



Israel Yearly Insight 2019

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January

Tokyo 2020 Minister visits Olympic Committee of Israel headquarters

Tuesday, 8 January 2019 www.insidethegames.biz



The Minister in charge of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Yoshitaka Sakurada, has visited the headquarters of the Olympic Committee of Israel (OCI) in Tel Aviv.

Israel is the first country Sakurada has visited since he was appointed to the position of Minister around three months ago.

Among those in attendance at the meeting was OCI President Igal Carmi, International Olympic Committee member Alex Gilady and National Paralympic Committee of Israel (NPCI) head Shuki Dekel.

They were joined by OCI chief executive Gilad Lustig, NPCI secretary general Nissim Sasportas and Dr Roni Bornstein, ambassador of goodwill at the OCI.

"We visited Japan a month-and-a-half ago and we were very impressed by the meticulous preparations," Carmi said.

"We are confident that the Olympic Games in Tokyo in the summer of 2020 will be the best ever.

"We were very impressed by the special enthusiasm of the people who worked there."

Sakurada added: "The Japanese people has great respect for the Jewish people, not only in Israel but also all over the world, and Israel is the place I most wanted to visit.

"We enjoy an exceptional co-operation with the Olympic and the Paralympic Committees of Israel.

"We are 18 months before the Games and I assure you that we will do our utmost for the security of the Israeli delegations and the success of the Games."

In its preliminary research on Sakurada, the OCI discovered that one of his main hobbies was eating strawberries.

Beyond the official ceremony, Carmi surprised Sakurada and the Japanese delegation with a plate full of fresh strawberries, which were picked straight from the field earlier the same day.

After tasting the strawberries, Sakurada said: "These are the best strawberries we have eaten."

In November, Sakurada provoked astonishment by admitting he has never used a computer in his professional life, and appearing confused by the concept of a USB drive.

As well as being the Minister in charge of Tokyo 2020, the 69-year-old is also the deputy chief of the Government's cyber-security strategy office.

Sakurada was appointed in a cabinet re-shuffle following Prime Minister Shinzō Abe's re-election as head of his political party



Israel and Japan in Talks to Enter a Free Trade Agreement

Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hiroshige Sekō met Tuesday with his Israeli counterpart

Adi Pick16:3915.01.19

Israel and Japan are in talks to enter a free trade agreement between the countries. Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Hiroshige Sekō met Tuesday with his Israeli counterpart Eli Cohen at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem. In his third visit to Israel since assuming his position, Sekō is leading a delegation of Japanese officials and businesspeople,

A free trade agreement between the countries is being reviewed by both sides, Ohad Cohen, head of the foreign trade administration at the Israeli economy ministry, said in a meeting with Sekō.

Seko held meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Economy and Industry Minister Eli Cohen.

“There’s been a tremendous increase in Japanese investments in Israel,” Netanyahu said on Tuesday. “In the last few years the growth of Japanese investments in Israel has been 120 times. Last time I spoke it was 44 times. It grows at an astronomic rate. Actually, five billion dollars today, but it is growing very rapidly.”

The prime minister told Seko the Israel-Japan relationship was “a natural one.”

“Prime Minister [Shinzo] Abe and I agreed that we have to upgrade the economic relations and this visit is part of that,” Netanyahu added. “I welcome you and your colleagues. We want to see more trade, more tourism, more investments in both directions.”

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The Japanese and Israeli delegations in meeting. Photo: Adi Pick

Approximately 70% of Israel's exports are shipped to countries that have signed free trade deals with the country, according to the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry. Israel signed a free trade agreement with the United States in 1985, and with the European Union in 1975.

Trade between Israel and Japan, not including diamonds, amounted to \$3.5 billion in 2018, according to the Israeli ministry of economy, an increase of around 20% from 2017. Import from Japan amounted to around \$2.35 billion, while export from Israel to Japan reached \$1.16 billion, a steep increase from the past decade, which stood at an annual \$700 million-\$800 million. Overall, Japan is the 11th largest importer of Israeli goods in terms of annual turnover, according to the Israeli Export Institute, and the third largest Asian importer.

In his speech, Cohen said Japan and Israel should strive to establish direct flight routes between the countries.

In a closed-door meeting on Tuesday, the head of the Israel Economic and Trade mission to Japan at Tokyo Noa Asher said two direct charter flights between the countries are planned to start operating in September, with the intention to gauge interest in setting up regular flights.

Japan Airlines Co. Ltd. is interested in establishing a direct line to Israel, Yuki Saito, a director at the company said in an interview with Calcalist Tuesday. The line is likely to take off from Tokyo's Narita airport, he added

As part of the visit, Sekō and Cohen signed a memorandum of understanding discussing related to bilateral collaboration on digital health.

Largest-Ever Japanese Business Delegation in Israel; 90 Companies and 150 delegates, On Hand

01/16/2019

The largest ever Japanese business delegation landed in Israel on Sunday ahead of the **Japan Israel Innovation Network (JIIN)** summit.

The delegation, headed by **Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Hiroshige Seko**, includes 150 representatives from 90 companies, including Mitsubishi, Toshiba and Hitachi.

This is Seko's second visit to the Jewish state as Minister of Economy. He will meet with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Economy and Industry Minister Eli Cohen and will participate in various business events to strengthen economic cooperation between the two countries.

The JIIN meetings will be held in Jerusalem on Tuesday and will include a series of economic meetings between Israel and Japan, as well as a business forum led by Seko and Cohen.

The JIIN is a platform was established by the two economic ministers in May 2017.

The Japanese visit includes three days of activity. The first day featured tours of innovation centers and visits to leading Israeli companies in the fields of cyber, life sciences, artificial intelligence and virtual reality.

Monday featured a business seminar, ahead of Tuesday's JIIN summit.

During the week, the two economic ministers will also discuss the strengthening of economic ties, the continuation of the cooperation and the work plan for 2019

Japan, Israel to cooperate in medical care

8:28 pm, January 11, 2019

The Yomiuri Shimbun

The Japanese and Israeli governments will embark this month on a cooperative effort to synergize their strengths in medical care fields, according to sources.

While Israel has advanced the field of “digital health care,” in which health data is optimized to improve medical treatments, Japan can learn how to proliferate high-quality care with such data and in turn provide its know-how in care for the elderly and other areas.

Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko is scheduled to visit Israel in mid-January to sign a memorandum for the planned cooperation, the sources said.

Seko is expected to confirm the cooperation on a government level, and representatives from about 100 Japanese companies will accompany the minister to sign tie-up agreements with Israel’s medical institutions and other entities.

Israel has been using information technology in medical care fields since the early 1990s.

The Israeli government has taken the initiative of collecting medical data from its population of about 9 million, accumulated via medical institutions and other sources, and companies have been allowed to utilize this data for business purposes.

In Israel, there were more than 380 companies operating in the digital health-care field as of 2016.

For example, living conditions and the levels of severity of illness for diabetic patients are converted into data to examine the relationships among the factors, and studies are going on to predict how far patient’s symptoms will progress in the future.

In Japan, where the population is graying at an increasing level, it is predicted that demand will grow for more comprehensive medical care using such data in response to individual health conditions.



Based on Israel's know-how, the Japanese government intends to spark developments of necessary medical care services and medical equipment. The government also aims to encourage tie-ups between Israeli start-ups and Japanese companies so that new kinds of medical businesses will be created

Export to Japan grows by 42% in record year. Reaches \$1.16BN

Israeli trade reached unprecedented levels in 2018 as it set an annual record of more than \$110 billion in exports, initial forecasts published Tuesday by the Foreign Trade Administration (FTA) at the Ministry of Economy and Industry revealed.

The expected 7% increase compared to 2017 exports is courtesy of rapid growth in various sectors, including a 14% growth in the export of services, now valued at approximately \$51b. Technology-related services were the fastest growing sub-sector, growing by a significant 20% in value.

Goods exports are also estimated to have increased by a more modest 3% to \$60b. Notable markets included China, where exports increased by some 52% to \$5.03b., **Japan by 42% to \$1.16b**, Brazil by 28% to \$1.16b. and Argentina by 16% to \$0.16b.

These figures show the importance of Asia and Latin America as key emerging markets for Israeli manufacturers, with exports increasing by 14% to both continents.

The Foreign Trade Administration of the Ministry of Economics and Industry presents an especially optimistic forecast regarding the end of year figures in Israeli exports, which are expected to be officially published during the first quarter of 2019. Israeli exports are expected to break new records of more than \$ 110 billion, 8% more than 2017



Japan business chief: We're building Society 5.0 with Israeli tech

Hikomichi Shinohara: We put the biggest emphasis on the combination of Japanese and Israeli technologies.

en.globes.co.il - on January 22, 2019

In the framework of a delegation of Japanese businesspeople visiting Israel last week, a meeting took place between the Israel Manufacturers Association and Keidanren (Japanese Business Federation),. "The two reasons why we came to Israel today are profound cooperation between the two governments and the fact that Japan is trying to consolidate a new concept, called Society 5.0," **Keidanren chairperson Hiromichi Shinohara, the chairperson of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone**, told "Globes."

Society 5.0 is somewhat similar to the Industry 4.0 concept used in the West. "Up until now, technologies and data were used to make society more efficient. In the future, however, we'll want to develop new values in society using these technologies that will affect all of our lives. I believe that in order to achieve this vision, we will have to use technologies in which Israel excels and the technological capabilities of Japan," he added.

Globes": Are you cooperating with other countries to achieve this vision?

Hiromichi: "When we talk about data, a large quantity is needed and international relations between many countries are involved. In technologies, however, we put the biggest emphasis on the combination of Japanese and Israeli technologies."

Why does Japan, the world's third largest economy, make such a small proportion of the investments in Israeli high tech?

"I think that the main reason is a lack of knowledge among the Japanese about Israel and Israeli companies. For example, many Japanese companies did not find an acquisition or investment opportunity in Israel because it takes them a long time to decide, and they lose the opportunities.



We learned this today, and we want to learn to hurry Japanese companies and make them quicker.

Do you think that Japanese investments in Israel will grow over the coming year?

"In 10 years, trade and investments between the countries have consistently grown. We have no accurate figures for the future, but I'm confident that growth will continue. We hope that through such meetings, we will bridge the gaps between the countries, and be able to expand business.

BrainsWay Receives PMDA Approval in Japan of Deep Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation System for Treatment of Major Depressive Disorder

Approval allows BrainsWay's Deep TMS System to be marketed throughout Japan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 29, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- **BrainsWay Ltd. (TASE: BRIN)**, a global leader in the advanced non-invasive treatment of brain disorders, today announced that its Deep TMS System has been approved in Japan by the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA) for the treatment of patients suffering from Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) who did not benefit from previous antidepressants. The PMDA approval was obtained in collaboration with BrainsWay's exclusive distributor in Japan, Century Medical, Inc. (CMI), an ITOCHU Group company. According to the World Health Organization, an estimated 5 million people suffer from depressive disorders in Japan.

"This PMDA approval represents a significant milestone in our efforts to expand our existing commercial footprint globally for BrainsWay Deep TMS," said Yaacov Michlin, president and chief executive officer of BrainsWay. "Japan represents a significant market opportunity for BrainsWay and we look forward to providing our unique therapeutic solution to the many patients suffering from MDD throughout the country."

The PMDA is the agency responsible for regulation of pharmaceuticals and medical equipment into Japan, and this approval was required to begin marketing BrainsWay Deep TMS in Japan. Additionally, PMDA approval is a precondition to receiving reimbursement coverage under the



Japanese National Health Insurance Plan. CMI is working with relevant bodies in Japan in an effort to ensure that appropriate coverage of Deep TMS in Japan is ultimately achieved.

Takahiko Motani, president and CEO of CMI, stated, “We’re pleased to have secured this important approval. We expect that with this leading technology we will be able to significantly help Japanese patients who suffer from depressive disorders.”

About BrainsWay

BrainsWay is engaged in the research, development and sales and marketing of a medical system for non-invasive treatment of common brain disorders. The medical system developed and manufactured by the company is based on a unique breakthrough technology called Deep TMS, which can reach significant depth and breadth of the brain and produce broad stimulation and functional modulation of targeted brain areas. In the U.S., the Company’s device has been FDA cleared for the treatment of major depressive disorder (MDD) since 2013, and is now FDA cleared (De-Novo) for the treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). The Company’s systems have also received CE clearance and are sold worldwide for the treatment of various brain disorders.

About Century Medical, Inc.

Century Medical, Inc. (CMI) is a wholly owned subsidiary of ITOCHU Corporation (PINKSHEETS: ITOCY), one of the largest Japanese general trading companies. CMI has been a pioneering force successfully introducing many new technologies to the Japanese healthcare community with more than 40 years of experience marketing medical devices in Japan.

Harel-Hertz Investment House (HIH) initiated and engineered the project between CMI and Brainsway



Israeli vascular support co Laminate raises \$12m

Japan's leading dialyzer manufacturer Asahi Kasei Medical acted as Lead Investor in the \$12 Million Financial Round Laminate Medical Technologies has developed a vascular support device that is implanted in patients requiring dialysis.

Globes 31.1.2019

Israeli medical device startup **Laminate Medical Technologies** has raised \$12 million in a financing round from Japan's leading dialyzer manufacturer **Asahi Kasei Medical**, US company Tal Capital, and private investors such as Mickey Boodaei, Shai Agassi, Yuval Tal and Meir Barel. They join the company's existing investors, who include Chinese pharma giant Haisco, Nava and Yehuda Zissapel, Zohar Gillon, Eri Steimatzky, Henit Vitos, and Ari Raved. This round brings total investment in the company to date to \$24 million.

Laminate, which was founded in 2012 by CEO Tammy Gilon and Dr. Eyal Orion, has developed a vascular support device that is implanted in patients requiring dialysis.

Late last year, Laminate began clinical trials in the US, and is working with 16 leading American hospitals in preparation for obtaining FDA approval. The product developed by the company, the VasQ, already has CE approval in Europe. Through Laminate's local operation, it is in use in dozens of hospitals in Germany (and is included in the insurance companies' approved reimbursements). Laminate has significantly expanded its activities in the German market following the approval of additional reimbursement coverage in 260 hospitals in the country.

Laminate's product is also sold through a network of distributors in other countries, such as Italy, Sweden, and Austria. In Israel the device is in use in two hospitals, Sheba and Hadassah Ein Kerem, with impressive results.

The special device developed by Laminate is a kind of sleeve placed over the vein, which creates the optimal geometrical configuration with the artery, and reduces the tension in the vein, thus enabling appropriate blood flow during dialysis. Research carried out to date indicates significant success in all accepted parameters in the performance of the fistulas.



Gilon said, "After the success of treatments in Europe, including application of the device in hundreds of patients in Germany and other European countries, we are now preparing to enter the American market. We have completed the infrastructure for this, and are working in cooperation with leading hospitals across the USA to carry out the necessary clinical trials for FDA approval. The current round is an important expression of faith on the part of the existing investors, and a significant boost from investors with experience in a variety of fields, who understand the need for the solution and the answer that it provides for dialysis patients. Furthermore, the fact that Asahi Kasei Medical has joined us as an investor in the company gives us an important advantage for a future entry into the Japanese market."

Asahi Kasei Medical president Takeshi Himeno said, "We are so happy to be a part of the company's journey. I believe VasQ has a high potential to become the standard of care for vascular access surgery."

Laminate Medical introduction to Asahi Kasei Medical was initiated by Harel-Hertz Investment House (HIH)

Japanese Insurer Tokio Marine Joins SOSA Innovation Hub

Tokio Marine is looking primarily for strategic investment opportunities in Israeli cybersecurity, AI, and fintech startups, according to a company executive

CTech14:0410.01.19

Tokyo-headquartered multinational insurance holding company has joined the network of Tel Aviv and New York-based innovation hub **SOSA**. The company is looking to make strategic investments across the verticals of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, insurance technology, and fintech, Daljitt Barn, global head of cyber risk at Tokio Marine, said in a statement sent to Calcalist. Cybersecurity and other innovation verticals could help Tokio Marine disrupt the insurance value-chain, he said.

Founded in Israel in 2014 as a company offering coworking facilities by a group of angel investors and venture firms, SOSA now operates as an investor network and corporate innovation hub, connecting companies and entrepreneurs, and facilitating collaborations, investments, and acquisitions

Tokyo-listed **Tokio Marine Holdings** is Japan's oldest and largest property, life, and casualty insurance group. It is the parent company of the Tokio Marine Group, which employs 36,000 people in 38 countries worldwide, according to Pitchbook.

The possibility of partnering with Tokio Marine spells “a huge opportunity” for Israeli companies targeting the Asian market, SOSA CEO Uzi Scheffer said in a statement.

In October of 2018, the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) named SOSA, as well as Israeli venture capital firm Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP) as partners on a new cybersecurity initiative. As part of the collaboration, SOSA has dedicated space in its new eight-stories building in Chelsea for a global cyber center that will offer a coworking space for startups, industry-specific events, and a virtual testing ground for simulations

SBI IJ VC INVEST IN BIOND-BIOLOGICS

Biond Biologics Announces \$17 Million Series B Financing

Biond Biologics announced the closing of a \$17 million Series B financing. Biond was founded in 2016 by the former scientific team of cCam Biotherapeutics, an immuno-oncology company which was fully acquired by Merck in July 2015. The former cCAM Biotherapeutics team was joined by additional veterans of the Israeli biotech industry, with the aim to build a strong, sustainable and innovative science-driven biotechnology company.

The company's vision and strategy are to bring innovative drugs to patients based on synergistic long-term collaborations with leading global companies in the immunotherapy field.

Biond intends to use the proceeds to move its lead drug candidate, BION-202, into clinical trials and to advance the preclinical development of BION-206 and its proprietary antibody cell-internalization technology. The financing and due diligence were led by **Israel Biotech Fund and Harel Insurance & Finance Group, with participation of Celgene Corporation, the Japanese-Israeli fund, SBI JI Innovation Fund and existing investors.**

[Biond Biologics](#) is a drug discovery and development company focused on the field of immunotherapy, combining excellent science and out-of-the-box innovative thinking. Biond aims to translate high quality science into therapies for diseases with unmet medical needs by developing innovative drugs and establishing collaborations with leading pharma companies. Biond's in-house pipeline is based on internal research of newly discovered immune-checkpoints and immune-evasion mechanisms.



Biond's leading pre-clinical development programs include BION-202, a novel macrophage activator, and BION-206, a novel agent developed for overcoming a natural immune suppression mechanism, recently discovered by Biond's scientists. (Biond Biologics 08.01)

Cortica to Collaborate with Renesas to Deliver AI Capability in System-on-Chip Platform

TEL AVIV, Israel, Jan. 8, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Cortica the developer of next-generation 'Autonomous AI' that dramatically increases perception of the elements in the surrounding environment of an autonomous vehicle -- far exceeding the capability of any other solution currently available -- announced a groundbreaking milestone today that will pave the way for mass deployment of Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) and Automated Driving (AD) applications across the entire automobile industry.

Cortica's 'Autonomous AI' Solution for enabling smarter, safer, and better performing autonomous cars will be embedded onto the new R-Car V3H system-on chip solution, available from Renesas, the world's leading manufacturer of processors for the automobile industry. Cortica is the developer of next generation 'Autonomous AI' that utilizes an 'unsupervised learning' methodology to mimic the way humans experience and incorporate the world around them.

Cortica will immediately begin deploying its advanced platform product in collaboration with Renesas, utilizing Cortica's state-of-the-art computer vision system for front-facing cameras. Leveraging the low compute nature of the Cortica technology, Cortica offers the most accurate central perception engine for all current and future ADAS functions, available directly on the Renesas R-Car V3H SoC. For the first time, the collaborative effort will introduce a more robust and scalable open-platform perception solution featuring unmatched accuracy and performance rates, faster reaction time, and overall safety upgrades for ADAS. The solution demo by Cortica at CES will demonstrate a new generation of safer, smarter, and more 'aware' auto running directly on the Renesas chip with unparalleled execution times.

Cortica CEO, Igal Raichelgauz said "With the integration of Cortica's Autonomous AI technology into the R-Car SoC, we have crossed the existing technological barriers of Safety per Watt for ADAS and AV. Moreover, our perception solution addresses 3 main showstoppers of traditional



deep learning: (1) methodological coverage of edge cases based on unsupervised learning (2) visibility into the AI (explainable AI); and (3) updatability and online learning."

"The market opportunity for front cameras is growing rapidly, and customers are desperately seeking open and proven solutions," said Jean-Francois Chouteau, Vice President, Automotive Technical Customer Engagement Division, Renesas Electronics Corporation. "Renesas is optimizing its end-to-end Renesas autonomy Platform by working with innovative market players, like Cortica, to utilize our high performance, low power technology and accelerate Autonomous AI for front cameras to increase performance standards across the board."

About Cortica

Founded in Israel in 2007, Cortica has created next-generation Autonomous AI. Highly complex in its methodology yet stunningly simple in premise: the enablement of machines that ¹ think and learn on their own. Cortica's 'Autonomous AI' model is based on an *unsupervised learning* methodology that recreates the way that humans experience and interact with the world around them so that cars (and all machines) can learn, predict and extrapolate information. Autonomous AI raises the bar on safety and efficiency of autonomous vehicles for the entire automotive industry. The company is currently focused on meeting the needs of the automotive, financial, security, and industrial industries. Cortica holds over 200 patents for inventions involving its Autonomous AI methods, making it an IP leader in the AI industry. With headquarters in Tel Aviv and offices in New York City, Cortica's employees include leading AI researchers and veterans of elite Israeli military intelligence units.

NRGene and TOYOTA Collaborate to Develop Strawberry Varieties to Better Enable Local Production for the Japanese Market

NESS ZIONA, Israel & SAN DIEGO & AICHI, Japan--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan 13, 2019--NRGene, a worldwide leader in genomic analysis, and Toyota announced today the decoding of a leading commercial strawberry genome, a key milestone in the development of high-quality, locally-produced fruits for the Japanese market. The combination of NRGene's assembly of the



strawberry genome and Toyota's GRAS-Di DNA analysis technology will enhance the development of natural strawberry varieties better suited to the Japanese market

NRGene's DeNovoMAGIC™ 3.0 genomic big-data artificial intelligence (AI) tool is being used to develop the first high-quality, comprehensive genome assemblies of complicated food genomes, including wheat, potato, and shrimp. Strawberries have one of the most complex genomes ever assembled, as they encompass eight copies of every gene (by comparison, humans have just two copies). Assembling the strawberry genome could increase natural breeding efficiency and lead to the development of more productive varieties.

"As global demand for food continues to rise, we enthusiastically support any project that improves food security and quality, and reduces the environmental footprint of crop production," said Dr. Gil Ronen, President & Founder of NRGene. "We are grateful that Toyota has chosen our big data genome assembly tools to help breed new varieties of locally-grown food. This approach has the potential to be an economical and sustainable alternative to importing strawberries – a key horticultural product with one of the largest markets in Japan."

In addition to its core business of making ever-better cars, Toyota has been working since 1999 to enrich communities through a range of business initiatives that positively impact the environment. Prominent examples include plant improvement techniques to identify disease-resistant sugar cane genes and analysis of the strawberry genome. With the world now facing an aging farming population and declining food self-sufficiency, Toyota is pursuing projects with NRGene to further support and encourage the development of the agricultural industry.

"We were most satisfied by the ability of NRGene's genome assembly to support our genomics-based, molecular breeding of strawberries," said Dr. Hiroyuki Enoki, Group Manager for Toyota. "We look forward to furthering our collaboration with NRGene to meet this and other plant breeding goals."

Dr. Hiroyuki Enoki will present his work at the PAG XXVII conference from 4 pm to 6 pm on Monday, Jan. 14, in Pacific Salon 1 at Town and Country San Diego.

