capital, Lumir Ventures, MoreTech Ventures, and Qualcomm Ventures joined Valor in contributing to the round.

"The continued backing of this preeminent group of investors speaks volumes: WEKA is building something truly transformative that modern data-driven organizations need now, more than ever," said WEKA cofounder and CEO Liran Zvibel. "We are grateful to our returning backers for their support and are honored to welcome Antonio Gracias to our board of directors. Antonio has played a pivotal role in helping build some of the world's most innovative and disruptive companies. We look forward to collaborating with him as we scale to create new value for WEKA's customers, partners, and shareholders."

WEKA began architecting a wholly new approach to the enterprise data stack in 2013 that has set the standard for modern data infrastructure in the AI era. WEKA's software

can be deployed anywhere, delivering unparalleled speed, simplicity, scale and sustainability for GPUs, AI and other performance-intensive workloads, helping customers to achieve faster insights, discoveries, breakthroughs, and business outcomes.

"WEKA pioneered the concept of a software, platform-based approach that is revolutionizing modern enterprise data, then forged and hardened its technology in some of the largest, most demanding AI projects on the planet," said Antonio Gracias, CEO and chief investment officer at Valor Equity Partners. "Valor has a long history in the development of artificial intelligence, beginning with our investment in DeepMind in 2013, and we believe WEKA is positioned to be an integral part of the acceleration of the technology going forward. Valor is proud to partner with WEKA to support the company through its next phase of growth and beyond."

About WEKA

WEKA is architecting a new approach to the enterprise data stack built for the AI era. The WEKA® Data Platform sets the standard for AI infrastructure with a cloud and AI-native architecture that can be deployed anywhere, providing seamless data portability across on-premises, cloud, and edge environments. It transforms legacy data silos into dynamic data pipelines that accelerate GPUs, AI model training and inference, and other performance-intensive workloads, enabling them to work more efficiently, consume less energy, and reduce associated carbon emissions. WEKA helps the world's most innovative enterprises and research organizations overcome complex data challenges to reach discoveries, insights, and outcomes faster and more sustainably – including 12 of the Fortune 50. Visit www.weka.io

XTEND lands \$40 million Series B for robot and drone operating system

The Israeli startup's XOS operating system aims to provide robots and drones with AI capabilities and help them partner with humans.

Chartered Group led this Round B Financial Series

[Meir Orbach](#) 16:00, 08.05.24

XTEND, which develops an AI-driven operating system for drones and robots, announced on Wednesday that it has raised \$40 million in Series B funding, led by Chartered Group, with further participation from its existing and new strategic investors, including Clal-Tech.

CEO Aviv Shapira told Calcalist that the funding round was initiated before the start of the war in Gaza on October 7 and that since then the company has shifted its entire focus in developing systems for the IDF. This new focus has led the company to a decision to upgrade its activity in the military sector.

XTEND's human-supervised, AI-driven drone and robot operating system enables operators to perform highly complex and dynamic missions in any environment with minimal training. When drones and robots are controlled by XTEND's patented XOS operating system, it provides a new way for logistics, public safety, inspection, defense, and security professionals to interact with machines effectively from a safe distance.

"Robots and drones promise to transform everything from factories to our homes. However, a significant hurdle remains - equipping them with the common-sense abilities to deal with the unpredictable nature of real-world situations, understand their surroundings, and make decisions based on that information," explained Aviv Shapira. "XOS uses AI to enable robots to learn from data and experience. Training them to identify objects, navigate complex environments, and interact with humans safely. We are unlocking the true potential of robotics in complex scenarios, including first response, search and rescue, logistics, critical infrastructure inspection, defense, and security."

XOS has been developed for multiple markets, including logistics, public safety, inspection, and security. The U.S. Department of Defense Special Forces and Israel's

Ministry of Defense tier-1 units have also chosen XTEND for multiple multi-million-dollar programs.

XTEND employs 100 people, including 30 in Singapore and 20 in the U.S. It will expand its team significantly with the latest funding.

Matteo Shapira, co-founder, and CXO, added: "Unlike self-driving cars, which operate in a world with mostly known rules and scenarios, XTEND specializes in enabling operations in "hypervariable" environments. Take a last-mile delivery robot. It can navigate autonomously indoors and outdoors but might need human help finding an office building entrance or understanding floor layouts to reach the elevator or stairway. These environments present limitless situations with the potential for the unexpected, requiring human-level decision-making skills specific to each profession. XTEND's core technology, XOS, is built around this human-machine partnership. We are continually adding new "AI SKILLS" to our system, and those skills will allow robots to handle a growing portion of missions and tasks, freeing up human supervisors to manage more missions simultaneously, at scale."

Study at Japan's Kameda Medical Center Demonstrates Excellent Outcomes for Ibex's AI-powered Solution in Diagnosing Prostate and Breast Cancer

Kameda Adopts Ibex's Galen Prostate and Galen Breast to Support Pathologists in Primary Diagnosis

BOSTON and CHIBA, Japan, May 20, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Ibex Medical Analytics](#) (Ibex), a global leader in AI-powered cancer diagnostics, and [Kameda Medical Center](#) (Kameda), a leading Japanese institute at the pinnacle of healthcare innovation, today announced the publication of a clinical study evaluating Ibex's Galen™ platform, [published in the peer-reviewed journal Pathology](#)¹, which demonstrated excellent outcomes in detecting cancer and other pathologies in prostate and breast biopsies. The artificial intelligence (AI)-powered platform has subsequently been



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deployed at Kameda and is now supporting their pathologists in routine practice, integrated with their Philips IntelliSite Pathology Solution.

"We were deeply impressed by Galen's performance in the study, that based on our validation, clearly showed how Ibex can support our clinicians in improving diagnostic quality and efficiency, and as a result we have decided to implement it routinely," said Prof. Junya Fukuoka, MD, PhD, Chair of the Department of Pathology at Kameda Medical Center, Chair of the Department of Pathology Informatics at Nagasaki University and the study's primary investigator. "Interestingly, Galen identified both malignant and non-malignant findings previously undetected by pathologists and we are proud to have become the first pathology department in Japan to use digital pathology and AI routinely for primary cancer diagnosis, significantly improving our pathologists' user experience and confidence."

[Cancer incidence in Japan](#) is rising, with prostate and breast cancers being the most commonly diagnosed cancers in men and women respectively last year. As incidence grows and diagnosis becomes more complex in this era of precision medicine, accuracy is critical for enabling personalized and tailored therapies. This is further compounded by the global shortage of pathologists, resulting in unprecedented workloads, impacting diagnostic quality and turnaround time. Ibex helps overcome these challenges with AI-powered workflows and decision-support tools that pathologists use in their everyday practice.

The study, and subsequent publication authored by Kris Lami, MD, PhD, evaluated the performance of Ibex's AI platform in detecting a broad range of pathologies in 100 breast and 100 prostate biopsies taken from a Japanese patient cohort. Ibex's platform demonstrated excellent outcomes, showcasing its ability to accurately detect both cancerous and non-cancerous features. During the study, Galen Prostate demonstrated high accuracy in detecting prostate adenocarcinoma with an Area Under the Curve (AUC) of 0.988. The AI algorithm was also highly accurate in cancer grading, specifically differentiating between low and medium/high-grade Gleason scores with an AUC of 0.994, as well as in identifying perineural invasion. In several cases, Galen Prostate's AI

algorithm accurately identified higher Gleason scores than previously evaluated by a pathologist and unveiled previously undetected cancer, showcasing its potential to enhance diagnostic accuracy and reduce inter-observer variability. Similarly, Galen Breast showed high accuracy in detecting invasive breast cancer (AUC of 0.997) and in detecting ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) (AUC of 0.996), as well as in identifying other important pathologies, such as lymphovascular invasion.

"We are proud to announce the study outcomes and publication led by such a prestigious Japanese medical center, which come as an addition to [successful studies of Ibex's AI solutions recently presented by leading United States healthcare institutions across various tissue types](#)," remarked Dr. Manuela Vecsler, VP of Clinical and Scientific Affairs at Ibex Medical Analytics. "Galen is the most widely deployed AI technology in pathology, and we are excited to see it adopted in Japan and become the new standard in cancer diagnosis, helping clinicians improve patient care."

About Ibex Medical Analytics

Ibex Medical Analytics (Ibex) is transforming cancer diagnostics with world-leading clinical grade AI-powered solutions for pathology. Empowering physicians and supporting pathologists, Ibex is on a mission to provide accurate, timely and personalized cancer diagnosis for every patient. Ibex's Galen™ is the first and most widely deployed AI-powered platform in pathology and demonstrated outstanding outcomes in multiple clinical studies^{2,3,4,5,6}. Pathologists worldwide use Galen as part of their everyday routine practice to improve the accuracy of cancer diagnosis, implement comprehensive quality control measures, reduce turnaround times and boost productivity with more efficient workflows.

Ibex Medical Analytics was founded by: [Mr. Joseph Yossi Mossel](#) CEO & Co-Founder and Dr. Chaim Linhardt CTO and has offices in Tel Aviv Israel and Boston.

The Galen™ platform includes solutions which are for Research Use Only (RUO) in Japan and in the United States and not cleared by the FDA. Multiple Galen solutions are CE marked (IVDD and IVDR) and registered with the UK MHRA.

About Kameda Medical Center

Kameda Medical Center is a network of medical services centered around Kameda General Hospital and Kameda Clinic, encompassing various facilities across multiple locations. As the flagship hospital in southern Chiba Prefecture, Kameda Medical Center offers a comprehensive range of medical services, from acute care to convalescent and home care. In 2009, Kameda became the first hospital in Japan to receive JCI accreditation, aiming to provide medical care to global standards. This commitment to world-class medical excellence continues today, and Kameda has been named one of Newsweek magazine's World's Best Hospitals for five consecutive years. The hospital is at the forefront of innovative challenges in the field of pathology, boasting one of the largest pathology teams in Japan. The Remote Image Digital Diagnosis Center, located at the Kameda Kyobashi Clinic in Tokyo, serves as a hub where top physicians from Nagasaki University, the Kameda Group, and around the globe collaborate and share knowledge in a virtual space. For more information, please visit our website: <https://medical.kameda.com/general/en/>.

ISRAEL Pavilion in the spotlight at SusHiTech Tokyo 2024.

**ForSea steals the show at the big SusHi-Tech innovation event in Tokyo ;
company using innovative technology that allows for the economical
cultivation of seafood**

The Israeli Embassy's Economic Section, in collaboration with Sivans Inc., exhibited at the World Cities Pavilion of the "SusHi Tech Tokyo 2024 Global Startup Program," held at Tokyo Big Sight from Wednesday, May 15th to Thursday, May 16th, 2024. At the Israeli Pavilion, 11 cutting-edge technology companies introduced their solutions and met with hundreds of Japanese companies and investors.



Eleven Israeli companies and ForSea, which develops cultured eel using innovative technology that allows for the economical cultivation of seafood, garnered significant attention.

The opening ceremony on the first day was attended by Israeli Ambassador to Japan Gilad Cohen and Tokyo Deputy Governor Manabu Miyasaka, and on the second day Yasuhide Nakayama (Venture Partner, Chartered Investment Managers, former Deputy Minister of Defense) gave a presentation.

Daniel Kolber, the economic attaché at the Economy Ministry and Industry in Japan, said, "Japan shares with our curiosity and innovation in various fields, and we are pleased to have the opportunity to challenge the Japanese with another product that is a real part of Japanese culinary culture."

In addition, a side event hosted by the Japan Israel Business Forum was held at the Sivans Group's Shibuya office, with over 60 participants.

nT-Tao Compact Fusion Power Welcomes Keishin Sasaki to its Advisory Board

TEL AVIV, Israel, May 28, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [nT-Tao](#), the compact fusion power company setting a new standard for the future of clean energy, today announced that Mr. Keishin Sasaki has joined its Advisory Board. Japan is a strategic market for nT-Tao, with recent investments from [Honda](#) and [Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Venture Capital](#). Keishin brings decades of experience working with Japan's governments and industry leaders to nT-Tao's advisory board, and will help advance nT-Tao's mission of developing a compact fusion energy solution.

Keishin Sasaki is CEO and Founder of [e-solutions, inc.](#), a Tokyo-based company founded in 1999 that is dedicated to working with companies focused on sustainability to address society's greatest challenges. In line with his corporate mission, Keishin has uncovered social problems, raised awareness, and created sustainable businesses in multiple fields including the environment, health and education. More recently, while

Sasaki-san continues to serve as a trusted advisor to corporations, he is also working with the Japanese government to help shape Japan's vision and strategies on crucial topics such as new energy, fighting against infectious diseases, developing a plan for Japan's aging society, and more. Mr. Sasaki is a Research Affiliate at the MIT Institute for Medical Engineering and Science, an Advisory Board member of the MIT Sloan Sustainability Initiative, and a Guest Professor of Keio University School of Medicine. Keishin holds an MBA from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a master's degree in engineering from Keio University.

"We are excited to announce that Mr. Keishin Sasaki is joining nT-Tao's advisory board," said Oded Gour-Lavie, CEO and Co-Founder of nT-Tao. "I am honored to join nT-Tao's advisory board at such a pivotal moment in the company's journey," said Keishin Sasaki. "

nT-Tao is pioneering a compact and scalable fusion solution aimed at significantly reducing reliance on fossil fuels and overcoming the limitations of existing renewable energy sources. nT-Tao's "dynamic stellarator" is a unique approach that includes a proprietary magnetic chamber topology that dramatically reduces energy loss and effectively maintains core temperature, enabling the creation of a Super Stabilized Confined Plasma. Additionally, nT-Tao's power supply technology is expected to enable plasma heating at densities orders of magnitude higher than other approaches. Coupled with its significantly reduced pulse length, nT-Tao's dynamic stellarator is also designed to enable an astounding increase in the rate of ion collisions and yield greater overall efficiency, resulting in a much smaller fusion reactor footprint. nT-Tao's compact fusion design - the size of a shipping container - will be scalable and easily integrated into a multitude of settings and power requirements. Once commercialized, its versatile design and independent solution will make it adaptable for everything from industrial facilities to small towns, to data centers, off-grid locations and much more.

About nT-Tao

nT-Tao is redefining the global energy sector by engineering a compact and scalable nuclear fusion energy technology with the goal of achieving commercialization this decade. The company's proprietary ultra-fast plasma heating method will enable it to reach significantly higher densities than other fusion reactors, thereby making its fusion reaction orders of magnitude more effective and resulting in significantly greater efficiency of energy production than other leading solutions. Co-founded in 2019 by Oded Gour-Lavie, Doron Weinfeld, and Boaz Weinfeld, nT-Tao emerged from stealth in 2022 and is headquartered in Israel.

Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk

May 27, 2024 MOFA

On May 27th, commencing at 4:30 p.m. (Japan Time) for approximately 25 minutes, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a telephone talk with H.E. Mr. Israel KATZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel. The overview is as follows:

1. At the outset, on the situation in Gaza, **Minister Kamikawa called for an immediate ceasefire so that release of the hostages is realized**, and a conducive environment for humanitarian assistance activities is ensured in a sustainable manner, and stated that Japan hopes that it would lead to the realization of a sustainable ceasefire. Furthermore, while conveying Japan's deep concern for the critical humanitarian situation in Gaza, as well as its opposition to a full scale military operation in Rafah, Minister Kamikawa reiterated that humanitarian assistance activities, including making use of the Rafah crossing, should not be impeded. In addition, the Minister stated that orders of provisional measures of the ICJ are legally binding on the parties to disputes, and to be observed in good faith.

2. In response, Minister Katz explained Israel's position and efforts on the situation in the Gaza Strip, as well as Israel's position on the orders of provisional measures of the ICJ and on the applications for warrants of arrest filed by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC).
3. Both sides concurred to continue close communication.

NJ may pull public investments from Japanese company for cutting ties with Israeli defense contractor.

By **DANIEL HAN** [HTTPS://WWW.POLITICO.COM/NEWS/2024/05/02/](https://www.politico.com/news/2024/05/02/)

Democratic New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy's administration may divest tens of millions of dollars from a Japanese conglomerate after the company severed ties with an Israeli defense contractor over the war in Gaza, according to records obtained by POLITICO.

The state's potential divestment from the Itochu Corporation would make New Jersey one of the first publicly known states since the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks on Israel to penalize a company for cutting ties with an Israeli business. And it comes as college campuses across the country, including in New Jersey, face student protests demanding that colleges divest from companies linked to Israel.

Itochu, a trading firm, is one of the [largest companies in Japan](#) and is involved in textiles, energy, food, machinery and other businesses. As of Dec. 31, 2023 — the most recent publicly available information — New Jersey's pension fund had 709,800 shares of Itochu that was valued at approximately \$29 million, according to state Treasury spokesperson Danielle Currie.

The state "preliminarily determined" that the company's decision to cut ties with an Israeli-based military contractor triggered [a 2016 state law](#) that prohibits the state pension fund from investing in companies that boycott Israel or Israeli



businesses, [according to a letter obtained by POLITICO through a public records request](#). That law was in response to [the Palestinian-led](#) Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement that pushes for economic punishment of Israel and businesses tied to the country over its policies towards Palestinians.

Chris Christie, the former Republican governor who signed the law, [said at the time](#) that “Israel is our one, true and best friend in the Middle East” and that the measure expressed New Jersey’s solidarity with Israel.

Once the preliminary findings become a final decision from the state, “no assets of any pension or annuity fund under the jurisdiction” of New Jersey’s Treasury Department “shall be invested in the Company,” the letter said. The preliminary findings become a “final determination” 90 days after the letter was first sent by the state official, New Jersey’s Division of Investment Director Shoaib Khan, unless the company successfully refutes the state’s claims that it boycotted an Israeli business, according to the letter.

Japan-Middle East strategic dialogue conference kicks off in Amman.

By JT - May 13,2024 - Last updated at May 13,2024

AMMAN — The first edition of the Strategic Dialogue Conference between Japan and the Middle East, organized by the **Centre for Strategic Studies (CSS)** and the **Research Centre for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST)** at the **University of Tokyo**, kicked off in Amman on Sunday.

The conference, hosted by the **University of Jordan** over May 12 and 13, aims to focus on the future of Japanese relations with the countries of the region.

The topics included economic and regional integration, technology transfer and development, as well as building security policies, according to a statement for The Jordan Times.



This significant event comes in light of the radical changes and major threats that the world is witnessing, amidst the intense competition in the international system.

Amman, the capital of Jordan, was chosen to hold the conference due to Jordan's importance in the geopolitical and international scene, as well as its solid relations with the active countries of the region and global countries with political and economic weight, the statement said.

Jordan serves as a hub for the convergence of political and economic wills by virtue of its broad and extended relations and extensive experience in the security and political fields.

It is noteworthy that Jordanian-Japanese relations have been progressing for half-a - century at a steady, advanced, and balanced pace, not only due to the stability of the political systems in the two countries, but also because of the political sobriety that governs their relationship with regional issues. This political neighbourliness imposes unique challenges on both countries amidst the increasing fears in the Middle East that threaten and challenge national authorities, posing a threat to Japan and Jordan alike.

Therefore, promoting peace in the Middle East is in the interest of Tokyo and Amman, as Japan fears the diversion of American military forces away from East Asia, while Jordan and Japan fear increased attacks on ships in the Red Sea.

The conference, in its two-day sessions, includes an elite group of experts and decision-makers from across the Middle East and Japan, aiming to support peace and stability by strengthening the Japanese-Middle Eastern partnership, according to the statement.

The participants discussed the challenge of extremism and terrorism to Japanese interests in the Middle East, highlighting its significant impact on the behaviour of non-state actors and the stability of the region.

The conference also highlighted the significant Japanese investments in the growing entrepreneurship sector in the Middle East, focusing on small and medium enterprises, as well as its promising investments in energy infrastructure in the region.

These investments contribute to the shift from oil and gas production towards renewable energy, whether through its distinguished partnership with Jordan or with the Gulf countries, the statement said.



Israel – Japan June 2024

XMcyber expands Japan's presence and activities.

XMcyber PRNEWS

***XM Cyber**, the leader in hybrid cloud exposure management, announced in January 2024 a distributor agreement with **SB C&S Corp.**, a Japanese top IT wholesaler-distributor company. XM Cyber's partnership with SB C&S builds on its recent growth in Asia-Pacific and marks a significant expansion into the Japanese market.*

"In recent years, the attack surface of companies has continued to expand due to the spread of remote work and cloud usage. We have been paying close attention to a new cybersecurity framework called "CTEM (Continuous Threat Exposure Management)" to manage such attack surfaces appropriately. We are very pleased to sign the first distributor agreement in Japan with XM Cyber", said Mr. Hiroki Nagatani Board Director, Executive Vice President, Head of ICT Unit, SB C&S Corp.

*XM Cyber, , announced last week the appointment of **Masaki Hiraoka as Country Manager for Japan**. In this role, Hiraoka will spearhead XM Cyber's expansion in the Japanese market, leading the company's presence in Japan, sales promotion, and engagement with customers and partners to help organizations proactively strengthen their security postures and improve overall resilience against cyber threats.*

Prior to joining XM Cyber, Hiraoka spent four years at Cybereason Japan, where he held a key role in establishing the company's presence in the region. Additionally, he served as the Business Development Manager at SoftBank, where he was responsible for bringing overseas cutting-edge cybersecurity technologies/businesses to Japan



From eels to EVs, Israel startups raise profile in Japan amid war.

Growing international isolation has not deterred outreach to investors

TAKESHI KUMON, Nikkei senior staff writer June 15, 2024 23:49 JST

TOKYO -- Even as fighting rages in Gaza, high-tech Israeli startups have been pitching themselves to investors in Japan.

One of them is Forsea Foods, a developer of cell-cultured seafood. The company aims to bring down the price of lab-grown freshwater eel meat to the level of real eel in 2029, CEO Roei Nir told an event here last month.

Forsea was among 11 Israeli startups exhibiting in a pavilion set up by the Israeli government at Sustainable High City Tech Tokyo, or SusHi Tech Tokyo. They showcased a variety of technologies, including artificial intelligence and autonomous driving.

Israel has been at war with Hamas since October. As civilian casualties mount in Gaza, Israel finds itself increasingly isolated in the international community.

But what was on display at SusHi Tech shows that Israeli entrepreneurs continue to vie for attention from multinationals and investors.

Forsea aims to drive down the cost of creating cultured foods, with a goal of safeguarding [declining wild populations](#) eels and other marine life.

It sees Japan, one of the world's biggest consumers of seafood, as both a promising market and source of funding. Japanese food retailer Oisix Ra Daichi invested in Forsea through the Future Food Fund in January.

Another event in Tokyo last month featured Israeli startups in areas related to mobility, such as autonomous-driving technology and electric vehicles. Among the exhibitors was **nT-Tao, a company backed by Honda Motor and Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance** that looks to use [compact fusion power generators](#) to charge EVs.

Israel is home to many startups with the potential to complement Japanese companies in such areas as autos, AI, agriculture and food. Israel's Embassy in Japan is encouraging these businesses to market themselves here.

Yet some Japanese businesses are reluctant to publicize investments in the country amid the war in Gaza. At least one Israeli company reportedly backed out of attending SusHi Tech. Japanese trading house Itochu said in February that it would end a memorandum of understanding on cooperation between a subsidiary and Israeli defense company Elbit Systems.