About TOYOTA

Toyota will lead the way to the future of mobility, enriching lives around the world with the safest and most responsible ways of moving people. Through our commitment to quality, constant innovation and respect for the planet, we aim to exceed expectations and be rewarded with a smile. We will meet challenging goals by engaging the talent and passion of people, who believe there is always a better way



About NRGene

NRGene is a Genomics company that provides turn-key solutions to leading breeding companies. Using advanced algorithmics & extensive proprietary databases, we empower breeders to reach their full potential by achieving stronger and more productive yields in record time. NRGene's tools have already been implemented by some of the leading agribiotech companies worldwide, as well as the most influential research teams in academia.

Israel's Magenta Venture Partners Announces First Closing of a New \$100M Fund Focused on Early Stage Israeli Startups

HERTZLIYA, Israel, Jan. 14, 2019 /PRNewswire/ --- Israeli VC firm [Magenta Venture Partners](#) announced today a new venture capital fund targeting \$100 million. The new fund had its initial closing in October 2018 and is planning its final closing in 2019.

Magenta Venture Partners is an equal partnership between Mitsui & Co. Ltd., one of the largest trading and investment companies in Japan, Ori Israely, and Ran Levitzky, two seasoned Israeli professionals from its venture capital industry

The fund specializes in early-stage investments in Israeli and Israeli-related technology startups in multiple domains including Automotive, Mobility, AI, Smart Cities, Industry 4.0, Enterprise Software and Fintech.

The four partners of the fund include Ori Israely, formerly of Motorola Solutions Venture Capital and Giza Venture Capital, Hiroshi Takeuchi of Mitsui who has relocated now to Israel after 15 years of venture investment experience in Japan and the US; Ran Levitzky, formerly from Viola Ventures where he co-led investments in early stage startups, and earlier held roles at Amdocs, Microsoft, and Verint Systems; and Atsushi Mizuno from Mitsui's investment arm who has over 10 years of experience investing into Israeli companies and who has been living in Israel for the past 4 years.



"Our name Magenta, is a blend of blue and red – the colors of the Israeli and Japanese flags" explains Ori Israely - Managing General Partner and a veteran of the Israeli VC industry, "it signifies the strengths of Israel and Japan". Israely added: "our fund is a financially focused, but we look to invest in startups that not only look for capital but also seek value driven by the team's experience in Japan, EU and the USA. We also leverage our investors to analyze and validate investments, assist the portfolio, and help all the startups we engage during this process."

"Investors in Magenta Venture Partners include Mitsui & Co. Ltd. and Koito Manufacturing Co. Ltd. who are looking to work with the fund to identify innovative technologies in Israel" said Hiroshi Takeuchi – Managing General Partner. "Magenta will also work on introducing benefits of cooperation with such LPs to maximize return on investments, expose LPs to innovation generated by our portfolio companies and also from our deal flow."

"Magenta offers unique added value in Israel's venture capital scene," said Ran Levitzky, General Partner at the firm. "Israeli entrepreneurs have a clear understanding that building a significant company requires a variety of products that are marketed not only in the west but globally including the east and Japan in particular." Mr. Levitzky added that the fact that all the investors in Magenta are large Japanese companies, provides significant added value to Israeli entrepreneurs and startups who aim to build global leading companies.

The fund is also proud to add to its Venture Advisory Board Mr. Ron Shvili, former head of the technology center for 8200 unit and currently the CTO & VP of Technology and Information Systems of Cellcom, a leading telecommunications group in Israel, who will contribute from his experience to the success of the fund.

Mr. Yokoya, Executive Vice President, of Koito Manufacturing Co. Ltd., said, "Koito as the No.1 manufacturer of automotive headlights in the world is committed to the next generation of autonomous driving and smart cities technologies. For that, Koito will partner with Magenta to explore collaboration opportunities with startups in Israel through our investment in Magenta Fund. We're fully confident in the team and delighted to partner with Magenta in Koito's exploration of new technologies in Israel."

Mr. Kikuchihara, Managing Officer & Chief Operating Officer of Corporate Development Business Unit of Mitsui & Co. Ltd., said, "Mitsui has been engaged in venture capital investment practice

around the world for decades, including 8 years of investments in Israel. Our partnership in the Magenta Fund is the proof of our commitment to this country which is one of the centers of innovation in the world, and we would further strengthen our investment and business promotion activities in this country from now on."

OKI and ARC Innovation Center at Sheba Join Forces to Prevent Dementia

Aiming at a service which prevents dementia and enables a society of healthy longevity

Jerusalem, Jan 16, 2019 - (JCN Newswire) - OKI and ARC Innovation Center at Sheba (Sheba), the largest medical facility in the Middle East, have agreed to pursue research on the prevention of dementia, aiming at a society in which the elderly can remain active according to their health with a **'Very Accurate Health Score' (*1)** from the results of this research.

The agreement was concluded on January 15 in the presence of the Japan's Economic Minister Hiroshige Seko and Israel's Economic Minister Eli Cohen at the Japan-Israel Business Forum, organized by the economic ministries of Japan and Israel.

With this agreement, Sheba will work with OKI to demonstrate the effectiveness of prevention for the risk factors of dementia by using novel approach. Sheba and OKI are also planning to conduct research in the future to analyze the relationship between big health data and measuring the quality of walking. In these studies, OKI is looking toward global application in the future by leveraging the data of various ethnicities in Israel.

Israel has many startup companies based on advanced state-of-the-art technologies, more recently focusing on the field of digital healthcare. Sheba is also actively involved in innovation research that leverages the health examination data and medical receipt data for large numbers of patients. OKI has been strengthening its relationship with digital health-related organizations in Israel, holding a seminar in Japan for representatives of four Israeli institutions, including Sheba, on July 31 of last year.

OKI promotes 'Yume Pro'(*2) activities to discover business opportunities and create innovation from social issues raised by SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) laid out by the United Nations. Leveraging on IoT related technologies, OKI is focusing on reducing noninfectious



diseases such as diabetes and dementia through presymptomatic treatment or prevention before the onset of illness, striving to realize a society in which the elderly can remain active and flourish.

OKI provides a 'Very Accurate Health Score' to encourage daily activities such as 'walking' 'sleeping' and 'eating' in the prevention of noninfectious diseases. In scoring health conditions, OKI plans to develop new services for the elderly which, according to health scores, will allow users to access various services currently restricted by 'actual age', including mortgages, life insurance, and property insurance. OKI is striving to address the challenges of a super-aging society, said to be facing Japan first, and to realize 'a society of healthy longevity'.

***1: Very Accurate Health Score**

It represents the health condition of the person in points. Based on medical evidence, we aim for accurate things that can be utilized for credit in the financial industry.

***2: Yume Pro**

OKI has started a companywide effort to contribute to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations in 2015 through its business as a company. Therefore, OKI recruits Collaboration partners to work together to open up future of medical care.

About ARC Innovation Center at Sheba Medical Center (Sheba)

The Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a university-affiliated referral hospital that serves as Israel's national medical center in many fields. Located near Tel Aviv, it is the most comprehensive medical center in the Middle East, renowned for its care and leading-edge medical practice. It is also a major medical-scientific research powerhouse that collaborates internationally with bio-tech and pharmaceutical industries to develop new drugs, treatments and technologies, and a foremost global center for medical education.

Sheba is also promoting innovation in ARC (Accelerate Redesign Collaboration) Innovation Center. The ARC's mission is to create an integration of research, medicine, industry and entrepreneurship as well as collaborate with other healthcare organizations to enable game changing innovation that would have profound impact on global health.

About OKI Electric Industry (OKI)

Founded in 1881, OKI Electric Industry is Japan's leading telecommunications manufacturer in

the Info-telecom field. Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, OKI provides top-quality products, technologies, and solutions to customers through its info-telecom systems and printer operations. Its various business divisions function synergistically to bring to market exciting new products and technologies that meet a wide range of customer needs in various sectors.

TytoCare adds Itochu as investor

Israeli telehealth startup [TytoCare](#), which developed breakthrough technology for conducting remote medical examinations and telehealth services, announced that it added new investors to its latest funding round, bringing the total sum to \$33.5 million.

TytoCare [raised nearly \\$25 million](#) last January in a funding round led by Ping An Global Voyager Fund, with participation from Cambia Health Solutions, Walgreens, Orbimed, Fosun Pharma and LionBird. This week, the company said it closed \$9 million in additional funding from strategic investors including Sanford Health, **Japan's Itochu**, and China's Shenzhen Capital Group.

“The additional funding recognizes the unique potential of Tyto Care’s on-demand, remote telehealth solution to improve healthcare access and delivery in the US, Japan and China,” the company said in a statement.

Founded in 2012, TytoCare specializes in telehealth, connecting people to clinicians to provide virtual home examination and diagnosis solutions. The company’s offerings include TytoHome for patients, TytoPro for professionals, and TytoClinic for remote point-of-care testing. It also has a complete telehealth platform, analytics, built-in guidance technology, and machine learning algorithms.

TytoCare has FDA clearance and launched its products in the US in 2017. It also has a CE mark for Europe and gained Health Canada approval in 2018. In recent years, the company has gained significant traction with major health systems, telehealth companies, large private practices and employers.

TytoCare said in a statement that the additional funding “will further enable Tyto’s growth initiatives and global expansion plans as the company continues to expand with leading US partners and penetrate new markets beyond North America, including Asian and European markets.”



“This additional funding is a testament to the value of telehealth in the digital age, further enabling our unique solution to bring the best of remote, on-demand virtual care to consumers around the world,” said TytoCare CEO Dedi Gilad.

“TytoCare’s mission of making high-quality healthcare accessible from the comfort of home is crucial, especially in China,” said Chairman Zewang Ni of Shenzhen Capital Group. “We believe that telehealth will significantly improve the lives of Chinese consumers, whether they are parents with sick children at home, elderly patients facing chronic illnesses, or citizens living in remote areas with less access to medical care.

CrediFi Announces Total Capital Raised Surpasses \$29 million

Mitsui Fodusan joins as investor

NEW YORK, NY / ACCESSWIRE / January 23, 2019 / [CrediFi](#), the leading source for data and analytics for commercial real estate finance, announced today it has raised an additional \$6 million in funding. This comes on the heels of the [\\$13 million previously raised](#) in Series B funding. The investment will be used to expand the firm’s go-to-market efforts, as well as the recruitment of executive and team talent in New York and Israel.

The round was led by Liberty Technology Venture Capital II, joined by investors Mitsui Fodusan, one of Japan’s leading real estate investors, and Maverick Ventures Israel. Existing investors in the company, including Battery Ventures, Viola Ventures and crowdfunding site OurCrowd, also invested in the current financing round. The Company has raised \$29 million overall, including the current round.

“CRE investors are very excited about CrediFi, as we are the most advanced FinTech platform for the industry,” said CrediFi CEO Ely Razin. “We work with a range of leading financial institutions, who use our data and technology to make more strategic, data-driven investment decisions.”

As a direct result of CrediFi’s growing success in both the US and Israeli markets, the firm is pleased to announce two key executive hires; Jeff Hendren as President, based in New York, and Amichai Levy as Vice President, Research & Development, based in Tel Aviv. Prior to CrediFi, Hendren was Chief Commercial Officer of Quovo, a data science platform that intelligently aggregates and analyzes financial account data recently acquired by Plaid. Levy previously served as a vice president of research and development at Payoneer, a leading global FinTech company based in New York and Israel.



"CrediFi is leading the charge for transparency and access in the data-rich field of commercial real estate finance," said Mr. Hendren. "I am delighted to be joining the firm at this stage in its strategic expansion and bolster the firm's ongoing commitment to recruiting and retaining top talent to serve our client base across target markets."

CrediFi's advanced platform enables investors to operate more intelligently, transparently and strategically. The data and information collected by CrediFi brings visibility to an industry where data is lacking, transactions are often conducted behind closed doors and are based on personal relationships. Investors are often not fully familiar with the deal environment, including items as important as the lenders competing in the market, the terms they offer within the framework of their loans, and even the owners of commercial properties in the area with whom they have no personal ties.

Among CrediFi's customers are prominent American financial institutions and banks, property companies, hedge fund managers and US government agencies.

CrediFi was created with the goal of providing transparency through Big Data solutions to investors, lenders and borrowers in the US commercial real estate market. Mr. Razin previously served as an executive at Thomson Reuters, the global financial data company. He developed CrediFi with the support of Battery Ventures, which identified the need for comprehensive visibility into the US commercial real estate market not achieved by existing vendors in the space.

About CrediFi

Founded in 2014, CrediFi Corp. is a SaaS (software as a service) big data platform serving the Commercial Real Estate Finance market. CrediFi provides data and analytics driven by a database of over seven million commercial properties, including multi-family, office, retail, hotel and industrial assets. As the commercial real estate finance data leader in the Fintech space, CrediFi tracks \$13 trillion in both balance-sheet and securitized loans, focused on greater transparency in understanding borrowers, lenders and transactions, enabling better real estate investment decisions. CrediFi currently has 65 employees and is dual headquartered in New York City and Tel Aviv.



Japanese and Israeli Business Leaders Collaborate on AI-Powered Industry 4.0

JERUSALEM, Jan. 15, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Hiroshi Otsuka, Japanese industry leader and head of [Musashi Seimitsu corporation](#), partly owned by Honda Motor Co, and [Ran Poliakine](#), Israeli technology pioneer and founder of **Poliakine Innovation**, are partnering to develop artificial intelligence applications that will enable the future of Industry 4.0. The international partnership will be signed during the Economy summit held today in Jerusalem with the presence of Japan and Israel Governmental ministers of Economy.

Earlier today, the Japanese Minister of Commerce and the Israeli Minister of Economy and Industry shook hands on an agreement that will bring together innovators from both nations to develop Artificial Intelligence solutions to further the development of Industry 4.0.

Japan-based Musashi and Israeli-based Innovation Center have declared a partnership to develop AI applications that will enable the future of Industry 4.0. Musashi organization, a global leader in powertrain parts manufacturing with more than 30 global manufacturing plants including differential assemblies, transmission gears, camshafts as well as Linkage and suspension parts, has joined forces with Ran Poliakine, head of the Jerusalem-based Innovation Center that brings together great technological minds in the area of Artificial Intelligence, SW engineering, HW engineering, mathematics and physics.

"Industry 4.0 represents the fourth technology revolution and introduces the smart factory: a new world of disruptive innovation that is analogous to the internet revolution and driven by AI where machines are communicating and cooperating with each other and humans in real-time," said Mr. Cohen of the Israeli Ministry of Commerce. "Bringing together the very best of technology and innovation from forward-thinking companies in Israel and Japan enables fast acceleration towards the dawn of this very exciting new technological era."

The partnership, for example will engage in the mutual development of an Automated Guided Vehicle (AGV) for Industrial use. The Innovation Center will develop solutions to disrupt manufacturing and production domains, therefore providing a safer and more efficient environment that will enhance the global value chain.



"In a complex and evolving industry, AI is a key component that will lead us into the future," said Hiroshi Otsuka. "I am enthusiastic to engage in a global role, partnering with Ran on the development of artificial intelligence and visual inspection applications."

"Our relationship will convene established industrial players with new AI innovators to optimize the opportunities Industry 4.0 will deliver on a global scale," said Ran Poliakine. "It is an honor to work alongside Hiroshi and his capable team, combining the best of both worlds and to underscore values and expertise that define the meaning of collaboration."

About Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd

Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd. ("Musashi") is a TSE listed company (TYO: 7220) with \$2.3 billion revenue, 80 years of history, and 16,000 employees in 12 different countries. Musashi manufactures Power Train parts—including differential assemblies, transmission gears, and camshafts—as well as linkage and suspension parts like ball joints and arm assemblies.

In 2016, Musashi acquired European base "Hay Holdings" and renamed it by adding the "Musashi" brand to every subsidiary of the company name. this act accelerated the synergies advanced the introduction of Musashi brand to the region.

About Poliakine Innovation

Serial entrepreneur Ran Poliakine founded successful companies like [Illumigyn](#), [Wellsense](#), [nanoX Technologies](#) and [Powermat Technologies](#), the original wireless charging solution. Mr. Poliakine is passionate about "using technology for good," and his Jerusalem-based Innovation Center brings together great technological minds in artificial intelligence, engineering, mathematics, and physics.



SoftBank Ventures Asia invests in Israel's Pliops

- PUBLISHED :January 31, 2019 - 14:48

SoftBank Ventures Asia said on Jan. 31 that it has invested US\$5 million in Israeli cloud storage solutions startup **Pliops**.

The venture capital arm of Japan's SoftBank Group led a US\$30 million Series B funding in which all Series A **investors Intel Capital, State of Mind Ventures and Viola Ventures participated.**

Pliops said it will use the funds to accelerate development of its storage processor technology for cloud storage and database applications. It also plans to expand its teams in the US, Israel and China.

"Businesses must scale their infrastructures in the face of skyrocketing data volumes, and we're excited to help them," said Uri Beitler, CEO and co-founder of Pliops. "Pliops' technology transforms storage so that organizations achieve more consistent, readily-scaled performance with a simplified software stack. We are proud to have achieved the backing of such esteemed leading investors and to see early market traction. We look forward to sharing more about our flagship product in the coming months."

"We are solving critical problems for database and storage architects, and doing it in a way that is both elegantly simple and amazingly efficient," said Softbank Ventures Asia CEO and Managing Director Lee Joon-pyo.

"There is tremendous pent-up demand worldwide for solutions that enable next-generation data centers to perform and scale more efficiently, particularly in large cloud providers' environment."

About Pliops

Pliops was founded in 2017 by flash storage industry veterans from Samsung, M-Systems and XtremIO. Pliops is creating a new category of product that enables cloud and enterprise data centers to access data up to 50X faster with 1/10th of the computational load and power consumption. Its technology collapses multiple inefficient layers into one ultra-fast device based on a groundbreaking patent-pending approach. Pliops' solution solves the scalability challenges raised by the cloud data explosion and the increasing data requirements of AI and ML applications



Japan to consider sending GSDF officers to non-U.N. peacekeeping force on Egypt-Israel border

JJI

- JAN 23, Japan Times

The government said Tuesday it will consider sending Ground Self-Defense Force officers to the command of the Multinational Force and Observers, which operates in areas around the border between Egypt and Israel.

If realized, this would mark the first dispatch of Japanese personnel for an international cooperation mission for peace and security abroad under the country's national security legislation that entered into force in 2016.

The MFO, a multinational force not under U.N. command, oversees the terms of the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

The government will make a final decision after conducting an on-site survey and examining whether the safety of personnel can be secured.

According to the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters at the Cabinet Office, the MFO asked Japan to send personnel to its command. The government will study the possibility of dispatching a few GSDF officers, who would work to liaise for the MFO with Egypt and Israel



February

First Direct Flight from Japan to Israel Takes Off in September

JPOST AND OTHERS.FEBRUARY 6, 2019

The flights in September, which will be chartered by three Japanese travel agencies, will be from Tel Aviv to Tokyo's Narita airport

The Far East will start feeling a little less far in September with the inauguration of weekly direct flights from Tel Aviv to Tokyo that will cut some four hours off travel time from Israel to Japan.

Israel's ambassador to Japan, Yaffe Ben-Ari, announced the inauguration of the first ever direct flight for tourists from Israel to Japan at a ceremony in Tokyo with Hiroshi Tabata, commissioner of the Japan Tourism Agency, and Hiromi Tagawa, chairman of the Japan Association of Travel Agents (JATA). The flight will be a charter that three Japanese travel agencies will hire from Sun d'Or.

"Charter flights are the first step toward achieving our main objective – regular direct flights between the two countries," Ben-Ari said. "These flights will help put Israel on the Japanese tourist map, and signal to the local market that Israel is an attractive destination. In parallel, Israeli tourists will benefit from a shorter and more comfortable route to Japan – a growing market. The charter flight in September is expected to take 11 hours and 30 minutes.

"We hope this step will encourage visits from Japanese business people to Israel and will contribute to strengthen trade and the economic connections between the two countries," said Gilad Cohen, the Foreign Ministry's Deputy director-general for Asia and the Pacific.

The flights come at a time when Japanese investment in Israel is growing rapidly. Last month, during a meeting with visiting Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said this growth is "astronomical," and is now nearly \$5 billion, 120 times more than it was in recent years.

In 2017, the two countries did some \$2.8b. in trade, with Japan enjoying a \$1.3b trade surplus.



The flights are also expected to lead to a significant increase in tourism between the two countries. According to Tourism Ministry figures, only 17,000 tourists arrived in 2018 from Japan, compared to some 40,000 from South Korea, 58,000 from India, and 114,000 from China.

Tourism from China and India has skyrocketed over the last few years as direct flights were initiated and expanded with those countries.

According to Foreign Ministry figures, Israeli tourism to Japan jumped in 2018 to 35,000, compared to only 15,000 five years earlier.

Ground Self-Defense Force to be sent to Sinai Peninsula

, February 10, 2019 The Yomiuri Shimbun

The government plans to send Ground Self-Defense Force members to the Sinai Peninsula in eastern Egypt to monitor a ceasefire between the Israeli and Egyptian militaries as part of the Multinational Force and Observers, multiple government sources said.

This would be the first time for the government to apply new provisions on internationally coordinated operations for peace and security (see below) that were part of the security-related laws that went into force in March 2016. The deployment could happen as early as spring.

The government decided to respond to a request from the MFO because it believes helping maintain the ceasefire between Israel and Egypt is important to ensuring a stable supply of energy from the Middle East, which Japan relies on for energy.

A four-minister meeting of the National Security Council is expected to be held soon to make a final decision on the deployment.

The plan would involve sending two GSDF members to the MFO's local command post in Sharm El-Sheikh on the southern tip of the Sinai Peninsula.

The two members would serve in liaison and coordination roles. The government is working with the MFO to move the deployment up from around summer, which is what was initially envisioned, the sources said.



The government has been considering dispatching GSDF members to the MFO since last year, though the request for headquarters staff was announced Jan. 22.

To confirm the local security situation, Kentaro Sonoura, a special advisor to the prime minister in charge of national security, visited Sharm El-Sheikh, an MFO base in northern Sinai Peninsula and other sites on Feb. 2-3.

Sonoura observed the base's safety policies, including its robust protective measures, and found the area around Sharm El-Sheikh to be stable, based on which the government determined the GSDF members would be safe there.

Since GSDF's engineering unit pulled out of U.N. peace-keeping operations in South Sudan in May 2017, Japan's contribution to those operations has been limited to maintaining a few SDF members as command post staff in South Sudan.

The government hopes that by taking part in the MFO, which is an internationally coordinated operation for peace and security that resembles PKO, it can demonstrate its willingness to make international contributions to observers both at home and abroad.

The MFO has been on the Sinai Peninsula since 1982, after Egypt and Israel signed a peace treaty in 1979 after the end of the Middle East war.

Headquartered in Rome, the MFO comprises about 2,000 troops and civilian observers from 12 nations, including the United States and Britain, who oversee the activities of the Egyptian and Israeli militaries and the ceasefire.

■ Internationally coordinated operations for peace and security

Activities related to humanitarian assistance, ensuring security and other areas that are not under the auspices of the United Nations. To broaden Japan's international contributions, such activities were included in the revised U.S. Peacekeeping Activities Cooperation Law, which is a pillar of the security-related laws. Self-Defense Forces members can be deployed in response to requests from international organizations if five principles on PKO participation are met, including "Agreement on a cease-fire shall have been reached among the parties to armed conflicts."

Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Honors AJC CEO David Harris

NEW YORK, Feb. 14, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs honored **American Jewish Committee (AJC) CEO David Harris** with its prestigious **Foreign Minister Commendation**, one of Japan's highest honors presented to foreign citizens.

"It is for his hard work, his essential contributions to [relations between Japanese and Jewish people], and unwavering dedication that we are here to honor him together," said Ambassador Kanji Yamanouchi, the Consul General of Japan to New York, who presented the award during a special ceremony at his residence. In attendance were AJC lay leaders, staff, and family of Harris, along with diplomatic staff from the Japanese Consulate. Japan is the 12th country to honor Harris's global work in building bridges of friendship and cooperation. The certificate of commendation, which is hand-written by Foreign Minister Taro Kono, notes that the award is, "In recognition of his distinguished services in contributing to the deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and other countries through his contributions to promote relations between Japan and the Jewish community."