The U.S., meanwhile, has seen widespread student protests calling for a cease-fire and urging universities to divest from Israel. Norway's sovereign wealth fund, the world's largest, has reportedly faced mounting pressure to reconsider its investments in Israel.

On May 24, the International Court of Justice ordered Israel to halt its military offensive in southern Gaza's Rafah city. Israel continued its operation, drawing further criticism.

While the war may create political headwinds against deals with Israel's defense industry, many startups in the country have no military connections at all.

Startup Nation Central, a nongovernment organization supporting Israeli entrepreneurship, estimated at the end of March that the country's tech companies had raised a total of \$3.1 billion since the war in Gaza began. Although the pace has slowed compared with before the fighting, the inflow of funds has not stopped.

Startup Nation Central CEO Avi Hasson said that Israel continues to attract investors looking for solutions to common global challenges. In April, leading U.S.

chipmaker Nvidia announced that it would acquire Israeli startup Run:ai, which develops software to improve the efficiency of AI data processing.

TB INNOVATIONS invest in GAUZY.

2024.5.14 TB INNOVATIONS Press Release.

TB Innovations the CVC of Tokyo Boeki Ltd announced it made an investment in Gauzy Ltd. Through its “Next New Business New Technology No. 1”

The amount of investment was not disclosed, but it was completed just before Gauzy’s public offering on NASDAQ in which the company raised \$75 million at a company valuation of \$319 million.

Gauzy Ltd. is an Israeli global company that develops, manufactures, and sells films and glass sets for smart glass for vehicles, architecture, and aircraft, as well as advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) for large vehicles. We have sales offices/partners in 40 countries around the world.

Gauzy was founded in 2009 by CEO Eyal Peso and its CTO Adrian Lofer. The company has developed technology that allows control of the passage of light through glass. The company is targeting the automobile and aviation markets, but believes its products have the potential to reach additional markets.

TOKYO BOEKI LTD. is a general trading company handling metals, machinery, foodstuffs, and oil. The Company also provides variety of services including communication, engineering, and finance.

Medasense Announces a Strategic Agreement With Global Medical Company, Nihon Kohden Corporation

RAMAT GAN, Israel, June 26, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Medasense, a global leader in pain monitoring solutions, is proud to announce a strategic partnership with Nihon Kohden for the exclusive distribution of its revolutionary pain monitoring device in Japan. This partnership is intended to transform pain management practices across Japanese healthcare facilities, offering a significant advancement in patient care.

Nihon Kohden, renowned for its history of excellence in providing innovative high quality, reliable medical technology that improves the way healthcare is practiced, is partnering with Medasense to introduce its nociception monitor to the Japanese market. This cutting-edge device, with its state-of-the-art AI powered NOL - Nociception Level Index®, provides real-time, objective pain monitoring, enabling the personalization and optimization of pain treatment. It will be accessible to hospitals and clinics throughout Japan through Nihon Kohden's extensive distribution channels pending regulatory approval.

Medasense's CEO & Founder, Galit Zuckerman, expressed enthusiasm about the collaboration: "We are honored to partner with Nihon Kohden, a company with a long history of excellence, that shares our vision of improving patient care through innovative solutions. Our mission is to help all patients suffer less from pain and the adverse effects of pain medication. Nihon Kohden's established clinical, technological leadership and expertise in the Japanese market make them the perfect partner to distribute our nociception monitor."

NOL monitoring provides an AI powered, clinically validated index to objectively quantify the physiological response to pain (nociception) supporting clinicians in delivering personalized anesthesia tailored to patient requirements. With over 40 peer reviewed publications, clinical studies have demonstrated that NOL-guided analgesia resulted in

intraoperative opioid sparing, and improved post operative pain scores and patient recovery.^{1,2}

About Medasense and NOL – Nociception Level Index® Technology

Medasense is transforming pain management with its breakthrough technology that empowers clinicians to optimize and personalize pain control, significantly reducing the risk of pain or of overmedication. The company's flagship product, the PMD-200™, equipped with the NOL-Nociception Level Index®, leverages advanced artificial intelligence and a proprietary non-invasive sensor system. This unique platform provides objective monitoring and quantification of a patient's pain response, making it an essential tool in an operating room and critical care unit settings where patients cannot communicate their pain levels. The PMD-200 is the first and only monitor to be authorized by the FDA for pain measurement for anaesthesiology. It has been used in over 100,000 surgeries worldwide, and is commercially available in the US, Europe, Canada, Latin America and Israel.

About Nihon Kohden

Founded in 1951, Nihon Kohden is a global leader of medical solutions with the goal to improve healthcare with advanced technology. For more than 70 years, Nihon Kohden has continued to provide a wide range of medical electronic equipment including EEG, EMG/EP measuring systems, electrocardiographs, bedside monitors, defibrillators, AEDs, ventilators, and hematology instruments.

Nihon Kohden utilizes cutting-edge technology to support medical treatment in all clinical areas, integrating medical devices into the IT network to meet customers' requirements and offers a wide, comprehensive solution.

Earnix Announces Strategic Collaboration with NTT DATA to Drive Insurance Innovation and Enhance Customer Capabilities with AI

June 26, 2024

INSURANCE

BOSTON, June 26, 2024 - Earnix, the leading global provider of AI-based SaaS solutions for financial services, today announced a global collaboration with NTT Data a digital business and IT services leader, to support leading property and casualty insurance carriers with cloud-based intelligent solutions for pricing, rating, underwriting, and policy personalization. By seamlessly integrating Earnix's comprehensive end-to-end solution with NTT DATA's expertise in data migration, the partnership improves insurers time to market and ability to leverage data for innovation.

Research from NTT DATA's report, Revolutionizing Insurance Through the Power of Data and AI, indicates that the global insurance analytics market, valued at \$11 billion in 2022, is expected to surge to \$35 billion by 2030, growing at an annual rate of 15.6%. Insurers are increasingly required to meet rising customer expectations for superior experiences and tailored products, all while navigating the constraints of outdated systems. Earnix addresses these challenges by utilizing AI to transform the rate-making process, enabling the incorporation of real-time feedback to create personalized customer experiences.

This partnership extends across the Property and Casualty sector, providing insurers with the agility required to navigate market changes and manage the complexities of legacy systems. By merging Earnix's innovative solution with NTT DATA's capabilities in service delivery, insurers can effectively tackle these challenges, streamline core systems, boost operational efficiencies, and provide personalized experiences to customers.

"Our partnership with NTT DATA is a game changer for insurers," said Ruth Fisk, Head of Business Development at Earnix. "Bringing together their powerhouse expertise in data management and pricing modernization with the strength of the Earnix platform, we can equip insurers with the insight and flexibility to respond quickly to shifting market needs."



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"We take pride in driving transformative change in the insurance industry with AI-powered solutions," added Rob Baughman, Senior Vice President, Insurance Services, NTT DATA North America. "By integrating our products and services, we help clients achieve long-term success and identify opportunities for growth."

About Earnix

Earnix is the premier provider of mission-critical, cloud-based intelligent solutions across pricing, rating, underwriting, and product personalization. These fully integrated solutions provide ultra-fast ROI and are designed to transform how global insurers and banks are run by unlocking value across all facets of the business. Earnix has been innovating for insurers and banks since 2001, with customers in over 35 countries across six continents and offices in the Americas, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Israel.

About NTT DATA

NTT DATA is a \$30+ billion trusted global innovator of business and technology services. We serve 75% of the Fortune Global 100 and are committed to helping clients innovate, optimize and transform for long-term success. We invest over \$3.6 billion each year in R&D to help organizations and society move confidently and sustainably into the digital future. As a Global Top Employer, we have diverse experts in more than 50 countries and a robust partner ecosystem of established and start-up companies. Our services include business and technology consulting, data and artificial intelligence, industry solutions, as well as the development, implementation and management of applications, infrastructure, and connectivity. We are also one of the leading providers of digital and AI infrastructure in the world. NTT DATA is part of NTT Group and headquartered in Tokyo.

Japanese insurance giant Sompo partners with Israeli startup Momentick

Sompo, one of Japan's top insurance firms, collaborates with Momentick to monitor and measure greenhouse gas emissions via satellite imagery.

By WALLA! TECHJULY 2, 2024 23:28

Sompo, a leading Japanese insurance company, is teaming up with the Israeli startup **Momentick** to enhance environmental monitoring and mitigate global warming.

Momentick has developed a solution for identifying and measuring greenhouse gas emissions using satellite images. The Japanese government is keen on regulating policies in this domain, particularly for Japanese-owned gas platforms and pipelines located outside Japan's maritime boundaries.

Sompo continues to bridge Japan and innovative Israeli tech firms, this time for environmental sustainability. With Japan increasingly involved in the global race to reduce carbon footprints to slow global warming, there's a growing need for technologies to monitor greenhouse gas emissions from energy production and transportation pipelines. This is crucial as Japanese companies operating gas platforms and pipelines outside Japan face fines and sanctions from territorial governments, like those in the US and Europe, which tighten regulatory oversight on greenhouse gas emissions. Given Japan's lack of domestic gas production due to geographic constraints, its exposure to the natural gas market happens through investment and operation of energy sources and gas pipelines in foreign territories, such as the US.

Sompo, one of Japan's top three insurance companies, is stepping in to help the Japanese government and corporations address greenhouse gas emissions. Operating in 30 countries and listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange with a market value of \$21 billion, Sompo established its innovation center in Tel Aviv in 2018 (the other two centers are in Tokyo and Silicon Valley) led by Yinon Dolev. This center spearheads commercial collaborations with Israeli startups and initiated the current partnership with Momentick, in cooperation with Sompo's business unit.



Sompo has started working with Momentick, and they are currently demonstrating the Israeli company's technology, focusing on its ability to detect methane emissions, one of the major greenhouse gases, via satellite images. Momentick has proven its capability by providing accurate analysis compared to an active sensor installed by the American entity Carbon Mapper, which scanned specific areas in central USA, yielding identical results to the Israeli company.

In this demonstration, Momentick analyzed the amount and locations of methane in the atmosphere using software that employs hyperspectral analysis and algorithms based on satellite images. The findings and insights will be supplied to Sompo and its subsidiary, Sompo Risk Management, to jointly explore the potential for technical verification, service provision, and insurance product development. Data from the GOSAT satellite, the world's first satellite dedicated to monitoring carbon dioxide and methane concentrations from space, will also be used for technical verification. Data analysis will be conducted in collaboration with the Climate Change Research Department of the Japanese Ministry of the Environment and the Satellite Observation Center of the National Institute for Environmental Studies in Japan.

Additionally, for technical verification, Sompo invites companies ready and able to participate in testing their owned or managed facilities, currently focusing on energy market companies, especially those operating gas platforms and pipelines. Participation is open to both Japanese and foreign companies. Depending on the demonstration results, Sompo may offer Momentick's services as part of the group's risk management services (SOMPO Risk Management).

Rail Vision Secures Japanese Patent for AI-Powered Railway Obstacle Detection System

Rail Vision received a notice of allowance from the Japan Patent Office for its innovative AI-based railway obstacle detection system. This achievement marks a significant milestone in Rail Vision's global expansion strategy, reinforcing its commitment to enhancing railway safety across the world. The patented technology integrates advanced electro-optical imaging with artificial intelligence to detect obstacles on railways, significantly mitigating the risk of collisions and enhancing the safety of rail operations.



[Rail Vision](#) is a technology company that is seeking to revolutionize railway safety and the data-related market. The Company has developed cutting-edge, artificial intelligence-based, industry-leading technology specifically designed for railways. The Company has developed its railway detection and systems to save lives, increase efficiency, and dramatically reduce expenses for the railway operators. Rail Vision believes that its technology will significantly increase railway safety around the world, while creating significant benefits and adding value to everyone who relies on the train ecosystem: from passengers using trains for transportation to companies that use railways to deliver goods and services. In addition, the company believes that its technology has the potential to advance the revolutionary concept of autonomous trains into a practical reality.

Japanese Christians donate ambulances to replace those destroyed on Oct. 7 attacks.

<https://www.clevelandjewishnews.com/jns>

“We know that Israel is at the forefront of a battle between light and darkness,” says Gifu mayor.

A group of Japanese political leaders are donating two ambulances to Israeli communities along the border with Gaza.

The symbolic move by the group of Christian politicians from across Japan comes at a time of surging international censure of Israel over the nearly eight-month war against Hamas in Gaza. The group is led by the mayor of Gifu, which is the birthplace of a diplomat who saved thousands of Jews from the Nazis during World War II.

The first of two fully equipped ambulances were presented to Israeli rescue officials this week during a visit to Israel by the Japanese delegation in a donation made via the Jerusalem-based evangelical organization Bridges for Peace.

The Japanese group visited the Israeli communities near the Gaza borders which came under attack during the Oct. 7 massacre, met with President Isaac Herzog and then presented Israel's Magen David Adom rescue services with a \$150,000 mobile intensive care unit ambulance last week to replace one of the 14 ambulances destroyed during the Hamas attack. The second ambulance will be delivered later this year.

Gifu is the birthplace of Chiune Sugihara who was recognized by Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Center as a 'Righteous Among the Nations' for his courageous actions which helped more than 6,000 Jews escape war-torn Lithuania in the summer of 1940.

"Today, 84 years later, the Jewish people are once again facing a tidal wave of antisemitism, and as the **mayor of Gifu City**, I am deeply honored to continue in Chiune Sugihara's legacy of standing with our Jewish brothers and sisters," said **Mayor Masanao Shibahashi** in a written statement.

Shibahashi also serves as co-founder of the Japanese Christian Politicians Prayer Network comprised of 50 members from across the Japanese political spectrum who pray and advocate for Israel.

"As propaganda and slanders threaten to sway public opinion against the Jewish state, it is our honor to remind Israel that it is not alone, that its Christian brothers and sisters in Japan stand with it, support it and pray for it," Shibahashi said.

"We know that Israel is at the forefront of a battle between light and darkness and that the sons and daughters of Abraham are leading the charge on the side of light," he said.



Renovated Augusta Victoria Hospital Pharmacy Opens in East Jerusalem with Japanese Funding

Posted On: 05-06-2024 | National News

Collaborative Effort by UNOPS and the Government of Japan Enhances Healthcare Services for Palestinian Patients in East Jerusalem

The newly renovated pharmacy at Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) in East Jerusalem, pivotal for cancer treatment, has officially reopened following extensive upgrades funded by the Government of Japan. The inauguration ceremony, attended by Mr. Yoichi Nakashima, the Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and Ms. Olivia Tecosky, Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in Jerusalem, Ms. Sieglinde Weinbrenner, Representative of the Lutheran World Federation in Jerusalem, and Dr. Fadi Atrach, Chief Executive Officer at AVH, marked a significant milestone in the collaborative efforts to improve healthcare services for Palestinians.

This renovation was facilitated by a generous contribution from the Government of Japan and executed by UNOPS. The upgrade includes a facility for preparing chemotherapy and biological treatments, ensuring these processes adhere to stringent international sterile standards. This critical initiative addresses the urgent need for proper facilities to manage sensitive chemotherapy preparations.

This project underscores the commitment of the Government of Japan and UNOPS to supporting quality health services, affirming their dedication to the well-being and development of the Palestinian people.

The renovation of the AVH pharmacy comes within a broader collaboration between UNOPS and the Government of Japan towards supporting the provision of essential health and water/sanitation services.

On this occasion, H.E. NAKASHIMA Yoichi, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, expressed his deep gratitude to UNOPS for their



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efforts in completing this vital intervention. He added: "In the face of intensified hostilities and political situation, the health sector in Palestine is facing significant challenges, affecting the daily lives of Palestinians. With shortages in critical medical supplies and constraints in adequate space for vital healthcare services, the renovation of the AVH pharmacy is a crucial step. This project aims to enhance access to essential healthcare services in East Jerusalem Hospitals, striving to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people".

Likewise, UNOPS Director, Ms. Olivia Tecosky stated "We are enormously grateful to the Government of Japan for this partnership to support the renovation of the Augusta Victoria Hospital pharmacy. As a key institution providing vital cancer treatment, Augusta Victoria Hospital serves thousands of Palestinian patients each year. These improvements will enhance the quality of care for those undergoing chemotherapy and other treatments. Together, we are ensuring that the hospital can continue to offer top-tier medical services and meet the urgent health needs of the Palestinian community."

Dispatch of Ambassador UEMURA Tsukasa, Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace, to the international conference 'Call for Action: Urgent Humanitarian Response for Gaza'

June 10, 2024

Regarding the current situation surrounding Israel and Palestine, the Government of Japan has been making various diplomatic efforts to calm down the situation as soon as possible and to improve the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, while closely communicating with the countries and international organizations concerned.

As part of these efforts, the Government of Japan decided to dispatch Ambassador UEMURA Tsukasa, Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace, to the international conference 'Call for Action: Urgent Humanitarian Response for Gaza' in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Ambassador Uemura will explain Japan's efforts at the conference on 11th June and exchange views on the situation with other participants.

Editor comment: While Israel is by far the biggest contributor of Humanitarian Aid to Gaza, (Food, Water, Gasoline, Fuel, Medicine and others) it is the only donator not invited to the conference!

Israel – Japan July 2024

Herzog receives diplomatic credentials from the Ambassador of Japan

The new ambassadors to Israel are from Italy, Japan, Peru, Kazakhstan and Kenya.



President Isaac Herzog receives the diplomatic credentials of Japanese Ambassador to Israel Arai Yusuke, July 11, 2024. Photo by Haim Zach/GPO.

(July 12, 2024 / JNS)

President Isaac Herzog on Thursday received the diplomatic credentials of new ambassadors to Israel from Italy, Japan, Peru, Kazakhstan and Kenya.

Italian Ambassador Luca Ferrari, **Japanese Ambassador Arai Yusuke** and Peruvian Ambassador Javier Martin Sanchez Checa Salazar arrived at the ceremony at the President's Residence in Jerusalem wearing the symbolic yellow ribbon in support of the 120 captives still being held by the Hamas terror group in the Gaza Strip.



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“His Majesty [Naruhito] asked me to especially convey his wishes to enhance the relationship and cooperation between our countries. I believe this is in our national interest. I wish very much for peace and normality to return to your country, and the return of the hostages is of course key to that,” said Yusuke.

Added Yusuke: “Japan is a very important nation and a very important friend to Israel. Israelis want to enhance the relationship between our countries. I hope we can see more Israelis visiting Japan and more Japanese people visiting Israel. I look forward to seeing more cultural exchanges as well as more cooperation in business, security, and more.

Replied Herzog: “Your country is showing much leadership in your region. We have a lot to do together.”

Israel to attend Hiroshima peace ceremony amid call for cease-fire

Kyodo news 8/7/2024

HIROSHIMA - The western Japanese city of Hiroshima on Monday announced that Israel has expressed its intention to attend the Aug. 6 annual peace ceremony commemorating the atomic bomb attack on the city, bringing the number of countries slated to take part to a record high of 115.

The invitation to Israel, widely regarded as a nuclear-armed state, included a call for an immediate cease-fire to the conflict in the Palestinian territory, which has drawn increasing international opposition.

Among the nuclear powers, Britain and France plan on attending, and arrangements are being made for the United States, while China has not responded.

Nagasaki mayor says Israel not invited to A-bomb peace ceremony

[KYODO NEWS](#) – July 31st 2024

The mayor of Nagasaki on Wednesday said Israel would not be invited to the Aug. 9 annual peace ceremony marking the 1945 atomic bombing of the southwestern Japan city, but added there was no "political" intention.

Mayor Shiro Suzuki said in June that he had sent a letter to Israel calling for a cease-fire in the conflict in the Gaza Strip, while leaving an invitation to the ceremony on hold due to the risk of "unexpected situations" such as protests amid growing international condemnation.

At a press conference Wednesday, Suzuki said he has not seen any moves that will mitigate such risks even as the ceremony nears.

The idea not to invite Israel is "not a political decision, but is based on our hope that we want the ceremony conducted smoothly under a solemn atmosphere," Suzuki said, calling it a "wrenching decision."

The move contrasts with Hiroshima, the other Japanese city hit by a U.S. atomic bomb, which has invited Israel to its ceremony marking the 79th anniversary of the attack on Aug. 6 with a message calling for an immediate cease-fire in the Palestinian territory.

The Nagasaki mayor said he has already notified Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui of his decision, adding that the "desire to pay respects to the (atomic bomb) victims is the same."

Some residents and others have accused the Hiroshima city government of having a double standard, as Russia and Belarus have been barred from the ceremony for three consecutive years over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.



Each year, Hiroshima and Nagasaki invite delegates from countries and regions across the world to attend their respective peace ceremonies to pray for the victims and affirm that humanity cannot coexist with nuclear arms.

Announcement by the Government of Israel regarding settlements (Statement by Press Secretary KITAMURA Toshihiro)

July 3, 2024

1. With regard to the reported authorization by the Government of Israel to legalize five outposts in the West Bank, the Government of Japan is deeply concerned about and reiterates its deep regret over the continuing settlement activities by the Government of Israel despite repeated calls by the international community, including Japan.
2. Settlement activities are in violation of international law and undermine the viability of a two-state solution. The Government of Japan strongly urges the Government of Israel to withdraw the decision and fully freeze its settlement activities. The Government of Japan is also seriously concerned about the rise in extremist settler violence committed against Palestinians. The Government of Japan condemns such violence and calls on the Government of Israel to take appropriate measures to prevent violence by extremist settlers.
3. The Government of Japan once again calls for the need to refrain from actions that escalate tensions, including those in the West Bank, taking into account the critical humanitarian situations in the Gaza Strip.

Japan imposes sanctions on four Israeli settlers in West Bank

By Reuters July 23, 20245:

TOKYO, July 23 (Reuters) - Japan imposed asset-freeze sanctions on four individual Israeli settlers for violence against Palestinians in the West Bank, the government's top spokesperson said on Tuesday.

Violent acts by some Israeli settlers in the West Bank have increased dramatically since last October, said Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi.

In this situation and taking into account the steps taken by the G7 countries and others, Japan decided to designate the four Israeli settlers involved in violent acts as targets for asset freezing, he explained.

"Japan will steadily implement these asset freezing measures and continue to strongly urge the Israeli government to completely freeze settlement activities in cooperation with the international community, including the G7," Hayashi said.

[Britain](#), the [United States](#) and [Canada](#) have sanctioned some individual Israeli settlers in response to heightening violence in the West Bank amid Israel's war in Gaza after Palestinian militant group Hamas' Oct. 7 attack.

Japan spends ¥9.9bn to evaluate drones from Israel and other countries

https://www.arabnews.jp/en/japan/article_126733/

TOKYO: The Japanese government says it is spending 9.9 billion yen (approximately \$64 million) to evaluate unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), with several of the contracts going to Israeli companies.

Previous reports suggested that the Japanese and Israeli governments had reached an agreement on the joint development of drones for military use.

The Ministry of Defense revealed that Japan's Defense Development Plan is looking to acquire multi-purpose UAV and small-scale attack UAVs for the purposes of searching, identifying, and "responding quickly to targets from the air."

A Ministry official told Arab News Japan that, "In the budget for FY2023, approximately 9.9 billion yen was allocated for verification testing of multi-purpose UAVs and small attack UAVs and thus contracts were made. In five of these contracts, actual UAVs used for verification are products of Israel."

The official said evaluation of drone capabilities was ongoing but refused to admit that any agreement had been made with Israel beyond the evaluation contracts that aim "to consider what specific performances are required for future model selections."

"At this point, we do not predict the purchase of drones from any particular country," the official said.

Corundum Neuroscience Awards Research Grant to Explore Machine Learning for Non-Invasive Detection of Dementia-Associated Brain Activity During Sleep

Research Project with Tel Aviv University to Focus on Optimizing Identification of Early-Stage Dementia and Improving Diagnosis and Treatment for Neurological Conditions

HERZLIYA, Israel, July 2, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Corundum Neuroscience](#), the neuroscience venture builder and fund, today announced it has awarded its first research grant. The project, led by Professor Yuval Nir at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Tel Aviv University, will investigate a machine learning-based approach for non-invasive detection of abnormal activity in deep brain regions during sleep.

The project aims to develop and validate a capability to identify abnormal brain activity associated with dementia during sleep. While the presence of paroxysmal discharges (PDs) has long been associated with brain disorders, ranging from epilepsy to traumatic brain injury and neuropsychiatric conditions, this type of abnormal brain activity often occurs in deep brain regions and in such cases it has been difficult to measure objectively without requiring invasive measurement tools.

Prof. Nir's team has developed a novel approach using machine learning to classify subtle signals detected with high-density electroencephalography (hd-EEG) and is initially applying the method to sleep data collected from elderly individuals with cognitive impairment and dementia. Moving forward, the team aims to optimize these methods for use as disease-specific biomarkers for a range of neurodegenerative conditions.

"There is currently no objective tool available with the necessary sensitivity to non-invasively detect and quantify the brain activity signatures we are investigating," said Prof. Nir, Principal Investigator for the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology at the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, Tel Aviv University. "Our aim is to combine research on brain activity during sleep with machine learning, laying the groundwork for the measurement of abnormal brain states in dementia during sleep and, ultimately, to validate biomarkers for a wide range of neurological disorders."

The project's goals include optimizing and testing detection tools on hd-EEG sleep data of early and late dementia versus healthy aged individuals, in addition to investigating the extent to which sleep PDs can be identified in different stages of neurodegeneration. In the short term, it may help identify individuals with early-stage dementia who could benefit from anti-epileptic treatments. In the long term, the research opens avenues to improve diagnosis, prognosis, drug titration, and risk-stratification in epilepsy, dementia, and a wide range of neurological and psychiatric conditions.

"We are at a unique time in neuroscience, in which our understanding of the brain from a cellular to a systems level is both contributing to and benefitting from the revolution in AI," said Josh Schulman, PhD, Chief Scientist for Corundum Neuroscience. "This project

represents that synthesis and is part of Corundum's long-term strategy to support research that serves as the basis for innovative approaches to brain health."

Ramot, Tel-Aviv University's technology transfer company, is responsible for commercializing the university's intellectual property. It is supporting this initiative as part of its commitment to translating cutting-edge research into impactful technologies.

"We believe this pioneering research has the potential to revolutionize the diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders," said Dr. Ronen Kreizman, CEO of Ramot. "This collaboration is part of Ramot's mission to bridge academia and industry, fostering innovations that address critical healthcare challenges."

About Corundum Neuroscience

Corundum Neuroscience is a venture builder and fund advancing transformative neuroscience solutions *from lab-to-life*. The Corundum Neuroscience team combines deep domain expertise with a track-record of venture-building success to accelerate neuroscience solutions across the entire innovation lifecycle. Taking a long-term investment approach, Corundum Neuroscience helps researchers, entrepreneurs and startups develop life-changing solutions that target specific disease areas and outcomes to enhance people's health, longevity and quality of life. Founded by former Joy Ventures executives, Corundum Neuroscience launched in September 2023, and is headquartered in Herzliya, Israel.

CogniFiber raises \$5 million to develop processors that perform AI tasks 1,000 times faster than Nvidia

The Israeli startup is developing DeepLight processors that utilize multi-core optical fibers to process data at the speed of light as it travels through the fiber, aiming to increase processing speeds up to 1,000 times during AI inference while using only about 1% of the energy

Charter Group led this financial round.

CTech 10:00, 04.07.24

CogniFiber, a startup developing photonic computing technology for artificial intelligence (AI) known as DeepLight, announced on Thursday the closure of a \$5 million funding round. The funding round was led by **Chartered Group** and Eastern Epic Capital. To date, the Israeli startup has raised a total of \$14 million, including funding from the Israel Innovation Authority.

The new funding will support the completion of the photonic processor's development and also aid in the ongoing development of a photonic supercomputer slated for market entry by 2027.

CogniFiber was founded in 2018 by Dr. Eyal Cohen, a hardware and algorithms engineer (formerly of Mellanox, Saifun, and Oren Semiconductor), who also holds a Ph.D. in brain research from the Weizmann Institute, and Professor Zeev Zalevsky, a world-renowned optics researcher, serial entrepreneur, and current Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Bar-Ilan University.

Building on extensive research and patented technology, the company, which currently employs 13 people, is developing DeepLight, a new class of photonic processors. These programmable and trainable processors utilize multi-core optical fibers to process data at the speed of light as it travels through the fiber. During inference, data flows through the fiber, and the light scans all components of the neural network, processing the data at speeds reaching billions of inferences per second.

In the IRIS classification test conducted by the company on the Aurora photonic demonstration system, the technology successfully performed 100 million tasks per second – 1,000 times more than NVIDIA's 100A processor for a single network instance, with an energy consumption of only 180 watts. By 2027, the



company expects to reach a system capable of up to 50 exaflops with a power consumption of less than five kilowatts. With DeepLight technology, supercomputers the size of a football field could be shrunk to a few server racks, with reduced costs by tens of millions of dollars, saving tens of megawatts in electricity, and cutting over 50% of system construction times.

The photonic supercomputer is proposed to work in tandem or as an alternative to conventional computers based on silicon chips and electrical circuits, which struggle with AI workloads, consuming vast amounts of energy due to processing and cooling. The load challenge has significantly increased with the launch of generative AI applications like ChatGPT.

Dr. Eyal Cohen, CEO and Co-Founder of CogniFiber, stated, "The new funding will support the completion of the first generation of processors and our marketing and sales efforts as our initial products make their way to the global markets. We believe the new processor will realize the promise of scalable photonic computing, demonstrating how this unique technology can exponentially accelerate the development of sustainable AI data centers, smart cities, AI-assisted drug development, adaptive cybersecurity and countless other applications."

Ana Lipnik-Levy, Vice President of Strategy at CogniFiber, noted, "We deeply acknowledge the challenges of market education when a new computing platform is introduced, however, alongside us stands groundbreaking technology with significant disruptive potential, and we believe the current funding round will help us engage strategic partners to break into the global market and open a new, game-changing chapter in the history of AI."



SendBlocks raises \$8.2 million Seed round to streamline blockchain data management

The company is creating a platform that can handle Taylor Swift-levels of demand in the blockchain space. “The backend isn’t optimized for The Swifties,” says CEO

Laser Digital – Nomura first investment in Israel start-up

[James Spiro](#) 18:00, 02.07.

SendBlocks, a company that operates in the blockchain data management space, has announced that it has emerged from stealth with \$8.2 million in Seed funding. The round was led by Castle Island Ventures with several other institutional investors including Pitango, Illuminate Financial, Laser Digital (Nomura), Starkware, and members of the ecosystem.

SendBlocks aims to simplify blockchain data access by offering a fully customizable platform that allows blockchain enterprises, ecosystems, protocols, and applications to define and extract relevant data efficiently. The platform is designed to handle high throughput blockchains, ensuring robust performance and scalability.

By providing customers access to anything happening on-chain, SendBlocks helps developers save billions of API queries, resulting in leaner data teams regardless of the underlying blockchain.

“We want to create a reality in which any developer can access any blockchain data they desire, without needing an entire data team or spending thousands of dollars per data need to do so,” said Itay Shrem, SendBlocks Co-founder and CEO. “Think of when Taylor Swift tickets go on sale and TicketMaster needs to handle millions of requests simultaneously, the site often crashes. That’s because the backend isn’t optimized for The Swifties. The technological challenge of data management in high throughput blockchains is like the transition from supporting smaller, less known, artist ticket sales to being able to support Taylor Swift demand, but all the time.”

The company was founded by Shrem with Michael Kellner, who serves as CTO. Each of them spent more than a decade in Israel’s Talpiot program and Kellner holds a Masters

in post-quantum cryptography, with Shrem specializing in network coding and security. “Merely scaling the blockchain isn't sufficient; the entire stack must be scalable to support the next generation of applications,” said Kellner.

“By providing enterprises, ecosystems, and protocols easy access to on-chain data, SendBlocks enables customers to save tens of thousands of dollars per month in development costs and reduce time to market from months to weeks,” added Sean Judge, General Partner of Castle Island Ventures. “Itay and Michael’s cyber-security and cryptographic backgrounds make them the perfect duo to deliver on their vision to change the way businesses manage their blockchain data.”

SendBlocks currently has a team of nine from web2 enterprises such as Microsoft, AWS, and Talpiot as well as web3 companies such as Bancor and Algorand. Existing clients already include Bancor and SphereX, among others who cannot be disclosed.

Terilogy Serviceware Corporation Announces Distribution Agreement with Be Broadband Technology Ltd. for Innovative Network Security as a Service (NSaaS) Platform

TOKYO, July 9, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Terilogy Serviceware Corporation (TSW), a total supplier of network equipment and security solutions, today announced a new distribution agreement with Be Broadband Technology Ltd. (BBT.live), a provider of groundbreaking Network Security as a Service (NSaaS) platform. This strategic partnership will allow TSW to offer its customers in Japan and Vietnam access to BBT.live's industry-leading NSaaS platform. Additionally, TSW has become one of BBT.live's shareholders.

Addressing the Evolving Network Landscape

The rapid growth of enterprise cloud services, mobile device proliferation, Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) adoption, and the emergence of the Internet of Things (IoT) have

significantly increased network complexity. Traditional Wide Area Network (WAN) services and on-premise security appliances struggle to keep pace, leaving businesses vulnerable to unauthorized access and cyberattacks.

BBT.live's NSaaS: A Secure and Simplified Solution

BBT.live's cloud-based NSaaS platform, BeBroadband® as a Service, addresses these challenges by providing a comprehensive suite of network and security features.

BeBroadband® as a Service eliminates the need for expensive, complex WAN optimization and security appliances. It offers a full range of functionalities, including Secure Access Service Edge (SASE), Security Service Edge (SSE), and Zero Trust Network Access (ZTNA), along with UTM (Unified Threat Management) and NGFW (Next Generation Firewall) capabilities.

By unifying security policies across cloud and physical data centers, BeBroadband® as a Service simplifies operations and creates a secure environment. Businesses can leverage everyday internet access and mobile device connectivity with low latency, regardless of user location.

Key Benefits for Businesses:

- **Reduced Costs:** Eliminate high-cost appliance installation, streamline network management, overcome communication capacity limitations, and avoid outdated software security and sizing issues.
- **Enhanced Security:** Benefit from robust, centrally managed security features that protect against evolving cyber threats.
- **Simplified Management:** The user-friendly cloud-based platform simplifies network configuration and security policy management.
- **Scalability and Agility:** The platform seamlessly scales to accommodate business growth and adapts to changing security needs.

TSW and BBT.live: A Partnership for Network Security Success

"We are thrilled to partner with Be Broadband Technology Ltd. to bring their cutting-edge NSaaS platform to the Japanese and Vietnamese markets," said Mr. Michihiro Iida, President of TSW. "BBT.live's solution aligns perfectly with our commitment to providing our customers with advanced and cost-effective security solutions. By offering this cloud-based platform, we empower businesses of all sizes to strengthen their network defenses and achieve optimal security posture."

"We are excited to partner with TSW, a leading distributor in Japan and Vietnam, to introduce our innovative NSaaS platform to a broader audience," said Mr. Moshe Levinson, CEO and co-founder of BBT.live. "TSW's extensive network and industry expertise will be instrumental in expanding our reach and empowering businesses in these regions to achieve superior network security."

About TSW

TSW is a leading supplier of network equipment and security solutions, headquartered in Tokyo, Japan. The company offers a comprehensive portfolio of products and services designed to meet the evolving needs of businesses of all sizes. TSW is committed to providing its customers with innovative, reliable, and cost-effective solutions to optimize their network performance and security posture.

About Be Broadband® Technology Ltd. (BBT.live)

Be Broadband® Technology Ltd. (BBT.live) is a pioneering provider of cutting-edge Network Security as a Service (NSaaS) platform. Headquartered in Tel Aviv, Israel, BBT.live empowers businesses to configure their network security needs quickly and efficiently through a user-friendly cloud-based platform. BBT.live's solution delivers robust security protection, scalability, and cost-effectiveness for businesses of all sizes. [BBTlive.jp](https://bbtlive.jp)

Led by GM Ventures, Addionics Raises \$39 Million Series B to Drive Cost-Efficient EV Battery Innovation

GITV and JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation Joined the round following their initial investments in 2021

LONDON, July 25, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Addionics](#), a global leader in battery technology, announced its Series B funding round of \$39 Million. The round was co-led by GM Ventures and Deep Insight, with participation from Scania, along with new and returning strategic investors. The funds will be used to bolster the company's manufacturing capabilities and advance global business engagements. The investment will allow Addionics to build up teams across the globe, and expand its manufacturing and commercialization efforts, including advancing the construction of its planned US-based giga-factory for the production of Addionics 3D Current Collectors.

Addionics is the leading manufacturer of 3D Current Collectors, which drive significant battery manufacturing and performance benefits. With better heat dissipation throughout the electrodes, batteries using Addionics provide faster charging time, increased power, and improved stability, resulting in better-performing batteries at a lower cost. The added benefit of the Addionics drop-in solution allows manufacturers to seamlessly integrate the 3D Current Collectors allowing for cost-effective production and rapid deployment.

"Working with true partners who understand the urgency of what Addionics has set out to accomplish is a privilege," said Moshiel Biton, CEO and Co-Founder of Addionics. "As the global demand for higher performing batteries grows, so too has the demand for our product. With the new funding, we will be able to begin commercial production by the end of the year, delivering our technology to battery manufacturers and enhancing battery performance globally."

This new round of financing will lay the groundwork for future manufacturing facilities for the Addionics 3D Current Collector solution, help enable faster commercial distribution

for leading partners, and solidify R&D efforts to build best-in-class EV battery technology. Working with the majority of the 10 biggest global automotive OEMs and battery manufacturers, the funding will help meet the growing demand for Addionics 3D Current Collectors.

Anirvan Coomer, Managing Director, GM Ventures.: "Addionics' current collector design shows promise in enabling improved battery performance at a lower cost. We are eager to support the company's growth and look forward to continuing to explore opportunities to collaborate in the future."

Dr. Eyal Kishon of Deep Insight.: "Their unique 3D Current Collector solution promises significant improvements to make better, more powerful batteries, aligning with our vision of investing in disruptive technologies to drive worldwide progress."

"Scania is dedicated to fostering advancements that contribute to a sustainable and efficient future. Addionics' revolutionary approach to battery technology aligns with our mission to enhance the performance and sustainability of next-generation zero emission solutions," said Jessica Persson, Head of VC and M&A at Scania. "We are proud of our investment in Addionics and look forward to the impact their technology will have on the future of batteries and electric vehicles."

About Addionics:

Addionics is a leading manufacturer of 3D Current Collectors™ powering the next generation of batteries. Addionics' low-cost drop-in solution seamlessly integrates into existing production facilities, allowing battery manufacturers and automakers to increase production capacity while reducing manufacturing costs. By revolutionizing the internal physical structure of the battery, Addionics 3D Current Collectors significantly improve the performance of any battery regardless of its chemistry. Designed for commercial scale, Addionics has partnerships with major OEMs and automakers across North America and Europe.

Founded in 2017, Addionics has sites in the UK, Israel, the US, and Germany.

Foresight: Eye-Net and SoftBank Corp. Enter Agreement with Japanese Vehicle Manufacturer

July 26, 2024 09:02 ET| Source: [Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd.](#)

Parties are collaborating in a multi-phase plan to assess Eye-Net's technology as a potential ADAS system for the manufacturer's vehicles

Ness Ziona, Israel, July 26, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- **Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd.** (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), an innovator in automotive vision solutions, announced today that its wholly owned subsidiary, **Eye-Net Mobile Ltd.** ("Eye-Net"), has signed a three-way multi-phase agreement for a paid proof of concept (POC) project with **SoftBank Corp.** (Tokyo: 9434) ("SoftBank") and a Japanese vehicle manufacturer. SoftBank will provide the required cellular network infrastructure and support for the project.

The project is part of a multi-phase plan to be initiated during the third quarter of 2024. The initial phase will consist of an evaluation of Eye-Net™ Sense demonstration kit in a standalone mode. Upon successful evaluation, the parties may engage in the second phase of integrating Eye-Net Sense into the vehicle manufacturer's infotainment systems. Successful completion of the first two phases could lead to the integration of the Eye-Net Sense solution into the manufacturer's advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS), potentially leading to full commercial deployment in the manufacturer's vehicles.

"This agreement marks a significant advancement for Eye-Net and an additional initiative in Japan's automotive sector aimed at significantly improving road safety. By combining SoftBank's extensive network of partners and large user base with the vehicle manufacturer's widespread driver and vehicle presence, Eye-Net holds the



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potential to protect millions of road users across the country from non-line-of-sight collisions,” said Dror Elbaz, CEO of Eye-Net.

For more information about Eye-Net, please visit www.eyenet-mobile.com,

About Foresight

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX) is a technology company developing smart multi-spectral vision software solutions and cellular-based applications. Through the Company’s wholly owned subsidiaries, Foresight Automotive Ltd., Foresight Changzhou Automotive Ltd. and Eye-Net Mobile Ltd., Foresight develops both “in-line-of-sight” vision systems and “beyond-line-of-sight” accident-prevention solutions.

Foresight’s vision solutions include modules of automatic calibration and dense three-dimensional (3D) point cloud that can be applied to different markets such as automotive, defense, autonomous vehicles, and heavy industrial equipment. Eye-Net’s cellular-based solution suite provides real-time pre-collision alerts to enhance road safety and situational awareness for all road users in the urban mobility environment by incorporating cutting-edge AI technology and advanced analytics.

For more information about Foresight and its wholly owned subsidiary, Foresight Automotive, visit www.foresightauto.com

Israel – Japan August 2024

Japanese Investments in Israel 2024 H1

- Total number of Japanese investments in H1 2024 was identical to last year. While the volume of Investments decreased by 32%
- Among the investors are six New leading Japanese companies that invested in Israel for the first time.
- Japanese investment accounts for 9% of all foreign investment in Israel

A survey conducted by **Harel-Hertz Investments House Ltd.** Indicates that Japanese investors are still eager to invest in Israeli High-Tech, though the volume of investments registered a decline. Of the \$317 million invested in Israel in the first half of 2024, \$263 million were follow-up investments, which are preservation and support of existing investments.

Although the fall in volume, the number of investments remain same as in the first half of 2023 – 33 investments!

It should be emphasized that **Harel-Hertz** included in this survey only publicly announced or authorized investment. We are aware that some investments were kept confidential for inhouse reasons or other preferences. In light of the situation, many Japanese companies prefer waiting for the right timing for announcing their investment; the number and volume of investments that were actually made in H1 2024 is in fact much higher.

The decline in Japanese investment began in the last quarter of 2023 with the outbreak of war in the south and north. And continued since then, although there has been some recovery in the second quarter of the year compared to the first quarter.

The Japanese, many of whom have vacated their offices here, express great concern over the ongoing fighting and their fear of escalating it into a comprehensive regional conflict. The obvious lack of Japanese businesspeople visiting here makes it more difficult for Tokyo decision-makers in the field of investment.

To this must be added the dramatic drop in the value of Japanese Yen against the central currencies, which fell to a low of 161 yen per dollar at the end of June, (although the Yen has since been strengthened by the Bank of Japan's support measures).

Even among the Japanese funds operating in Israel, there is a similar trend – support for continued investments and a minority in new investments.



Total Japanese investments in Israel account for 9% of all foreign investments, compared with 13% of total investments in 2023. This figure could be influenced by the fact that Japanese companies, , opt for investing without disclosing their investments, in light of the situation.

An important feature of the composition of Japanese investments is the high weight of the strategic investments made by the funds of the largest enterprises in Japan. In this context, it is important to note the joining of six new leading companies as investors in Israeli technologies.

Japanese investors main interest during this period is in cyber and security technologies, artificial intelligence, and Fintech versus a relative decline in the fields of Life Science and the environment.

Discussions with Japanese counterparts reveal. that interest in Israeli technologies continues to be a major factor in maintaining the Japanese connection with Israel, most of which note that their activities will increase with the end of the fighting. and the opening of options for direct visits to Israel.

The full report can be downloaded free from:

<https://www.harel-hertz.com/japanese-investments-in-israel>

Wiz secures multi-million SoftBank investment to expand in Asian cloud market

The Israeli cyber company, which recently rejected a \$23 billion offer from Google, plans to double its workforce in Asia by the end of the year after recently recruiting dozens of employees in Japan, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand, and establishing a new data center in Sydney.

[Meir Orbach](#) 07:59, 07.08.24

Japanese investment giant SoftBank is investing tens of millions of dollars in the Israeli cyber unicorn Wiz, Calcalist has learned. This strategic investment by SoftBank is part of Wiz's efforts to expand into the Asian market. As of July this year, Wiz's annual revenue rate is approximately

\$500 million, and it is projected to reach \$1 billion by 2025. Last May, the company raised \$1 billion based on a valuation of over \$12 billion.

SoftBank's investment in Wiz came before Google offered \$23 billion to acquire the company, a deal that ultimately fell through after the company's founder and CEO, Assaf Rappaport, chose to continue building the company rather than accepting the tech giant's offer.

SoftBank's investment is aligned with forecasts for a significant increase in cloud spending in Asia, which is expected to reach \$153.6 billion by 2026, according to IDC. This positions Asia as a strategic target for Wiz's global growth. The collaboration with SoftBank is expected to establish Wiz as a major player in cloud security on the continent. Wiz is currently undertaking significant recruitment efforts in the region and is investing in building sales systems.

Wiz was founded by CEO Assaf Rappaport, CTO Ami Luttwak, VP Product Yinon Costica, and VP R&D Roy Reznik, who according to Forbes now all have a personal fortune of around \$1 billion. Rappaport was previously General Manager of R&D at Microsoft Israel after having sold his previous company Adallom to the tech giant for \$320 million in 2015. Wiz's other co-founders have been with Rappaport since his days in the military and filled various roles at Adallom, too.

To date, Wiz has raised \$1.9 billion. Its investors include Andreessen Horowitz, Lightspeed Venture Partners, Thrive Capital, Greylock, Wellington Management, Cyberstarts, Greenoaks, Howard Schultz, Index Ventures, Salesforce Ventures, and Sequoia Capital. The company currently employs over 1,200 people, most of whom are based in the USA (New York, Washington, Austin, Texas, Denver, and California), with the remainder spread across Tel Aviv, Europe, and Asia. The company is recruiting for hundreds of open positions, including dozens in Israel, and currently provides services to approximately 40% of Fortune 100 companies.