"It has been extraordinarily gratifying for us to see the growth in the relationship, the partnership, the cooperation between Japan and AJC, more broadly between Japan and the Jewish people, Japan and Israel, and yes, the transpacific partnership between Tokyo and Washington," said Harris. "On all those fronts, we have made clear our views and our belief that this is a precious fraternity of shared values, with shared goals and aspirations."

AJC has long recognized the importance of relations between the Japanese and Jewish people, as well as triangular relations among Japan, the United States, and Israel. "Mr. Harris continues his mission in the footsteps of Jacob Schiff, Chiune Sugihara, and Beate Sirota Gordon, yet he has opened up new paths to promote solidarity and affinity between our two communities," said Yamanouchi.

AJC has been uniquely engaged with Japan through its pioneering Asia Pacific Institute (API), which has organized dozens of visits to Japan in the last 30 years and has stayed in close contact with Japanese diplomats stationed in the United States. Harris, who became CEO in 1990, and before that was AJC Director of Government and International Affairs, has played a critical role in fostering these relations.



AJC Asia Pacific Institute Director Shira Loewenberg also delivered remarks during the ceremony. Loewenberg said, "I'm very pleased that David's groundbreaking work in forging a unique and positive relationship with Japan for the Jewish people is being recognized tonight." She read a letter to Harris from Hideo Sato, a senior official of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who served as Ambassador to Afghanistan, Bahrain, and Israel. It read in part: "You led the first AJC mission to Japan in 1988 in the middle of the criticism soaring in the Jewish Community on the Arab boycott issue [and Japan's adherence] and the anti-Semitic literature in Japan. Unlike the other Jewish organizations at that time, you came to Japan, just like Jacob Schiff, to see what actually was happening and initiated a dialogue, which, over the past 30 years, has brought about deepened mutual understanding, friendship and genuine cooperation between us... I should confess if it hadn't been for you, we wouldn't be where we are today in our relations with the American Jewish Community."

AJC, founded in 1906 and with headquarters in New York, maintains 22 regional offices across the United States; 12 overseas posts, including a representative in Tokyo; and 37 international association agreements with Jewish communities. AJC's Asia Pacific Institute was founded in 1989. It is the first such institution in the American Jewish community devoted exclusively to the region.

NTT DATA chooses Exabeam to consolidate security solutions

February 6, 2019

NTT DATA has [chosen Exabeam](#) as its partner to help consolidate all of its internal security solutions. Exabeam will deploy its **Security Management Platform (SMP)** across NTT DATA's worldwide operations. NTT DATA is already using Exabeam across some of its locations. This deal is about consolidation of security solutions to deliver a single platform for internal and external customers. It also means that NTT DATA can deal with the increase in cyber threats that are being seen worldwide.

Hiroshi Honjo, head of Cyber Security and Governance at NTT DATA commented: *"Exabeam was already our valued partner, and we were so confident in the company's security solution, we decided to use it ourselves, to remove complexity and unify our disparate legacy systems that were ineffective at protecting against modern threats."*



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“Having Exabeam’s unlimited data lake and attractive pricing model made the difference for our large organisation.”

One platform to rule them all

One of the main drivers behind the need for consolidation has been the number of acquisitions that NTT DATA has made over the last few years. Many of these came with their own cybersecurity platforms ranging from logging solutions to SIEM platforms. As a Japanese owned business, it is not uncommon for business units and acquisition to be left to self-manage.

From a cybersecurity perspective, this was beginning to create challenges. The lack of integration between the various products meant that there was no overall visibility of threats across the global operation. In a world where cyber threats appear so quickly, it meant a change of focus,.

The new system will deliver behavioural modelling, machine learning and advanced analytics. With data coming in from NTT DATA offices in 201 cities worldwide, this means a wealth of data with which to train the machine learning solution. At the same time, Exabeam will be able to draw on the experience of NTT Communications who handle vast amounts of traffic around the world.

For security analysts, this means that the automated systems that Exabeam puts in place will make their job easier. It will speed up the reduction of noise and help them focus on real threats affecting NTT DATA and its customers.

But what about NTT Security?

At first glance this deal raises questions about the relationship between NTT DATA and its sister company NTT Security. NTT is currently merging NTT Security, NTT Communications and Dimension Data into a single company NTT Inc. As part of that, NTT Security will become the cybersecurity centre for the new business. Given this, why wasn’t NTT Security given this contract?

Enterprise Times spoke to Kai Grunwitz, Senior Vice President, EMEA, **NTT Security** about the announcement. Grunwitz told us that this deal is not about choosing Exabeam over NTT Security. He confirmed the long-term relationship between Exabeam and NTT Data and that they are the largest SIEM supplier to the company.

He went on to say: *“NTT Security is working closely with NTT DATA to deliver enhanced threat detection. Once all the SIEM solutions are consolidated under Exabeam, we expect NTT DATA will use both Exabeam and NTT Security services.”*

Grunwitz continued: *“NTT Security is also a partner with Exabeam in the SIEM side and it has access to our threat intelligence and consulting services. This closer collaboration will result in the delivery of value added services to customers in the future.”*

Enterprise Times: What does this mean

There is no question that this is a good deal for Exabeam. It has consolidated its position at NTT DATA and that should lead to greater integration with NTT Security. The question this leaves is will NTT seek to acquire Exabeam? Its last sought funding in mid-2018 when it received \$50 million ([Source: Crunchbase](#)). If it becomes the key supplier at NTT DATA and delivers tight integration with NTT Security, acquisition is not unthinkable.

NTT has very deep pockets and is not afraid to either jump into the market itself or let its subsidiaries go shopping. At the last check, there were over 900 companies that were part of the greater NTT group, many of them split between NTT DATA , NTT Security, NTT Communications and Dimension Data . The creation of NTT Inc is the first move to consolidate many of those into a single business. Adding one more won't be a stretch for the business at all.

-[Exabeam](#), the next-gen SIEM company, today announced the appointment of **Kei Mitsuyama** to **regional sales director, Japan**. His appointment will help to build on Exabeam's growing momentum in the region following [the recent decision by Japanese technology giant NTT DATA Corporation](#) to deploy Exabeam's Security Management Platform (SMP) to secure its global operations.

Takeda Ventures and SBI-IJ Fund invest in BIOM-X

Israeli biopharma firm BiomX raises \$32 million in private funding

Wednesday, February 20, 2019

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Israeli biopharma firm BiomX said on Wednesday it raised \$32 million in a private funding round that will primarily be used to advance the company's drug candidates for the treatment of acne and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD).

The round was led by existing investors OrbiMed, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC Inc, **Takeda Ventures Inc**, 8VC, **MiraeAsset**, Seventure Partners' Health for Life Capital I, and **SBI Japan-Israel Innovation Fund**. They were joined by additional European investors and new investors.

"The new funding will enable us to transition BiomX to a clinical stage company as our lead programs in acne and IBD, both novel phage therapeutics targeting harmful bacteria in the microbiome, enter the clinic," said BiomX CEO Jonathan Solomon.

BiomX will also continue to advance its liver disease and colorectal cancer programs by identifying key bacteria driving these diseases and developing phage cocktails against them, he added.

About BiomX:

BiomX is a microbiome drug discovery company developing customized phage therapies that target and destroy harmful bacteria in chronic diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and cancer. We discover and validate proprietary bacterial targets and customize our natural and engineered phage compositions against these targets



Toyota teams with Israeli co Cortica in race for autonomous car

Cortica's AI technology combined with Renesas's chip could help Toyota break Mobileye's stranglehold on the advanced driver-assistance systems market.

One of the most interesting questions in the auto-tech sector is how long Mobileye will continue to dominate it. The Israeli company, acquired by Intel for \$15.3 billion in 2017, is a source of pride, but constitutes an anomaly from a broader business and technological perspective. Through tier-1 suppliers, who connect the auto manufacturers to the smaller suppliers, Mobileye directly or indirectly holds over 70% of the global market in advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) - one of the richest and fastest growing markets in the auto industry.

Mobileye has led the market for five years, in contrast to any known scenario in high tech in general and the auto sector in particular, in which at least one strategic competitive threat arises during this time span. It seems, however, that it is not easy to overcome Mobileye's many years of experience in machine vision and video processing algorithms, and certainly not when the company itself is still reinventing itself and enjoys access to Intel's resources.

The job of figuring out who will threaten Mobileye is even harder and more frustrating, because the auto industry does a good job of keeping its secrets, for reasons of competition. Furthermore, the Israeli auto-tech sector is mostly managed by ex-IDF officers from the Intelligence Corps and other classified units of the defense forces. These ex-officers take the obsession for field security implanted in them during their military service into civilian life; they are stingy in disclosing information.

History shows that market leaders cannot forever ignore their competitors' power (ask Microsoft about Google). In this case, the elephant in the room is Toyota, the world's largest auto manufacturer, which sells over 11 million cars a year. Toyota's budget and technology resources are inexhaustible, and it resolutely refuses to adopt Mobileye's technology. Toyota has always claimed that it could achieve better results independently than those of Mobileye, and therefore has no need to tie itself to the Israeli company's closed system. Since Toyota has close ties with a number of Japanese tier-1 suppliers, it can mobilize the awesome development resources of the entire Japanese industry for its needs.



Toyota's conservative engineering and business practices have also slowed its progress in the autonomous vehicle segment. In recent weeks however, the company has pulled a very daring timetable out of its sleeve. At last month's CES exhibition, Toyota displayed for the first time an autonomous prototype based on a Lexus model. This week, the company announced that it planned to commercially market an autonomous car next year under the Lexus brand. This car will probably have Level 4 autonomy - independent driving, but on specific routes and in specific conditions, not a car that needs neither a steering wheel nor a driver.

The announcement nevertheless signals a big step forward. Senior executives in Toyota's division for advanced technologies R&D this week referred to the company's future vehicle as a "super computer on wheels," with processing power that will leave all of its competitors far behind. There have been many grandiose pronouncements in this matter in the past two years, including from Elon Musk, who claimed that he had the world's strongest chip for an autonomous vehicle.

It turns out that Toyota's impressive breakthrough comes from the Israeli auto-tech market: a company named **Cortica**.

Overcoming the machine learning barriers

Cortica appeared in an in-depth "Globes" story two years ago. A veteran company by Israeli high-tech standards, Cortica has worked in video processing and images utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) with government customers and intelligence agencies in Israel and throughout the world. The company was founded on the basis of theoretical research about the human brain at **Technion, Israel Institute of Technology**. Its approach upsets the prevailing order in AI.

Cortica asserts that in its accepted form, deep learning, the dominant AI technology, is a kind of black box lacking transparency, although such transparency is essential for analyzing the reason for an accident involving an autonomous vehicle, for example. Cortica says that this approach wastes computer resources and is not efficient enough for an "environmental concept" and fusing sensors in real time - currently the main technological obstacle in the way of an autonomous vehicle.

Cortica says that its technology takes the accepted form of deep learning a step further. It facilitates unsupervised self-learning methodology with "flat hierarchical architecture at low power" that makes it fully transparent in processing and self-learning and unguided capability. This is no simple matter, considering that ordinary deep learning has been supported by hundreds of billions of dollars from venture capital investors and huge companies like Intel. The

fact that Cortica has thus far refused to disclose its auto industry partner, and that its technology is considered enigmatic by technology experts was certainly not helpful.

A few weeks ago, however, the company announced that it had installed its algorithm on a super-chip for an autonomous vehicle of Japanese tier-1 auto supplier Renesas as a solution for Level 2 and 3 ADAS autonomous vehicle systems, which are extremely common in today's market. At the same time, the two companies are already working on a more advanced generation of the chip.

This is where things become more interesting. Renesas, whose name is unknown outside the industry, is a huge company known as the world's largest supplier of microcontrollers. Its vehicle division offers a comprehensive array of solutions for the global auto industry. Only recently, Renesas acquired and merged into itself a US competitor in a \$6.7 billion deal.

Since 2017, the company has set its sights on becoming the global leader in ADAS systems based on machine vision. In February 2018, it made its first move in this direction by launching a "super computer on a chip" for machine vision processing, called R-CAR V3, designed to compete directly with Mobileye-Intel's EYEQ4, for high-level autonomous vehicles.

Mass production of the chip will begin in the third quarter of 2019. It will allegedly feature "a tiny fraction of the electrical consumption of the competing chips." The announcement was greeted with skepticism by the auto industry, because the main problem of a "super computer for a vehicle" of this type is an insatiable appetite for electric power, something that is particularly challenging for electric cars. Claims of a "jump in performance, combined with a dramatic reduction in power consumption" a

Renesas did not say in 2018 how this breakthrough was achieved, but a joint announcement by Cortica and Renesas in January 2019 made several striking claims: "By integrating Cortica's autonomous AI technology into the system of Renesas's chip system, we have overcome the existing technological obstacles of safety for every watt of electricity in an autonomous vehicle. Beyond this, our concept solves the known barriers of ordinary deep learning." The companies also said that Cortica's technology, which is implanted on Renesas's chip, "requires only a tenth of the processing power required for Mobileye's system. This declaration directly challenges the dominant force in the ADAS market. It could be regarded as pretentious, an invitation to trouble, and/or self-confidence backed by orders from strategic customers.



Will Cortica play a role in Toyota's autonomous car?

In October 2017, Toyota and tier-1 suppliers Denso and Renesas announced a tripartite alliance for developing advanced systems for an autonomous vehicle. The announcement said that Renesas would supply its new R-CAR super chip to Toyota - the same chip on which Cortica's AI technology was installed. Starting in 2020, this chip will be the brain of the company's family of autonomous vehicles, together with Dentsu's control systems.

If the jigsaw puzzle pieces are assembled, the interesting conclusion is that Toyota's autonomous vehicle will be based on Cortica's extraordinary AI technology. This is certainly likely to one of the most important breakthroughs of the Israeli auto-tech sectors since Mobileye. Taking into account that the alliance is backed by Japanese companies with an aggregate market cap of \$200 billion, it is doubtful whether Mobileye and Intel will be able to treat this threat with the same nonchalance they have been showing towards their competitors.

In any case, the importance of this development transcends the auto industry. If Cortica's "upgraded" AI technology passes the proof of feasibility stage of manufacturers and multiplies the accepted ratio of computer power per watt, it is likely to completely disrupt the AI industry, which currently amounts to tens of billions of dollars. In this case, we will not be surprised in Cortica becomes an object for very aggressive merger and acquisition attempts.

Recruit-Owner of Indeed and Glassdoor Job Search Engines Invests in Privacy Coin Project Beam

[Japanese](#) employment information services company **Recruit Co.**, Ltd. has invested in a [blockchain](#)-focused company **Beam Development Limited**, according to an announcement [published](#) on Feb. 18.

Per today's press release, Recruit has invested in [Israeli](#) blockchain startup Beam Development Limited. The investment was made through Recruit's \$25 million fund called RSP Blockchain Tech Fund Pte. Ltd. The latter is focused on investing and acquiring shares in blockchain and [cryptocurrency](#) companies.

Beam is a privacy-oriented crypto project that purportedly secures [transactions](#) by enabling transaction data to be verified by a specified third party. The announcement states that the Beam

token prevents the “divulgence of transaction data to third parties and protects user’s transaction information.”

Recruit further stressed that it “recognizes the revolutionary impact of blockchain technology in facilitating innovation while preserving confidential data, but at the same time Recruit understands the need for appropriate [government](#) regulation to ensure that this new technology is not abused.”

Beam [confirmed](#) the recent investment on [Twitter](#), stating that it “helps Beam fulfill its mission in Japan [...] when it comes to deploying a compliant, scalable, and confidential cryptocurrency.”

Founded in 1960, Recruit Co., Ltd. acts as an advertising and employment information services company internationally. The firm [acquired](#) job search portal Indeed.com in 2012, and then job search site Glassdoor in [2018](#).

Recently, Beam (BEAM) [announced](#) that it plans to introduce a Mimbewimble-compatible lightning network ([LN](#)) to enhance the [altcoin](#) in commercial settings where payments would require quick confirmation. While Beam’s paper states that their transaction capacity is three times faster than that of Bitcoin’s ([BTC](#)), the paper notes that it is not at the same level as other major payment processors.

According to a Litecoin Foundation blog post [published](#) Feb. 7, Mimbewimble is in part a variant of “Confidential Transactions,” which allows for transactions to be “obfuscated yet verifiable,” so as to achieve both heightened privacy and prevent double spending.

At press time, BEAM is trading at \$1.26, having gained around 4.5 percent on the day, according to data from [CoinMarketCap](#). The coin’s market capitalization is around \$7.8 million, while its daily trading volume is around \$7 million at press time

Techmatrix Corporation and Bufferzone, Partner to Provide Prevention-based Virtual Container Security Solution to Enterprises in Japan

BUFFERZONE to provide network separation capabilities through virtual container isolation, addressing some of the most vulnerable attack vectors--web browsers, external storage devices and email attachments.

TEL AVIV, Israel, Feb. 20, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- BUFFERZONE, a provider of next-generation endpoint security solutions which protect organizations from advanced threats such as ransomware, zero-days and phishing scams, announced today it has partnered with Techmatrix to provide its patented virtual container security solution.

Through this partnership, Techmatrix will offer Bufferzone's solutions to its enterprise customers, as well as represent the product in marketing activities in the Japanese market.

BUFFERZONE protects organizations from a wide range of threats with patented containment, bridging and intelligence technologies. Instead of blocking these threats, BUFFERZONE isolates potentially malicious content from web browsers, email and removable storage into a virtual container that keeps the application separate from the real memory, registry, files and network resources of the computer. BUFFERZONE maximizes user productivity with seamless, unrestricted access to information, while empowering IT with a simple, lightweight and cost-effective solution for thousands of endpoints both inside and outside the corporate network.

"We are thrilled to partner with a Japanese IT industry leader like Techmatrix," said Israel Levy, CEO of BUFFERZONE. "With cyber-attacks at an all-time high, this partnership highlights the value of a prevention-based security solution in protecting the largest and most vulnerable attack surface in any organization—the endpoints."

TechMatrix has been focused on providing cutting edge security solutions to the Japanese market in the past 20 years.



"We are really excited about launching BUFFERZONE's security products in Japan.",
said Takashi Yuri, CEO of Techmatrix.

"We strongly believe that BUFFERZONE's advanced isolation technology is one of the most powerful and cost-effective endpoint security solution without having to sacrifice the productivity of day-to-day business operation."

About TechMatrix

TechMatrix (Tokyo Stock Exchange, First Section/Securities Code: 3762) operates an information infrastructure business that provides the integration of information infrastructure technology, which can contribute to a technological revolution in the era of cloud computing, along with an application services business that provides applications based on best practices in the areas of concern for its customers via the use of software technology. In the information infrastructure business field, TechMatrix uses its own unique assessment capabilities to identify products and services, such as next-generation networks, security, storage, etc., that possess a high level of technological prowess, competitiveness, and growth potential, primarily in the U.S. TechMatrix does not simply limit itself to selling products but rather delivers a full lineup of high-value-added services.

About BUFFERZONE

BUFFERZONE endpoint security solutions protect enterprises from advanced threats including ransomware, zero-days, phishing scams and APTs. With cutting-edge containment, bridging and intelligence, BUFFERZONE gives employees seamless access to Internet applications, mail and removable storage – while keeping the enterprise safe.

EXIT for GLOBAL-BRAINS VC and for KDDI

Walmart acquires Israel's Aspectiva, which analyses UGC to recommend products to shoppers

techcrunch.com/2019/02/25

[Walmart](#), the world's biggest brick-and-mortar retailer, today made an acquisition that speaks to its ongoing efforts to build out its e-commerce experience to better compete with Amazon. Today, the company [announced](#) that it acquired [Aspectiva](#), a startup out of Israel whose AI-based technology analyses user-generated content, like customers' product reviews, and combines it with a shopper's browsing behavior to make product suggestions to shoppers both online and in stores.

The startup will be joining Store No 8, [Walmart's](#) in-house incubation arm established in 2017 to help the company develop and roll out more innovative shopping experiences. Store No 8 most recently launched a VR shopping experience "startup" called [Spatial&](#), and last year it started a closed beta [Jetblack](#), a text-based shopping concierge service for "busy moms."

It's not clear yet whether this will mean [Aspectiva](#) will build a standalone service or work on tech that Walmart will roll out across its own stores both offline and online. You could see where Walmart might be able to incorporate its tech to make the shopping experience in both scenarios less static as the startup already works across both.

Some of its products include tech that analyses what in-store shoppers search for on their phones or in store apps while walking around, to suggest what to buy. Aspectiva also crunches product reviews to provide customer overviews to online browsers based on different features of a product, and it also creates comparison reports between different brands of the same product — all from "reading" feedback from other shoppers.

Terms of the deal have not been disclosed by the companies Aspectiva had raised [around \\$4 million](#) in funding from [investors that included KDDI and Global Brain out of Japan, JVP, as well as strategic backers LivePerson and online skate shop Union Five, according to Pitchbook.](#)

Aspectiva was co-founded by Eyal Hurwitz and Ezra Daya, two text analytics engineer alums from CRM company Nice Systems. It looks like the whole team will be joining Walmart, but will continue to be based in Tel Aviv, in its existing offices.

"Our team is extremely excited to be joining Store N° 8 and be part of Walmart's most recent investment in Israel. Store N° 8's record of innovation and of developing capabilities that will



transform retail as we know it makes for the perfect environment to leverage Aspectiva's technology throughout the shopping funnel," said Ezra Daya, CEO of Aspectiva, in a statement.

In its efforts to source more innovation particularly for tackling newer frontiers in commerce, Walmart has been stretching its wings internationally. Last year, the company acquired most of Flipkart, which had been known as the "Amazon of India" (before Amazon doubled down on India, one of the world's fastest-growing markets for e-commerce, to make sure that *it* would be the Amazon of India).

And Walmart has also been active in Israel. It's a strategic investor in Team8, an incubator that conceives of, funds and builds startups in the country; it has a \$250 million content JV with media company Eko; it is part of The Bridge, a tech accelerator that promotes Israeli startups; and last year its Indian subsidiary Flipkart [acquired Upstream Commerce](#) to help with its own recommendation and pricing algorithms.

"Aspectiva has developed incredibly sophisticated machine learning techniques and natural language processing capabilities, both of which are areas we believe will have profound impact on how customers will shop in the future. Israel is a hotbed of tech talent and innovation. We're thrilled to join the growing community of entrepreneurs in Israel and see it expand within Aspectiva," said Lori Flees, Principal of Store No 8, in a statement.



March

Sony Innovation Fund joins investment in Brodmann 17

Brodmann17 Raises \$11 Million to Bring ADAS and Automated Driving to the Mass Market With Cutting-edge Deep Learning Technology The Series A Investment Will Accelerate Implementation of Partnerships, Providing Hardware-Agnostic Computer Vision Software to Prevent Road Collisions

TEL AVIV, Israel, March 11, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Brodmann17, a provider of vision-first technology for automated driving, today announced that it raised an \$11M Series A funding round from both new and existing investors, including OurCrowd, who led the round, Maniv Mobility, AI Alliance, LLC, UL Ventures, Samsung NEXT, Iool ventures, and Sony Innovation Fund. With the funding, Brodmann17 will expand partnerships, accelerate integration of its deep learning solution with customers, and continue its mission to put efficient, powerful automated driving capabilities in every vehicle.

As the advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS) market, a crucial element of automated driving, is projected to reach over \$90B by 2025, there is a growing need for highly reliable AI-based vision technology. While other companies are relying on hardware that is bulky, costly, and power-inefficient to meet this demand, Brodmann17 is focusing on software, offering game-changing deep learning perception technology so efficient that it can run on any hardware, including low-power processors.

Co-founded by serial entrepreneurs and world-class technologists Adi Pinhas, Dr. Amir Alush, and Assaf Mushinsky, the company built groundbreaking deep learning algorithms from the ground up to provide state-of-the-art accuracy while consuming a fraction of the compute power. The highly robust software stack, developed by the company's team of top AI researchers and automotive experts, is currently being tested by OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers worldwide, bringing ADAS from the premium to the mass market to make roads safer.

"We're excited that our strategic investors, many of whom are already leaders in the field of AI, have understood the game-changing ability of our innovative technology to bring automated driving to the mainstream on any hardware," said Adi Pinhas, CEO and co-founder of



Brodmann17. "As the demand for ADAS rises, we will continue partnering with leading automotive industry stakeholders."

Eli Nir, Senior Partner at OurCrowd, said, "We are convinced that Brodmann17 is one of the best deep AI companies out there. The company has a very experienced management team and exceptional technical leadership that has created a major leapfrog in the fundamentals of AI algorithms. Brodmann17's technology opens the doors for low computation implementation of AI – significantly lowering cost, complexity, and price, and can be used over many sectors and industries. We are very excited to lead this round and take part in the future success of the company."

The split-second data processing required for automated driving necessitates edge computing, a market poised to be worth \$34B by 2023. Brodmann17's patent-pending software is able to run on the edge while increasing ADAS resolution, frame rate, and accuracy. The solution is easily integrated to quickly provide ADAS capabilities and meets the automotive industry's toughest standards.

"Developing deep learning algorithms for computer vision is a complicated challenge, but Brodmann17 stands out in a field of established players with its team of computer vision and AI experts, and we're thrilled to be a part of their journey," said Tony Ha, Executive Director of AI Alliance, LLC. "The company's hardware-agnostic approach will accelerate ADAS adoption across the automotive industry, an important step in fulfilling the Fund's mission to support transformative companies at the intersection of AI and smart mobility."

"Lean yet highly accurate AI perception capability remains critical for carmakers and suppliers in their race to develop automated vehicles," said Nate Jaret of Maniv Mobility. "Our conversations with a wide range of partners confirmed the uniqueness and versatility of Brodmann17's technology. We are excited to partner with them as they scale across the industry."

About Brodmann17

Brodmann17 is a provider of vision-first technology for automated driving. Brodmann17's lean, patent-pending software architecture delivers state-of-the-art accuracy while consuming only a fraction of computing power, opening up the world to the benefits of deep learning vision. The solution is built from the ground up and designed against the industry's toughest standards for the world's largest OEMs and Tier 1 automotive suppliers. Founded in 2016, Brodmann17's team is comprised of top AI researchers and automotive industry professionals. Investors include AI

Alliance Fund, UL Ventures, Iool Ventures, OurCrowd, Maniv Mobility, Sony Innovation Fund, and Samsung NEXT.

Presidio Ventures, the Sumitomo CVC participates in HIBOB latest Investment Round

Rapidly Scaling HR Innovator, Hibob Raises \$20 million in Series A+

Fueled by 460% year-over-year growth, the HR disruptor plans rapid U.S. expansion to meet the demands of the changing workforce

NEW YORK, March 13, 2019 –, **Hibob**, the transformative HR tech platform headquartered in Tel Aviv, announces **\$20 million in Series A+ funding from existing investors: Bessemer Venture Partners, Battery Ventures, Eight Roads, Arbor Ventures, and Presidio Ventures.**

This investment is an extension of the company's Series A, announced in April 2017 and sees its stellar bench of investors substantially increase their position in the company. Supporting the company's mission to transform HR to reflect the changing nature of the workplace and workforce, the expanded investments will drive the next phase of Hibob's hyper growth, help to establish it as the platform of choice for fast growth companies, and accelerate its penetration in the U.S. and across Europe.

Since its founding in late 2015, Hibob has achieved 460 percent year-over-year growth and now boasts hundreds of customers, including Monzo, Etoro, Happy Socks, Ironsource, Receipt Bank, Fiverr and Karmarama, as well as strategic platform integrations with Slack, Workable, GreenHouse, Aviva, Canada Life, UNAM. Following a seed round of \$7.5 million and a series A of \$17.5 million, the total investment in Hibob now sits at \$45 million in just three years. Hibob was founded with a mission to create the first HR platform built for the workplace of the future. The market has embraced Hibob, as HR leaders in fast-growing companies recognize that their legacy tools are stuck in the past, unable to deliver on both the engagement needs of the multi-generational workforce and the data-driven needs of progressive HR professionals.

The nature of the workplace experience is rapidly evolving, and the HR tech market is in a rapid growth phase and is expected to reach \$22.5 billion by 2022. The proliferation of this technology is not just down to a need for employees and HR teams to better navigate administrative tasks



like payroll processes, performance reviews and holiday requests. Rather, organizations are realizing that their people are more than just numbers, resource or talent – management decisions that affect them should be holistic, data-driven and personalized to drive real business results, affirming the power of Hibob’s mission to consumerize HR.

“There is a paradigm shift in the way people work, and HR is shifting from a system of records and resources to a way to manage relationships and productivity. Companies need the right tools to develop and maintain top talent as they grow from hundreds of employees to thousands,” said Ronni Zehavi, Co-founder and CEO of Hibob. “We are pleased that our investors understand the great need in this market and know that we are poised to deliver the most innovative and intuitive product that will allow businesses to flourish in the rapidly evolving world of work.”

“The rapid emergence of the workplace of the future is led by a new generation of digital natives that will dominate the global economy in the coming years. This generation wants to work for fast-growing companies doing meaningful things, disrupting the norm, challenging authority and challenging themselves to grow and develop in a nurturing culture. Fast-growing companies understand this reality and are prepared to invest in HR technology and innovation more than ever before. Great people are in great demand – we are in a ‘quitting economy’ – and our platform, holistic, data-driven and personalized to the ultimate human level while driving business growth.”

This revolution requires a deep understanding of today’s most valuable employees that seek daily engagement, feedback meaning, personalization and opportunities for growth. In parallel, HR needs to be data-driven and democratized, creating consumer-friendly new tools for attracting, retaining and growing valuable employees.

Hibob provides fast-growing companies with the HR capabilities they need to attract, retain and grow today’s demanding workforce. The platform radically streamlines administrative tasks and improves employees’ experiences with intuitive design and unparalleled tools that provide company decision-makers with valuable insights that help retain and grow today’s diverse and demanding workforce.

Global HR tech industry analyst at Bersin by Deloitte, Josh Bersin, understands the need for a dramatic shift in how the industry approaches technological solutions that support today’s workforce. “There are about 1,400 HR tech vendors in the market. One of the more innovative new core HCM platforms is a product called bob, from a fast-growing company called Hibob. bob is designed a management platform first and HR platform second, so its entire design is focused on what information managers, employees, and executives need,” said Bersin.

“Hibob is the perfect partner for companies that strive to put their people first, but lack the right tools to attract, engage, and retain them,” said Davor Hebel, Managing Partner and Head of Eight



Roads Ventures Europe.” Hibob can support the evolution of high-growth companies with its easy-to-use, next-generation tool, allowing teams to maintain all-important company culture as they expand into new locations and increase headcount. We feel privileged to have been a part of Hibob’s success story so far and we look forward to continuing our partnership; leveraging the Eight Roads global network to help them scale.”

“Recent customer wins and high levels of growth mean that this is the right time to be injecting additional capital into Hibob,” said Adam Fisher, Partner, Bessemer Ventures. “The company is a great example of an Israeli start-up that is focused, ambitious and demonstrates real knowledge of the future workplace – meaning further expansion, particularly in the US market, makes perfect sense.”

The Hibob team is made up of 130 talented people in New York, London, and Tel Aviv.

About Hibob

Hibob, the company behind the transformative platform bob, is helping businesses grow their people. Founded in 2015, Hibob understands that a new generation of workforce is creating the workplace of the future, and with that evolution comes a demand for a new way to manage people. bob enables fast-growing companies to attract, excite, retain and develop their most valuable asset, their people through data-driven tools. With offices in New York, London and Tel Aviv, Hibob helps hundreds of businesses around the world grow their people.

TowerJazz Announces Signing Three-Year Agreement Extension with Panasonic Semiconductor Solutions

March 26, 2019 05:00 ET | Source: Tower Semiconductor

TowerJazz Announces Signing Three-Year Agreement Extension with Panasonic Semiconductor Solutions Panasonic will continue to utilize TPSCo three manufacturing facilities in Japan; TowerJazz to further ramp its leading technology solutions and foundry business

MIGDAL HAEMEK, Israel and TPSCo, Uozu, Japan, March 26, 2019 – TowerJazz, the global specialty foundry leader, and TowerJazz Panasonic Semiconductor Company (TPSCo), today announced they have signed a three-year agreement, extending its previous business partnership with Panasonic Semiconductor Solutions (PSCS) through 2022. Under the agreement, PSCS will continue to utilize TPSCo three manufacturing facilities in Japan for its

semiconductor business. Wafer loading level from PSCS to TPSCo fabs is expected to remain similar, with a new pricing structure, resulting in revenue reductions of approximately 20 million USD per quarter, with revenue and margins targeted to be compensated through presently implemented efficiencies and cost reduction activities, as well as third party revenue growth, including the present strong 300mm utilization ramp.

Russell Ellwanger, TowerJazz CEO and TPSCo Chairman commented, "The TPSCo partnership has brought together two leaders - Panasonic, an acknowledged analog components and systems leader, and TowerJazz, a recognized analog foundry leader- having created a company that serves and continues to grow the analog foundry space as no other existing single foundry can. During the past five years, we have continued to grow in respect for the technical capability and appreciation for the business acumen and can-do attitude of our Panasonic partner. Our TPSCo employee base has strong technical expertise and pristine operational execution, with over 180 foundry customers have been introduced into TPSCo, which is presently realizing a strong ramp in 300mm state of the art RF, power management and CMOS imaging flows. This has been and continues to be a winning equation for all involved - TowerJazz, PSCS, TPSCo and our very important customers."

Through TPSCo, TowerJazz offers its customers advanced 300mm analog technology manufacturing platforms such as state-of-the-art 65nm CMOS image sensor solutions, RF SOI 65nm, and 65nm Bipolar-CMOS-DMOS (BCD) power management platform.

TowerJazz to maintain its 51% holding of TPSCo shares, with PSCS as a 49% shareholder.

About TowerJazz

Tower Semiconductor Ltd. (NASDAQ: TSEM, TASE: TSEM) and its subsidiaries operate collectively under the brand name TowerJazz, the global specialty foundry leader. TowerJazz manufactures next-generation integrated circuits (ICs) in growing markets such as consumer, industrial, automotive, medical and aerospace and defense. TowerJazz's advanced technology is comprised of a broad range of customizable process platforms such as: SiGe, BiCMOS, mixed-signal/CMOS, RF CMOS, CMOS image sensor, integrated power management (BCD and 700V), and MEMS. TowerJazz also provides world-class design enablement for a quick and accurate design cycle as well as Transfer Optimization and development Process Services (TOPS) to IDMs and fabless companies that need to expand capacity. To provide multi-fab sourcing and extended capacity for its customers, TowerJazz operates two manufacturing facilities in Israel (150mm and 200mm), two in the U.S. (200mm) and three facilities in Japan (two 200mm and one 300mm). For more information, please visit www.towerjazz.com.



About TPSCo

TPSCo is a company, 51% owned by Tower Semiconductor Ltd. (NASDAQ: TSEM, TASE: TSEM) and 49% owned by Panasonic Semiconductor Solutions. TPSCo has three manufacturing facilities in Hokuriku, Japan which have been producing large scale integrated circuits for over 35 years. More than 750 million ICs for automotive products (Grade 0, 1 & 2) have been produced by TPSCo fabs since inception. Areas of process technology focus include high dynamic range image sensors (CIS and CCD), integrated power devices (BCD, SOI, and LDMOS) and high-frequency silicon RFCMOS. With over 150 qualified silicon process flows on 200mm and 300mm wafers from super micron to 45nm as well as internal back end processing, assembly and test services, TPSCo provides both IDMs and fabless companies with unparalleled semiconductor manufacturing quality and technology, including in-house turnkey services

DOCOMO to Further Expand 5G Trials with Overseas Partners

March 26, 2019 [Business Wire News Releases](#)

Israel's Humaneyes technologies Ltd will partner with DoCoMo in the project

— Initiates business co-creation with cross-border partners —

TOKYO — NTT DOCOMO, INC. announced today that it has agreed with enterprises and organizations in the United States and Israel as well as Japan to collaborate in trials involving a 5G mobile test network established in Guam with the aim of verifying 5G-compatible systems and equipment for new business solutions.

The trials will involve Field Partners, Solution Partners and DOCOMO as the provider of the 5G test network. Solution Partners will develop and provide solutions incorporating 5G systems and equipment and Field Partners comprising companies and organizations will use these solutions in practical applications on an experimental basis for testing and verification.

The Field Partners include the electricity utility Guam Power Authority, the University of Guam Office of Information Technology, and major enterprises and organizations in Guam engaged in such diverse fields as bridal services and a marathon administrative office. They will test various



solutions that incorporate 5G's extra-high-speed, large-capacity and low-latency technologies, including a remote training system using high-definition virtual reality, a monitoring system using AI surveillance cameras to detect suspicious individuals, and many others.

DOCOMO also announced today that it has launched its DOCOMO 5G Open Lab™ GUAM, its first center outside of Japan for verifying 5G technologies. The facility will provide a 5G trial environment that companies from Japan and other countries can use to verify 5G solutions. Field Partners will be able to use the network for outdoor testing of new services that incorporate equipment compatible with 5G networks. To utilize this network, in addition to Japanese companies, a number of overseas ventures with advanced 5G technology have announced that they will participate in cross-border 5G testing with DOCOMO as part of the 5G Open Partner Program. The program promotes partner collaboration with the aim of creating innovative 5G services. There are already more than 80 overseas companies and organizations participating in the program.

Going forward, DOCOMO will further collaborate with partners in Japan and overseas, to create new value and businesses through 5G that solve social issues for a brighter future.

Israel's **Humaneyes Technologies Ltd** a VR camera developer will provide the **5G virtual-reality training** ,by utilizing live video using a 360-degree high-definition VR camera (Vuze XR) for remote training of new technicians.

Other partners in the projects are Aegis from the USA, AMATELUS Inc.and SONY from Japan and others

Dead Sea Salt and Za'atar Infused Chocolate Maker Wants to Make it Big in Japan

Israeli boutique chocolatier Ika Cohen's products are known for their unusual tastes that include olive oil, Dead Sea salt, basil, and za'atar, a herb native to the Middle East and often used in Palestinian, Israeli, and Lebanese dishes

04.03.19 Calcalist

Israeli boutique chocolatier Ika Cohen wants to break into the Japanese market with spiced chocolate inspired by Mediterranean cuisine. In an interview with Calcalist, Cohen (42) said she is

still contemplating what would be the best product to get local consumers in Japan hooked on her confectionary.

Cohen's chocolates, made in a small shop in southern Tel Aviv, are known for their unusual tastes that include olive oil, Dead Sea salt, basil, and za'atar (*Origanum syriacum*), a spice herb native to the Middle East and often used in Palestinian, Israeli, and Lebanese dishes.

Cohen's first step in the Japanese market came in January when she participated in the annual Salon du Chocolat fair in Tokyo. The nine-day event brought together chocolatiers from all over the world to showcase their products, and Cohen's products proved as crowd pleasers—she was able to sell over a thousand dollars worth of chocolates per hour, she said in the interview.

Cohen apprenticed in France and Mexico before returning to Israel where she set up her shop about eight years ago. By using local food ingredients, she said, she can bring something new to the table, and excite consumers overseas

World-Leading Mobility-Focused Startup Event EcoMotion's Preview Edition Debuts in Japan

TOKYO, March 20, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- **Nexvision Mobility** (a division of Nexvision Technologies, Inc.) and **Plug and Play Japan** announced today that they will host "**EcoMotion in Japan**" as a preview for "**EcoMotion Week 2019**", a global-scale event that focuses on startups within the mobility sector, on **Tuesday, March 26th, 2019 at Plug and Play Shibuya** powered by Tokyu Land Corporation. This event in Japan will serve as an advance preview for "**EcoMotion Week 2019**", and as it is the first stop in EcoMotion's world promotion tour, Japan receives the extraordinary honor of getting to host the tour's initiation.

Coming this June in Tel Aviv, "EcoMotion Week 2019" enables global exchange regarding the state of affairs within the autonomous driving and smart mobility sectors, and also demonstrates to the world the success of startups in Israel. Furthermore, this event presents a **diverse networking opportunity** for professionals in these sectors to exchange ideas with each other as they build the technology of tomorrow. This event in Japan will introduce the contents of "EcoMotion Week 2019" to the world, **before the European previews start in May.**

Date: Tuesday March 26th, 2019 16:00-17:30



- Location: Plug and Play Shibuya powered by Tokyu Land Corporation
- Capacity: 100 people
- Target Audience: Those involved in the autonomous driving, smart mobility, and automobile industries
- Attendance fee: Free

We in Japan welcome **Orlie Dahan**, the Executive Director of EcoMotion, who has worked alongside Israeli startups, venture capitals and global corporations to refine EcoMotion into the prestigious event it is today. At this event in Japan, she will **preview** the contents of "EcoMotion Week 2019", **present** the current state of autonomous driving and smart mobility as well as Israeli startups, and **introduce** some outstanding startups in their respective fields. In addition, she will present how Israel launched and expanded its innovation in the automobile industry, explain the reasoning of global trends in the industry, talk about investments in mobility throughout the past years, and detail both the role of the Israeli government in creating an apt environment for the growth of these industries, as well as how Israeli startups have collaborated with global corporations. Lastly, **the following startups** will give their pitches to the audience.

- Participating Startups

- Karamba Security (<https://karambasecurity.com/>)
- Innoviz Technologies (<https://innoviz.tech/>)

Israel has proven to be a technological hub for hundreds of startups within the autonomous driving and smart mobility sectors, with many companies boasting cutting-edge technology calling the country their home. In recent years, due to this incredible showing, numerous companies seeking such technology have taken notice of Israel and the strengths it has to offer.

In this rapidly advancing landscape, **EcoMotion works to embolden this success even further by connecting Israeli startups to automobile manufacturing companies and their suppliers, as well as investors**. Bolstered by the support of communities all over, ranging from startups to large corporations and investors, research institutions and universities to the government, **EcoMotion leverages this support in order to complete its mission of driving the state of mobility technology, both within Israel and beyond, into the future**. It aims to achieve this goal with the events it hosts, such as Hack-a-thons and Investor Seminars, as well as its main focus, "EcoMotion Week".



About EcoMotion:

EcoMotion is a joint venture of the Israel Innovation Institute (private NGO) together with the Israeli government - the Fuel Choices and Smart Mobility Initiative (PMO office) and the Ministry of Economy.

EcoMotion is a dynamic community with over 600 start-ups (constantly growing) and 8,000 members in the Smart Transportation sector. Understanding startups do not grow in a void, we bring together entrepreneurs, academics, government officials, local & global automotive industry representatives, investors and much more; providing a support platform for knowledge-sharing, networking and collaboration.

Our mission is to support the growth of the Israeli Smart Transportation sector and enhance the implementation of innovation in our field, while simultaneously, positioning Israel as a global innovation center for Smart Transportation. EcoMotion has an extensive innovation toolkit to support public and private sector organizations in the implementation of innovation, such as Challenge Competitions, Adaptathons, Networking Events and more!

About Nexvision Technologies:

Nexvision Technologies supports the open innovation of Japanese Mobility Industries through our extensive global network. By teaming up with startups possessing cutting-edge technology, we contribute to the current technological revolution happening in Japanese society. Our focus area is the autonomous driving and sensing-related landscapes, and we pride ourselves in connecting global startups in these fields to Japanese corporations. Furthermore, our in-house engineers excel in machine learning and deep learning sectors, allowing Nexvision Technologies to develop our own algorithms as well as offer our clients insight into the technological capabilities of the startups they look at.

About Plug and Play Japan:

Plug and Play is a global innovation platform. Headquartered in Silicon Valley, they have built accelerator programs, corporate innovation services, and an in-house VC to make technological advancement progress faster than ever before. Since inception in 2006, their programs have expanded worldwide to include a presence in over 20 locations globally giving startups the necessary resources to succeed in Silicon Valley and beyond. Plug and Play Japan, the Japanese arm of Plug and Play, headquartered in Shibuya, Tokyo, opened its doors in 2017. We



operate mainly in Tokyo and aim to establish the city as a world-class startup ecosystem. By connecting Japan to markets abroad, we will provide startups from Japan with global access like never before.

Museum devoted to 'visas for life' diplomat Chiune Sugihara to open in Tokyo

JIJI, KYODO MAR 20, 2019

A museum based on the life of **Chiune Sugihara** (1900-1986), a Japanese diplomat who issued transit visas to thousands of Jewish people during World War II to help them escape from Nazi persecution, is set to open Saturday in the Yaesu district of Tokyo.

Items to be exhibited at the Chiune Sugihara Sempo Museum will include one of the "visas for life," as well as manuscripts written by Sugihara. Sempo was Sugihara's nickname when he was working at the Japanese consulate in Kaunas, Lithuania.

The visa to be put on display was issued by Sugihara to the late Nathan Bluman on Aug. 9, 1940, allowing the Jewish Pole to escape to Canada by way of Japan.

Bluman's son George, who donated the passport that contains a transit visa written by Sugihara, was present at the museum's opening ceremony held Tuesday.

Chihiro Sugihara, 55, the grandson of Chiune Sugihara who heads the nonprofit organization "Chiune Sugihara. Visas For Life," said: "Now we have a facility in Tokyo where people can learn about the Holocaust. I hope it can offer the opportunity for all the people to develop the imagination to live together." The museum will be run by the organization and other entities.

Madoka Sugihara, 52, granddaughter of Chiune Sugihara and vice chair of the organization, said, "We want visitors to understand the thoughts of a diplomat who saved many people by staking his life in the grueling days of the war."

Among the manuscripts to be exhibited will be a note, believed to have been written around the summer of 1978. It describes how Sugihara felt when he decided to issue transit visas to Jewish people in defiance of a Japanese Foreign Ministry order not to do so.

"After struggle and anguish, I finally came to conclude that the most important thing is humanitarianism," the note says.



The original visa and manuscripts will be kept in secure storage, with replicas and copies to be put on display, along with other exhibits such as photographs and a panel listing the names of people to whom transit visas were issued by Sugihara.

The museum will be open between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through Sundays, and will be closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

Japan announces over \$30 million in aid to Palestinians: report

03/14/2019 i24NEWS

In 2017, Japan donated a total of about \$43.5 million to the UN's aid agency for Palestinians

Japan on Thursday announced it will contribute over \$30 million to projects serving Palestinians, mainly through United Nations (UN) organizations and international aid groups, according to Palestinian *Ma'an* news agency.

According to a statement from the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine, the new contribution for 2019 will be provided to all allocated areas by the end of the month, including the UN Relief and Works Agency in the Near East (UNRWA), the international body dedicated exclusively to addressing the needs of Palestinian refugees in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Middle East at large.

The majority of the funds (\$17.7 million) will go to UNRWA, mainly to be used for humanitarian assistance in impoverished, Hamas-run Gaza.

Over \$5 million will be given to Palestinians living in Lebanon and Syria.

An additional \$3.3 million is allocated for solar energy installation to address the energy crisis wreaking havoc on Gaza's civilian infrastructure in recent years.

The rest of the funds will go towards supporting partnerships and projects with both local and Japanese non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

"The Government of Japan is strongly committed to supporting the two-state solution through those humanitarian and developmental projects," the statement read.



It also noted that since 1993, Japan has contributed roughly \$1.9 billion to development projects in the Palestinian territories.

UNRWA, the second biggest employer of the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip after the Palestinian Authorities, was meant to be a temporary body to assist Palestinians fleeing their homes during the war surrounding Israel's establishment.

Israel has long criticized the agency's existence, arguing it perpetuates the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by offering refugee status to fourth and fifth generation descendants of legitimate Palestinian refugees

Japan has been a prominent voice in international bodies aiming to develop the Palestinian economy and society at large and has funded various projects targeting the most vulnerable sectors in Gaza and the West Bank.