A recent Economist Impact study indicates that cloud services are the most rapidly emerging and dominant technology in Asia, with 85% of executives reporting that their organizations are already using the cloud. In response to this growth, Wiz plans to double its workforce on the continent by the end of the year. In recent months, Wiz has recruited dozens of employees in Japan, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand, and has established a new data center in Sydney.

"Terilogy Co., Ltd and Salvador Technologies reached an agreement for distribution in Japan and Vietnam"

Achieving rapid recovery for OT system even in the event of a large-scale global outage

[Terilogy Co., Ltd](#) is pleased to announce that it has signed a distributorship agreement in Japan and Vietnam with [Salvador Technologies](#) Ltd. and has begun marketing and sales activities of the "Cyber Recovery Unit (CRU)," which provides both secure backup and rapid recovery in the event of a cyber incident for OT systems.

[Salvador Technologies](#) reports that during the July 19 global software update-triggered outage, critical infrastructure and industrial customers using the company's cyber incident recovery platform, CRU, were able to return to full normal operations within minutes of realizing that their systems and machines were down.

"CRU" provided by [Salvador Technologies](#) is a recovery solution designed for OT systems. Patented air-gap technology ensures the protection of the three disks that store your backup data. If system recovery becomes necessary, the system can be booted directly from the disk, reducing the restoration time required with typical backup solutions and allowing system usage to resume in 30 seconds. In addition, the CRU can be easily configured and operated by button operations, so even those without IT skills can use it with confidence.

Through its "OT Security Portfolio," [Terilogy Co., Ltd](#) is working to discover, select, and deploy cutting-edge solutions in countries around the world in order to resolve various security issues in customers' OT environments and strengthen security measures for manufacturing and deployment infrastructure in Japan and Vietnam through [VNCS](#)



[Global Solution Technology](#), its Vietnamese affiliate. Through this collaboration with [Salvador Technologies, Terilogy Co., Ltd](#) aims to realize a safer and more secure OT environment by contributing not only to the prevention of security incidents, but also to recovery measures after incidents.

Harel-Hertz Investment House is privileged to have initiated and assisted in completing this partnership.

BAIBYS raises \$4.5M Series A for AI-based system that selects ideal sperm for fertility treatments

Japanese pharmaceutical giant ROHTO joined the Israeli startup's round as it prepares to begin sales this year. BAIBYS' system examines sperm samples and automatically selects ideal sperm according to WHO criteria, both in terms of their motility and morphology.

CTech 08.08.24

Israeli startup BAIBYS, which has developed an autonomous system for selecting ideal sperm for fertility treatments, aiming to improve treatment success rates and reduce birth defects, has announced the completion of its \$4.5 million Series A funding round, led by Firsttime Ventures, with participation from Japanese pharmaceutical giant ROHTO. To date, BAIBYS has secured \$6.5 million in total funding after previously raising \$2 million in a Seed round from various private investors, predominantly fertility doctors owning clinics in Israel and abroad.

BAIBYS was founded in 2020 by Dr. Nino Guy Cassuto, a Jewish-French doctor specializing in male fertility, and Gal Golov, an engineer expert in electro-optics who personally experienced the multifaceted difficulties inherent in repeated failed fertility treatments. Gal Golov and Dr. Yaron Silberman serve as co-CEOs of the company, which currently employs eight full-time workers at its offices in Ramat Hahayal, Tel Aviv, as well as several part-time employees and expert consultants in their respective fields.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), in a man with healthy sperm, 96% of sperm cells are abnormal. Nevertheless, in current fertility treatments, the sperm used for fertilization are chosen from millions almost arbitrarily, without the ability to check for morphological anomalies. BAIBYS has developed an AI-based robotic system for examining sperm samples and



automatically selecting ideal sperm according to WHO criteria, both in terms of their motility and morphology.

The use of carefully selected sperm by experts - through a long and meticulous process - has demonstrated improved success rates and a 45% reduction in birth defects. However, this process is not feasible for widespread clinical adoption due to its time-consuming nature, subjectivity, the requirement for extensive training, and consequently high cost. With BAIBYS' system, the user only needs to place a cartridge containing the sperm sample into the system, specify the desired number of sperm cells to be extracted, and press 'Start.' The system then operates autonomously for several minutes until the selection process is complete.

“The new partnership, which is not only financial, with a significant corporation like RHOTO opens up enormous possibilities for us in terms of marketing, R&D, and other areas,” said Dr. Yaron Silberman, CEO of BAIBYS. “We will make every effort to leverage this partnership to bring innovative products to market for the benefit of the many couples (1 in 6) suffering from infertility. In the coming months, we will pass significant milestones, with the crowning achievement being the start of sales in Europe later this year, assisted by our seed round investors and their network. We are proud to show the world that an innovative Israeli technology can help couples around the world to have healthy babies, during this challenging period.”

The fertility treatment market was valued at \$54.1 billion in 2023 and is expected to reach \$101.8 billion by 2028, with an annual growth rate of about 14%.

ROHTO was founded in 1899 and is headquartered in Osaka, Japan. The company manufactures and markets pharmaceutical products, cosmetics, and nutritional supplements globally.

Keren Kopilov, Partner and Head of Digital Health at **Firsttime Ventures**: “BAIBYS is accomplishing something unprecedented in the fertility sector: fully automating a procedure that has always been manual, time-consuming, and expensive. By transforming it into a fast and affordable process, they're making advanced fertility treatments accessible to countless families worldwide.”

Amuse Inc. to Invest in eggXYt's Innovative Chick Sexing Technology with a shared vision of Revolutionize the Egg Industry

Japan, July 17, 2024 – Amuse Inc., a leading Japanese poultry grower and egg products producer, announced today an investment in eggXYt, a pioneering biotechnology company on a mission to create a more sustainable future for the livestock industry. This investment underscores Amuse Inc.'s commitment to ethical and environmentally conscious practices.

eggXYt's disruptive flagship innovation consists of proprietary technology that enables non-invasive, pre-incubation high throughput sex detection in freshly laid chicken eggs. This breakthrough eliminates the widespread practice of male chick culling with significant ethical and economic implications. Every year, billions of male chicks are unnecessarily hatched and disposed of, causing animal welfare concerns and costing the industry billions of dollars. eggXYt's technology has the potential to save billions of chicks annually, reduce waste, and generate substantial cost savings.

"Amuse group has taken action based on its core values of animal welfare and food safety, even prior to any Japanese regulation on this issue. Amuse recognizes the transformative potential of eggXYt's technology and looks forward to utilizing and implementing it to make the egg industry more ethical and sustainable" said Yasuo Akagi, CEO.

Yehuda Elram, CEO of eggXYt, echoed the sentiment, stating, "Amuse's investment is a tremendous validation of our technology. This investment will accelerate the commercialization of our solution, allowing us to reach new markets and revolutionize the egg industry on a global scale. "We are proud to be Amuse's first ever investment in Israel"

This matching between Israeli cutting-edge innovation and Japanese companies marketing and business needs is led by Corundom Innovation, a venture capital (VC) investment and consulting services of both financial and strategic returns, with offices in Japan and Israel. "Following our intensive close work with Amuse Inc. we understood their strategic needs, and with our experience and familiarity of the Israeli ecosystem we



were able to identify eggXYt as a game changing technology that fits Amuse strategy and support the investment process” said Ilan Kieselstein of Corundum.

Amuse's investment in eggXYt presents exciting possibilities.

eggXYt: Amuse's investment provides the resources needed to accelerate the commercialization of their technology, enabling them to make a significant impact on the egg industry.

Amuse: is committed to advancing ethical animal welfare and enhancing food safety in anticipation of the needs of the Japanese market.

Consumers: Consumers will benefit from a more ethical and sustainable egg production system.

About Amuse

Amuse Group is a leading Poultry grower and egg related products producer in Japan. The group includes Himuka PF inc. produce hatching eggs, Fusion inc. producing material eggs, packed egg, processed eggs, and liquid egg, and Amuse Inc. produce day old chicks and laying hens. With a vision on Animal welfare, Amuse Inc. installed hatchery machine and tools, supported by European Animal Welfare Regulation, in 2016, and Fusion inc. that produces cage-free eggs since 2017.

About eggXYt

eggXYt is a biotechnology company dedicated to enabling a sustainable future in the livestock industry. Its flagship technology allows for non-invasive, pre-incubation sex determination in chicken eggs, eliminating the need for male chick culling and promoting a more ethical and humane food system.

eggXYt's innovative technology utilizes a proprietary method to achieve high-throughput, non-invasive sex determination in chicken eggs before incubation. This breakthrough eliminates male chick culling and offers significant animal welfare and economic advantages. However, eggXYt's vision extends beyond this initial innovation. eggXYt is actively developing solutions to address other critical challenges. This includes pioneering technologies for:



- **Avian Influenza Virus (AIV) resistance:** This technology aims to create chickens with broad inherent resistance to AIV, which heavily affects millions of birds annually. By potentially reducing disease outbreaks and improving animal health, this technology could help ensure the stability of the global egg and meat supply.
- **Enhanced protein secretion:** eggXYt is providing a unique platform to enhance protein secretion for various applications in the research, food and pharmaceutical industries.
- **Cell sorting technology:** This cutting-edge technology allows for the isolation of specific cell types from heterogeneous populations based on cellular RNA molecules. It holds significant potential for applications in both research and the pharmaceutical industry.

eggXYt was founded in 2016 and is based in Jerusalem, Israel.

MK Edelstein meets with Japanese parliament member Matsukawa and Ambassador to Israel Arai.

August 6, 2024 <https://main.knesset.gov.il/en>

Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chair MK Yuli Yoel Edelstein (Likud) met in the Knesset on Monday with Ms. Rui Matsukawa, a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense of the Japanese House of Councillors, the upper house of the Japanese legislature (the National Diet). Matsukawa's spouse, Japanese Ambassador to Israel Yusuke Arai, also took part in the meeting.

In the meeting, MK Edelstein reviewed the various threats Israel currently faces, and called upon Japan to work to restrain Iran and push Hezbollah beyond the Litani River in Lebanon. Councillor Matsukawa stressed the importance of releasing all the hostages



who are being held in Gaza.

MK Edelstein, Councillor Matsukawa and Ambassador Arai also discussed the expansion of the Abraham Accords, advancing cooperation between Israel and Japan, and deepening the relations between the Knesset and the Japanese parliament.

After Japan snubs Israel for Nagasaki commemoration, U.S., other envoys plan to skip event

By Chris Benson

Aug. 7 (UPI) -- After Japan didn't invite Israel to a Nagasaki ceremony over fears of possible protest disruptions, the U.S. ambassador is joining with many of his counterparts in skipping the event, as well.

U.S. Ambassador to Japan [Rahm Emanuel](#) this week will join multiple other nations' ambassadors to Japan in skipping Nagasaki's 79th annual memorial to mark the 1945 U.S. atomic bombing.

Local officials did not invite an Israeli representative, voicing security concerns over possible protests spurred by the [Gaza](#) war.

"Given the critical humanitarian situation in Gaza and international opinion, there is a risk of unpredictable disruption occurring at the ceremony," **Nagasaki Mayor Shiro Suzuki** [explained on](#) Saturday in regards to the decision by city officials to not invite Israel's Ambassador Gilad Cohen to the anniversary ceremony.

Dignitaries from more than 150 nations and territories were among those invited to Nagasaki's Friday ceremony on August 9 in southwest Japan to remember Aug. 9, 1945, the date [when the United States dropped](#) an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Nagasaki. Estimates say anywhere from 40,000 to 74,000 people died in the event, which came three days after the United States leveled Hiroshima.



British Ambassador to Japan Julia Longbottom said Tuesday that she, too, will skip the Nagasaki event, joining the ambassadors to Japan of **Canada, France, Italy and Australia**, according to reports.

On Friday, Emanuel instead will attend a different event to honor the Nagasaki atomic bomb victims at Zojoji temple in Tokyo's Minato Ward, [The Japan News](#) reported.

Expected to sit in for Emanuel is Chuka Asike, principal officer at the U.S. Consulate in Fukuoka near Nagasaki, according to the sources.

Every year, city officials in Nagasaki send invitations to all embassies in Japan, but have excluded Russia and its neighboring Belarus since Moscow's 2022 invasion began of [Ukraine](#).

Nagasaki's mayor first suggested publicly last month that Israel might be excluded from the 79th anniversary ceremonies, which prompted several countries, some now not attending the event on Friday, to send a letter to officials expressing their concerns over Suzuki's comments.

"Should Israel be excluded, it would become difficult for us to have high-level participation in this event," read a letter signed by representatives from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the U.S. and the European Union.

Notably, however, the list of [invitees also included](#) China, Syria, Yemen, Venezuela, Myanmar and [Afghanistan](#), all countries with known records of human rights abuses. And Iran's ambassador was invited despite Iran's designation as a primary sponsor of terrorism by the United States and its allies.

Emanuel and Longbottom say Nagasaki's decision not to invite Israel wrongly equates the war against [Hamas](#) in Gaza with Russia and Belarus' actions with regard to Ukraine.

"Russia's invasion of Ukraine and Israel's self-defense is not morally equivalent," Emanuel wrote in an email to [The New York Times](#).

But Cohen, Israel's ambassador in Tokyo, on Monday responded furiously to Nagasaki's choice and was critical of officials' reasoning.



"It has nothing to do with public order," he told [CNN](#). "I checked it with the relevant authorities that are responsible for public order and security, and there is no obstacle for me to go to Nagasaki," Cohen said, accusing Suzuki of "inventing this."

Suzuki, the son of atomic bomb survivors, expressed his desire for the ceremony to remain peaceful without a possibility of protests over Israel's ongoing war in Gaza as the basis for not inviting Cohen to Nagasaki.

"We need to carefully monitor the situation as it develops," he said, but reports say Suzuki did not specify any other details on terms, conditions or deadlines on a possible invite extension to Israel.

However, some critics say excluding Israel sends the wrong message, as Suzuki has stated he sent a letter in June to the Israeli Embassy in Tokyo, Japan's capital city, calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza.

Japan-Iran Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk

Japan foreign minister asks Iran to exercise self-restraint in rift with Israel

MOFA August 15, 2024

On August 15th, commencing at 2:10 p.m. for 35 minutes, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a telephone talk with H.E. Dr. Ali BAGHERI KANI, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

1. Minister Kamikawa, while expressing serious concern over the current deteriorating situation in the Middle East, stated that further escalation of the situation would not be in the interest of the region or the international community as a whole, and that every effort should be made to avoid further tensions. Minister Kamikawa also called on Iran to respond in a rational manner.
2. Furthermore, Minister Kamikawa called on Iran to strongly urge restraint on other relevant entities on which it has influence.

3. Minister Kamikawa requested for Iran's support in securing the safety of Japanese nationals in Iran, in case there is an increased tension in the situation.
4. Both sides affirmed the importance of peace and stability in the Middle East region and agreed to continue to maintain communication between Japan and Iran.

Japan's Kamikawa Urges Iran Not to Retaliate against Israel

Tokyo, Aug. 28 (Jiji Press)--Japanese Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa held telephone talks with her Iranian counterpart, Seyyed Abbas Araghchi, on Wednesday, urging Tehran to refrain from its vowed retaliation against Israel.

During the 30-minute talks, Kamikawa stressed that further escalation of the situation in the Middle East is not in the interest of the region or the international community.

The Iranian minister responded that his country does not want to escalate the situation, according to Kamikawa.

"We will make every diplomatic effort to calm the situation," Kamikawa told reporters after the phone talks.

She also called on the Iranian side to urge restraint by the Iranian-backed Lebanese militant group Hezbollah and other parties, and to cooperate in protecting Japanese nationals in Iran

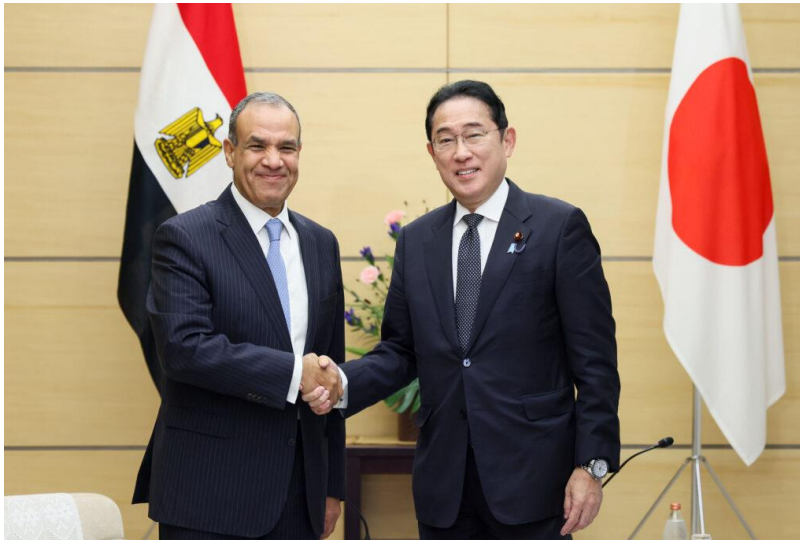
Exchange of Notes concerning Grant Aid to Palestine “Food Assistance Program (through WFP)”

MOFA August 15, 2024

On August 14, 2024, H.E. Mr. NAKASHIMA Yoichi, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and Mr. Antoine Renard, Representative and Country Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Palestine signed and exchanged notes for the Grant Aid to Palestine “Food Assistance Programme (through WFP)” (grant amount: 4 hundred million yen) in Ramallah.

1. In Palestine, the food situation is worsening due to high unemployment rate, deterioration of economic and fiscal circumstances, and logistical difficulties, as well as soaring global food prices due to the Ukraine crisis. There is an urgent need for food assistance, with the entire population of the Gaza Strip facing a food crisis particularly since the outbreak of conflict between Israel and Palestinian militants on October 7, 2023.
2. Based on the request from the Palestinian Authority, this cooperation will provide food assistance to improve food security and contribute to the solution of development challenges in Palestine. It is also expected to contribute to the stability and improvement of public welfare based on human security, which is one of the pillars of Japan's basic aid policy toward Palestine.

Egypt, Japan agree to cooperate on Gaza and Africa



Both sides agreed to coordinate on further cooperation on Africa. (MOFA)

23 Aug 2024 [Arab News Japan](#)

TOKYO: Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty paid a courtesy call to Japanese Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio on Friday and handed over a letter from President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi.

Prime Minister Kishida stated that Egypt plays an important role concerning peace and stability, both in the Middle East and Africa. He added that Egypt has been a highly important partner for Japan.

Kishida said that Japan is paying close attention to the current situation in the Middle East and supports the efforts made by Egypt regarding the situation in Gaza. The two sides agreed to continue close coordination on such matters. Kishida also congratulated Abdelatty on joining the Cabinet.

Abdelatty, who is visiting Japan to attend the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting, expressed his hope that the two countries will further develop bilateral relations.

Both sides agreed to coordinate further cooperation in Africa.



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Israel – Japan September 2024

Electreon installed a wireless charging road at the DENSO headquarters in Japan

July 3, 2024 <https://techtime.co.il/>

The electric road will serve as a demonstration complex for potential customers, including international car companies and decision makers in Japan and abroad. It will also be used in a testing laboratory to examine systems that will be developed by the two companies

The cooperation between the company Electreon Wireless ([Electreon](#)) from Beit Yanai Israel, and the Japanese vehicle systems contractor Denso (DENSO), continues to tighten. This week Electreon reported that it has completed the construction of a wireless electric road at the headquarters of the DENSO company, in the city of Kariya in Japan. The demonstration road was built using the techniques used on Japanese roads. It will allow electric vehicles to be charged while driving. The project was carried out by one of the largest infrastructure companies in Japan , whose employees were trained by Electreon as part of the process of laying out the demonstration road, so that they could lay out more roads in the future .

The electric road at the DENSO headquarters will serve as a demonstration complex for potential customers, including international car companies and decision makers in Japan and abroad. In addition, the road will be used as a test site for testing systems that will be developed in the future, as part of the business and technological cooperation between the two companies. As a reminder, in January 2024 a cooperation agreement was signed between Electreon, Toyota and Denso, under which they will develop a wireless charging solution for new private vehicles and vehicles already on the road (After Market).

The agreement was signed after a long series of technological tests carried out by Toyota and Denso. It refers to the joint development of systems adapted for use on Electreon's electric road. The companies will develop two main products: a wireless charging kit for simple installation on existing vehicles, and a wireless charging system that will be integrally integrated (Built-in) in new vehicles as part of their serial production



process . The intellectual property of the systems will be in the hands of all the partners, and they will share in the royalties arising from the use of the intellectual property .

New market definition

At the same time, in March 2024, Denso made an investment of about 10 million dollars in Elektreon for about 1.96% of the shares. In the last year, the company updated its activity strategy, and today it focuses on two main markets: the commercial fleet market, which includes urban public transportation companies, delivery fleets and point-to-point shuttles and city taxis; and the private car market, where it focuses on developing a charging component that will be integrated into private vehicles as an integral part of the production process, as well as aftermarket systems to integrate its technology into existing vehicles.

In the first quarter of 2023, Electrion's sales totaled approximately NIS 9 million, compared to sales of approximately NIS 3 million in the first quarter last year. In the entire year of 2023, sales totaled approximately NIS 23 million. The company is traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange according to a market value of approximately NIS 1.99 billion. Elektreon's CEO, Oren Ezer, that the deployment of the wireless road at the DENSO headquarters is a significant step in realizing the strategic cooperation between the companies . " We believe that the new road will help promote the adoption of the technology in the Japanese automobile market."

Somite.ai takes pre-seed to \$10M as it eyes to become 'the OpenAI of stem cell biology'

The company has received an extension of \$4.8 million from **Astellas Venture Management** and Montage Ventures just six months after its initial raise for its novel cell replacement therapies.

Astellas Pharma and Astellas Institute for Regenerative Medicine focus on regenerative medicine and cell therapy research in ophthalmology and other therapeutic areas that have few or no available treatment options -

[James Spiro](#) 03.09.24

Somite.ai, a TechBio company leveraging big data and AI for its novel cell replacement therapies, has announced it has received a \$4.8 million extension of its initial pre-seed round, bringing its total funding to \$10 million. The funding was completed only six months after its initial fundraising and sees Astellas Venture Management and Montage Ventures joining as Board Observers.

"With most of the funds still in the bank, we were not planning to fundraise until 2025," said Dr. Micha Breakstone, Co-founder and CEO of Somite.ai. "However, when Astellas Venture Management and Montage Ventures approached us, it was clear that they could add significant strategic value. Astellas Pharma and Astellas Institute for Regenerative Medicine focus on regenerative medicine and cell therapy research in ophthalmology and other therapeutic areas that have few or no available treatment options, while Montage Ventures has built a robust thesis and has deep insights into this space, so we decided to extend the round."

The additional funding will be used for data generation to train the company's AI platform, AlphaStem; advance SMT-M01 toward the clinic; start a second clinical program, SMT-B01, using brown adipocytes to treat metabolic disorders; and begin research with hypoimmune cell lines.

"Somite.ai's work in vertically integrated AI-driven cell therapy aligns perfectly with Astellas' focus. We see great potential for impactful synergies between our companies," said Dr. Nagisa Sakurai, Senior Investment Manager at Astellas Venture Management, who will be joining Somite.ai as a Board Observer. Dr. Daphne Che, who will also be joining Somite.ai as a Board Observer, added: "Among numerous companies in the TechBio space, Somite.ai stood out as the most aligned with our vision of AI-driven novel therapeutic modalities."

Additional investors joining the round include former Chairman and CEO of Luminex Nachum Shamir, as well as Paul and Dr. Kendra Harris, a clinician with experience in clinical trials, who will also be joining Somite.ai's Scientific Advisory Board.

Somite.ai was founded by Breakstone and Jonathan Rosenfeld, PhD, who serves as CTO. It aims to become 'the OpenAI of stem cell biology' by developing AI foundation models to produce human tissue for cell therapies at scale for diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and muscular dystrophies. It was incorporated in October 2023.

Additional Scientific co-founders include Dr. Olivier Pourquie, Professor of Genetics and Pathology at Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital; Dr. Allon Klein, Professor of Systems Biology at Harvard Medical School; Dr. Cliff Tabin, Chair of the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School; and Dr. Jay Shendure, HHMI Professor of Genome Sciences at University of Washington.

Pente Networks Announces Strategic Investment by Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, ME Innovation Fund

GlobalBrains VC and Fujitsu CVC are also invested in the company

HACKENSACK, NJ / ACCESSWIRE / June 11, 2024 / [Pente Networks](#), a private wireless network orchestration and management software company, announces the Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO:6503) ME Innovation Fund, a corporate venture capital (CVC) fund operated jointly with Global Brain Corporation, has invested in Pente's latest funding round to drive Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and private 5G network growth in a variety of industries.

"We are impressed with Pente's unique approach to private 5G network deployment, integration, management and scaling. Our investment, combined with technologies we both possess, provides an opportunity for us to stimulate private wireless network expansion, lead the IaaS market and create many new business opportunities together," says Satoshi Takeda, Executive Officer and CDO, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation.

Since the introduction of the [HyperCore Cloud](#) in January 2023, Pente has taken private networks from a complex telecom solution that only major enterprises and corporations could take advantage of and transformed it into an award-winning, fast, affordable and easy IT service that System Integrators, Managed Service Providers, WISPs and MNO/MVNOs are actively deploying in a multitude of industries. Today, the Pente HyperCore Cloud platform manages millions of IT-grade SIMs for customers around the globe.



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"We are excited about this strategic investment and the ability to closely collaborate with Mitsubishi Electric," says Avi Cohen, CEO Pente Networks. "With their deep involvement in industrial IoT, defense, manufacturing, shipping and transportation markets, there is a tremendous synergy with our companies, and we look forward to expanding our business in Japan and beyond together."

The Pente HyperCore was designed as a no-code solution so anyone, even users without telecom expertise, can quickly set up and operate a private network. Pente's solutions are also RAN agnostic, allowing any base station to be used and enabling plug-and-play deployment. By offering private wireless network solutions such as IaaS, Pente has democratized wireless connectivity for enterprises, government, education, and manufacturing and supports social infrastructure by closing the digital divide.

About ME Innovation Fund

[Mitsubishi Electric Corporation](#) and [Global Brain Corporation](#) launched the ME Innovation Fund, a corporate venture capital (CVC) fund, in 2022 to invest and partner with startups around the world that have the potential for creating breakthrough innovations. In addition to financing, the fund provides wide-ranging business knowledge and management support as well as creates collaborative technology and partnership opportunities. The fund has a commitment to invest 5 billion yen in capital over the next 10 years

Fujitsu CVC made a Strategic Investment in November 2023 while GlobalBrain VC invested in all Pente's financial rounds and was one of the first Seed investors

About [Pente Networks](#)

Pente provides enterprise LTE/5G solutions.

Pente's IT-friendly solutions deliver fully secure and economically efficient services designed to support enterprise digital transformation by guaranteeing latency, security, quality of experience, and optimizing public and private clouds.

Pente has a growing partner ecosystem of system integrators, service providers, and equipment manufacturers focused on providing end-to-end wireless communication solutions to enterprises.

Founded in 2016, the company is headquartered in Israel with R&D centers in Israel, India, and Eastern Europe, and US headquarters in New York.

Mitsubishi Motors chooses Israel's C2A Security for its cybersecurity management solution

The deal was facilitated by consulting giant Accenture and chosen for its ability to address cybersecurity regulations faced by automotive manufacturers.

[James Spiro](#), 05.09.24

Mitsubishi Motors Corporation (MMC) has selected the Israeli startup C2A Security's EVSec platform to manage its cyber protection needs. The deal was facilitated by consulting giant Accenture and chosen for its ability to address cybersecurity regulations faced by automotive manufacturers today.

"Providing a response in the field of cybersecurity is not a job for experts only, but a challenge that everyone has to face as one team," said Roy Fridman, CEO of C2A Security. "Using our product security platform makes it possible to support collaboration within the company's departments, as well as with suppliers, thus enabling efficient and quick decision-making. It's an automated process that can reduce resources and costs, while complying with standards and regulations."

As car makers increasingly rely on software to power modern vehicles—introducing over-the-air updates, cloud applications, and more advanced in-vehicle experiences—the need for robust cybersecurity solutions has grown. Regulations such as the United Nations' UN R155 require auto manufacturers to implement cybersecurity measures across the entire lifecycle of a vehicle, from design and production to ongoing operation.

This regulation, which entered into force in all EU countries, led other companies like Porsche and Volkswagen to take models off the road earlier this year to avoid millions of euros in fines and potential loss of their Type Approval in EU countries. C2A Security's EVSec platform automates compliance with relevant standards and regulations to simplify these processes, which are critical to business success by increasing efficiency and improving cost savings.



"We wanted to bring secure, advanced connected services to the market faster," added Hideaki Inoue, Assistant General Manager, Mobility Business Division, Mitsubishi Motors Corporation. "Therefore, we needed to work with external professionals. Accenture's expertise and drive, which were with us each step from process design to TARA execution, plus C2A Security's solution, enabled us to achieve TARA of consistent quality in a short period of time."

Mitsubishi Motors is not only integrating C2A's platform to meet these new standards but also preparing to use it for the security of its upcoming smart charging service for electric vehicles, set for deployment in 2024.

C2A Security was founded in 2016 by Michael Dick and is headquartered in Jerusalem. It is a risk-driven DevSecOps Platform vendor that addresses the specific needs of each car maker, Tier 1 supplier, and mobility company. Its customers and technology partners include top-tier global players including Daimler Truck AG, BMW Group, Siemens, Valeo, ThunderSoft, Marelli, NTT Data, and Evvo Labs, among others

SoftBank Corp. and NewPhotonics Announce Collaboration on Advanced Photonics Technology for LPO, CPO and All- Optics Switch Fabric Targeting AI-RAN

September 24, 2024 SoftBank Corp.
NewPhotonics LTD

SoftBank Corp. ("SoftBank") and **NewPhotonics LTD** ("NewPhotonics"), a leader in advanced integrated photonics, today announced a joint research and development collaboration on advanced photonics technologies for LPO (Linear-drive Pluggable Optics)*¹, CPO (Co-packaged Optics)*², and All-Optics Switch Fabric*³. This photonics-electronics convergence technology with high-speed optical communication and Optical Switching Technology*⁴ enables low latency and low power consumption in AI data centers and mobile fronthaul infrastructure. The technologies will support SoftBank in AI

data center and mobile fronthaul infrastructure with NewPhotonics patented technologies coupled with its Photonics Integrated Chip (PIC) for reliable all-optics communication and optical fabric switching.

Targeting improved performance of GPU/CPU/switch fabric with PIC and low latency optical connectivity, the technology will also address power consumption and capacity bottlenecks in AI cluster workloads based on high-speed optical communication and optical switching technology. The patented NewPhotonics optical SerDes (Serializer/Deserializer)^{*5} will enable higher density and low latency data transfer in mobile fronthaul and data center. Co-packaged advanced optical technologies deliver improved speed and energy efficiency crucial in data center re-designs underway for high performance compute and vector processing applications. In addition, the LPO technology realized by incorporating NewPhotonics' PIC into the optical transceiver is capable of longer distance transmission than existing LPO technology. By applying NewPhotonics' LPO technology to mobile fronthaul, it is expected to reduce processing delays, reduce power consumption, and extend long distances of transport equipment.

Ryuji Wakikawa, Vice President, Head of the Research Institute of Advanced Technology at SoftBank, said:

“We believe this partnership with NewPhotonics is necessary for our next-generation infrastructure. By collaborating, we envision a transformation in AI data center and mobile fronthaul infrastructure with optical-electronics convergence technologies that enhance speed, distance limits, capacity, and, most importantly, increase sustainability, giving SoftBank a significant advantage and market leadership.”

Yaniv Ben Haim, CEO of NewPhotonics added, “Our new collaboration agreement with SoftBank marks a significant milestone for our company and the industry to advance optical interconnect technology in CPO and pluggable that address the needs of modern compute and AI infrastructure. We remain committed to breaking the limits of optical communication with lowered latency and power at scalable distances. This partnership exemplifies our confidence in the impact of all-optical connectivity on the future of AI and 6G with our patented photonics innovations.”

About NewPhotonics

NewPhotonics is a fabless semiconductor company based in Tel Aviv Israel is designing, developing and manufacturing photonic integrated circuits (PIC) that break the limits of optical connectivity and processing for a new all-optics paradigm in networking and compute data transmission. Founded in 2020, NewPhotonics is privately held and funded.

Dentsu Partners With Clinch for Dynamic Creative Optimization

Published on: 28th June 2023

The Global Partnership Enables Dentsu Clients To Deliver Automated and Personalized Campaigns at Scale

NEW YORK, June 19, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- [Clinch](#), the leader in dynamic ad serving and personalization and creator of Flight Control, the Omnichannel Campaign Activation Platform, for its Dynamic Creative Optimization (DCO) offering, announces a global partnership with [dentsu](#), one of the world's largest marketing and advertising networks. The new partnership includes complete access to Clinch's SaaS platform Flight Control which improves operational efficiency and fosters cross-functional and end-to-end collaborations.

When combined with the omnichannel, digitally powered infrastructure and services which dentsu intends to offer as part of its planned acquisition of Tag and dentsu's industry-leading Merkury identity platform, this partnership positions dentsu to provide high-quality content at speed and scale for creative, accelerating its DCO offering with Clinch. By seamlessly integrating Clinch's DCO platform with Tag's Omnichannel production scale and Merkury's customer identity suite, dentsu will bring personalization with a human touch across every channel for its clients.

Clinch's Flight Control platform makes highly complex campaigns with multiple data feeds, channels, and other factors not only possible, but also easy to launch, manage, and scale across connected TV (CTV), online video advertising (OLV), social, mobile, native, Digital out-of-home, and more. Another advantage is the platform's seamless integration with many top platform partners, such as, but not limited to Meta, The Trade



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Desk, and Double Verify, bringing massive efficiencies and automation to the campaign activation process and faster overall speed to market. Campaigns that run through Flight Control also have the added benefit of obtaining unique creative engagement insights that can be used for ongoing optimizations, and more effective, data-driven future planning.

In addition, dentsu's partnership with Clinch provides clients with a complete 'white glove' service and technology inclusive of creative production, DCO strategy, and ongoing creative performance, along with ad serving and full use of Flight Control.

"Co-creating with our partners enables us to truly innovate what's next for our clients, and offer 360-degree solutions that unify data, creativity and media to accelerate business outcomes," said Jeff Greenspoon, President, Global Solutions at dentsu.

"Clinch's technology not only brings unique capabilities in omnichannel personalization and DCO to dentsu, but also allows us to operate at unparalleled levels of efficiency, saving time, resources, and costs for our clients. This partnership further bolsters Dentsu's planned acquisition of Tag and stands to add even more, globally-scaled power to our complete DCO solution for our clients across every channel."

Dentsu's partnership with Clinch builds on more than five years of joint success, including delivering a 243% increase in e-commerce growth for one of the largest grocery companies in America through automation and centralizing operations, while expanding their target audience base. Other clients who have benefitted from the partnership include Nespresso, Nestle, and Jack-in-the-Box.

"The most important aspects of media buying and campaign activation right now are performance and efficiency, especially for a company like dentsu with integrated teams across the globe," said Oz Etzioni, CEO, Clinch. "Clinch and Flight Control were built to unify the entire activation process so that agencies have more time and resources for strategy and ultimately winning new business. We are thrilled to continue growing this partnership and contribute to the innovation that makes dentsu a market leader."

About Clinch

Clinch is the recognized leader in omnichannel ad serving. The company's AI-driven dynamic personalization technology delivers custom-tailored ad experiences across all channels, driving best-in-class performance and ROI. Flight Control, Clinch's

Omnichannel Campaign Activation Platform, enables agencies and brands to manage the entire campaign lifecycle, from strategy through activation and measurement, on a single platform that makes them massively more productive, efficient, and profitable. In everything Clinch does, it automates workflows and leverages data to personalize and optimize display and video ad experiences at scale, across programmatic, CTV, social media, in-app, native, and Digital Out of Home (DOOH).

About dentsu

Dentsu is the network designed for what's next, helping clients predict and plan for disruptive future opportunities and create new paths to growth in the sustainable economy. Taking a people-centered approach to business transformation, we use insights to connect brand, content, commerce and experience, underpinned by modern creativity. As part of Dentsu Group Inc. (Tokyo: 4324; ISIN: JP3551520004), we are headquartered in Tokyo, Japan and our 69,000-strong employee-base of dedicated professionals work across four regions (Japan, Americas, EMEA and APAC). Dentsu combines Japanese innovation with a diverse, global perspective to drive client growth and to shape society.

Courtesy Call on Foreign Minister Kamikawa by LTG. Jibril Mahmoud Muhammad RAJOUB, President of the Palestine Olympic Committee

September 3, 2024

On September 3, commencing at 1:10 p.m. for approximately 20 minutes, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs, received a courtesy call by LTG. Jibril Mahmoud Muhammad RAJOUB, President of the Palestine Olympic Committee (President of the Palestine Football Association, and Secretary General for Fatah Central Committee) . The summary of the courtesy call is as follows.

1. At the outset, Minister Kamikawa welcomed President Rajoub's visit to Japan and stressed the importance of international exchange through sports, touching upon the participation of the Palestinian athletes, including those from Gaza, in the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games.
2. Minister Kamikawa stated that she has a strong sense of urgency regarding the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip in light of the current situation in the Middle East, and that she would like to work closely with the Palestinian side toward a ceasefire. Minister Kamikawa then explained humanitarian assistance to Gaza by Japan.
3. President Rajoub expressed his gratitude for Japan's support for Palestine and explained the current situation in the Middle East and the importance of a two-state solution.
4. In addition, Minister Kamikawa reiterated Japan's consistent position in support of a two-state solution, and stated that it is important to advance the reform of the Palestinian Authority (PA) for this purpose, and that Japan intends to actively contribute to such efforts.

Recent Situation in Lebanon (Statement by Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko)

September 25, 2024

1. With regard to the recent situation in Lebanon, Japan is strongly concerned about the escalation of tensions between Israel and Hezbollah, and deeply saddened by numerous civilian casualties, including women and children. Japan extends its heartfelt condolences to the victims and their bereaved family members, and also expresses its deepest sympathy to those who were injured.
2. Japan urges all parties to immediately take all measures to prevent civilian casualties, and calls for full implementation of relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, including UNSCR 1701 as well as abiding by international law, including international humanitarian law. At the same time, Japan strongly urges them to exercise the utmost restraint to avoid further escalation.

Japan-Egypt-Jordan Foreign Ministers' Meeting

September 23, 2024



On September 23, commencing at 10:00 p.m. local time (on September 24, 11:00 a.m. JST) for approximately 60 minutes, Ms. KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, during her visit to New York, held Japan-Egypt-Jordan Foreign Ministers' Meeting with H.E. Dr. Badr ABDELATTY, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Expatriates of the Arab Republic of Egypt and H. E. Mr. Ayman SAFADI, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The overview is as follows:

1. At the outset, Minister Kamikawa stated that regarding the situation in Gaza, Japan is seriously concerned that the fighting has been going on for nearly a year, that a large number of civilians have been killed, and that the humanitarian situation is critical, and it is imperative that all the parties concerned make every effort toward the release of the hostages and a ceasefire, and that Japan will work closely with Egypt and Jordan to prevent further escalation and calm down the situation in the Middle East region including the Israel-Lebanon situation.
2. In response, Minister Abdelatty and Minister Safadi stated that the situation is extremely tense and it is important to cooperate with Japan, a close and strong partner, and they shares the concerns expressed by Minister Kamikawa. then explained the latest situation on the ground as well as their efforts.
3. The three Ministers confirmed that they will continue to exchange views and work together in order to further develop the framework of cooperation.



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Israel – Japan October 2024

Quantum Source Raises \$50M Series A Funding to Make Scalable, Useful Quantum Computing A Reality

The Eclipse-led round marks a significant milestone in the journey to bring scalable quantum computing to the market

CANON EQUITY makes an initial investment in the company

TEL AVIV, Israel, Sept. 10, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Quantum Source](#), an Israel-based company developing, technology for powerful, cost-effective, practical photonic quantum computers, announced today it has raised a \$50M Series A investment round led by [Eclipse](#), with participation from Standard Investments, Level VC, **Canon Equity**, as well as existing investors Pitango First, Grove Ventures, 10D, and Dell Technologies Capital. This brings the company's total funding raised to over \$77M. The capital will be used to enhance engineering capabilities and accelerate the commercialization of quantum solutions.

Quantum computing is a fundamental paradigm shift in computing, with the potential to dramatically accelerate technological advancements in drug design, material development, cybersecurity, and more. Large-scale, fault-tolerant quantum computers, with millions of qubits, are critical to unlocking the potential of quantum computing but have yet to reach commercial viability. Photonic quantum computing technology offers the best route to commercialization, however, the biggest obstacle has been the massive inefficiency in creating entangled photonic states, a challenge that Quantum Source addresses.

Quantum Source was founded in 2021 by semiconductor industry veterans and serial entrepreneurs Oded Melamed, Gil Semo, and Dan Charash, and Professor Barak Dayan, a world-leading scientist in the field of quantum optics, who saw an opportunity to solve one of the biggest challenges of photonic quantum computing. The team has taken a novel approach that harnesses single atoms trapped on a proprietary photonic chip to allow deterministic photon generation and entanglement. This results in four



orders of magnitude better efficiency compared to other implementations, making the Quantum Source system substantially more scalable, compact, and simpler to control.

"This round is a vote of confidence in our approach to making scalable, useful quantum computing a reality, and a testament to the broader opportunity in quantum computing," said Oded Melamed, Co-Founder and CEO of Quantum Source. "Our game-changing approach, which combines photonic and atomic qubits, will propel quantum computing further toward commercialization, by making large-scale, fault-tolerant quantum computers available to corporations at a practical cost."

With 45 employees, more than half of whom hold PhDs, Quantum Source is uniquely positioned to accelerate growth and innovation in the photonic computing industry. [Last year](#), the company [announced](#) a \$12M seed extension led by Dell Technologies Capital and welcomed Former Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett to its Board of Directors, providing extensive tech leadership experience that is instrumental in driving Quantum Source's mission.

"Eclipse's investment in Quantum Source underscores our commitment to a future where quantum computing transforms what's possible," said Seth Winterroth, Partner at Eclipse. "With a team of visionary entrepreneurs and leading quantum physicists, Quantum Source is poised to lead a computing revolution that will reshape industries and redefine our future entirely."

"Public, private and government sectors have made significant investments into the quantum industry, underscoring the impact quantum computing can have on shaping our future," said Former Israeli Prime Minister and Quantum Source Board Member, Naftali Bennett. "Quantum Source is at the forefront of this revolution and I believe they will be the team to unlock the promise of quantum computing to transform critical industries."

About Quantum Source

Quantum Source (QS), located in Nes-Ziona Israel, is developing breakthrough technology to enable a commercially viable, fault-tolerant photonic quantum computer with millions of qubits. The company was established in 2021.

Air Doctor raises \$20M to plug a gap in how people find doctors when they're traveling.

insurance giant Tokio Marine Holdings is backing the company

[Ingrid Lunden](#) TECHCRUNCH October 1, 2024

Traveling abroad comes with its unique set of stresses, and for many, one of the biggest is what to do if you find yourself unwell. Can you find a doctor who speaks your language, will accept your insurance, and let you avoid the costs and stress of visiting an unfamiliar hospital emergency room?

A startup called [Air Doctor](#) has built a platform to help people in this very predicament, and it has now raised \$20 million in a Series B round after seeing strong traction.

Air Doctor's product is part directory, part algorithmically-driven location-based service provider, and part accounting tech. At its heart, it is a directory of vetted doctors in different countries along with profiles detailing what they cover and what languages they speak. This directory is provided to users to browse and use for either in-person or remote consultations.

Patients do not have to pay the doctors or get their claims covered by insurance providers. Air Doctor matches up customers' insurance policies with the services rendered, and manages the reimbursement payments to doctors from insurance companies.

Air Doctor charges a service fee and commission as part of that process, but all the same, it claims that its efforts result in 50% savings on outpatient claims overall, 60% savings for medical assistance providers, and reduces handling and processing time by 75%.

The startup claims it has more than 80,000 customers, which has been boosted by contracts with 18 major health insurance providers, and it provides a directory of 20,000 doctors across 84 countries. It started off with a B2C focus, but now operates a B2B2C model with insurance companies in the middle, referring individuals to Air Doctor, along with others using the service directly.



CEO and co-founder Jenny Cohen Derfler said the company's revenue is growing by 2.5x annually. But when you combine that traction with the ballooning number of international travelers (790 million people traveled internationally in the first seven months of 2024, per [UN estimates](#)), "the potential is much larger," Derfler said.

It should be noted, though, that there are other startups targeting travelers' health needs: [Feather](#) is building an insurance platform for expats, for example.

The investors in Air Doctor's new round underscore the opportunity the company is targeting: aMoon, an Israeli VC firm focused on health and life sciences, is leading the round, with other new backers including insurance giant Tokio Marine Holdings and Samsung Ventures (SVIC). Previous backers Lightspeed Venture Partners, Vintage Investment Partners, and two more industry bigwigs — Phoenix Insurance and Munich Re Ventures — are also participating.

The investors spelled out another aspect of the potential tech the company has been building: "Air Doctor is ... leveraging advanced algorithms and app-based solutions to provide timely, quality medical care for travelers worldwide," Todd Sone, general partner at aMoon, said in a statement.

Derfler's interest in building Air Doctor comes partly from her and her son's (who is also her co-founder) background. Derfler described herself as a "nomad": she originally hails from Uruguay, has traveled around South America, spent time in other countries, and currently lives in Israel.

Her son, Yam Derfler, originally came up with the idea for the company when traveling.

In South America, he fell ill and realized he had no idea how to navigate the local health system to find a doctor. He went to a hospital instead, which proved to have its own dramatic turns.

Back at home in Israel, when he and Jenny started to look deeper at the problem, it was clear that Yam and other consumers were not alone. Insurance companies also didn't have a clear route to recommending doctors in countries outside their home territory.

And so began the process of building Air Doctor. That endeavor was filled with challenges, Derfler recalled. The co-founders realized that to be very close to the

problem and solution, they would have to travel to the first country they tackled, Greece, to find doctors to start building a network.