April

SoftBank buys stake in hyper-accurate US-Israeli weather service

Potential demand for real-time forecasts seen in airline and insurance sectors

Nikkei staff writers APRIL 09, 2019 02:04 JST

TOKYO -- [SoftBank Group](#) has invested \$7 million in ClimaCell, a U.S.-Israeli weather startup that uses cellular signals in making detailed weather forecasting.

The Japanese group aims to work with the startup to harness the cellular technology for a variety of industries. The investment was done through wholly owned unit SB Energy, and SoftBank could decide to boost its stake down the road.

ClimaCell was founded by former members of the Israeli air force in 2015. Its technology uses artificial intelligence to forecast the weather in 100-sq.-meter plots every 10 minutes based on data gathered from devices like cellphone signals. For example, its technology is able to detect high humidity in the air from slower wireless communication speeds.

The service is growing rapidly because it can make more granular forecasts than existing products by IBM and other companies that make use of weather satellites and observation equipment.

ClimaCell is also building a system that analyzes weather data in real-time. Rainfall, for instance, could be measured from windshield wiper data. The startup is working to partner with communications providers, automakers and other potential information sources while cultivating a client base in industries that require accurate weather data, such as aviation and insurance.

"We are delighted to have SB Energy as an investor and strategic partner. Energy companies, particularly those dealing in renewable energies, are particularly dependent on weather predictions - from wind speed to precipitation times - for ongoing operations, with a massive impact on their bottom line," said Shimon Elkabetz, CEO and Founder of ClimaCell Inc. "We are excited to be partnering with SB Energy to expand and accelerate our offering to the energy sector."



"Weather forecasts using artificial intelligence will have such a high impact that they should be called the 'weather of things,'"said Shigeki Miwa, CEO of SB Energy.

Accurate weather information is useful in many fields, including the renewable energy, agriculture, forestry and fishing industries. **SoftBank plans to establish regional joint ventures with ClimaCell to improve the profitability of these new weather forecasting services.**

Lemonade picks up \$300 million Series D led by SoftBank Group

techcrunch.com/2019/04/11

Lemonade, the insurance startup founded by Daniel Schreiber and Shai Wininger, has today announced a \$300 million Series D financing led by the SoftBank Group, with participation from Allianz, General Catalyst, GV, OurCrowd and Thrive Capital.

Lemonade uses an AI-powered bot to digitize the insurance-buying experience for renters and home owners. Users simply download the app and answer a few questions before getting a quote, which starts at \$5/month but can surely go up based on a number of factors, including how much personal property one owns.

The company has also differentiated itself from traditional insurance providers by integrating a giveback system directly into the product. Lemonade takes a fixed slice of users' monthly payment as revenue, and sets the rest aside for claims. Unclaimed premiums go to the user's charity of choice.

The company has grown significantly since launch, last year hitting \$57 million in revenue. Co-founder and CEO Schreiber says the company is on track to do \$100 million in revenue this year, and that they've sold 500,000 policies to date.

The investment is meant to help Lemonade expand beyond the U.S., with sights set on Europe as a first step. Schreiber says that the company is also looking to hire in customer support, claims, engineering and data science.

"Our biggest challenge is managing the growth," said Schreiber. "How do you create an organization that has to constantly morph? The organization we were two years ago and the one we are now have very little in common. We went from one product in one state to now thinking



about multiproduct across continents and five office locations. How do you do that without straining the system and continue to provide good, high quality service?”

This latest round of funding brings total financing for Lemonade to \$480 million

NEC, Ceragon Partner to Develop Advanced Technologies to Deliver Edge Solutions for 5G Wireless Backhaul

NEC and Ceragon Networks announced they have entered into a collaboration agreement to further expand their global wireless backhaul business footprint.

With the increased pace of 5G deployments, networks are becoming more sophisticated and complex, requiring advanced wireless backhaul solutions that resolve 5G network challenges by enhancing network intelligence and simplifying network rollouts.

The agreement calls for a development program, wherein the companies will leverage both parties' rich experience and unique capabilities in microwave and millimeter-wave communications, to develop advanced technologies which will further accelerate innovation and deliver premium cutting- edge solutions for 5G wireless backhaul.

NEC and Ceragon will each provide their own differentiated solutions based on these advanced technologies.

akihiko Kumagai, Senior EVP, NEC

NEC and Ceragon will collaborate to further develop and provide more attractive technologies for communications service providers. NEC has more than 80 years of experience in the microwave radio market, and this partnership is one part of NEC's long-term commitment to and strategy for the market.

Ira Palti, President & CEO, Ceragon Networks

The agreement will allow Ceragon to increase its market leadership by spearheading innovation that delivers elite technological advancements in the 5G wireless backhaul market, allowing service providers to stay well ahead of the curve.



VDOO raises \$32 million to secure embedded devices and the IoT

WRVI Capital and GGV Capital, with participation from NTT DOCOMO, which joined the round based on earlier successful cooperation

www.theinternetofallthings.com April 26, 2019

Tel Aviv, April 26, 2019: VDOO Connected Trust Ltd., a startup providing security automation for embedded devices, today announced it raised US \$32 million in Series B funding. This round was led by venture capital firms WRVI Capital and GGV Capital, with participation from NTT DOCOMO Ventures, which joined the round based on earlier successful cooperation, MS&AD Ventures, an affiliate of a global cyber insurance firm, and strategic individual investor Avigdor Willenz, Founder of Galileo Technologies and Annapurna Lab. 83North, Dell Technology Capital and David Strohm, who led the company's initial financing, also participated in the B round.

The funding, said a press release, will enable [VDOO](#) to increase market adoption of its Internet of Things (IoT) security platform while also expanding its technical capabilities, as the company sets its sight on becoming the industry's first end-to-end security solution for embedded devices of any type. This round brings the company's total funding to \$45M.

“At a time when embedded devices already deployed in the field not only collect data but actually control our physical environment, affecting both business operations and our personal lives, it's hard to imagine a future where all of these devices can be exploited,” said Netanel Davidi, Co-CEO and Co-Founder of VDOO. “The reality is that devices are highly vulnerable and there is a reasonable chance they will be under a massive attack in the near future. Our vision is to make them more secure as we continue to build an automated security platform that meets the demands of an increasingly connected world. Corporations, standardization bodies, regulators and cyber insurers all understand that it's time for a change and that security for the connected environment is essential. The funding will enable us to accelerate market education by working closely with these bodies to make a significant change in approach to embedded devices security.”

The funds will be used to accelerate product innovation in the form of a comprehensive set of automated analysis capabilities, including zero-day vulnerabilities detection, that enable device vendors to implement unprecedented security levels at scale, both for new and legacy devices. In



addition, the round will fuel the expansion of a rapidly growing partner and distribution network, which already includes NTT Advanced Technologies, Macnica, DNP and Fujisoft in Japan. VDOO's partners help IoT makers easily secure their devices, address their customers security expectations, and comply with emerging IoT regulatory actions and industry standards.

“Among all startups for embedded systems, VDOO is the first to introduce a unique, holistic approach focusing on the device vendors which are the focal enabler in truly securing devices,” said Lip-Bu Tan, Founding Partner of WRVI Capital, a leading international venture firm focusing on OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) of embedded systems, hardware, and software. “We are delighted to back VDOO’s technology, and the exceptional team that has created advanced tools to allow vendors to secure devices as much as possible without in-house security know-how – for the first time in many decades, I see a clear demand for security, as being raised constantly in many meetings with leading OEMs worldwide, as well as software giants.”

“VDOO brings a unique end-to-end security platform, answering the global connectivity trend and the emerging threats targeting embedded devices, to provide security as an essential enabler of extensive connected devices adoption. With its differentiated capabilities, VDOO has succeeded in acquiring global customers, including many top-tier brands. Moreover, VDOO’s ability to uncover and mitigate weaknesses created by external suppliers fits perfectly into our Supply Chain Security investment strategy,” said Glenn Solomon, Managing Partner at GGV Capital. “This funding, together with the company’s great technology, skilled entrepreneurs and one of the best teams we have seen, will allow VDOO to maintain its leadership position in IoT security and expand geographies while continuing to develop its state-of-the-art technology.”

VDOO's automation platform enables IoT manufacturers to raise the security bar in a scalable manner by implementing only device-specific security requirements which include step by step guidance to help the vendor mitigate the security threats in a cost-effective manner. The security requirements are integrated into common task management and development environments. On top of that, VDOO technology improves the device's security even more by automatically generating tailor-made on-device micro-agents for active real-time protection against known and unknown threats, including exploits that utilize advanced methods.



Audioburst Closes \$10 Million in Funding Including Investments from Dentsu and Hyundai, Announces Launch in Japan

on April 22, 2019

Audioburst announced this morning that it had closed a new \$10 million funding round that included strategic investments from Dentsu and Hyundai in addition to existing investors. The new investment brings Audioburst's total funding to \$25 million according to the announcement and reflects the third large investment over the past 13 months. In March 2018, Samsung Ventures committed \$4.6 million followed in August by \$3.1 million from Nippon Broadcasting system according to Crunchbase. Advanced Media made an earlier investment in June 2017 of \$6.7 million.

Audioburst also announced today that it will launch in Japan with Japanese language support in 2019.

MAKING AUDIO CONTENT SEARCHABLE AND ACCESSIBLE

The company transcribes, analyzes and indexes radio content in real-time along with other audio content such as podcast that were previously published. The end result is audio content that is searchable. Voicebot's Ava Mutchler [wrote](#) about the company in 2107, "[Audioburst] aims to do for audio what Google has done for web pages – make it easier to find the audio content that you are looking for. It does this by using natural language processing to understand the meaning behind audio content and index it accordingly, making it more easily accessible to search engines."

When a user asks about a particular topic, the solution will identify recent audio content from radio or podcasts that address the subject. It then delivers a short audio clip, ranging from a few seconds to a couple of minutes, enabling the user to listen to the relevant content from one or more sources. These "bursts" can be accessed individually or in a series.

HYUNDAI AND DENSTU STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Denstu and Hyundai each contributed \$5 million in funding and also have committed to partnerships to help Audioburst expand its business in automotive and with Japanese advertisers.



“For Hyundai, the \$5M investment also includes plans to accelerate the development and deployment of the next generation infotainment system with Audioburst’s personalized audio search, playlists and Deep Analysis API.”

Audioburst in January 2019 announced a partnership with [LGE](#) for an infotainment system integration which will make the company’s content searchable and accessible as a topic-driven news feed to consumers while driving. Audioburst says, “Dentsu will work closely with Audioburst to build a new market for personalized audio as an effective advertising channel for brands in Japan.” The personalized audio product enables users to create playlists of news topics they want to follow and listen to the aggregated content anytime. You can think of it as a personalized news feed for audio which provides opportunities for audio insertion ad monetization.

StoreDot and Nissan Chemical Partner to Advance Superior Colour, Environmentally-Friendly, Heavy-Metal Free Solution for TV Displays

Nissan Chemical granted a license to StoreDot's MolecuLED™ solution

Nissan Chemical to expedite the development and production of high performance in-pixel wavelength conversion coating materials

StoreDot's MolecuLED™ optimized for printing and photolithography for wide-colour gamut displays delivering superior colour experience and reduced costs

TEL AVIV, Israel, April 10, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [StoreDot Ltd](#) and [Nissan Chemical Corporation](#) today announce a development and licencing agreement of StoreDot's innovative organic MolecuLED™ technology. The agreement is aimed at delivering a new wide-colour gamut wavelength conversion technology, suitable and optimized for next generation displays based on in-pixel wavelength conversion.

Today there is no other technology in the market that is able to reach the processability, yield, cost, efficiency and performance of StoreDot's MolecuLED for in-pixel wide-colour gamut wavelength conversion. As the technology is fully organic, it inherently solves the issues of



environmental harmful and costly metals, such as Cadmium and Indium, used by competing technologies.

Nissan Chemical and StoreDot will combine their respective expertise to adopt and improve StoreDot's MolecuLED technology for in-pixel display solutions and bring MolecuLED organic technology into mass production.

"There are a number of technologies in the market but, to date, none can offer the superior performance and process ability that StoreDot's MolecuLED materials can," explains Nissan Chemical. "In this respect, StoreDot's technology is both unique and exciting. Currently, no other technology can offer the colour-conversion capability and stability of StoreDot's organic approach. With this technology, the environmental and safety issues are removed. We're looking forward to combining our expertise with StoreDot's unique approach to organic materials to bring this proprietary display technology to our customers."

"At StoreDot, we're proud of the ecosystem of strategic partners we've built across our business. This partnership combines our expertise in organic materials synthesis, with Nissan Chemical's industry prowess to turn innovative and organic molecules into display applications," comments Dr Doron Myersdorf, CEO and cofounder of StoreDot. "With Nissan Chemical, we're gaining a partner at the forefront of the display industry. As experts in materials, processes and distribution, Nissan Chemical is perfectly positioned to help expedite our MolecuLED technology development and bring it faster to market," concludes Myersdorf.

About StoreDot

[StoreDot Ltd.](#) is a battery and display materials innovation leader, developing ground-breaking technologies based on a unique methodology for the design and synthesis of both organic and inorganic compounds. Designed to replace known technologies with enhanced electro-chemical and optical properties, StoreDot's proprietary compounds, combined with nano-materials, are optimized for various applications including displays, mobile devices and electric vehicles

SCADAfence and NRI Secure Join Forces to Secure OT Networks in Japan

The partnership strengthens OT security in industrial plants and smart buildings

TEL AVIV, Israel & TOKYO, April 9, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [SCADAfence](#), the global leader in operational technology (OT) security and the most widely deployed OT security platform in Japan, and [NRI SecureTechnologies](#) (NRI Secure), a leading global cybersecurity firm, are partnering to secure manufacturing, critical infrastructure, and smart buildings in Japan. The agreement extends NRI Secure's managed IT security and security consulting services into OT security.

The growing adoption of advanced industrial IoT technologies has increased vulnerability to cyberattacks targeting industrial control systems (ICS) in industrial facilities and building management systems. Recent attacks have resulted in critical production downtime and significant financial losses. Another growing concern is the possibility of cyberattacks that exploit vulnerabilities to manipulate industrial IoT devices in smart buildings, including those for HVAC systems, access control, elevators, surveillance cameras, etc.

"We are excited about our new partnership with SCADAfence to better meet the increasing demand for OT security. Providing OT security solutions will contribute to the Digital Transformation (DX) of our customers' businesses," said Jun Odashima, CEO and President, NRI Secure.

[SCADAfence Platform](#) continuously monitors OT networks and applies industrial-specific protocol analysis and algorithms to provide visibility, risk management, and threat detection. The non-intrusive platform automatically discovers all assets in the OT environment and digitalizes asset inventory management. The platform analyzes the ongoing communications and applies various algorithms to accurately understand the communication patterns within the OT environment enabling it to detect suspicious activities and deviations that can jeopardize operational continuity.

[SCADAfence Platform](#) is the only solution on the market that supports the unique requirements of complex large-scale OT networks. By integrating SCADAfence Platform, organizations can seamlessly integrate OT security to their existing security controls and procedures.



"Combining our industrial-grade solutions with NRI Secure's leading managed security and consultancy services significantly enhances business opportunities for both of us," said Elad Ben Meir, CEO of SCADAfence. "The demand for OT security in Japan is constantly growing, and SCADAfence is proud to lead the market with our extended support that includes our Tokyo office, our powerful local partners, and the Japanese support in our platform."

About SCADAfence

[SCADAfence](#) helps companies with large-scale operational technology (OT) networks embrace the benefits of industrial IoT by reducing cyber risks and mitigating operational threats. Our non-intrusive platform provides full coverage of large-scale networks, offering best-in-class detection accuracy, asset discovery and user experience. SCADAfence seamlessly integrates OT security within existing security operations, bridging the IT/OT convergence gap. We deliver security and visibility for some of the world's most complex OT networks, including Europe's largest manufacturing facility. Thanks to SCADAfence, companies in manufacturing, building management and critical infrastructure industries can operate securely, reliably and efficiently as they go through the digital transformation journey.

About NRI SecureTechnologies (NRI Secure)

[NRI SecureTechnologies](#) is a subsidiary of Nomura Research Institute (NRI) specializing in cybersecurity, and a leading global provider of next-generation managed security services and security consulting. Established in 2000, NRI Secure is focused on delivering high-value security outcomes for our clients with the precision and efficiency that define Japanese quality.

Suntory Beer Partners with Ripples

- Apr. 14, 2019

TEL AVIV, Israel – Ripples, the innovative company behind the Ripple Maker, an ingenious device that can produce any message or image onto foam-topped beverages using natural extracts, has announced a deal with large Japanese beverage company, Suntory Beer, owners of global iconic brands. Suntory Beer has acquired 700 Ripple Maker PM units and is installing them within key certified locations including its flagship "God Foam Bar" and factories. The Ripple Maker PM will be primarily used to engage with consumers, drive consumption and ultimately promote sales of its signature beer brand – The Premium Malt's.



The certified Suntory Beer venues are known as Premium Super Master Stores and include some of the most popular restaurants around Japan. They have consistently shown their dedication to the Suntory brand and have achieved a certification of quality from the company. Suntory Beer is providing these venues and key accounts with Ripple Maker PM units, a device optimized to print on beers to provide patrons with a unique and engaging experience that will surprise and delight with messages, emojis and images drawn from Ripple's extensive media library appearing on The Premium Malt's beer's legendary superior foam.

In addition to providing in-venue support to its key partners, Suntory Beer has also installed Ripple Maker PM units at its flagship store – the God Foam Bar in Tokyo.

“Suntory Beer’s The Premium Malt’s beer is not only delicious, but it also boasts superior foam that the company has perfected, ultimately offering bars and restaurants an unexpected, yet perfect way to connect with consumers through their favorite brew,” said Yossi Meshulam, CEO of Ripples. “With 700 Ripple Maker PMs setup throughout Japan, Suntory Beer’s key customers will be able to capitalize on the phenomena of beverage-top media to engage consumers with every Suntory drink poured and sell more of their beloved brew.”

Announced last year alongside the rebranded Ripple Maker AM, which uses natural coffee extract ink to customize any foam-topped cup of coffee, Ripple Maker PM is designed to help brands increase their engagement with their customers through nighttime beverages. With the Ripple Maker PM, foam-topped beers and cocktails become blank slates for organizations to connect with patrons and can be turned into joyful, Instagramable moments using natural malt-based ink the latest 3D and inkjet printing technology.

Suntory Beer has started to rollout Ripple Maker PM units to its valued customers across Japan and will continue to setup the devices at its key customers throughout the year.

About Ripples

Ripples is a revolutionary content marketing platform that offers the Hospitality and Food & Beverages industries creative solutions to increase customer engagement. With the Ripples Ripple Maker, businesses serving foam-topped drinks create personal interactions with their customers by surprising them with messages and images that are printed directly onto their drinks. Images can be customized and branded and can be updated daily to support ongoing promotional activities, leading to positive real-time interactions, location-based social media

shares and long-term brand awareness and loyalty. The Ripple Maker includes a constantly updated content library, and businesses can add their own exclusive original content.

proteanTecs Completes Successful Series B Funding and Launches Out of Stealth Mode

Mitsubishi UFJ Capital joins Viola Ventures and Intel Capital in \$35M series B funding

HAIFA, Israel, April 1, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- proteanTecs, a start-up company that invented a groundbreaking solution for the prediction of failures in electronics, announced today that it has completed a series B financing round of \$35 million. Investors include Avigdor Willenz, Intel Capital, ITI Venture Capital Partners, **Mitsubishi UFJ Capital**, Redline Capital Management S.A., Viola Ventures, WRVI Capital, Zeev Ventures and others.

Electronics are becoming ubiquitous in every aspect of our lives, growing in scale and complexity, yet quality and reliability become harder to achieve. Failures can have a drastic impact, incurring monetary consequences, especially when service is abruptly discontinued. proteanTecs introduces Universal Chip Telemetry™, a new language of inferred measurements for chip health and performance monitoring.

"We offer a one-stop cloud-based platform, that combines data derived from proprietary Agents embedded in chips, with machine learning and data analytics," said Shai Cohen, proteanTecs' co-founder and CEO. "This significantly improves chip and system production quality, while tracking operational reliability and alerting on faults before they become failures. proteanTecs provides unprecedented insights throughout the value chain, from Chip Vendors to System Vendors and Digital Service Providers."

The company was founded by seasoned industry veterans, including three former founders of Mellanox Technologies, with deep knowledge and experience in the semiconductor industry.

Shlomo Dovrat, co-founder and General partner at Viola Ventures commented: "proteanTecs, led by an exceptional founding team, is introducing a new category, transforming the electronics industry with a novel approach to quality and reliability. As the fund who led the first round in the



company, we are proud to maintain our strong support in Round B as well, demonstrating our continued confidence in the company."

"proteanTecs is uniquely positioned to address the ever-growing need for scaling electronics", commented Lip-Bu Tan, Managing Partner of WRVI Capital and Chairman of Walden International. "Reliability and Predictive Maintenance will no longer be a boundless effort and cost, but rather an accessible, accurate and common asset, spanning across the industry."

"As chip process and assembly technologies become increasingly advanced, they also become increasingly complex," said Yair Shoham, Managing Director at Intel Capital. "proteanTecs' solution has great potential to transform how our industry achieves the essential levels of visibility, quality, reliability and predictability."

proteanTecs' solutions are already being used by a diversified range of customers. The company has secured funding of nearly \$50 million to date. The funding will be used to further accelerate the development and adoption of proteanTecs' technology.

About proteanTecs

proteanTecs develops revolutionary Universal Chip Telemetry™ for electronic systems throughout their entire lifecycle, increasing their performance and reliability. By applying machine learning to novel data created by embedded Agents, proteanTecs provides meaningful insights unattainable until today, leading to new levels of quality, reliability and scale. Founded in 2017 and led by seasoned industry veterans, the company is headquartered in Israel with offices in New Jersey and San Francisco.

Musashi Seimitsu, a Honda Motor Corporation Affiliate Company, Launches Industry-First AI-Powered Solutions and Consortium

- Apr 3, 2019

TOKYO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Apr 3, 2019--Global leader in powertrain parts manufacturing, **Musashi Seimitsu Corporation**, a **Honda Motor Corporation** affiliate company, announced today the formation of the Musashi AI consortium in collaboration with Israeli technology pioneer and founder of **Poliakine Innovation**, Ran Poliakine, and **SixEye Interactive**.

Israeli technology pioneer Ran Poliakine and Musashi President and CEO Hiroshi Otsuka announce the formation of Musashi AI to bring Industry 4.0 into reality in months versus the industry's prediction of years.

Industry 4.0 will unlock a \$4 trillion market opportunity by 2020, according to KPMG. The Musashi AI consortium has seized this market opportunity, bringing Industry 4.0 into reality in a matter of *months*, versus the industry's prediction of *years*. The new consortium convenes the brightest technological minds in the area of artificial intelligence, software engineering, hardware engineering, mathematics and physics to promote its global vision.

At this year's [AI Expo Tokyo](#), Musashi AI will demonstrate two new AI-powered prototypes enabling Smart Factory transformation:

- *Automatic Inspection System (AIS)*: Based on artificial intelligence and cutting-edge optics, the AIS is able to trace and replace people in quality control positions.
- *Fully Self-Driving Automated Forklift (FAF)*: FAF navigates on its own, performing a variety of functions that previously required human interaction, with unparalleled efficiency and safety standards aimed at preventing injuries to work staff on the warehouse floor.

Musashi AI consortium leaders believe that through AI and automation solutions, manufacturers will be able to ramp up productivity, reduce waste and forge new business models for the 21st



century, literally changing how factory employees work, collaborate, and provide customer service.