“We started to go to visit doctors in Greece through recommendations,” she said. “We learned that when you call a doctor in Greece, the receptionist usually doesn’t know English. And when you go to the address, the letters are not Latin letters, so we couldn’t understand which floor a clinic was located on. We wanted to understand the need ourselves and what we needed to tell our users to do.”

The two also used other methods to build up its database, including contacting embassies for recommendations, and then leveraging word-of-mouth through existing doctors on the network. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Air Doctor had amassed 10,000 doctors, and in the last two years, another 10,000 have joined, she said.

And now that the startup is working more closely with insurance companies, it leans on them, too, to understand where people travel and what are the most common ailments to focus its network growth.

The company has now raised a total of around \$50 million (including [this Series A in 2020](#)) and it is not disclosing its valuation.

IoT startup Monogoto raises \$27M to accelerate its global expansion

Toyota Ventured led this Financial Round

by [Duncan Riley](#) <https://siliconangle.com/2024/10/15/>

Internet of things connectivity management platform startup [Monogoto Inc.](#) announced today that it has raised \$27 million in new funding to accelerate its global expansion, hire for key positions worldwide and to enhance its go-to-market efforts.

Founded in 2018, Monogoto offers software-defined connectivity solutions that allow for secure connections across public and private LTE/5G and satellite networks. The company’s platform is pitched as simplifying IoT device connectivity through an application programming interface-driven approach that provides continuous, context-aware service for various industries.

Monogoto's single subscription model allows enterprises to connect devices in over 180 countries, leveraging 550 global networks for what it says is robust, automated connectivity. The company says its solutions offer real-time management, security and flexibility for developers and enterprises.

The platform integrates granular control over connectivity to address compliance, security and energy management needs. It also supports scalable, global IoT deployments for a range of devices, such as streetlights to drones and electric vehicles.

"Connectivity has evolved from simple human networks to advanced, software-defined systems, but it still remains a complex, context-dependent challenge," said co-founder and Chief Executive Itamar Kunik. "Devices like drones and electric cars have different connectivity needs depending on their state, requiring agile, scalable solutions. Legacy tools cannot simply be duplicated for the new era. Just as AWS transformed the cloud and Twilio scaled communications, Monogoto is redefining connectivity."

Monogoto has built a deep customer base that includes Fortune 500 companies and enterprises across sectors such as automotive, retail, energy, supply chain and smart cities.

Toyota Ventures led the Series A round, with Samsung Next, The ACTIVE Fund LP, Assembly Ventures LP, Magenta Venture Partners LP and J-Ventures also participating.

"Enterprises have long sought a digital infrastructure that can seamlessly facilitate connectivity — and Monogoto is leading this shift with its software-defined, accessible, and affordable solution," said Assembly Ventures co-founder and Partner Chris Thomas.

Coming into the new funding round, Monogoto had previously raised \$11 million in one round,

Sony Semiconductor Israel has developed a smart image sensor for Raspberry Pi

By [Avi Belizovsky](#) [08 October 2024](#)

The sensor, developed at Sony Semiconductor Laboratories in Israel, allows the camera not only to take pictures, but also to identify objects and people in the image in real time using the built-in AI engine

A new AI camera developed in collaboration between Raspberry Pi and Sony Semiconductor Israel was recently launched and offers an advanced and innovative solution in the field of artificial intelligence. The new camera includes a Sony IMX500 type sensor, which allows artificial intelligence calculations to be performed directly within the sensor itself, without the need for expensive external hardware or communication with powerful computers or cloud services.

The camera is designed for use on the Raspberry Pi computers, and allows developers, students and technology enthusiasts to develop artificial intelligence models in an easy and accessible way. The camera is compatible with the company's Raspberry Pi 5 and earlier versions, making it ideal for small entrepreneurs and early stage developers.

The sensor, developed at Sony Semiconductor Laboratories in Israel, allows the camera not only to take pictures, but also to identify objects and people in the image in real time using the built-in AI engine. In addition, the camera is characterized by the ability to work at low power, which prevents loads on the central processor of the Raspberry Pi computers.

Small companies, entrepreneurs and developers can use existing models provided by Sony as part of the AITRIOS project, or train their own models to adapt to specific needs. Thanks to an accessible price and advanced technology, the new camera is an effective solution for developing applications based on artificial intelligence.



Orasis Pharmaceuticals Completes \$78 Million Financing to Support Commercial Launch of Qlosi™ (pilocarpine hydrochloride ophthalmic solution) 0.4%

SBI JI INNOVATION VC makes a third follow up investment in the company

- \$68 Million Series D Financing Co-led by Arboretum Ventures and Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc.
- Secured \$15 Million in Structured Capital from Catalio Capital Management, with \$10M Drawn at Closing

PONTE VEDRA, Fla., Oct. 8, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Orasis Pharmaceuticals, an emerging ophthalmic pharmaceutical company focused on reshaping vision possibilities, today announced the completion of a \$78 million financing to support the commercial launch of Qlosi™ (pilocarpine hydrochloride ophthalmic solution) 0.4%, a novel corrective eye drop for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. The Series D financing included a \$68 million equity component, co-led by Arboretum Ventures and Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., along with participation from Catalio Capital Management, Freepoint Capital Group, and returning investors—Visionary Ventures, Bluestem Capital, **SBI (Japan) Innovation Fund**, Sequoia Capital, and Maverick Ventures, as well as other individuals. Concurrent with its equity raise, Orasis has secured \$15 million in structured capital from Catalio Capital Management, of which \$10 million will be drawn at closing.

"We are proud to collaborate with leading, high-quality investors who share our dedication to reshaping vision possibilities for presbyopes seeking a break from reading glasses," said **Elad Kedar, Chief Executive Officer of Orasis Pharmaceuticals**. "This significant funding will allow us to successfully launch Qlosi, providing the eye care community a near-vision solution with a balance of efficacy and tolerability, using the lowest effective concentration of pilocarpine approved."^{1,2}

"We are pleased to co-lead this financing and to join an experienced syndicate of investors whose collective support is further validation of the market potential for Qlosi," said **Paul McCreadie, Managing Partner at Arboretum Ventures**. "We have high



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confidence in the Orasis team to successfully launch Qlosi and generate a positive impact on patients' near vision."

About Orasis Pharmaceuticals

Orasis Pharmaceuticals developed Qlosi, a corrective eye drop for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. Orasis is led by a collaborative team of industry executives and eye care professionals with a broad range of experiences in research, development, and commercialization of pharmaceutical drugs, as well as finance and business development. Orasis is funded by a diverse group of sophisticated and experienced life science and healthcare investors. Orasis has offices in the United States and Israel.

About Qlosi

Qlosi™ (pilocarpine hydrochloride ophthalmic solution) 0.4% is a novel corrective eye drop indicated for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. Qlosi's formulation includes the lowest effective concentration of pilocarpine approved,^{1,2} together with a multi-faceted vehicle, and does not contain an anti-microbial preservative. Qlosi was designed to achieve a balance between efficacy, safety, and comfort.³ Qlosi improves near visual acuity by pupil modulation, resulting in a "pinhole effect" and an increase in the depth of field, thus increasing the ability to focus on near objects without negatively impacting distance.

Upstream Bio IPOs at \$830M Valuation, Raises \$255M, Advances Respiratory Treatments

Globes and Others 14.10.2024

Upstream Bio, which was issued last weekend at a value of 830 million dollars, was founded in Boston four years ago • Not many know, but behind the company are Dr. Oren Becker and Eran Perry, two Israeli entrepreneurs • Among the company's investors are Orbimed Fund and Altshuler Shaham Group and Maruho- Israel Innovation Fund

Upstream Bio, a company founded in the USA by Israeli entrepreneurs Eran Perry and Dr. Oren Becker, made one of the largest IPOs of 2024 on Nasdaq. The company raised \$255 million at a value of \$830 million after the money, for the development of its product line Against inflammatory diseases in the respiratory system.

Among the company's investors are the Orbimed Fund, while the director of Orbimed Israel, Erez Chaimovich, is on the company's board of directors. Another Israeli investor is the Altshuler Shaham Group, alongside investors from the USA, Europe and Japan. The company has no operations in Israel.

Upstream Bio

Field of occupation :develops drugs for inflammatory diseases of the respiratory tract

History :Established in Boston in 2020 by Eran Perry and Dr. Oren Becker with the support of a group of investors including Orbimed and Altshuler Shaham.

Employs approximately 40 employees

Data :Raised \$400 million in two rounds. Issued at the end of last week and raised 255 million dollars at a value of 830 million dollars

The company's name is Upstream because it attacks a target at the beginning ("upstream") of the inflammatory process. As the inflammatory process progresses, the inflammatory activity splits into several processes ("currents"), and it is more difficult to stop it. The hope is that if the dam is built upstream, it will be possible to stop the process much more effectively.



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This is no longer just a theory. In 2021, the first product attacking the same mechanism, the drug Tezspire by Amgen and AstraZeneca, was launched on the market, which already registers a revenue rate of over 200 million dollars per quarter. However, while Tezspire attacks the molecules that reach the receptor and activate it, Upstream's drug blocks the receptor, and therefore should be more effective.

The Japanese connection

Upstream's drug Verekitug was developed by the Japanese company Astellas, which reached the stage of clinical trials, but in 2020 it sold part of its portfolio to focus on the field of oncology. Upstream purchased the development and owns the marketing rights for the product at the end of the clinical trials.

Eran Perry, who is a director of Compugen and formerly a partner in the IHCV fund, today manages the **Maruho Israel Innovation fund for a Japanese-Israeli partnership**. This Japanese connection is probably the channel through which the connection was made with Astellas, the pharmaceutical corporation that developed and sold the product. Following this, the investor syndicate was recruited that founded the company, purchased the technology and recruited Becker as CEO.

Becker is known to veterans of the Israeli biomed field as the one who founded and at the time managed the Paradix company, which was a pioneer in the field of computational biology. Paradix merged with Apix but ran into a cash flow crisis and was eventually closed. Since then Becker founded and managed Dynamix Pharmaceuticals, managed Max Herzberg's Vidac and was one of the founders of Immunity Pharma in the field of ALS, all operating from Israel.

Upstream started with an impressive amount of 200 million dollars, and in 2023 raised another 200 million dollars, with the participation of other leading funds such as Enavate Sciences, Venrock, Bain Capital and Wellington Management. The company's CEO is Rand Sutherland, who previously managed Seeker Biologics, which was closed, and Translate Bio, which was sold for \$3.2 billion to Sanofi.

All the investors together took out 400 million dollars, and as mentioned the company is now worth 830 million dollars, which means they earn twice as much on paper. Orbimed and Altshuler were included in the first round of funding, which means they probably came in at a more attractive price with a larger amount of shares. According to

estimates, it is many tens of millions of dollars, and the holding may increase depending on the movement of the stock.

The field where the product is the most advanced is the treatment of chronic sinusitis. In this area, phase Ib of the clinical trials was completed, in which the company demonstrated that its product is effective even when given once every six months, compared to about once a month in the Amgen and AstraZeneca product on the market.

The amount raised is intended to promote the trials in sinusitis and asthma, where in the future the company hopes to also address markets where its competitors do not operate today, such as bronchitis (and the entire COPD family - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease).

The company operates out of its headquarters in Boston USA with a branch in Rehovot Israel.

Israeli Japanese cancer research offers new to hope for fighting pancreatic cancer

Middle East | October 20, 2024

Jerusalem [Israel], October 20 (ANI/TPS): In a major step forward for cancer treatment, Israeli and Japanese researchers have created a highly targeted inhibitor for an enzyme that plays a critical role in helping cancer grow and spread. The findings offer new hope to patients battling aggressive forms of cancer, particularly in the pancreas.

The research, a collaborative effort involving the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the Weizmann Institute of Science, and the University of Tokyo, represents a major breakthrough in targeting an enzyme called Matrix Metalloproteinase 7 (MMP7) which facilitates the invasion of cancer cells into surrounding tissues.

MMP7 has structural similarities to other enzymes, which has made developing a drug to specifically block MMP7 without disrupting other essential enzymes a longstanding challenge. But a newly discovered peptide, named D'20, has shown remarkable potential in specifically targeting MMP7 while leaving other similar enzymes untouched.

Peptides are short chains of amino acids that can influence many biological processes and are used in medicine to treat conditions like cancer, diabetes, and autoimmune diseases. D'20's precision could lead to more effective and personalised cancer treatments.

The study, led by Professor Norman Metanis and PhD student Hiba Ghareeb from the Hebrew University, along with Professor Irit Sagi from the Weizmann Institute and Professor Hiroaki Suga from the University of Tokyo, utilised a cutting-edge approach called Mirror-Image Random Nonstandard Peptide Integrated Discovery (MI-RaPID). This advanced peptide discovery technology enabled the researchers to identify a new class of molecule -- macrocyclic peptides -- that can precisely bind to MMP7, thereby inhibiting its activity.

The team's findings were recently published in the peer-reviewed German scientific journal, *Angewandte Chemie*. Among the peptides identified, D'20 stood out for its unique properties.

Designed as a mirror-image peptide, D'20 consists of twelve specially modified building blocks known as D-amino acids, which help maintain its stability and specificity. Laboratory tests revealed that D'20 effectively blocks MMP7 activity with a high level of accuracy, without affecting other enzymes in the matrix metalloproteinase family.

Notably, the peptide also inhibited the movement of pancreatic cancer cells, a crucial step in preventing the spread of the disease, while allowing normal cell growth to continue.

The stability of D'20 was another remarkable feature highlighted in the study. The peptide retained its structure and function even when exposed to human blood and conditions simulating the digestive system.

The researchers believe that D'20's selectivity and stability position it as a promising candidate for future cancer therapies. By effectively targeting MMP7, the peptide could pave the way for more precise treatments for cancers that are currently difficult to treat while reducing side effects.

If further research confirms the effectiveness of D'20 in human trials, the MI-RaPID technology would open new avenues for the development of other highly specific peptide-based treatments. (ANI/TPS)



Secret Double Octopus Secures Strategic Investment from SBI Holdings to Propel Global Expansion of Workforce Passwordless Authentication

The Deal Seals the Company's C Round Led by leading firms BGV, JVP, SCV & KDDI

October 29, 2024

MENLO PARK, Calif.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Secret Double Octopus, the market leader in workforce passwordless authentication, today announced the successful raising of additional equity funding as part of the second tranche of its Series C.

"Their commitment to excellence and groundbreaking solutions positions them as a true innovator in enterprise security, and SBI Group is proud to support them in this exciting growth stage."

SDO's platform is being used by Fortune 500 companies to eliminate passwords from all employee workflows, and has received the support of prominent VCs, IAM market leaders, and industry analysts. In recent years the platform demonstrated its robustness in many high-scale deployments in complex IT environments. The addition of SBI, a key player in the Japanese financial sector, will bolster the company's Go-To-Market strategy of leveraging partnerships globally. These new funds will be utilized to accelerate the delivery of the company's solutions and services in new markets and verticals, thereby expanding the reach of its transformative passwordless authentication platform.

"We are thrilled to strengthen our partnership with Secret Double Octopus as they continue to transform security practices and employee experience in the largest companies out there," says **Hirohito Suzuki, the Managing Director of SBI JI Innovation**. "Their commitment to excellence and groundbreaking solutions positions them as a true innovator in enterprise security, and SBI Group is proud to support them in this exciting growth stage."

"An investment from a prominent investor like SBI represents a significant milestone and a strong endorsement of our platform," says **Raz Refaeli, Secret Double Octopus CEO and Co-Founder**. "This funding will let us deliver our solutions to countless new customers who

urgently need better, safer, and simpler authentication for their workforce. We are grateful and proud to receive this public support.”

Secret Double Octopus's approach to passwordless authentication has established it as a unique vendor that can transform employees' user experience and cut the cost of ownership in the most challenging enterprise IT infrastructures. The company's platform offers a seamless and uniform login flow to all employees, across all enterprise assets, on-prem and in the cloud. By using a myriad of patented technologies, all common standards and protocols, and deep integrations with other IAM vendors, the Octopus platform can uniquely address the intricate needs of customers across heavily regulated industries such as financial institutions, defense contractors, critical infrastructures, and government agencies, among others.

The recent C-round funding will expand Secret Double Octopus' global partnership network, to answer the growing demand for next-generation authentication, particularly in sectors where phishing resistance is critical. These steps will expedite revenue growth for the company and allow it to achieve profitability in the near future.

Since its previous funding round, Secret Double Octopus has significantly expanded its presence among large enterprises worldwide, serving more than 700,000 employees daily and facilitating over a billion authentications annually.

About Secret Double Octopus

Secret Double Octopus is a leader in next-generation workforce authentication solutions. The Octopus platform enables organizations to bolster security while making the authentication experience seamless and universal for employees.

Secret Double Octopus' solution is remarkably unique in 3 key areas: the range of enterprise use cases covered, ease of deployment on any infrastructure, and the customized transition options to being fully Passwordless. Fortune 100 enterprises and mid-sized companies use the Octopus platform to manage all employee authentications for better security, better productivity, and lower costs. The company has been designated a Gartner "Cool Vendor," named "Best-in-Class" Passwordless provider by AITE Group, and a 2023 SINET16 Innovator.

About SBI

Founded in 1999, the SBI Group is a comprehensive internet financial group that operates Financial Services Business, centering on securities, banking, and insurance, as the pioneer of internet-based financial services in Japan. The Group is committed to providing lower-cost and highly convenient products and services through the internet. In addition to its core financial services operations, the SBI Group also engages in Asset Management Business, Investment Business, Crypto-asset Business, and Next Gen Business on a global scale.

Terilogy Inc. announce that it has signed a distributorship agreement in Japan with Israeli Wing Security Ltd.

Terilogy begins offering Wing Security's SSPM solution using its proprietary database
- Visualizes shadow SaaS and web services used by employees without permission,
and identifies the risk of information leakage caused by AI generated on SaaS –

The deal was introduced and initiated by Harel-Hertz Investment House

[Terilogy Co., Ltd.](#) October 29, 2024

Terilogy Inc. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Suzuki Tatsuru; hereinafter "Terilogy") is pleased to announce that it has signed a distributorship agreement in Japan with Israeli Wing Security Ltd. (Head office: Tel Aviv; hereinafter "Wing Security") and has begun selling the Wing Security Platform.

SaaS has become an indispensable tool for many companies today. In addition to corporate use for financial accounting, sales management, email, chat, file sharing, business card management, etc., SaaS is now used in all aspects of business operations, including individual use for task management and memos. However, due to its convenience and ease of implementation, the use of SaaS that is not managed or understood by information systems departments or security departments is increasing within companies. As a result, in addition to increasing security risks such as information leaks and cyber attacks, companies

are facing the challenge of properly managing and controlling SaaS. In order to address these challenges, it is essential to improve the visibility of SaaS used throughout the company, and at the same time, it is necessary to strengthen the governance system to properly control the use of SaaS and minimize risks.

Wing Security is an SSPM solution that visualizes SaaS and web services (hereinafter referred to as SaaS) used within a company and analyzes risks to ensure safe use of SaaS. It automatically detects SaaS connected to SaaS that are essential to a company's core business, such as Google Workspace and Microsoft 365, as well as SaaS that the company has not authorized or does not know about. The safety of detected SaaS is evaluated using Wing Security's proprietary database containing information on over 300,000 items, so you can easily identify risky SaaS. It also checks whether or not there is generated AI used within the SaaS and whether the data within the SaaS can be used for AI learning. In addition, it can visualize information such as user usage status and permission settings for detected SaaS, and accounts that have not been used for a long time, and it also has a function as a SaaS management. Terilogy will actively support customers in strengthening SaaS security through the provision of Wing Security products.

About Wing Security

Wing Security is a leading provider of cybersecurity solutions focused on protecting organizations from SaaS-related threats. With cutting-edge technology and a team of expert researchers, Wing Security delivers comprehensive security solutions tailored to the unique needs of each organization.

About Terilogy Inc.

Terilogy Co., Ltd. was founded in 1989 and is a technology value creator that handles a wide range of products, from hardware to software and services, in response to market and customer needs, with four core segments: security, network, monitoring, and solution services. With over 300 clients, mainly large corporations and telecommunications carriers, the company has extensive experience and a proven track record in network-related businesses and the cybersecurity field

Cato Networks and SB Technology, Part of SoftBank Group, Announce Strategic Partnership to Deliver Managed SASE in Japan

Strategic partnership accelerates Cato's channel-first go-to-market strategy in Japan

TEL AVIV, Israel and TOKYO, Oct. 31, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Cato Networks](#), the SASE leader, and [SB Technology Corp.](#), part of SoftBank Group, today announced a strategic partnership to help organizations across Japan adopt SASE. SB Technology has added the [Cato SASE Cloud Platform](#) to its security services portfolio and started product handling and operational support.

According to Gartner®, managed SASE service adoption will rise significantly across enterprises over the next two years: "By 2026, at least 45% of enterprises will use managed SASE services—an increase of three times from early 2023." Cato and SB Technology have joined forces to address this need and deliver a managed SASE (MSASE) service for customers that is best-in-class.

SB Technology engineers with extensive knowledge of the Cato SASE Cloud Platform will assist customers with a fast and smooth implementation and operation of SASE. This includes configuring SASE components when deploying Cato, such as CASB, FWaaS, SD-WAN, Threat Prevention and ZTNA. SB Technology engineers will also provide system monitoring after implementation.

"We are increasingly observing that organizations in Japan are looking for a SASE platform to converge their security and network infrastructure. They want to transition away from legacy appliance vendors with multiple point solutions. However, they can't do it alone due to a lack of resources," said Alon Alter, chief business officer at Cato Networks. "That's where SB Technology steps in. They bring in their expertise to offer an MSASE service that is backed by Cato. Our strategic partnership with a leading service provider like SB Technology is a game-changer in Japan."

"Cato Networks has emerged as a strategic partner for SB Technology because of its rapid ascent as the category creator and leader of the SASE market," said Mr. Kengo Kanazawa,



Vice President, CDO & CISO at SB Technology Corp. "We have chosen to deliver an MSASE service powered by Cato because their SASE platform enables us to deliver a consistent optimal security posture, reliable networking and agility needed by modern digital enterprises."

Availability

SB Technology's MSASE service, powered by the Cato SASE Cloud Platform, is generally available for customers in Japan.

About Cato Networks

Cato Networks delivers enterprise security and networking in a single cloud platform. The SASE leader creates a seamless and elegant customer experience that effortlessly enables threat prevention, data protection, and timely incident detection and response. With Cato, organizations replace costly and rigid legacy infrastructure with an open and modular SASE architecture based on SD-WAN, a purpose-built global cloud network, and an embedded cloud-native security stack.

Want to learn why thousands of organizations secure their future with Cato? Visit

About SB Technology

As the core ICT service company of the SoftBank Group, SB Technology drives the provision of support for customers' DX and creation of new businesses by using solutions on cloud computing, security, data, and AI, among others, under its management policy: Information Revolution, Happiness for Everyone- Technologies Design the Future -.

In the field of security, SB Technology provides Managed Security Services, operating and monitoring customers' security systems 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, under the theme of cyber resilience. It also supports the establishment of CSIRT and introduces various security products.

Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk

October 9, 2024

On October 9, commencing at 7:00 p.m. (Japan Time) for approximately 40 minutes, **Mr. IWAYA Takeshi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a telephone talk with H.E. Mr. Israel KATZ, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel.** The overview is as follows:

1. At the outset, Minister Iwaya stated that Japan is deeply concerned about the current deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, including the attack using ballistic missiles conducted by Iran against Israel, and strongly condemns such escalation. Minister Iwaya also stated that an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah is important for diplomatic settlements. Further, Minister Iwaya emphasized that further escalation of the situation would not serve the interest of the region nor the international community, and that every diplomatic effort should be made to avoid further tensions, and strongly urged Israel to exercise restraint. In addition, Minister Iwaya requested cooperation in the protection of Japanese nationals.
2. On the situation surrounding the Gaza Strip, Minister Iwaya stressed the necessity of realizing a ceasefire and calming down the situation as soon as possible so that the release of hostages and the improvement of the humanitarian situation are achieved. Furthermore, while conveying Japan's deep concern over the critical humanitarian situation in Gaza, Minister Iwaya called for Israel's maximum cooperation to strengthen humanitarian assistance activities
3. In response, Minister Katz congratulated Foreign Minister Iwaya on his assumption of office, and explained Israel's position and efforts, and assured cooperation on the protection of Japanese nationals.
4. Both Ministers concurred on continuing close communication between Japan and Israel.



On the Current Situation Surrounding the Gaza Strip

(Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi)

October 7, 2024

1. Today, October 7, 2024, marks one year since the terror attacks by Hamas and others against Israel occurred. On this occasion, Japan renews its sincere condolences to those who lost their lives since then and its sympathy to their bereaved families.
2. Japan has consistently and unequivocally condemned the terror attacks by Hamas and others, and urge the immediate release of all hostages still being held captive. At the same time, Japan is gravely concerned about the ongoing critical humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip amid protracted fighting, and the fact that a large number of civilians have been killed, and the security of both Israeli and Palestinian citizens is still posed to threats. Japan continues to urge all the parties including Israel, to comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, and strongly urges them to steadily work toward realization of a ceasefire.
3. The U.S., Egypt, and Qatar have been vigorously working to achieve an agreement of negotiations over the release of the hostages and a ceasefire, and Japan strongly supports these mediation efforts. Japan will continue to engage in diplomatic efforts, based on its relations with the countries in the region and as a member of the G7 and of the UN Security Council, and in close coordination with other countries, toward calming the situation as soon as possible, realizing a two-state solution, and establishing a medium to long-term peace and stability in the region.
4. Furthermore, Japan has been providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people with a total of approximately \$128 million to date since October 7, 2023, in order to improve the current situation. Japan will continue its humanitarian assistance to the Gaza Strip, and is determined to play its role in the coming phase of early recovery and reconstruction in order to rebuild the future of Gaza. In addition, Japan will continue its diplomatic efforts to elicit



cooperation from the international community more broadly, while utilizing the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian countries for Palestinian Development (CEAPAD), which was launched by Japan.

5. Japan is seriously concerned about the rising tensions beyond Israel and the Gaza Strip throughout the Middle East region, including the West Bank, Lebanon, the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, and Iran. Avoiding further exchanges of attacks and calming the situation remain of utmost importance. Japan strongly urges all parties to take all measures to prevent civilian casualties and to avoid further escalation

Ground Operation by Israel into Lebanon (Statement by Press Secretary KITAMURA Toshihiro)

October 1, 2024

1. Japan expresses its serious concern over the ground operation conducted by the Israel Defense Forces into Lebanon on October 1, amid the call from the international community for all parties to exercise restraint in light of the deteriorating situation surrounding Lebanon.
2. In order to prevent further deterioration of the situation, Japan calls for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah, and urges all parties to immediately take all measures to prevent civilian casualties, to abide by international law, including international humanitarian law, and to fully implement relevant UN Security Council Resolutions, including UNSCR 1701. At the same time, in order to prevent further escalation, Japan strongly urges them to exercise maximum restraint and to make sincere efforts for a diplomatic settlement.

Attack by Iran against Israel

(Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi)

October 2, 2024

1. Japan is deeply concerned about the large-scale attack using ballistic missiles conducted by the Islamic Republic of Iran against the State of Israel on October 1 (local time), as it further deteriorates the current situation in the Middle East, and strongly condemns such escalation.
2. Japan strongly urges all parties concerned to calm down the situation, as peace and stability in the Middle East region are extremely important to Japan.
3. The government of Japan is determined to continue to make all necessary diplomatic efforts in order to prevent the further deterioration of the situation, while taking all possible measures to protect Japanese nationals abroad.

Japan foreign minister expresses concern about Israeli attack on Iran

Japan's Foreign Minister Iwaya Takeshi has expressed concern about the Israeli attack on Iran that took place on Saturday.

In a statement, Iwaya said, "Japan is deeply concerned about the exchanges of attacks, including this attack, and strongly condemns any action that escalates the situation."

He added, "Japan strongly urges all parties concerned to exercise maximum restraint and to calm the situation, as peace and stability in the Middle East region are extremely important to Japan."

He also said that the Japanese government is determined to continue to make all necessary diplomatic efforts in order to prevent the further deterioration of the situation, while taking "all possible measures" to protect Japanese nationals abroad.

Israel – Japan November 2024

Ceasefire Agreement on the Situation in Israel and Lebanon

(Statement by Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi)

November 27, 2024

1. Japan welcomes the ceasefire agreement between the governments of Israel and Lebanon on November 27 (local time on November 26) mediated by the United States and France. Japan strongly supports the efforts by the United States and France toward a diplomatic settlement.
2. Japan has called for an immediate ceasefire and urged all parties concerned to fully implement the relevant resolutions, including UN Security Council Resolution 1701, to abide by international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as to exercise maximum restraint and seek for a diplomatic settlement.
3. In light of this agreement, Japan strongly demands that all parties take all measures to fully implement the ceasefire agreement and commit to the regional stability.

7-Eleven shuts all eight stores in Israel as tensions raise risks

Chain is first-known Japan company to do large-scale closings due to the conflict

November 12, 2024

TOKYO (Kyodo) -- Japanese retail giant Seven & i Holdings has closed all eight of its convenience stores in Israel as the tensions in the Middle East raised risks of continuing business, a source close to the matter said on Tuesday.

The retailer is the first-known Japanese company to conduct a large-scale closure of stores or withdraw from Israel since the latest Israel-Hamas conflict erupted in October 2023, according to credit research company Teikoku Databank.

Seven & i opened its first Israeli 7-Eleven in Tel Aviv with a U.S. group company in January 2023, and had planned on expanding throughout the country over five to six years. The stores featured kosher foods and Slurpees, frozen drinks popular at U.S. 7-Elevens.

Seven & i had been the only major Japanese convenience store operator with stores in Israel, until they were all closed by the end of July. All Japanese employees have already left the country.

As of the end of August, the retailer operated around 84,000 stores across 19 countries, including China, South Korea and the United States. It opened its first store in Laos in September 2023.

The company has said that by 2030 it aims to have 100,000 stores across 30 countries and regions, mainly in Europe, South America, the Middle East and Africa.

As of October 2023, there were 92 Japanese companies operating in Israel, at least 40% of which were in the manufacturing sector, according to Teikoku Databank.

An official of the research firm said there were some small-scale withdrawals by companies in Israel as tensions heightened in the Middle East, but they had been struggling before the conflict.

Following the surprise attack on Israel by the Palestinian militant group Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023, which triggered the conflict in Gaza, clashes have intensified between Israel and its regional foe Iran and allied groups across the Middle East.

IceCure's Next-Generation Multiprobe Cryoablation Technology Issued Notice of Allowance from Japan's Patent Office

[IceCure Medical](#) 25 Nov, 2024, 15:30 IST

Invention facilitates treatment of larger tumors and is a significant leap forward in the field of cryoablation

CAESAREA, Israel, Nov. 25, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [IceCure Medical Ltd.](#) (NASDAQ: ICCM) ("IceCure", "IceCure Medical" or the "Company"), developer of minimally-invasive cryoablation technology that destroys tumors by freezing as an alternative to surgical tumor removal, today announced it has received a Notice of Allowance from the Japan Patent Office for its invention titled 'Cryogenic System with Multiple Submerged Pumps'.

The patent addresses a cryogenic system featuring multiple submerged pumps that enable IceCure to introduce a groundbreaking next-generation multiprobe system. This

advanced technology allows for high-end capabilities to independently control and maintain the performance of each cryoprobe, facilitating the treatment of large tumors.

"As a core technology for our next-generation MSense™ multiprobe cryoablation system, we believe that our latest innovation not only expands our intellectual property and product portfolio, but also represents a significant leap forward in the field of cryoablation procedures," stated IceCure's Chief Executive Officer, Eyal Shamir.

"Japan is a market in which we are active through our partner, **Terumo Corporation**, which plans to file for regulatory approval of ProSense® for breast cancer in 2025."

About IceCure Medical

IceCure Medical (Nasdaq: ICCM) develops and markets advanced liquid-nitrogen-based cryoablation therapy systems for the treatment of tumors (benign and cancerous) by freezing, with the primary focus areas being breast, kidney, bone and lung cancer. Its minimally invasive technology is a safe and effective alternative to hospital surgical tumor removal that is easily performed in a relatively short procedure. The Company's flagship ProSense® system is marketed and sold worldwide for the indications cleared and approved to date including in the U.S., Europe and China.

Cynamics and Hitachi Systems, Ltd. Forge Strategic Relationship to Fortify APAC Cybersecurity with AI-Driven Solutions.

Collaboration Aims to Bolster Cyber Defense Across Asia-Pacific Through Advanced AI and IT Expertise

BOSTON, Nov. 13, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Today Cynamics announced a strategic agreement with Hitachi Systems, Ltd. to advance cybersecurity solutions in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. Hitachi Systems, Ltd. brings its expertise in IT solutions and infrastructure, while Cynamics specializes in cutting-edge AI-driven network security. Under this agreement Hitachi Systems Ltd. will resell and distribute Cynamics' technologies.

To advance cybersecurity solutions in the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region.

The two companies aim to deliver state-of-the-art cybersecurity solutions that anticipate and respond to emerging threats. This collaboration not only addresses current cybersecurity challenges but also prepares businesses and organizations in APAC for future risks through innovative technologies and proactive security measures.



By combining their strengths, Hitachi Systems Ltd. and Cynamics seek to establish a new standard of cybersecurity excellence in the APAC market.

"We expect a realization of a stronger protection against advanced cyber threats through the integration of Cynamics technology." said Mr. Motoaki Yamamura, the Executive Engineer of Hitachi Systems, Ltd., Global & Security Services Group.

"We are excited to announce our partnership with Hitachi Systems Ltd. a leader in IT solutions for the Asia-Pacific (APAC) region. This collaboration marks an important milestone in our company's commitment to deliver unparalleled cutting-edge cybersecurity solutions" said Eyal Elyashiv Cynamics CEO.

About Hitachi Systems Ltd. :

Hitachi Systems Ltd. is committed to promoting sustainability management and supporting social innovation initiatives within the Hitachi Group in order to achieve the goal of contributing to the realization of a truly affluent society, as stated in the Corporate Philosophy. Through our ability to solve real-world problems in various industries, we have built up a vast service infrastructure and well-trained human resources that have a solid understanding of our customers' business requirements. This can be utilized to provide a range of digitalization services and comprehensive support for our customers' digital transformations by offering Hitachi's Lumada that utilizes advanced digital technology as well as unique services in collaboration with our partners. In addition to solving social issues, we pledge to continue our efforts to improve social value, environmental value, and economic value. We aim to help boost peoples' overall quality of life and provide even higher value to our customers.

About Cynamics:

Cynamics is the only Software as a Service (SaaS) based Network Detection and Response (NDR) solution in the market today using standard sampling protocols built-in to every gateway, patented algorithms, as well as AI and Machine Learning, to provide threat prediction and visibility at speed and scale. Built to protect networks of all sizes and complexity, its highly scalable approach discovers threats missed by competitors and provides clients and partners with an elite defense against cyberattacks, with little-to-no burden on their resources.



The wonders of AI: an extraordinary collaboration between the giant corporation NTT and Asuta

The future is here: the first cooperation of its kind between the giant corporation NTT and a leading health body in Israel aims to help companies around the world conduct research more efficiently

Maariv 04/11/2024

NTT and RISE, the innovation arm of Asuta Medical Centers, will help promote global medical research and connect AI to the medical world of tomorrow. Assuta will be the first Israeli body to connect to Advocate AI, the research platform developed by NTT DATA in the USA, which aims to make medical data from around the world accessible on one platform that enables advanced and efficient medical research and the training of artificial intelligence models from several global sources.

The collaboration between The parties were initiated by NTT Israel, which promotes and leads commercial collaborations between startups and players in the Israeli ecosystem and the hundreds of subsidiaries of The giant corporation NTT worldwide. Assuta was chosen to be the first partner in Israel thanks to its and RISE's advanced capabilities in the field of development and use of medical AI in cooperation with researchers and companies.

The field of AI in medicine is undergoing a significant acceleration process in recent years. Artificial intelligence makes it possible to carry out medical research more efficiently and on a larger scale than before, developing new or improved drugs based on huge databases, innovative medical equipment and training of AI models of medical startups that wish to improve and refine their solutions. NTT DATA's platform takes the field of AI in medicine one step further - and enables research from a large number of sources and territories in a uniform manner and with advanced research tools while fully protecting the privacy of users.

NTT DATA's new platform is based, among other things, on technology from the Israeli startup Rhino Health, which allows information to be used in its source environment,



without "pulling" it into the database itself through the creation of a Federated Computing Network, this is another collaboration created through NTT Israel. Rhino Health has been working with Assuta for two years as part of the innovative ecosystem developing around RISE in the worlds of AI, which allows Assuta to bring value to the collaboration with NTT from day one.

Lilach Denwitz, Director of Partnerships and Strategy, NTT Israel: "We are very happy about Assuta's joining the AI platform, one of the leaders in the medical world, and call on other Israeli institutions to join. The connection between Israeli medical institutions and the NTT platform creates a perfect synergy: for the Israeli institutions, the connection with NTT enables A global leap by introducing innovation to a huge company and from there to the rest of the world, as well as leveraging the relative advantage of the Israeli market in order to To get access to global opportunities for the development of technologies in the field of medicine. For global research bodies, pharmaceutical companies and start-ups in the field of medicine, Israel is a real "paradise" where the vast majority of medical information has been digitally documented for several decades. In addition, the ethnic diversity of the population in Israel makes it a micro Cosmos for medical research, which enables the development of global tools with greater ease and precision."

Daniel Rabina, head of RISE: "Assuta is proud to continue leading the medical AI revolution in Israel and the world. The partnership with NTT will increase our involvement in the development processes of medical technologies, in cooperation with leading research and development bodies around the world. We are excited to join the NTT network and contribute For the future of medicine and the health of millions of patients, we see great importance in engaging in innovation and creating collaborations with leading bodies such as NTT, that bring about continuous improvement in the quality of care and service we provide to patients."

The NTT Corporation has about a thousand subsidiaries, with over 100 billion dollars in annual sales, more than 330 thousand employees worldwide, and operations in over 80 countries. So far, NTT has invested in more than 10 Israeli companies and since the establishment of the laboratory about 3 years ago, it has carried out close to 80 POCs

with Israeli startup companies and closed 19 collaborations between Israeli startups and NTT branches and their customers around the world, many of them in the field of digital health.

Assuta Medical Centers, from the Maccabi Group, is the largest and leading private hospital chain in Israel, with 8 hospitals and medical centers spread from Haifa to Be'er Sheva. At Assuta, over 2 million patients receive treatment every year, and about 2,800 of the leading doctors in Israel work there. RISE, Assuta's innovation arm, was established in 2021 to encourage Assuta's collaborations with researchers, companies and entrepreneurs who develop breakthrough medical technologies, and since then has helped dozens of entrepreneurs, companies and researchers.

Orasis Pharmaceuticals Completes \$78 Million Financing to Support Commercial Launch of Qlosi™

- ***\$68 Million Series D Financing Co-led by Arboretum Ventures and Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc.***
- ***Received first investment from **SBI (Japan) Innovation Fund**,***
- ***Secured \$15 Million in Structured Capital from Catalio Capital Management, with \$10M Drawn at Closing***

PONTE VEDRA, Fla., Oct. 8, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Orasis Pharmaceuticals, an emerging ophthalmic pharmaceutical company focused on reshaping vision possibilities, today announced the completion of a \$78 million financing to support the commercial launch of Qlosi™ (pilocarpine hydrochloride ophthalmic solution) 0.4%, a novel corrective eye drop for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. The Series D financing included a \$68 million equity component, co-led by Arboretum Ventures and Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., along with participation from Catalio Capital Management, Freepoint Capital Group, and returning investors—Visionary Ventures, Bluestem Capital, SBI (Japan) Innovation Fund, Sequoia Capital, and Maverick Ventures, as well as other individuals. Concurrent with its equity raise, Orasis has

secured \$15 million in structured capital from Catalio Capital Management, of which \$10 million will be drawn at closing.

"We are proud to collaborate with leading, high-quality investors who share our dedication to reshaping vision possibilities for presbyopes seeking a break from reading glasses," said **Elad Kedar, Chief Executive Officer of Orasis Pharmaceuticals**. "This significant funding will allow us to successfully launch Qlosi, providing the eye care community a near-vision solution with a balance of efficacy and tolerability, using the lowest effective concentration of pilocarpine approved."^{1,2}

"We are pleased to co-lead this financing and to join an experienced syndicate of investors whose collective support is further validation of the market potential for Qlosi," said **Paul McCreadie, Managing Partner at Arboretum Ventures**. "We have high confidence in the Orasis team to successfully launch Qlosi and generate a positive impact on patients' near vision."

About Orasis Pharmaceuticals

Orasis Pharmaceuticals developed Qlosi, a corrective eye drop for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. Orasis is led by a collaborative team of industry executives and eye care professionals with a broad range of experiences in research, development, and commercialization of pharmaceutical drugs, as well as finance and business development. Orasis is funded by a diverse group of sophisticated and experienced life science and healthcare investors. Orasis has offices in the United States and Israel..

About Qlosi

Qlosi™ (pilocarpine hydrochloride ophthalmic solution) 0.4% is a novel corrective eye drop indicated for the treatment of presbyopia in adults. Qlosi's formulation includes the lowest effective concentration of pilocarpine approved,^{1,2} together with a multi-faceted vehicle, and does not contain an anti-microbial preservative. Qlosi was designed to achieve a balance between efficacy, safety, and comfort.³ Qlosi improves near visual acuity by pupil modulation, resulting in a "pinhole effect" and an increase in the depth of field, thus increasing the ability to focus on near objects without negatively impacting distance.

Japan provides \$100 million budgetary soft loan to Jordan

By JT - Nov 24,2024 -

AMMAN — Jordan and Japan on Sunday signed documents for a soft loan to support the Kingdom's General Budget with 16 billion Japanese yen (equivalent to some \$100 million), according to a Planning Ministry statement.

The loan, which will be provided through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), it "very favourable terms that help reduce public debt costs," the statement said.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Zeina Toukan, Senior Vice President JICA Shuhei Hara and Japan's Ambassador to Jordan Okuyama Jiro, the statement said.

On the sidelines of the signing ceremony, Toukan discussed with Hara priorities for future developmental and technical assistance in alignment with the Economic Modernisation Vision, according to the statement.

The loan aims to support human development policies and improve the management and efficiency of the social sector, particularly in health, education, and social protection. It also supports the implementation of the comprehensive plan for the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority, according to the statement.

"This funding is parallel to the \$300 million Human Development Policy Loan provided by the World Bank, which was signed last July," the ministry said.

Toukan thanked the Japanese government and people for their continuous support for Jordan's development priorities, hailing the deep relations between the two countries which, she said, will celebrate this year the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Hara highlighted that the "loan recognises the comprehensive reform efforts by the Jordanian government, including the Economic Modernisation Vision, focusing on health, education, urban planning, and social protection sectors," the statement said.

He also underlined the importance of this loan in meeting the financing needs of the 2024 fiscal year budget, affirming Tokyo's continued financial and technical support to Jordan to assist in its developmental and reform efforts.

Since 1999, Jordan has received nearly \$2 billion in financial and technical assistance through JICA, focusing on priority sectors such as water, energy, public works, tourism, and industrial support, according to the statement.

Israel – Japan December 2024

Japan-Israel Foreign Ministers' Telephone Talk

December 26, 2024 MOFA

On December 26, commencing at 4:05 p.m. (Japan Time) for approximately 40 minutes, Mr. IWAYA Takeshi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a telephone talk with H.E. Mr. Gideon SA'AR, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel. The overview is as follows:

1. At the outset, Minister Iwaya congratulated Foreign Minister Sa'ar on his assumption of office.
2. During the exchange of views over the situation in the Middle East, Minister Iwaya referred to the situation surrounding the Gaza Strip, recalling that more than a year has passed since the terror attacks by Hamas, and stressed the necessity of realizing an early ceasefire so that the return of all hostages and a fundamental improvement of the humanitarian situation can be achieved. Furthermore, while strongly calling for abiding by international law, including international humanitarian law, such as protecting civilians and further strengthening humanitarian assistance activities, Minister Iwaya conveyed Japan's grave concern over the laws adopted by the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) that would severely restrict the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), and called for ensuring a conducive environment for humanitarian assistance activities in a sustainable manner.
3. Regarding the situation in Syria, Minister Iwaya stated Japan's position that the future of Syria should be determined by the Syrian people themselves and that Japan calls on all parties to immediately cease violence and to abide by international law, including international humanitarian law. In response, Minister Sa'ar explained Israel's position.



4. On the situation surrounding Lebanon, Minister Iwaya explained that Japan welcomes the ceasefire agreement, and also emphasized that Japan did not want to see further escalation of tensions in the entire Middle East region, and called on Israel to exercise maximum restraint and fully implement the agreements. In response, Minister Sa'ar explained the position of the Israeli side.
5. Both Ministers concurred on continuing close communication between Japan and Israel.

Teva Announces Agreement to Divest Teva-Takeda, its Business Venture in Japan

December 05, 2024 [Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd](#) Follow

- **Teva entered into an agreement with JKI Co., Ltd. ("JKI") established by the fund managed and operated by private equity firm J-Will Partners Co., Ltd. ("J-Will"), through which JKI will acquire Teva-Takeda**
- **The agreement is aligned with Teva's Pivot to Growth strategy to focus its business**
- **The expected divestment of Teva-Takeda, Teva's business venture in Japan, which includes generics products and legacy products, will allow Teva to focus on bringing its innovative medicines to the Japanese market**

TEL AVIV, Israel, Dec. 05, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Today, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (NYSE and TASE: TEVA) announced that it has entered into an agreement with JKI, established by the fund managed and operated by J-Will, whereby all shares of Teva Takeda Pharma Limited and its wholly owned subsidiary Teva Takeda Yakuhin Ltd. will be transferred to JKI.

Teva recently communicated that it was open to exploring new strategic approaches in Japan, including a possible divestment of its Teva-Takeda business venture, in alignment with its Pivot to Growth strategy. The divestment will allow Teva to focus on its innovative medicines business in Japan.