“We are at the start of the next great industrial transformation powered by artificial intelligence and the smart factory,” said Hiroshi Otsuka, president and CEO of Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd. “As we enter this new world of disruptive innovation, organizations that embrace Industry 4.0 will enjoy the rewards of greater productivity, rapid innovation, reduced costs and empowered employees. We created Musashi AI consortium to act nimbly and efficiently and to serve as a leader of this revolution. We are excited to build a vibrant new ecosystem around Industry 4.0 because this revolution requires strong partnerships amongst likeminded industry leaders.”

The benefits that artificial intelligence brings to the manufacturing industry are clear, but it takes collaboration, commitment and focus to make the promise of the Industry 4.0 revolution a reality. Musashi AI consortium is a direct result of this need and is focused on enabling the manufacturing industry to take massive leaps forward to reach the full potential that AI and the smart factory will bring to bear. The ability for machines to cooperate with humans in real time sparks innovation and creates new efficiency and agility in manufacturing processes, leading to reduced costs, larger revenues and improved customer experiences.

“Musashi AI will fundamentally reinvent Industry 4.0 and change the rules of the game,” said Ran Poliakine. “There is significant discussion about Industry 4.0, but there is a gap in leadership around the essential element to take it to the next level – the smart factory. Leaders in innovation and disruption must partner to transform the old into the bold, and the partnership between Musashi Seimitsu and Poliakine Innovation, along with SixEye Interactive, is exactly what’s needed to make Industry 4.0 a reality, bringing innovative solutions to the forefront far more quickly than previously conceived.”

In addition to the demonstrations, Musashi AI will hold a press conference and Q&A session at 2:00 p.m. at its exhibition booth, number 15-2, at AI Expo on April 3, 2019, to formally announce its launch.

About Musashi

Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd. is a global auto parts Tier1 company for automobiles and motorcycles, whose headquarters is located in Toyohashi, Japan. It has 33 manufacturing sites in 14 countries spreading across Europe, North and South America, China, and South East Asia.

Musashi specializes in designing, developing and manufacturing powertrain products such as Differential Assemblies, Planetary Gear Assemblies, Transmission Gears and Assemblies, and Reduction Gears for xEVs, which are supplied to global major OEMs and Tier1s. Linkage and suspension products are also strategic products of Musashi.

Musashi implements AI on manufacturing sites under the philosophy of "more human-friendly work" and is also working on manufacturing innovation.

Musashi is listed on the first section of Tokyo Stock Exchange (TYO: 7220).

About Poliakine Innovation

Serial entrepreneur Ran Poliakine founded successful companies like [Illumigyn](#), [Wellsense](#), [nanoX Technologies](#) and [Powermat Technologies](#), the original wireless charging solution. Mr. Poliakine is passionate about "using technology for good," and his Jerusalem-based Innovation Center brings together great technological minds in artificial intelligence, engineering, mathematics, and physics.

EarlySense to Serve as Technology Engine for Improved Sleep Projects in Japan

Sensor to be integrated into smart bed manufactured by France Bed, enhancing KDDI's "au Home" smart home suite of services

RAMAT GAN, Israel, April 18, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [EarlySense](#), the market leader in contact-free continuous monitoring solutions across the care continuum, today announced the launch of its advanced sleep sensor and sleep analysis engine into "Real Sleep," a healthy sleep service jointly developed by [KDDI Corporation](#), the second largest telecom service provider, and [NeuroSpace Inc.](#) The sensor is integrated into the [France Bed](#) LOOPER RP-5000SE mattress, and will connect to "Real Sleep," a new addition to KDDI's "au Home" suite of smart services.

This integration connects the [Real Sleep app](#) with the EarlySense sensor and sleep analysis platform, accurately measuring the user's sleep score, sleep times, sleep depth and other measures to quantitatively analyze sleep quality. Neurospace's sleep experts then use the analysis as the basis for advising users on how to improve their sleep.



"Integrating EarlySense's proprietary home sensor and analytics SDK and API's into our Real Sleep program allows us to utilize the most sensitive and accurate sensor on the market to help our users improve sleep efficiencies," said Takanori Kobayashi, CEO of NeuroSpace. "With this cutting-edge sensor, we are able to expand our personal sleep improvement programs and significantly advance their performance, helping provide personalized expert sleep advice to better resolve sleep issues.

"Simultaneously we are honored to participate in significant collaboration with EarlySense, in terms of cooperative research and development between Japan and Israel. We would like to not only improve people's sleep conditions but also play a role in enhancing sleep quality."

"We are excited to see our home sensing and analytics technology serve such a central role in new sleep improvement programs in Japan," said Yfat Scialom, VP International Sales and Marketing of EarlySense. "Sleep plays a vital role in good health and wellbeing, and we are proud to provide the core technology that can improve users' sleep processes.

"We are proud to support KDDI's goal of 'integrating telecommunications and life design ... (through) exciting new ideas ... that help support and enrich the lives of our customers through au HOME services,' as stated in the company's recent [announcement](#)."

Customers who purchase the France Bed LOOPER RP-5000SE mattress are able to utilize the embedded EarlySense sensor by purchasing the Real Sleep and "au Home" programs. The "au Home" program is available for ¥790 per month, with the additional sleep "Advice" option available for ¥300 per month.

About NeuroSpace Inc.

NeuroSpace provides Japan's largest domestic corporations with sleep-improvement programs to help promote healthy corporate management and maximize productivity. They also apply state-of-the-art technology, proprietary sleep measurement devices and analytical algorithms to joint research and development projects with sleep technology ventures.

About EarlySense

EarlySense® is the global leader in contact-free, continuous monitoring solutions for the

healthcare continuum. Used worldwide in hospitals, post-acute care facilities, and homes, EarlySense assists clinicians in early detection of patient deterioration. The solution has been proven to help prevent adverse events, including code blue events which are a result of cardiac or respiratory arrest, preventable ICU transfers, patient falls, pressure ulcers, and hospital readmissions. EarlySense's FDA-cleared solutions leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) and big data analytics to provide actionable health insights and improve clinical outcomes. The company has partnered with leading global technology companies including Hill-Rom, Philips, Welch Allyn, Mitsui and Beurer. EarlySense is based in Ramat Gan, Israel and Woburn, Massachusetts.

Via announces partnership to expand into Japan

The new partnership is hoped to help reduce congestion and mitigate emissions with new on-demand shared mobility service.

[Via](#) has announced a partnership with [ITOCHU Corporation](#) and [Mori Building Company](#). Following the [August 2018](#) launch of **HillsVia**, a commuter service for Mori employees, the new partnership will allow Via to expand its on-demand transportation solutions whilst solving transit issues across Japan.

Daniel Ramot, Co-Founder and CEO of Via, said: "We are delighted for ITOCHU and Mori Building to join us as strategic partners and investors. ITOCHU's vision to transform mobility infrastructure and Mori Building's record in innovating urban living make both companies invaluable partners as we work to provide mobility solutions that are smart, efficient, and help to reduce congestion and emissions in Japan."

Via can integrate with existing fixed-route transportation infrastructure, helping to fill in gaps where existing transit isn't easily accessible. Via's technology efficiently works to aggregate multiple passengers into shared vehicles, reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips, thus improving traffic congestion and curtailing carbon emissions. The easy-to-use mobile interface is suited to riders of all ages.

As one of the country's largest general trading companies, ITOCHU understands investing in transformative technologies like Via that will both innovate transportation and solve local governments' most pressing issues. Via's technology and operational experience is uniquely suited to the Japanese market.



Shunsuke Noda, ITOCHU Chief Digital & Information Officer, said: "We are excited to partner with Via to support a more convenient transportation system in Japan. We believe that Via's cutting-edge solution will be widely accepted in the Japanese market through strategic partnerships with existing transportation operators."

Masahiko Ogasawara, a Director & Executive Managing Officer for Mori Building, said: "Via's solution will contribute to solving the problems of urban transportation such as traffic congestion and environmental pollution. This service will improve city life by increasing transportation options in urban areas."

Sony CEO visits Israel development center

- en.globes.co.il - on April 14, 2019

Sony president and CEO Kenichiro Yoshida arrived in Israel yesterday for a visit, sources inform "Globes." During his stay in Israel, Yoshida will visit Sony's development center, based on Altair Semiconductor, acquired by Sony in 2016 for \$212 million in its second deal in Israel, following the acquisition of startup Advasense five years earlier.

In Israel, Yoshida will also meet with a limited number of startups, probably in image processing and gaming. Altair confirmed the report, saying, "It is a private working visit." Sony is a large Japanese corporation listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange at a \$60 billion market cap. The company is a global leader in photography and video game consoles. Yoshida, 59, was appointed to his position a year ago to replace Kazuo Hirai, who became Sony's chairperson. In his previous position as Sony's CFO, Yoshida led structural changes at Sony. He streamlined the company's activity, cut jobs, sold Sony's PC division, split off other activity, etc.

Yoshida began working at Sony 30 years ago, and spent a large part of his time at the company outside of its core electronics activity. According to the Fortune website, one month after becoming CFO, Yoshida criticized his predecessor as CFO for not taking steps to change Sony in accordance with changes in the electronics industry.

Altair began in 2005 as a developer of WiMAX technology for 4G mobile communications. Among other things, the company currently specializes in developing 4G-based Internet of Things (IoT) wireless chips - energy saving communications chips designed to connected electronic devices to a wireless network. These devices include wearable sports and health computers, smart watches, vehicle measuring and monitoring devices, etc.



The company's founders were CEO Oded Melamed, CTO Yigal Bitran, and Eran Eshed. The company's headquarters and R&D center are located in Hod Hasharon. It has 330 employees, compared with 2000 when it was sold to Sony. Sony also operates an investment fund from Altair's offices that looks for startups in Sony's fields of interest for acquisition.

Emendo Biotherapeutics Enters Into Licensing Option Agreement With Takeda for its OMNI Nuclease Program

NEW YORK, April 24, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- **Emendo Biotherapeutics Inc** today announced that the company signed a licensing option agreement with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited. As part of the transaction, Emendo will receive an investment in convertible notes from Takeda Ventures, Inc., the corporate venture arm of Takeda. The funds will be used to further advance Emendo's novel nuclease gene editing discovery platform and proprietary product development programs.

The licensing option agreement grants Takeda the option to use OMNI, Emendo's proprietary nuclease program, to edit two genes as part of its research and development efforts. Further, Emendo will apply its novel gene editing engineering platform to optimize the OMNI nuclease to have the highest specificity and activity on Takeda's chosen genes.

"Extending our investment in Emendo and licensing its nuclease discovery platform and gene editing technology is another example of Takeda's commitment to investing in transformative advances in science via mutually advantageous partnerships," said Takeda Ventures Senior Partner Rob Woodman.

The notes will be converted in Emendo's planned B round financing intended to allow the company to advance its high precision gene editing biotherapies into initial clinical trials. Emendo is moving several preclinical programs through optimization, in preparation for moving towards the clinic in a number of promising clinical indications.

Emendo's gene editing program, OMNI, enables extremely specific gene editing which minimizes off target cuts and allows for highly focused therapeutic intervention in complex genetic diseases.

Emendo's CEO, David Baram, says "We're pleased to be working with an innovative global pharmaceutical leader such as Takeda. This agreement further positions Emendo as a leading,



next-generation, high-precision, gene editing company and promotes its allele specific editing programs that can potentially cure severe genetic disorders."

About Emendo

Emendo is a genome editing company developing genetic medicines and cell therapies for severe diseases. Emendo's cutting-edge technology is based on its proprietary protein engineering and selection platforms, designed to generate ultra-specific and highly active CRISPR OMNI nucleases, carefully optimized per target sequence for generating safe and effective genetic solution. Emendo was established in 2015 with investments by OrbiMed Advisors LLP And Takeda Ventures, Inc. the corporate venture arm of Takeda Pharmaceuticals Limited.

JAPAN – RECRUIT INVESTS IN BLOCKCHAIN START-UP COTI

www2.staffingindustry.com

Japan-based Recruit Co., Ltd., an intermediate holding company of Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd., announced that it invested in Israel-based blockchain start-up Coti Holdings Limited.

The investment was made via Recruit's investment arm Recruit Strategic Partners Blockchain Tech Fund with an investment limit of USD 250,000.

Coti, founded in 2017, provides next-generation blockchain using the cryptocurrency technology DAG (directed acyclic graph). It focuses on the development of blockchain-based payment technology and application.

Through its investment, Recruit said it aims to improve the service quality of Coti, as well as to support the expansion of its user base.

"The next-generation blockchain technology developed and provided by Coti is unique for the way in which blocks of transaction information are clustered into chains as well as the system's scalability as the number of blockchain users increases," Recruit said in a statement. "With a dramatically faster transaction processing speed than conventional blockchain technology, Coti's technology is able to service the processing needs of everyday payments. Furthermore,



the transaction history tool developed by Coti allows one to automatically detect payments to potentially suspicious accounts.”

Mobilicom gets \$200K order from NTT Japan

To support the Japanese Self Defence Forces in disaster relief initiatives

www.arnnet.com.au/ 29 /04/2019

The Australian arm of Israel-headquartered communications equipment vendor **Mobilicom** has signed a \$200,000 deal with **NTT Japan** for its **MCU products**.

Mobilicom will provide kits including ten MCU to serve the Japanese Self Defence Forces (SDF) for disaster relief initiatives.

The solution allows NTT to perform a quick deployment in challenging environments enabling broadband video and data sharing for first responders and homeland security operations. It can be deployed within vehicles, mobile command posts, trees and masts to enable private secured communications.

Mobilicom expects this to be the first of many contracts since SDF combines ground, naval and air divisions, with each division having a presence across each of the cities and prefectures in Japan.

"Following a rigorous testing and demonstration process with NTT, it is an exciting achievement for us to be selling these kit solutions to NTT for its ongoing initiative with the SDF," said Mobilicom CEO Oren Elkayam.

"We are embarking on an effort to extend this across the various SDF units throughout Japan, and therefore multiply sales of these kits as an ongoing business."

Mobilicom listed on the Australian Securities Exchange in May 2017. It designs, develops and delivers communication solutions for mission-critical and remote mobile private networks that can operate without the need for existing infrastructure.



It has two business entities; the first is Mobilicom that provides solutions to mission-critical communication in the government and enterprise sector with applications in unmanned platforms, disaster relief and public safety, and offshore and remote areas. The second is SkyHopper business entity, an end-to-end equipment and solution provider, which targets the commercial drone and robotics sector.

Two New Chabad Centers Open in Japan in Time for Passover

by **Mussi Sharfstein** - Japan

APRIL 4, 2019

Two new Chabad centers opened in Japan, just in time for Passover this year, bringing the total in the country up to four. Rabbi **Shalom Duber** and **Rachel Vaisfiche** moved to [Takayama](#) from Israel, and Rabbi **Dovid** and **Chaya Mushka Posner** with their toddler, **Mendel**, moved to [Kyoto](#) from the U.S. Both centers, like many others in Asia, will be dedicated to serving Japan's Jewish travelers, mostly young Israeli backpackers.

"The number of visitors to Japan has been increasing dramatically," says Chabad's regional director, Rabbi **Mendi Sudakevitch** of Tokyo. Last year, the country attracted 30 million visitors "and we're excited to reach more of them." He and his wife, **Chana**, assisted the couples in finding spaces to host the upcoming Seders, which are each expected to attract around 150 participants.

Kyoto

Kyoto, once the capital city of Japan, is the number one tourist destination in the country and considered the heart of Japanese culture. The city is less than an hour away from the larger Jewish community in Kobe. Rabbi Posner, a California native, brings with him the skill of kosher slaughter, making it much easier to procure kosher meat in Japan. They're not new to this way of life: the rabbi and his wife, who is from Venezuela, are children of Chabad emissaries.

Takayama

The village of Takayama, in the Gifu Prefecture and Japan Alps, is smaller than Kyoto and very welcoming, with signs posted in many languages including Hebrew. Though Rabbi Vaisfiche doesn't know of any Jew living there permanently, he estimates 40,000 Jewish travelers visit the



area, with more coming each year. The center is opening at the behest of the city council. "We've arranged for visiting rabbis to direct holiday programming in Takayama in the past," says Sudakevitch, "but the community, including the town's city council and mayor, who isn't Jewish, recognized the need for a permanent center and turned to us requesting and encouraging the opening of one."

By working with young travelers away from their homes and families and in a foreign country, Vaisfiche aims to provide for their material needs just as much as their Jewish needs. "Helping a Jew out materially is really a spiritual task. Our home will be open to all, and we hope that by welcoming travelers for a hot meal and some company, we can also introduce them to Judaism."

Japan OKs plan to send SDF officers to peacekeeping mission in Sinai

[KYODO NEWS](#) – 2 APRIL 2019|

The Japanese government on Tuesday approved sending two Self-Defense Forces officers to a multinational peacekeeping force in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula later this month, in what would be the first dispatch of SDF personnel to an overseas mission not under the command of the United Nations.

Japan will dispatch two Ground Self-Defense Force officers to the command of the Multinational Force and Observers, which is tasked with monitoring the cease-fire between Israel and Egypt on the peninsula, between April 19 and Nov. 30 at the MFO's request.

he dispatch will "expand the scope of our country's international contributions," said Defense Minister Takeshi Iwaya. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga separately told reporters that sending the GSDF officers to the peacekeeping force "will further contribute to peace and stability in the Middle East."

The MFO -- in charge of supervising the implementation of the 1979 peace treaty between Egypt and Israel after the Arab-Israeli War -- has been operating since 1982 on the peninsula, with Japan providing financial support since 1988.

The two GSDF members will be given liaison and coordination duties in going between the Israeli and Egyptian forces and possess guns and rifles at the MFO's request.

The government gave the go-ahead after Kentaro Sonoura, a special advisor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and Parliamentary Vice Defense Minister Takako Suzuki visited the site and judged that the plan meets Tokyo's requirements for sending SDF members abroad on a peacekeeping operation.

Japan's new security law that came into effect in 2016 loosened the constraints under the postwar pacifist Constitution and allows SDF participation in overseas peacekeeping operations even if they are not under the control of the United Nations

May

El Al Launching Tel Aviv to Tokyo Route

MAY 29, 2019 11:22 AM

Israeli airliner El Al has announced that it will launch its first ever direct flights between Narita Airport near Tokyo and Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport.

El Al Israel Airlines says it will operate three round trips a week from March 2020 connecting the two cities. The flight time will be about 12.5 hours.

“The importance of a direct air link between countries is basic, it brings the countries closer together and will enable bringing an increasing number of tourists to Israel, which is important, and also increase the number of investors who will arrive,” said Yaffa Ben-Ari, Israel’s ambassador in Tokyo, in a telephone interview with the [Jerusalem Post](#)

In January, [Calcalist reported](#) a plan to start operating direct flights between the countries, outlined during the visit of Hiroshige Sekō, the Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry, to Israel.

Trade between Israel and Japan, not including diamonds, amounted to \$3.5 billion in 2018, according to the Israeli Export Institute, a 31 percent increase from 2017. Imports from Japan totaled around \$2.35 billion, while exports from Israel to Japan reached \$1.16 billion, a steep increase from the past decade, which stood at an annual \$700 million-\$800 million. Overall, Japan is the 10th largest importer of Israeli goods in terms of annual turnover, according to the Israeli Export Institute.

Japan Airlines is also interested in establishing a direct line to Israel, Yuki Saito, a director at the company, said in a January interview with [Calcalist](#). The line is likely to also take off from Tokyo’s Narita airport if established, he added.

Sun d’Or, an El Al subsidiary, is launching four charter flights connecting Narita Airport and Ben Gurion after September 13



The announcement comes as the two countries increase exchange of goods and services. Bilateral trade rose 30 percent over the past five years to about 3.7 billion dollars.

More than 20,000 people in Japan visited Israel last year as the country has grown to become a hub for high tech companies.40,000, mainly tourists, came to Japan from Israel during the same period.

Ei Ai told NHK that it hopes the direct flights will encourage more people to travel and help build stronger bilateral ties based on trade and tourism.

Mitsubishi Opens Israeli Innovation Outpost

Already operational, the new center will help Mitsubishi scout for Israeli startups in the domains of automotive and smart mobility

Meir Orbach10:4327.05.19

Mitsubishi Corporation has recently opened an innovation center in Tel Aviv, the company announced Monday. Already operational, the center will help the Japanese corporation scout for Israeli companies and technologies in Mitsubishi's core areas of interest, including automotive and smart mobility.

The digital revolution necessitates the tapping of new innovative technologies, and partnerships with Israeli startups could hold the key for Mitsubishi's future growth, said in a statement Takashi Kai, head of the new center.

Until now, Mitsubishi's presence in Israel was limited to trade-related operations. The corporation is the third Japanese general trade company to set up a local development center, after the Mitsui Group and the Marubeni Corporation. Japanese multinational the Hitachi Group also has a center in Israel.

Mitsubishi, Japan's largest trading company, operates in seven segments including financial services and banking, energy, metal, chemicals, machinery, and food. The corporation has around 70,000 employees globally, and around 1,400 subsidiaries and related companies.



Through its Mitsubishi Motors arm, the corporation also has a strategic alliance with Renault–Nissan, which already has an innovation center in Israel.

Over the past two years, Mitsubishi has broadened its reach in Israel, looking into potential collaborations with the assistance of the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry's economic and trade mission in Japan. The corporation has understood that if it wants to connect to Israeli innovation, it needs to expand its representation in Israel, mission head Noa Asher said in an interview with Calcalist

OMRON VENTURES Joins Theranica's Series B Funding Round as Strategic Investor

Strategic investment signals positive response of healthcare community to Theranica's new approach to migraine management

NETANYA, Israel, May 13, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Theranica today announced OMRON VENTURES has joined its \$35 million series B funding round. OMRON VENTURES has committed to providing key insight and support to Theranica as the remote electrical neuromodulation startup continues to develop its unique approach to acute treatment of migraine.

Theranica's series B funding round announced two months ago was led by aMoon, and included all previous investors of the company – Lightspeed Venture Partners, LionBird, Corundum Open Innovation and Takoa. The new funds will allow Theranica to mass produce its product, Nerivio Migra®, the company's remote electrical neuromodulation device for acute treatment of migraine, and, subject to FDA clearance, to launch the product, initially in the USA.

"Being the world's leading manufacturer and distributor of personal health and wellness products, we are excited to partner with a company that shares OMRON HEALTHCARE's mission of improving people's health at home through science and technology," said Tomoko Inoue, CEO of OMRON VENTURES. "Theranica's forward-thinking approach of investing in science, building strong physician-community relationships and developing health products that center around the patients and their ability to improve their own well-being is the right model for today and the future."



Theranica is a medical device company that combines advanced neuromodulation therapy with modern wireless technology to develop proprietary electroceuticals that address prevalent medical conditions and diseases. The company's first low-cost, low side effect wearable, the Nerivio Migra® addresses migraines and is currently under review of the FDA.

"OMRON is a pioneer in innovative home medical equipment and therapeutic devices, and the recognition and commitment expressed by the decision of Ms. Inoue and her team to make this strategic investment is highly valued and appreciated by Theranica," said Alon Ironi, CEO and co-founder of Theranica. "OMRON HEALTHCARE has been a champion in enabling consumers to improve their health using convenient, affordable, easy to use health products. Aside from the financial resources OMRON VENTURES is committing to Theranica, we look forward to learning from such a healthcare market leader."

About Theranica

Theranica is a medical device company, founded in 2016 by Alon Ironi, Ronen Jashek, Rotislav (Slava) Barabash and Dr. Shimon Eckhouse, with the vision of combining advanced neuromodulation therapy with modern wireless technology to develop proprietary electroceuticals that address prevalent medical conditions and diseases.

Foresight Signs Exclusive Distribution Agreement in Japan

Cornes Technologies, a leading Japanese trading house, will promote and distribute Foresight's advanced vision technologies in the Japanese market

May 14, 2019 02:00

NESS ZIONA, Israel--(BUSINESS WIRE)--**Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd.** (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), an innovator in automotive vision systems, announced today the signing of a distribution agreement with **Cornes Technologies**, a leading Japanese trading house. According to the agreement, Cornes Technologies will have exclusive rights to promote and sell Foresight's QuadSight™ system in Japan. Cornes Technologies, a renowned trading company, plays a significant role in establishing and developing commercial links and trade between Japan and the rest of the world.