Teva expects the divestiture to be completed by 1 April, 2025, subject to standard closing conditions, including obtaining required regulatory approvals. All the employees



of the business venture in Japan will remain employed, subject to the terms of the agreement.

“This is another step in our Pivot to Growth strategy to focus the business,” said Mark Sabag, Executive Vice President, International Markets Commercial. “Furthermore, we are confident that this agreement with JKI will ensure the continued delivery of high-quality, affordable medicines to patients in Japan.”

About Teva

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. (NYSE and TASE: TEVA) is a global pharmaceutical leader, harnessing our generics expertise and stepping up innovation to continue the momentum behind the discovery, delivery, and expanded development of modern medicine. For over 120 years, Teva's commitment to bettering health has never wavered. Today, the company's global network of capabilities enables its ~37,000 employees across 58 markets to push the boundaries of scientific innovation and deliver quality medicines to help improve health outcomes of millions of patients every day.

Bridgewise and Rakuten Securities Inc. Announce Strategic Partnership for the Japan Market

- **Bridgewise's groundbreaking AI-powered financial investment analysis solutions for global securities will be made available for all Rakuten Securities customers.**
- **The development is the global financial research intelligence company's second launch in the Japan market - its first being a partnership with the JPX Market Innovation & Research Inc. announced in March this year.**

NEW YORK and SINGAPORE, Nov. 21, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- [Bridgewise](#), the financial investment intelligence platform for global securities, announced today a strategic partnership with Rakuten Securities Inc. ("Rakuten Securities") to launch its AI-powered financial investment analysis solutions for its customers. From spring 2025, this partnership will include the provision of Bridgewise's AI-powered investment intelligence

services to over 11 million Rakuten Securities customers, with further innovative features set to be rolled out later in the year.

Since its latest \$21-million funding, backed by global investors such as SIX Group, Group 11, L4 Venture Builder and other global financial institutions, Bridgewise has been rapidly developing its product offerings and market expansions, with Asia Pacific as a key growth region.

The strategic partnership with Rakuten Securities for the Japan market marks the shared values between both companies in providing relevant, cutting-edge innovations for investors. Bridgewise was founded on the vision to enable financial institutions and trading platforms empower investors around the globe to make informed decisions in any language and any market. Currently, investment analysis tends to cover only 20% of global stocks and concentrated on a select group of stocks and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) across three stock exchanges. This leaves a significant amount of unrealized investment potential for many retail investors and advisors. The Bridgewise platform analyzes fundamental data and rating as well as investment recommendations on over 90% of global equities and funds, including ETFs, stocks, and mutual funds. Since its founding in 2019, Bridgewise is now available in more than 25 languages and across 15 markets and has a coverage of more than 50,000 global financial instruments.

Kelvin Phua, **General Manager of Bridgewise APAC**, says, "We are extremely pleased to mark our second milestone in Japan with this partnership with Rakuten Securities. As a financial brokerage platform known for its dedication to provide innovative solutions that cater to its customers' financial well-being, we are proud to partner with Rakuten Securities and to present our AI-powered financial analysis to its customers. We look forward to empowering more Japanese investors make informed decisions across a more diverse and increasingly-global investment landscape."

Bridgewise's partnership with Rakuten Securities is its second development in the Japan market within the last 12 months, following the establishment of the Singapore-based Asia Pacific team. This announcement underscores Bridgewise's focus on Asia Pacific as a strategic priority, with its established presence in the United Arab Emirates, as well as its sights set on rapid growth in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

About Bridgewise:

Bridgewise is a technological investment intelligence platform that leverages proprietary AI to generate analysis of more than 90% of global equities and funds. It powers the investment decisions of institutional and retail investors in more than **25 languages** and **across 15 countries**, including over **50 institutional clients**. Its proprietary generative AI-based technology platform has delivered over **10 million analyses**, which provides comprehensive insights into global stocks and securities.

Founded in 2019, **Bridgewise (formerly DESHE LABS Ltd)** aims to bridge the gaps in the investment intelligence field and democratize access to financial market information, providing easy to understand, comprehensive equity and fund research that was previously exclusively available only to major financial institutions.

Bridgewise started in Tel Aviv Israel , founded by Gabi Diamant, CEO, Or Eligula COO and Dor Eligula CBO, operates now in Israel , UK, Singapore, Brazil and Tokyo- Japan.

Bridgewise partners with leading financial institutions around the world, including exchanges, trading platforms, investment houses, financial advisors, and financial media & education platforms. Its innovative AI-driven content solutions are integrated into financial platforms, helping increase investor awareness and activity, and ultimately, to help them make more informed investment decisions. By delivering actionable insights and recommendations, Bridgewise empowers platforms to connect their users with new opportunities across the globe.

Israeli AI technology contributes to earthquake recovery in Wajima City

[Hokkoku Shimbun November 30, 2024](#)

The city of Wajima is using artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze satellite image data and begin investigating leaks in water pipes. Large-scale water leaks have continued since the New Year's Day earthquake, and the city is using cutting-edge technology to quickly repair them.

The analysis is intended to support reconstruction efforts, and Israeli infrastructure analysis company [Astera](#) and its Japanese agent [Japan 21](#) (Toyohashi, Aichi

Prefecture) will cover the costs of the survey and provide the data to the city free of charge.

The satellite will emit microwaves to the ground and detect the reflection from tap water using AI analysis. Because drinking water has fewer impurities and has different properties from other water such as river water, it is possible to narrow down the location of the leak within a radius of 100 meters.

According to the city, water pipes damaged in the earthquake continue to leak throughout the city, and are currently leaking about 1,600 cubic meters of water per day (equivalent to the volume of three 25-meter swimming pools).

In addition, Astera has been commissioned by Oita Prefecture to carry out water pipe leak investigations using satellite images.

In 2023, the company's CEO, Ellie Peretz, paid a courtesy visit to Oita Prefecture. Details of that visit are [here](#).

Classiq, Deloitte Tohmatsu, and Mitsubishi Chemical Collaborate to Compress Quantum Circuits by Up to 97%

<https://quantumcomputingreport.com/> December 11, 2024

[Classiq Technologies](#), [Deloitte Tohmatsu](#), and [Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation](#) have achieved groundbreaking results in quantum algorithm efficiency, compressing quantum circuits by up to 97%. This collaboration, focused on developing advanced organic electroluminescent (EL) materials, highlights the potential of quantum computing in material science and beyond.

The joint demonstration involved compressing Quantum Approximate Optimization Algorithm (QAOA) circuits by 54% and Quantum Phase Estimation (QPE) circuits by 97%. These results significantly reduce error risks and improve calculation accuracy on quantum systems, addressing key challenges in deploying quantum computing for real-world applications. The methodology utilized Classiq's advanced quantum modeling language, Qmod, to design and implement more efficient circuits.

This work underscores the potential for quantum computing to accelerate breakthroughs in drug discovery, artificial intelligence, finance, and manufacturing. Mitsubishi Chemical



provided real data to test QAOA for EL material development, while Deloitte Tohmatsu contributed project planning and implementation expertise. Advances in quantum error correction also enhance the feasibility of executing complex algorithms on future fault-tolerant quantum computers.

This achievement aligns with the growing adoption of computational methods, such as simulations and AI, in chemical research. Quantum computing's ability to handle intricate calculations could revolutionize material development, significantly reducing time and costs while driving innovation.

Fireblocks Sets Up Tokyo Office to Strengthen Asia-Pacific Presence.

Fireblocks is one of the few wallet providers approved by Japan's Financial Services Agency (JFSA).

<https://cryptonews.com/> 12 December 2024

Digital asset infrastructure giant Fireblocks has opened a regional office in Tokyo to tap into Japan's growing blockchain ecosystem, the firm announced in a press release shared with CryptoNews.

Japan has emerged as a global leader in blockchain innovation, driven by its regulatory environment and rising interest in cryptocurrencies and Web3 technologies. Fireblocks, one of the few wallet providers approved by Japan's Financial Services Agency ([JFSA](#)), is offering secure digital asset solutions, including treasury management, tokenization, and wallets-as-a-service.

The company's Japanese operations will serve clients like Web3 infrastructure firm Startale Labs, known for its work on the Astar Network, and Oasys, a Web3 gaming platform.

Tailored Solutions for a Growing Market

Japan's cryptocurrency market is [projected to grow by 54%](#) between 2024 and 2032. Fireblocks' Tokyo office will deliver customized solutions for enterprises, leveraging

technologies like Multi-Party Computation (MPC) and Hardware Security Modules (HSM) for enhanced security.

The company plans to expand its team, hiring experts in sales, product, and professional services to ensure a bilingual client experience tailored to the Japanese market.

Fireblocks is collaborating with major players in Japan's blockchain ecosystem, including Startale Labs, Oasys, and CoinTrade, a cryptocurrency exchange and trading platform.

"Japan has a deep legacy of innovation," said Michael Shaulov, CEO of Fireblocks.

"Establishing an office here allows us to meet market needs and help enterprises harness blockchain technology securely and at scale."

Fireblocks, founded in 2018 in Tel Aviv, by Michael Shaulov, Pavel Berengoltz and Idan Ofrat is an easy-to-use platform to create new blockchain-based products, and manage day-to-day digital asset operations. Exchanges, banks, PSPs, lending desks, custodians, trading desks, and hedge funds can securely scale their digital asset operations through the Fireblocks Network and MPC-based Wallet Infrastructure. Fireblocks serves thousands of organizations in the financial, payments, and web3 space, has secured the transfer of over \$6 trillion in digital assets and has a unique insurance policy that covers assets in storage and transit.

Asahi Net is the First to Adopt the Allot SG-Tera III Multiservice Platform

Asahi Net was also the first CSP to implement the SG-Tera II in 2021.

December 12, 2024 Source: [Allot](#)Follow

Hod Hasharon, Israel, Dec. 12, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Allot Ltd.](#) (NASDAQ: ALLT) (TASE: ALLT), a leading global provider of innovative network intelligence and security-as-a-service (SECaaS) solutions for communication service providers (CSPs) and enterprises, today announced that [Asahi Net](#), a broadband provider in Japan, and Allot have signed an agreement for Asahi Net to adopt the newly announced SG-Tera III multiservice platform.

Asahi Net was the first Allot customer in the world to implement the SG-Tera II in 2021 and will be the first customer of Allot to implement the new SG-Tera III which, at 2.8 Tbps of traffic throughput, will be the highest capacity multiservice platform on the market.

“We are proud that we will be the first operator to adopt the Allot SG-Tera III platform, and we are looking to further strengthen the relationship we have developed with Allot as a partner.” said Mr. Satoshi Kashiwa, an executive officer at Asahi Net. “Asahi Net anticipates that the new platform will serve our growing bandwidth management needs and those of our valued VNO and broadband customers for years to come.”

“Since the first deployment at Asahi Net three years ago, our business relationship has grown along with Asahi Net’s business and technical requirements,” said Dr. Oren Kaufman, General Manager at Allot Japan. “We are pleased to be able to provide cutting-edge technology to Asahi Net so that they, in turn, can deliver the best customer satisfaction in Japan.

Asahi Net uses the SG-Tera multiservice platform to enable the implementation of Allot [SmartTraffic QoE](#). SmartTraffic QoE provides comprehensive network traffic analytics as well as flexible, granular and precise real-time traffic management, which improves network Quality of Experience (QoE) for Asahi Net’s VNOs and their broadband customers. The unprecedented high capacity of the SG-Tera III will cost-effectively manage Asahi Net’s current high traffic throughput and offer them the flexibility to expand as traffic increases.

About Allot

Allot Ltd. (NASDAQ: ALLT, TASE: ALLT) is a provider of leading innovative network intelligence and converged security solutions for service providers and enterprises worldwide, enhancing value to their customers. Our solutions are deployed globally for network and application analytics, traffic control and shaping, network-native security services, and more. Allot’s multi-service platforms are deployed by over 500 mobile, fixed and cloud service providers and over 1000 enterprises. Our industry-leading network-native security-as-a-service solution is already used by many millions of subscribers globally.

Foresight: Eye-Net and SoftBank Join Forces with Japanese Automaker to Advance Cellular V2X Technology for Enhanced Road Safety

December 20, 2024 06:40 ET | Source: [Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd.](#)

Ness Ziona, Israel, Dec. 20, 2024 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX) ("Foresight" or the "Company"), an innovator in 3D perception systems, announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Eye-Net Mobile Ltd. ("Eye-Net" or "Eye-Net Mobile") has entered into a multi-phase agreement with SoftBank Corp. (Tokyo: 9434) ("SoftBank") and a leading Japanese vehicle manufacturer. The collaboration aims to evaluate Eye-Net's cutting-edge cellular vehicle-to-everything (C-V2X) technology as a key component in advanced driver assistance systems, potentially setting a new standard for road safety.

Under the terms of the agreement signed earlier this year, Eye-Net is conducting a paid proof of concept (POC) project supported by SoftBank's cellular network infrastructure. This initiative is designed to explore the integration of Eye-Net's non-line-of-sight collision avoidance solution into the automaker's future vehicle systems, addressing critical challenges in real-time situational awareness.

The initial phase of the collaboration consists of an evaluation of Eye-Net™ Sense demonstration kit in a standalone mode. Upon successful evaluation, the parties may engage in the second phase of integrating Eye-Net Sense into the vehicle manufacturer's infotainment systems. Successful completion of the first two phases could lead to the integration of the Eye-Net Sense solution into the manufacturer's advanced driver assistance systems, potentially leading to the full commercial deployment in the manufacturer's vehicles.

"This collaboration marks a significant milestone in our mission to revolutionize road safety through cutting-edge C-V2X technology. By combining Eye-Net's innovative solutions with SoftBank's robust infrastructure and the expertise of a leading Japanese automaker, we are taking a vital step toward creating safer roads and protecting millions

of lives from non-line-of-sight collisions," said Dror Elbaz, Chief Executive Office of Eye-Net.

About Foresight

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX) is a technology company developing smart multi-spectral vision software solutions and cellular-based applications. Through the Company's wholly owned subsidiaries, Foresight Automotive Ltd., Foresight Changzhou Automotive Ltd. and Eye-Net Mobile Ltd., Foresight develops both "in-line-of-sight" vision systems and "beyond-line-of-sight" accident-prevention solutions.

Foresight's vision solutions include modules of automatic calibration and dense three-dimensional (3D) point cloud that can be applied to different markets such as automotive, defense, autonomous vehicles, and heavy industrial equipment. Eye-Net's cellular-based solution suite provides real-time pre-collision alerts to enhance road safety and situational awareness for all road users in the urban mobility environment by incorporating cutting-edge AI technology and advanced analytics.

PLAYWORK Partners with Japanese Distributor to Launch Innovative Israeli Rehabilitation Tool

- 2024.11.28 Source: Israel Embassy Newsletter

PLAYWORK is pleased to announce its collaboration with [Creact Co., Ltd.](#), a leading Japanese distributor specializing in innovative healthcare solutions

Smart PLAYBALL is a cutting-edge rehabilitation tool that integrates advanced tracking technology and interactive exercises, designed to transform the physical therapy and rehabilitation process in clinics and individuals.

Creact Co., Ltd., known as an expert in introducing groundbreaking products to Japan, will play a key role in popularizing this groundbreaking system.

"Japan is a dynamic market with growing demand for advanced rehabilitation technologies, and our partnership with Create Inc. is an important step in meeting this

need," said Yani Shakruh, CEO of Playwork. "

Together we see great potential to improve people's lives and set new standards in therapy."

StePac introduces a greener route for broccoli transport

December 27, 2024 - General News, Tee BlueBook

The Otofuke Agricultural Cooperative is already benefiting from StePacPPC's Xtend® MA/MH bulk bags for shipping broccoli on its land journey from Hokkaido to Yokohama.

Tefen, Israel – Innovative Modified Atmosphere/Modified Humidity (MA/MH) packaging developed by StePacPPC is facilitating the transition away from ice-filled polystyrene and waxed carton boxes for packaging fresh broccoli and other vegetables for long-haul shipments in both the US and Japan.

The Otofuke Agricultural Cooperative in Japan (JA Otofuke) —a major broccoli producer—is already benefiting from StePacPPC's [Xtend®](#) MA/MH bulk bags for shipping broccoli on its land journey from Hokkaido to Yokohama.

Polystyrene foam boxes filled with ice have been widely used for the domestic transport of many vegetables in Japan. While such packaging has excellent insulation properties and helps maintain low temperatures, it is not an environmentally friendly packaging material. Polystyrene foam is becoming increasingly shunned by retailers concerned about the ease with which it fragments, its persistence in the environment and the fact that it is non-recyclable. Polystyrene generates significant disposal challenges, prompting calls for it to be phased out and be replaced with more eco-friendly alternatives.

Many countries have already banned polystyrene entirely. Japan is placing growing regulatory emphasis on reducing the use of non-recyclable materials including certain types of polystyrene foam.



From a food safety standpoint, as the ice in the boxes melts, it is also conducive to microbial decay. Studies have shown that at any point in time, the amount of microbial colony forming units on iced broccoli is higher than on broccoli packed in MA/MH packaging. And, numerous studies have shown that as the ice melts, vitamin C from the broccoli leaches out. It also can be physically unsafe: Melting ice is not only messy, it creates potential slipping hazards.

“In our efforts to move away from polystyrene foam with ice and its inherent contamination risks, we considered various alternatives for maintaining freshness without using ice,” explains Akio Yamagishi, Manager of the Fruit and Vegetable Sales Department of JA Otofuke. “We tested various modified atmosphere packaging films, including the Xtend films from StePacPPC. After inspecting the condition of the broccoli upon arrival, Xtend outperformed the rest in both appearance and quality.”

The Xtend packaging films are built with modified atmosphere and moisture control properties. These work to slow respiration inside the packaging, inhibit ethylene (a plant hormone that promotes yellowing of broccoli), remove excess moisture, delay the aging processes, and slow the growth of microorganisms on broccoli. Its mode of action may also reduce the risk of foodborne illness associated with pathogens such as *E. coli*.

Climate positive, cost effective

“We discovered multiple benefits to iceless Xtend packaging,” continues Otofuke’s Yamagishi. “First, it eliminates the space ice occupies, allowing us to transport 66% more broccoli per container. This slashes carbon emissions and transport costs, especially significant given the recent rises in shipping costs. With ice, each box holds only 6kg of broccoli; without it, we can pack around 10kg. In addition, one Xtend bag can hold 10kg of broccoli, making it more resource-efficient and eliminating the need for extra handling. The ability to transport ice less fresh broccoli across the continent on weight-constrained trucks has led to a net reduction in costs of more than 30%.”

“At a time when flexible plastic packaging is under the spotlight, we have, together with researchers at the Agrotechnology & Food Sciences Group at Wageningen University, demonstrated that our functional ‘lean and green’ packaging solution reduces the carbon footprint by approximately 40% in shipments from Salinas Valley on the West Coast of

California to New York on the East Coast, demonstrating a positive environmental impact,” informs Gary Ward, Ph.D., CTO for StePacPPC.

“It also has proven capabilities for preserving both the quality and nutritional value of fresh broccoli during prolonged storage, extending shelf life, minimizing waste, and enhancing food safety,” Ward concludes. “Our Xtend bulk packaging also successfully preserves other produce traditionally shipped on ice, such as bok choy and green onions.”

About StePacPPC

StePacPPC specializes in functional packaging for fresh produce. Its globally recognized brands include Xtend®, Xgo™, Xflow™ and Xbloom™ modified-atmosphere/modified-humidity packaging solutions. These solutions reduce weight loss, slow respiration and aging, and inhibit microbial decay, while prolonging storability and shelf life. They are supported by a wealth of post-harvest expertise for enhanced performance and sustainability.

Japan backs UNRWA as lead organization for Gaza relief

04 Dec 2024 [Arab News Japan](#)

TOKYO: FUJII Hisayuki, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, on Monday stated that UNRWA is the backbone of all humanitarian response in the Gaza Strip and beyond, and UNRWA must not be prevented from effectively fulfilling its mandate, Japan's Foreign Ministry reported.

Fujii was speaking at the Cairo Ministerial Conference to Enhance the Humanitarian Response in Gaza, where he also expressed his high regard for Egypt's efforts to mediate the situation in Gaza, to bring in humanitarian supplies and to receive critically ill patients during talks with his Egyptian counterpart Badr Abdelatty.

The Cairo conference was hosted by Egypt and the United Nations and attended by ministers and representatives of countries from the Middle East, Europe and North America, as well as international organizations.

Participants expressed grave concern over the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and stressed the imperative of resolving the crisis as soon as possible.

Fujii said it was the international community's responsibility to prevent further humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza and renewed Japan's demand for an immediate ceasefire, the unconditional release of all hostages, and expanded humanitarian assistance.

Japan has provided around \$130 million of humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people. He stressed that the only realistic solution to the conflict is the peaceful coexistence of Israel and Palestine and said Japan fully supports the two-state solution and welcomes the establishment of the Global Alliance to advance the two-state solution led by Saudi Arabia and the EU.

In his meeting with Egypt's Foreign Minister, Fujii said that Japan is supporting Egypt's efforts by providing medical equipment and materials and training for medical personnel, and that Japan would like to contribute to the stabilization of the Middle East region, while reaffirming the importance of the region's stability. Foreign Minister Abdelatty expressed his gratitude for Japan's support.

Japan says Israel's moves in the Golan Heights 'violate international law'

18 Dec 2024 [Arab News Japan](#)

TOKYO: Japanese Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi says Israel's expansion of settlements in the Golan Heights "violates international law."

"We are concerned that such measures will further heighten tensions in the region, and we are closely monitoring the developments surrounding the case with concern," Iwaya said in reply to a question from Arab News Japan.

In the past, Japan has been reluctant to overtly criticize Israel's actions against Syria. On Tuesday, Iwaya admitted, "I am honestly concerned about the situation in Israel."

"We believe that Israel's so-called settlement activities violate international law and we have repeatedly called on the Israeli government to completely freeze settlement activities. Once again, we strongly urge Israel to do so."

However, Iwaya stated that Japan is not in a position to prevent Israel annexing territory in the Golan Heights and can't say what might happen going forward.

"While Japan and the international community sincerely hope that all violence in Syria will cease and that Syria's people will be able to build a better country, the situation in Syria could change considerably and we must keep a close watch on Israel."

Iwaya said Japan's position is that the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) should continue to monitor the Golan Heights, while all parties should respect Syria's territorial independence.

"Japan will continue to call on all parties to stop violence immediately, comply with international law, including international humanitarian law, and take necessary steps to ease tensions in the entire Middle East," Iwaya added.

Japan extends \$100M aid package to Palestine amid ongoing humanitarian, security and economic crisis

RAMALLAH, December 24, 2024 (WAFA) - The Government of Japan has announced a new aid package to Palestine worth 13.5 billion Yen (approximately \$100 million), which will be distributed through international organizations, Japanese NGOs and JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

This decision responds to the dire humanitarian situation in Gaza and the worsening security and economic conditions in the West Bank.

According to a press release published by the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine, the package includes various projects such as financial support to the PA,

rubble removal and mine action, health care and hygiene, shelter, education, mental health and psychosocial support, industry and food.

With this new aid package, Japan's total assistance to Palestine since October 2023 will be approximately \$230 million. Japan continues to be committed to supporting the Palestinian people in their difficult situation, the release concluded.

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