The distribution agreement was signed following a successful technology roadshow in Japan carried out by Foresight with the assistance of Cornes Technologies. The roadshow, completed a few weeks ago, consisted of conducting real time live demonstrations of the QuadSight system to six interested leading OEMs and Tier One suppliers. Different scenarios were tested, simulating obstacle detection in harsh weather and lighting conditions. The outstanding performance of the QuadSight system was well received, and several OEMs and Tier One suppliers have expressed interest in purchasing prototype systems for further evaluation over the next few months.

“According to OICA (International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers), Japan is the world’s third largest vehicle manufacturer, with more than 9.69 million passenger cars and commercial vehicles produced in 2017, out of 97.3 million units produced globally,” stated Doron Cohadier, Foresight’s VP of Business Development. “The Japanese automotive industry is one of the most prominent and innovative industries in the world, making it a suitable target market for Foresight’s breakthrough QuadSight vision system.”

About QuadSight™

QuadSight, Foresight’s four-camera vision system, offers exceptional obstacle detection for semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicle safety. Through sensor fusion, QuadSight leverages reflected light from visible-light cameras with thermal energy captured by long-wave infrared cameras for robust accurate object detection of any shape, form or material, in all weather and lighting conditions - including complete darkness, rain, haze, fog and glare. By adapting field-proven security technology that has been deployed for almost two decades, QuadSight offers autonomous vehicles perception capabilities beyond those of human eyes and reduces the likelihood of accidents and injuries.

About Foresight

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), founded in 2015, is a technology company engaged in the design, development and commercialization of sensor systems for the automotive industry. Through our wholly owned subsidiaries, Foresight Automotive Ltd. and Eye-Net Mobile Ltd., we develop both “in-line-of-sight” vision systems and “beyond-line-of-sight” cellular-based applications. Foresight’s vision sensor is a four-camera system based on 3D video analysis, advanced algorithms for image processing, and sensor fusion. Eye-Net Mobile’s cellular-based application is a V2X (vehicle-to-everything) accident prevention solution based on real-time spatial analysis of clients’ movement.



The company's systems are designed to improve driving safety by enabling highly accurate and reliable threat detection while ensuring the lowest rates of false alerts, and are targeting the semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicle markets. The company predicts that its systems will revolutionize automotive safety by providing an automotive-grade, cost-effective platform and advanced technology.

Nintendo to Open its Second Retail Store in Israel After NYC

13th May 2019 /www.cyberockk.com

Last month Nintendo launched its official online store in Israel to bring its popular Nintendo Switch consoles, games, and other products to its customers in the region. Now it seems that Nintendo is going to launch its second official retail store in Israel in Dizengoff Center mall in Tel Aviv next month.

The new store in Israel will be Nintendo's only second store in the world after Nintendo launched its first retail store last month in New York at the Rockefeller Center. Notably, Nintendo has also announced to open its retail store in Tokyo Japan this Fall.

According to the several reports, the official Nintendo store will be opened in Israel at the Dizengoff Center in Tel Aviv in June 2019, offering Nintendo game consoles, games, 3DS/2DS systems and other official products.

The second Nintendo store is said to take up 150 meters of space and is slated to open in June next month. The store is supposed to become a kind of meeting place for gamers and Nintendo fans.

Israel fund to up to buy 30% of Cellebrite from Japan's Sun Corporation -report

JERUSALEM, May 29 (Reuters) - The Israel Growth Partners (IGP) fund signed a deal to buy 25-30 percent of Cellebrite, an Israeli maker of mobile forensics technologies, from Japan's Sun Corp, according to a report published on Wednesday.

IGP will pay \$150 million for the stake in Cellebrite at a company valuation of \$600 million, the Calcalist financial

IGP declined to comment, while Cellebrite, which specializes in forensics and extraction of data from mobile devices, was not immediately available for comment.

Calcalist said IGP received an option to buy the remaining shares from Sun and that the deal is expected to close in the next three weeks.

Nano Dimension Enters Japanese Market with Sale of Award-Winning DragonFly Pro 3D Printer to one of Japan's Largest PCB Manufacturers.

CMK Corporation to leverage Nano Dimension additive manufacturing technology to accelerate development in electronics sector.

NESS ZIONA, Israel, May 7, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- **Nano Dimension Ltd., a leading additive electronics provider (NASDAQ, TASE: NNDM)**, today announced its entry into the Japanese market with the sale of the award-winning DragonFly™ Pro 3D printing platform to CMK Corporation in Tokyo, one of Japan's largest printed circuit board (PCB) manufacturers.

CMK will use the DragonFly Pro multi-material additive manufacturing system for faster prototyping cycles of printed wiring boards (PWB) during early development stage, and use it to take new various suggestions of PWB shapes or layer structures to their customers. CMK believes that their development products can be completed earlier using this 3D printing machine for PWB.

The DragonFly Pro system is currently the only one-stop solution for additive manufacturing of electronics. It enables designers to move rapidly from concept and design validation to production of precision electronic components, providing efficiency and cost savings, keeping the entire process securely in-house, with the final product ready in a matter of hours -- a current industry record.

With more than 50 years of experience in manufacturing PWBs, CMK derives about 70% of its sales from automotive electronics -- from circuit prototypes for car accessories, to highly complex electronic control systems, engine management systems and applications for autonomous vehicles essential in the era of connected cars.



The Japanese automotive industry has been the dominant force in global automotive manufacturing and innovation for decades. According to recent market reports^[1], the Asia-Pacific market is the largest regional market for automotive PCBs. The Asia-Pacific region comprises emerging economies such as China and India along with developed economies such as Japan and South Korea. The rapid adoption of advanced automotive electronics, growing consumer purchasing power, and consumer expectations for safety features are the key factors driving the automotive PCB market in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We are thrilled to expand into the innovative Japanese electronics market and look forward to working directly with CMK, a global leader in electronics and PCB technologies," said Gilad Reshef, APAC director at Nano Dimension. "Our experts have the capability and know-how for PCB technologies and accelerate the development of precision additive manufacturing for electronics." "We are the only company capable to provide this type of in-house manufacturing process, so printed electronics can offer a wide design and manufacturing freedom."

About Nano Dimension Ltd.

Nano Dimension (Nasdaq, TASE: NNDM) is a leading electronics provider that is disrupting, reshaping, and defining the future of how cognitive connected products are made. With its unique 3D printing technologies, Nano Dimension is targeting the growing demand for electronic devices that require increasingly sophisticated features. Demand for circuitry, including PCBs - which are the heart of every electronic device - covers a diverse range of industries, including consumer electronics, medical devices, defense, aerospace, automotive, IoT and telecom. These sectors can all benefit greatly from Nano Dimension's products and services for rapid prototyping and short-run manufacturing

Tokyo-Listed Insurance Company MS&AD Partners With SOSA, FinTLV

Tel Aviv and New York-based SOSA is an investor network and corporate innovation hub

Adi Pick08:3621.05.19

Tokyo-listed MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings is partnering with Tel Aviv and New York-based innovation hub SOSA and with FinTLV, an insurtech and fintech-focused venture capital firm, SOSA announced Monday. As part of the partnership, SOSA and FinTLV will connect MS&AD with their network of startups and companies for possible investments, SOSA said.

Founded in Israel in 2014, SOSA operates as an investor network and corporate innovation hub.

MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings, Inc. engages in the management of its group companies which are in the insurance business. Its operations are carried out through the following segments: Domestic Non-Life Insurance Business, Domestic Life Insurance Business, International Business, and Others. The Domestic Non-Life Insurance Business segment provides property and casualty insurance services such as fire, marine, accident, and automobile liability insurances. The Domestic Life Insurance Business segment offers private insurance, private pension, group insurance, and other life insurance products. The International Business segment deals with life and non-life insurance products in foreign countries. The Others segment includes financial and risk-related services. The company was founded on April 1, 2008 and is headquartered in Tokyo, Japan.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

MAR 2019	USD
Revenue	48,628.70M
Operating income	1,496.86M
Income before tax	2,523.49M
Net income	1,737.73M
Diluted EPS	2.96
Dividends Per Share	1.26
Total Assets	208,994.35M
Total liabilities	183,895.64M
Total equity	24,857.06M
Operating cash flow	7,004.16M



Murata's AI Technology Creates a Calm and Comfortable Workplace Environment

Murata Introduces KENKO Technology an Innovative AI Emotion Monitoring Solution

Murata and startup company The Elegant Monkeys ('TEM', Tel Aviv, Israel) have teamed up with Mizuho Information & Research Institute ('MHIR' Tokyo, Japan) to provide the Japanese market with an innovative solution for generating corporate improvement and optimization processes by using human emotions data to improve employment environments, employee satisfaction, wellbeing, and profitability.

Hoofddorp, Netherlands: Murata has announced that KENKO technology, an exciting, innovative AI emotion monitoring solution created in a joint development between Murata and TEM is being rolled out to the Japanese market.

KENKO is a cloud-based AI technology that integrates with different kinds of biometric sensors embedded in wearables and other IoT products. The technology is laying the foundation for the next generation of artificial intelligence – artificial emotions. Synergizing unique sensing methods with software learning capabilities creates intelligent mapping of the human emotional spectrum for a wide variety of user cases.

"With modern workplace culture becoming increasingly stressful, adding a new layer of mental-based analysis is already of essence", said Michinori (Mitch) Nozaki, General Manager, Business Innovation and Incubation at Murata Europe.

Murata and start up company The Elegant Monkeys ('TEM', Tel Aviv, Israel) have teamed up with Mizuho Information & Research Institute ('MHIR' Tokyo, Japan) to provide the Japanese market with an innovative solution for generating corporate improvement and optimization processes by using human emotions data to improve employment environments, employee satisfaction, wellbeing, and profitability.

Healthcare systems in Japan and worldwide are facing huge challenges. Healthcare expenditure has become higher than ever and is growing each year. In parallel, many modern workplaces are intensive and complicated environments to manage. They are facing challenges in terms of



employee satisfaction, productivity, wellbeing and more. The current structure causes market inefficiency that has been acknowledged to be unsustainable in the long run.

Said Shiyo TAKEOKA, consultant at MHIR, "While it was possible to obtain biometric data from wearable devices, meaningful analysis was difficult. KENKO Technology converts data into meaningful information such as emotions and stress".

In order to deliver an optimal end-to-end solution, each company will provide its own unique experience, know-how and technology. The complete solution includes hardware wearable product for vital sign data collection; Cloud-based AI for processing the vital signs data into objective emotional load measurement; and a consulting service in HR and management fields to extract insights and generate improvement on the customer side.

About Murata

Murata is a leading manufacturer of electronic components, modules, and devices. The complete range includes ceramic capacitors, resistors/thermistors, inductors/chokes, timing devices, buzzers, sensors and EMI suppression filters. Whilst the company is known as a global ceramic capacitor manufacturer, it is also a world leader in Bluetooth® & WiFi™ Modules, board-mount DC-DC converters and is a key manufacturer of standard and custom AC-DC power supplies.

Established in 1944, Murata is headquartered in Japan and has European offices in Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland and the UK

ACCESS and BreezoMeter Collaborate on Real-Time Provision of Air Quality and Pollen Data Linked to Running Location Information

ACCESS

May 21, 2019

ACCESS Co., Ltd. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Kiyoshi Oishi, hereinafter referred to as ACCESS) today offers BreezoMeter (Head office: Israel, providing air quality and pollen data all over the world in conjunction with location information) ·

We announced the collaboration with Haifa Through collaboration, ACCESS will provide BreezoMeter's air quality and pollen data service as a function of ACCESS's automotive multimedia content sharing solution "ACCESS's Twine (TM) for Car (Twine 4 Car)." By using this

integrated solution, automakers can create highly accurate air quality data and real-time pollen data linked to location information while driving. It will be able to offer, allowing drivers and passengers to choose healthier routes and destinations.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 91% of the world's population live in places where air pollution extends beyond the limits of the guidelines (<https://www.who.int/airpollution/en/>). This collaboration addresses the concern over air pollution, especially in urban areas, where there are a large number of vehicles that are a major contributor to air pollution. While reducing air pollution is essential for long-term health promotion and environmental improvement, ACCESS and BreezoMeter should incorporate location-linked air quality data into an on-board infotainment system where consumers routinely use it. In addition to the shortest distance route etc., we believe it will be possible to provide a healthier route.

Twine4Car is an ACCESS proprietary solution that integrates connected entertainment with high value-added services. BreezoMeter's data service, meanwhile, is an air pollution and pollen solution that allows you to control the air that people breathe at home, at work, and on the go. Adopting "Twine 4 Car" with this BreezoMeter data service implemented, automakers will use heat maps and forecasts of pollution information and pollen scattering data in the air linked to location information, and pollutants specialized in the area. It is possible to provide information etc. "Access and BreezoMeter are aware of the dangers that drivers and passengers will be exposed to high levels of air pollution while driving

company CEO and co-founder Ran Korber said ". The solution provided through collaborations allows drivers to control their driving environment and reduce their exposure to harmful pollutants that exist in the open air, thus protecting their own and their passengers' health. ". "Air quality is an important topic in international health debates

," said Dr. Neale Foster, chief executive officer of ACCESS Europe . Together, ACCESS and BreezoMeter will help drivers around the world travel and travel in a healthier driving environment. "

ACCESS's solutions provide connected entertainment for cars, smartphones, tablets, game consoles and more, and are installed in over 1.5 billion devices worldwide. ACCESS works with major providers, program production companies, broadcasters, content rights owners, consultants, lawyers, copyright management companies, DRM technology providers, infrastructure companies, etc . to realize the next generation attractive car service We will support you.

■ About ACCESS

ACCESS (TSE Mothers: 4813), established in 1984, is an independent software company with a focus on mobile and network software technologies for telecommunications, consumer electronics, automotive, broadcasting, publishing and energy infrastructure industries around the world. Provides IT solutions for Cumulative loading experience Development and business of IoT solution that integrates embedded and cloud technology, making use of development power and know-how in mobile software that exceeds 1.5 billion units and network software that has been adopted to more than 300 communication equipment manufacturers. We are focusing on We are also promoting international expansion with subsidiaries in Asia, the US and Europe.

Techsomed Secures \$2.6M for Groundbreaking Real-time Predictive Imaging System for Thermal Ablation

Axil Capital (Japan) and SCREEN Holdings (Japan) join J&J in Investment

REHOVOT, Israel, May 29, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Techsomed, developer of **BioTrace™**, the world's first image analysis system for predicting post-treatment ablation morphology in real time, has secured \$2.6M for further development towards obtaining FDA, PMDA, and CE regulatory approval.

The financing round was led by Johnson & Johnson Innovation – **JJDC, Inc., with participation from existing and new investors: SCREEN Holdings (Japan), AMIT-Technion (the Alfred Mann Institute), NextLeap Ventures, and Axil Capital (Japan).**

TRANSFORMING THERMAL ABLATION

Despite being the MIS modality of choice for indications such as cancerous solid tumors, heart arrhythmia, and chronic pain management, thermal ablation's biggest hurdle to date is the inability to visualize and control actual tissue damage morphology in real time.

Using advanced proprietary AI and image analysis, Techsomed's BioTrace™ system integrates with standard ultrasound devices to track the target tissue's unique biological signature as it responds to heat during thermal ablation. This signature is used to visually simulate the post 24-hour thermal effect in real-time, thus enhancing the surgeon's level of control and accuracy during the procedure.



The system transforms thermal ablation therapies from guesswork into precise, real-time, feedback-dependent treatments that minimize healthy tissue damage and maximize target tissue ablation, resulting in higher efficacy and lower recurrence rates.

According to Fred Shane, Managing Partner of Axil Capital, "This investment signals our full confidence in Techsomed's technology and abilities going forward. The BioTrace™ system targets and addresses an essential clinical need. We believe that overcoming surgical limitations through real-time predictive imaging will become the new standard of care, making thermal ablation safer and more effective."

Says Techsomed founder and CEO Yossi Abu: "Techsomed's BioTrace™ system was designed to empower surgeons to fully realize the potential in thermal ablation therapies by reducing potential complications. This latest round of financing will further empower us to develop and commercialize this critical technology."

About Techsomed: Techsomed, a privately-held biotech company with headquarters in Israel, develops ultrasound-based real-time monitoring systems for thermal ablation procedures. Following the recent investment, TechsoMed will open a subsidiary in Japan, targeting commercialization in the Japanese and other Asian markets

Ayala Pharmaceuticals Raises \$30 Million in Series B Financing

SBI JI Fund co invest with Novartis

Ayala Pharmaceuticals announced the successful completion of a \$30 million Series B financing. The investment was led by Novartis with participation from SBI JI Innovation Fund and all existing investors, including Israel Biotech Fund, aMoon and Harel Insurance & Finance Group. The new capital will fuel Ayala's plans to advance the clinical development of lead product candidate AL101, a pan-Notch inhibitor that is currently being evaluated for adenoid cystic carcinoma (ACC). The company intends to advance the phase 2 study in ACC and initiate a phase 2 clinical trial in triple negative breast cancer (TNBC).

Ayala Pharmaceuticals is broadly developing its product candidates, AL101 and AL102, best-in-class gamma secretase inhibitors, with studies underway in solid tumors (AL101) and in hematologic malignancies (AL102) and in collaboration with Novartis in multiple myeloma. The U.S. FDA's Office of Orphan Products Development recently granted Orphan Drug Designation to AL101 for the potential treatment of ACC.



As a precision oncology company, Rehovot's [Ayala Pharmaceuticals](#) was founded in November 2017 with an experienced global management team and a strong investor base. Ayala is today a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company dedicated to developing targeted cancer therapies for people living with genetically defined cancers. Ayala is broadly developing its product candidates, AL101 and AL102, best-in-class gamma secretase inhibitors, with clinical and preclinical studies underway in both solid tumors (AL101) and hematologic malignanc

RADCOM Selected by Rakuten Mobile to Assure the World's First Fully Virtualized Cloud-Native Mobile Network

TEL AVIV, Israel, May 28, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- **RADCOM Ltd** (NASDAQ: [RDCM](#)), today announced it has entered into a multi-year agreement with Rakuten Mobile, Inc. to provide RADCOM's Network Intelligence solution for Rakuten Mobile's unique and innovative mobile network which is planned to be launched in October this year. The new mobile network will be the world's first fully virtualized, end-to-end cloud-native mobile network that adopts 5G systems architecture from launch. Rakuten Mobile chose RADCOM Network Intelligence because of its ability to monitor the entire end-to-end network, including the world's first fully virtualized radio access network (RAN). RADCOM Network Intelligence will be tightly integrated across Rakuten Mobile's distributed, telco cloud to assure the highest service quality is delivered to customers for voice, video, VoLTE, data, and IoT services from the mobile edge up to the network core.

"Rakuten aims to revolutionize the way a mobile network is operated by focusing on end-to-end customer centric indicators rather than just network performance indicators," said Tareq Amin, chief technology officer of Rakuten Mobile, Inc. "RADCOM's unique solution enables this on a highly dynamic, fully virtualized network. Integrating RADCOM's solution into our telco cloud will increase the end-to-end user experience we deliver to our customers and reduce operational costs."

"We are excited to be working with such an innovative and forward-thinking operator," said Yaron Ravakie, chief executive officer of RADCOM. "This is a major validation of RADCOM's leadership in the NFV assurance industry and is the result of our focused ongoing investment in R&D and product innovation."



"As the leading fully virtualized assurance and visibility solution in the telecom market today, RADCOM Network Intelligence will provide Rakuten Mobile with an automated, end-to-end solution that is entirely cloud-native and embedded into their cloud," added Rami Amit, chief technology officer of RADCOM. "This seamless integration enables faster time to resolution and, as a result, enhances the customer experience while paving the way to a closed-loop solution for 5G and beyond."

RADCOM Network Intelligence will be deployed as multiple Virtual Network Functions (VNFs) that are highly scalable and cloud efficient, enabling customer experience agility for Rakuten Mobile's new, innovative mobile network.

About RADCOM

RADCOM (NASDAQ: [RDCM](#)) is the leading expert in cloud-native Network Intelligence for telecom operators transitioning to SDN/NFV. Providing a critical first step in an operator's NFV transformation, RADCOM's Network Intelligence delivers end-to-end network visibility from virtual tapping point to network insights. Comprised of RADCOM Service Assurance, RADCOM Network Visibility and RADCOM Network Insights, RADCOM's Network Intelligence portfolio provides operators with complete visibility across their virtual and hybrid networks. RADCOM Network Intelligence is automated, cost-efficient, provides on-demand functionality and is specifically designed for the needs of telecom operators. RADCOM specializes in assuring next-generation, high capacity networks, including LTE, Advanced-LTE, 5G, IMS, SDN/NFV, and others. For more information on how to RADCOMize your network, today,

About Rakuten Mobile

Rakuten Mobile, Inc. is a Rakuten Group company that will operate a comprehensive range of businesses in mobile communications, as both a mobile network operator (MNO) and a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO), ICT and energy. Through innovation and advanced technology, Rakuten Mobile aims to provide appealing and convenient services that meet the needs of customer

June

PM ABE calls PM Netanyahu before Teheran trip

Japanese PM, set to travel to Iran next week, aims to use his warm relationships with Islamic Republic and US to mediate between the two rivals

<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20190608> (and others)

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his Israeli counterpart, Benjamin Netanyahu, have talked over the phone ahead of Abe's visit to Iran next Wednesday. In their 30-minute talk on Friday, Abe said his visit is an effort to ease tensions in the Middle East. Relations are reported to be tense between Iran and the United States, which supports Israel.

Netanyahu, whose nation is opposed to Iran, agreed to work together with Abe for the stabilization and prosperity of the region.

The two leaders also agreed to continue to strengthen ties between their countries in a wide range of areas, including security and the economy.

While speaking about the Middle East, Netanyahu and Abe "shared the view to advance mutual cooperation aimed at stability and prosperity of the region," the foreign ministry said.

"We discussed the great improvement in the relationship between Israel and Japan and the huge increase in Japanese investments in Israel. We will continue to strengthen our relationship," Netanyahu said

Abe expressed condolences on behalf of the Japanese people for the death of Nechama Rivlin, wife of President Reuven Rivlin, and expressed sympathy to Israelis affected by recent wildfires.

Abe's call on Netanyahu is part of his efforts to win support from relevant countries for his push toward peace and prosperity in the Middle East.

Abe has called other opponents of Iran, including Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince, Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan



Japan defense ministry to beef up cybersecurity with AI

Country aims to lessen growing gap with US, China and Russia. The ministry began studying AI in fiscal 2018, using technologies developed in the U.S. and Israel

RIEKO MIKI, Nikkei staff writer JUNE 19, 2019

TOKYO -- Japan will expand use of artificial intelligence in the defense sector, where the country lags far behind the U.S., China and other nations.

The defense ministry will initially deploy AI for cybersecurity and maintenance of defense equipment.

In the cybersecurity arena, the ministry will introduce AI in the communications network of the Self-Defense Forces' counter-cyberattack unit from fiscal 2020 to analyze and address malware. AI-based systems will review past attacks, detect and neutralize computer viruses, and predict future threats.

AI will also help manage defense equipment to reduce maintenance costs and save on labor. For example, using past maintenance records, it will identify parts in need of repair or replacement after vessels of the Maritime Self-Defense Force return from extended missions.

Observers say Japan has made progress in defending its cyberspace in recent years but still lags far behind major players like the United States, China, Russia, Israel and South Korea, which acted much earlier than Tokyo

Required costs will be included in the ministry's 2020 budget requests. The ministry said it will promote AI in its National Defense Program Guidelines formulated late last year.

AI will also be used to translate foreign military and defense data to assist policy formulation from fiscal 2020. Further down the road, the ministry wants to use AI-driven deep learning for operating unmanned aircraft.

The ministry began studying AI in fiscal 2018, using technologies developed in the U.S. and Israel.



While the U.S., China and Russia are competing head-to-head in the development of AI-controlled autonomous weapons, Japan lags far behind.

China plans to develop remote-controlled tanks and other weapons, while the U.S. is conducting research on a technology that uses AI to analyze data collected from satellite images to capture signs of missile launches.

Chief of the Japan Self Defense Forces visits Israel

General Kōji Yamazaki makes history as first Chief of Japan's Self Defense Forces to visit Israel since the countries established relations

Arutz Sheva Staff, 21/06/19

General Kōji Yamazaki arrived in Israel this week and visited the IDF as part of his visit to the Middle East, as a guest of the IDF Chief of the General Staff, **Lt. Gen. Aviv Kohavi**.

The visit included a formal parade, discussions on the regional situation, challenges and opportunities.

Kohavi met his Japanese counterpart at Camp "Rabin" (the Kirya) in Tel Aviv, and the two discussed the potential to further the partnership between the two militaries. Kohavi thanked Japan and her military for their support of the MFO in Sinai.

In addition, General Yamazaki met with Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj. Gen. Eyal Zamir, Commander of the Israeli Air Force Maj. Gen. Amikam Norkin, Commander of the Israeli Navy Maj. Gen. Eli Sharvit, and Head of the C4i & Cyber Defense Directorate Maj. Gen. Lior Carmeli.

General Yamazaki also toured with the Deputy Chief of Staff, Commander of the Gaza Division, Brig. Gen. Eliezer Toledano and the Commanding Officer of the IDF Air Defense Array, Brig. Gen. Ran Kochav in the Southern Command, inspecting various IDF capabilities. The Chief of the Japan Self Defense Forces was accompanied by Israel's Defense Attaché, Brig. Gen. Nitzan Ben-Sira.



Israeli-Japanese ties were officially established in 1952. After decades of little contact, Tokyo is reportedly turning to its distant ally seeking closer ties, primarily in tech and defence. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu have met and held conversations several times in recent years.

This is the first time a Chief of the Japan Self Defense Forces has visited Israel since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in the 1950s.

RENAULT, NISSAN, MITSUBISHI ALLIANCE LAUNCH TEL AVIV INNOVATION LAB

Located in Atidim Business Park, the Alliance Innovation Lab Tel Aviv was established in partnership with the Israel Innovation Authority (IIA).

BY EYTAN HALON JUNE 10, 2019 JPOST

Eager to gain early access to cutting-edge Israeli technology, **French-Japanese automobile manufacturer partnership Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi Alliance** launched its Tel Aviv innovation lab on Monday.

Located in Atidim Business Park, the **Alliance Innovation Lab Tel Aviv** was established in partnership with the **Israel Innovation Authority (IIA)** and, after the launch, will enable a group of 10 Israeli start-ups to carry out proof of concepts (POCs) and test their technologies with real vehicles.

The new facility will focus on developing sensors for autonomous vehicles, cybersecurity and big data. The innovation lab is the third launched by the automotive alliance to date, which sold more than 10.7 million vehicles last year, after establishing similar centers in Silicon Valley and Shanghai.

The lab will work in close cooperation with Alliance Ventures, the Alliance corporate venture capital fund that plans to invest up to \$1 billion over five years in start-ups and early-stage technology companies. Alliance Ventures has already invested in Israeli venture capital fund Maniv Mobility, which specializes in Israeli automotive technology investments.

"We have many R&D centers in the world but the majority are focused on development of

products," said **Tsuyoshi Yamaguchi, executive vice president of Alliance** engineering at a ceremony attended by senior automotive and hi-tech industry officials, as well as ambassadors from France, the European Union and Japan.

"There are only three R&D centers which focus on innovation of cutting-edge technology: Silicon Valley, Shanghai and Tel Aviv... We believe that here in Israel, with a lot of strong companies, start-ups and universities, we can create huge innovation."

The innovation lab's Atidim location will provide start-ups with access to CityZone, a 1,600 square-meter smart city experiment zone established at the business park in partnership with the Tel Aviv Municipality and Tel Aviv University. Entrepreneurs will be able to experiment with real scenarios and real data on the roads of the gated business area.

Among the start-ups initially carrying out joint prototyping projects with the Alliance will be several automotive cybersecurity companies including **Argus, Enigmatos and Upstream**, "Empathic Car" system developer **Moodify** and vehicle-to-vehicle communications company **Autotalks**.

Alliance officials said the companies are continuously seeking to identify promising technologies, with room to welcome additional start-ups into the innovation hub. The automotive partners are also seeking to make strategic investments in start-ups, typically injecting \$10m. per deal.

"For many years, we have been hearing the pair of words: 'smart city,' but innovation is not only about technology - it's also about a way of thinking," said Tel Aviv Mayor Ron Huldai.

"Hi-tech cities are not necessarily smart, and not every technology is smart because it is new or advanced. It is the people that are smart, and we have come together today to salute our collaboration with Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi."

Supported by the IIA's Technological Innovation Labs program, participating start-ups are eligible to receive conditional grants up to NIS 850,000 (\$237,000) or 85% of their research and development expenditure.

"I believe that that this center can serve as a role model for the future innovation labs that we will have in Israel," said IIA CEO Aharon Aharon.

"The Alliance is unique for three reasons. First of all, due to its wide range of interests. Secondly, due to the framework and partnerships that it has put together. Thirdly, and most importantly, I

believe it is able to take the start-ups hand-in-hand and drive them both technologically and commercially towards a very successful proof of concept.

Plataine and Marubeni Aerospace Sign MoU to Offer IIoT Solutions

By [ET Bureau](#)-June 18, 2019

Plataine and Marubeni Aerospace Sign MoU to Jointly Offer Cutting-Edge IIoT Solutions to Advanced Manufacturers in Japan

Marubeni Aerospace – a subsidiary company and [the aerospace division](#) of Marubeni, a leading diversified Japanese corporation – and **Plataine**, a leading provider of Industrial IoT (IIoT) and AI-based software for Manufacturing Optimization, today announced they have signed an MoU to jointly offer Plataine's IIoT solutions to advanced manufacturers across Japan. Under the Marubeni Aerospace-Plataine collaboration, Marubeni Aerospace will offer Plataine's full suite of products to a range of advanced manufacturing sectors, such as aerospace and automotive. Plataine's technology brings radical productivity improvements to factories around the world, delivering the promise of Industry 4.0. The company's expansion into Japan follows a strong recent growth worldwide.

The collaboration combines Plataine's state of the art solutions with Marubeni Aerospace's full range of services, including consultation, project management, marketing, financing, and after-sales support. Marubeni Aerospace aims to serve the advance Japanese manufacturing market and build solid long-term relationships between Plataine, Marubeni Aerospace, and customers.

Plataine's Digital Manufacturing solutions revolutionize production facilities by integrating with local systems and collecting real-time data from factory sensors that are analyzed by AI-based Digital Assistants, to offer predictive alerts and recommendations. Actionable insights and optimized real-time recommendations to factory floor staff help them to meet the continuous 'rate up cost down' demands. Plataine's technology also automates and improves process control while optimizing production throughput as well as material yield in a variety of demanding industrial sectors. The result is a Digital Thread of information which records [every step of the](#)



[manufacturing process](#), from raw material to end product, improving quality control and ensuring customers are always audit-ready.

“Japan’s advanced manufacturing sector is always on the lookout for innovative ways to improve processes and productivity. Plataine’s AI-enabled IIoT offering is the most cutting-edge solution we’ve seen on the market, and I am confident it will deliver major productivity and efficiency benefits to customers of ours across Japan. We were looking for a technological collaboration that could deliver the highest levels of quality and expertise in IIoT, AI and cloud computing. Plataine’s solutions are market-proven and are already deployed at the most demanding manufacturing environments.” says Takashi Kawai, SVP and GM, at Marubeni Aerospace.

Avner Ben-Bassat, President and CEO of Plataine adds: “Entering the Japanese market is an important milestone for Plataine. Teaming-up with a leading player with proven capabilities and market presence is critical to our success, and we intend for the Plataine-Marubeni Aerospace collaboration to be an enduring one. We, together with Marubeni Aerospace, are proud to deliver the promise of Industry 4.0 and Digital Manufacturing to Japanese manufacturers.

Japan’s Recruit Holdings Looking to Tap Israeli Startups with New Fund

The Japanese media company’s venture capital arm raised \$375 million for investment in Israel, the U.S., and India

Tzally Greenberg 10:1206.06.19 Ctech

Recruit Strategic Partners (RSP), the venture capital subsidiary of Tokyo-headquartered human resources and media services company Recruit Holdings Co. Ltd., is looking to tap Israeli startups with a new \$375 million fund that will focus on Israel, the U.S., and India.

Recruit’s decision to expand its investments in Israel is part of its digital asset-focused business strategy, and comes about due to Israel’s innovation and development-heavy ecosystem, RSP’s vice president Tanaka Yuki told Calcalist. Recruit could also help Israeli companies penetrate the Japanese market, he added.

Tokyo-listed Recruit has a market capitalization of almost \$50 billion. Among its notable acquisitions is employer and workplace review website Glassdoor, which it acquired in 2018 for



\$1.2 billion, and employment-related search engine Indeed.com, for which it paid \$1 billion in 2012.

The company has made several previous investments in Israel, the latest, in May, an undisclosed sum in cryptocurrency startup [COTI Ltd.](#), through Recruit's blockchain-dedicated fund.

JAPAN – RECRUIT INVESTS IN CRYPTOCURRENCY PROCESSING FIRM

11 June 2019 www2.staffingindustry.com

Recruit Co. Ltd., the Japan-based staffing firms, reported an investment in **Breez Development Ltd.**, a Tel-Aviv, Israel-based firm that developed an online cryptocurrency wallet that aims to improve cryptocurrency payment processing ability.

Breez's product enables high-speed processing of micropayments, according to Recruit. In general, a transaction that takes ten minutes or more to approve on a blockchain can be safely processed in less than a second. Also, since it minimizes mining, power costs and payment fees can be reduced, according to Recruit.

Breez was established in May 2018 and its CEO is Roy Sheinfeld.

The company has developed and provides its own system as required for its 'Lightning Network', and users simply install the app on their smart device. They are also developing and providing point-of-sale systems to promote the introduction of cryptocurrency payments.

According to the announcement, it usually takes 10 minutes or more to approve the transaction on the blockchain, but it can be processed within 1 second by using the Lightning Network. Users install and use the Breeze app on their smart devices.

Through this investment, Recruit will support improvements to the quality and use of this service.

The investment was made through **Recruit's RSP Fund No. 6 LLC**, which aims to discover new technologies and new business models and to acquire business opportunities, with a view to creating new areas of business for the Recruit Group.



INSIGHTEC MR-Guided Focused Ultrasound Receives Reimbursement from Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare for the Treatment of Essential Tremor

HAIFA, Israel, June 2, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- INSIGHTEC®, a global medical technology innovator of incisionless surgery, today announced that it has received national reimbursement from the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) for treating essential tremor.

"Focused ultrasound allows us to treat essential tremor patients in a completely incisionless manner," commented Professor Takaomi Taira, Director of Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery, Department of Neurosurgery, Tokyo Women's Medical University (TWMU), Tokyo, Japan. "This less invasive technique means that there is less risk of infection and other complications associated with traditional surgery."

Exablate Neuro uses focused ultrasound waves to precisely target and ablate tissue deep within the brain with no incisions. The treatment is performed under Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) guidance for real-time treatment monitoring.

"This milestone demonstrates a major validation for focused ultrasound technology," said Maurice R. Ferré MD, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board of INSIGHTEC. "We will build on this momentum by continuing to expand availability of incisionless surgery around the globe."

"This important milestone means patients in Japan will now have access to incisionless focused ultrasound as a treatment option," said Yair Bauer, Country Manager, INSIGHTEC Japan. "These patients have hand tremor that impacts their ability to work and live an independent and active lifestyle." he added.

The Exablate Neuro device received MHLW approval to treat medication-refractory essential tremor in December, 2016. There are currently nine medical institutions in Japan performing the MR-guided focused ultrasound treatment for essential tremor on a routine basis.

About Essential Tremor

Essential tremor is the most common movement disorder, affecting more than a million people in Japan, and millions more worldwide. Hand tremor is the most common symptom, but tremors can also affect the head, arms, voice, legs, and torso. The cause of this disease is still unknown



but it has a strong hereditary attribute. Patients often have trouble performing everyday tasks such as eating, dressing, writing and holding objects.

About INSIGHTEC Japan K.K.

INSIGHTEC Japan K.K. is a subsidiary of INSIGHTEC LTD. The company is the regulatory market approval holder of Exablate Neuro (Exablate 4000) and its distributor in Japan. Founded in 2005, its mission is to provide incisionless treatments for neurosurgery and women's health indications, in order to significantly improve the quality of life for patients in Japan. For more information please visit: www.insightec.com/JP

About INSIGHTEC

INSIGHTEC is a global medical technology innovator transforming patient lives through incisionless brain surgery with MR-guided focused ultrasound. Research for future applications in the neuroscience space is underway in partnership with leading academic and medical institutions. INSIGHTEC is headquartered in Haifa, Israel, and Miami, with offices in Dallas, Tokyo and Shanghai.

Israeli geolocation co hoopo raises \$3.5m

3 Jun, 2019 [Globes correspondent](#)

hoopo is redefining geolocation technology with high-accuracy low-power capabilities via the Internet of Things (IoT).

Israeli geolocation startup [hoopo](#) today announced a \$3.5 million funding round from **Chartered HighTech JIHTV1** fund, **TAU Ventures**, and **Global IoT Technology Ventures (GiTV)**. hoopo has now raised a total of \$5 million, including previous rounds from investors in Mobileye, Israeli investor, Zohar Gilon, and AirMap chairman Ben Marcus.

hoopo is redefining geolocation technology with high-accuracy low-power capabilities via the Internet of Things (IoT). The company was founded in Israel by a team of experts with over 120 years of combined experience in RF communications and tracking systems. Its unique technology enables GPS-less geolocation by providing accurate positioning for low-power devices. With this latest round, hoopo will scale up the business operations on a national and international basis.

hoopo's geolocation solution enables companies to locate their valuable assets utilizing low-power wide area (LPWA) networks, without the significant cost or battery consumption that can



be associated with GPS. hoopo's IoT solutions help companies precisely track specific assets and monitor their environments, including temperature, moisture levels and more, opening up the possibility of industries that can use geolocation technology that were previously unable to support the high costs and significant power consumption, such as airports, the supply chain, wide-area campuses and more. Using hoopo, customers can receive on-demand geolocation, establish geofences, receive movement alerts, and more, ensuring the protection of their valuable assets. These solutions help hoopo's customers save on top-line expenses by optimizing logistic efficiency through real-time data and analytics.

hoopo cofounder and CEO Ittay Hayut said, "Our solution helps companies across a range of vertical sectors to achieve significant savings in their asset tracking and this funding will help us accelerate our development and sales processes to meet their needs." Eyal Agmoni from JIHTV1, a fund by Chartered Group said, "As the anchor investor in TAU Ventures, we came to know hoop and through that, saw the value in this technology which led us to make our first direct investment decision. We believe that the company has a world class team, industry-leading technology, and the ability to bring about a profound change in geolocation systems. hoopo's momentum is a testament to the team's hard work and the scale of the opportunity at hand." "hoopo's innovative solutions are transforming the possibilities of asset tracking," said Hiro Mori, general manager of Israel Development Office at Toshiba of Europe Limited. "For a while now, we have been searching for an ultra-low-power tracking solution that is capable of providing high accuracy for our various use-cases and we are happy to have identified hoopo as an ideal solution for our clients."

Ottopia Announces Collaboration with Global Automotive Supplier DENSO

Launches Advanced Teleoperation Platform aiming to set new safety standard for teleoperation

[Ottopia \(www.ottopia.tech\)](http://www.ottopia.tech), a technology company enabling remote vehicle operation, announced today a collaboration with DENSO Corporation, the world's second largest automotive Tier 1 supplier. Ottopia also announced the launch of its Advanced Teleoperation (ATO™) platform, providing both direct and indirect remote control of autonomous vehicles. Ottopia's ATO platform

offers a unique integration of human operators with patent pending Artificial Intelligence software to set a new safety standard for teleoperation in the automotive industry.

Ottopia is working with some of the biggest automotive corporations in the world. One such customer is DENSO Corporation. "Our collaboration with DENSO has been phenomenal from day one," said Ottopia CEO and founder Amit Rosenzweig. "DENSO is interested in a teleoperation solution focused on safety and scalability. These are exactly the values Ottopia is committed to while building the world's first automotive-grade teleoperation platform."

Teleoperation is necessary to assist autonomous vehicles through complex situations. Industry consensus is that there will always be cases when human intervention is required. The Ottopia ATO™ platform provides this human assistance, offering the safest, most scalable and cyber-secure solution available on the market.

Ottopia's ATO™ platform utilizes proprietary network bonding and ultra-low latency video compression to reliably deliver real-time remote operation of vehicles over existing public cellular networks.

Ottopia's unique technology focuses on safety and scale. By employing advanced AI and indirect methods of control, the operator is able to efficiently support multiple autonomous vehicles. The platform also introduces an active safety layer of vehicle-side software that ensures safe operation even in harsh conditions such as lost cellular connection or extreme weather.

Ottopia released a [video](#) of its ATO platform

The platform also enables remote control of non-autonomous vehicles in industries like freight, shipping, and construction. "Anyone who is interested in teleoperation -- from robotaxi companies to fleet management and logistics companies -- can now deploy our platform," said Rosenzweig.

About DENSO Corporation

DENSO is a \$48.3 billion global mobility supplier that develops advanced technology and components for nearly every vehicle make and model on the road today. With manufacturing at its core, DENSO invests in its 211 facilities in 35 countries to produce thermal, powertrain, mobility, electrification, & electronic systems, to create jobs that directly change how the world moves.

About Ottopia

Ottopia builds and provides a platform that enables remote humans to guide vehicles in a way that is safe, scalable and cybersecure. Ottopia is founded by leading autonomous vehicle,

network and cybersecurity experts and backed by top-tier investors. The company has offices in Tel Aviv and San Francisco

Japan's Miniso to open 6 more Israeli stores

4 Jun, 2019 [Shany Moses](#)

Miniso plans to have 18 stores in Israel by the end of 2019.

Japanese design giant Miniso is opening six new stores in Israel at an investment of NIS 6 million, sources inform "Globes." Almost a year after its official launch, Miniso Israel, managed by CEO Einat Portugali, is expanding. The design products discount chain, which currently has seven branches in Israel, is moving into shopping malls all over Israel. According to the chain's business plan, it will have 18 stores by the end of 2019. Miniso launched its Israeli activity in August 2018.

The six new stores will be opened in the HaZahav Mall in Rishon Lezion, BIG Fashion Danilof Tiberias, BIG Fashion Nazareth, Dizengoff Center (Tel Aviv), Azrieli Ramla Mall, and BIG Fashion Bat Yam. The new stores will have an average area of 180 square meters.

As reported by "Globes," the first new store, which will be opened this Thursday in HaZahav Mall, will replace the Golf chain store there, which moved after the rent for the store was increased sharply. In response to a query from "Globes," HaZahav's management confirmed that Miniso had taken the space currently occupied by Golf at an especially high rent: "Rent of NIS 400, amounting to NIS 497 including management fees."

This high rent is liable to constitute a burden in the future for the Japanese chain, which specializes in stylish stock items at fairly cheap prices. The store will have to generate high proceeds in order to make a profit. At the same time, together with its stores in centrally located malls such as Azrieli Tel Aviv and the branch scheduled to open in Dizengoff Center, Miniso is also entering the open-air malls of the BIG group, in which rents are usually lower.



Mobilicom's SkyHopper Data Links Become the First Certified High-Power, Long Range, Highly Secured Data Links in Japan

By [AVNetwork Staff \(AV Network\)](#)

Mobilicom has become the first supplier with certified high-power, long range, highly secured data link solutions for drones in Japan. This comes as a result of receiving the Japanese high-power GDT (ground data terminal) and ADT (aerial data terminal) transmission certification for its SkyHopper data links. The high-power certification comes after SkyHopper received the low-power Japanese TELEC certification at the end of 2017.

SkyHopper by Mobilicom is a global provider of holistic end-to-end hardware and software solutions for commercial and industrial drones and robotics—including communication, encryption and cybersecurity, integrated video processing, ruggedized controllers, and viewers.

SkyHopper's high-power certification comes at an ideal time, with the 2020 Olympic Games just around the corner. As Japan prepares itself for the monumental event, SkyHopper says it provides the best solution for drones planned to be used for security and other operations.

"To know that we provide the only certified high-power, long range, highly secured drone communication solution in Japan today is as a testament to the quality of our systems," said Mobilicom's CEO Oren Elkayam. "A high-power, long range data link has been in demand by the Japanese drone market for a long time, and we are proud to be able to fill this need."

Jepico Corporation, a SkyHopper reseller in Japan, has been actively supporting the SkyHopper high power certification process and is currently in the process of obtaining an operators' license.

TELEC is a certification entity registered with Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication. The certification proves that SkyHopper conforms to the strict technical and legal requirements of Japanese radio law, and thereby complies with industry standards. The TELEC certification validates that the SkyHopper family of products is of the highest quality, and that Mobilicom is committed to delivering these products to the Japanese market.



BiomX Licenses Novel Targets for Liver Disease Phage Therapy Program from JSR Corporation in Japan

NESS ZIONA, Israel, June 11, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [BiomX Ltd.](#), a microbiome company developing both natural and engineered phage therapies, today announced it has licensed a new set of bacterial targets from JSR Corporation, for the development and commercialization of phage therapies for Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC), an orphan liver disease. While studying intestinal barrier dysfunction implicated in the pathogenesis of PSC, Dr. Takanori Kanai, Professor of Department of Internal Medicine Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Keio University School of Medicine and his research team discovered in the microbiome of patients with PSC specific strains of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (*Kp*) that disrupt the epithelial barrier. The presence of those strains triggers additional bacterial translocation and liver inflammatory responses. The results of this study were recently published in [Nature Microbiology](#).

"Our study identified disease-modulating pathobionts from patients with PSC. One of the key functions of these pathobionts is to disrupt the intestinal epithelial barrier and cause a 'leaky gut'," said Professor Kanai. "Strain specific bacterial targeting techniques, such as BiomX's phage therapy, have the potential to eradicate these harmful bacteria and possibly treat PSC at its root cause."

Using its advanced discovery and development capabilities in phage therapy, BiomX discovered phage that eradicate the pathogenic strains and is developing a customized phage cocktail as a therapeutic for PSC.

"This is our second collaboration with JSR Corporation, accessing groundbreaking microbiome research conducted at Keio University School of Medicine," said Jonathan Solomon, CEO of BiomX. "Our previous collaboration with JSR and Keio University School of Medicine yielded the lead target for our inflammatory bowel disease program. Phage therapy is an optimal treatment option in this case, allowing long term treatment specifically targeting the pathogenic driver in this chronic disease, without harming the beneficial gut microbiome. We look forward to rapidly advancing this program for the treatment of PSC, a disease for which there are no approved therapies."

About Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC)

PSC is a rare progressive disease of the liver, characterized by inflammation and damage to



hepatic bile ducts, leading to fibrosis and ultimately liver failure, cirrhosis and an increased risk of cancer. Disease symptoms commonly include fatigue, pruritus, jaundice, and/or skin lesions. There is currently no effective medical therapy for PSC and the majority of patients will eventually require liver transplantation. Median survival without liver transplantation after diagnosis is 10 to 12 years. There are estimated to be approximately 230,000 PSC patients worldwide with approximately 45,000 cases in the US (3,000 new cases identified each year) and a similar number in Western Europe.

About JSR Corporation

From synthetic rubbers for tires to materials for the semiconductor, display and the life sciences industries, materials created by JSR play an important role in almost every aspect of daily life. JSR has continuously expanded its business by leveraging its proprietary polymer technologies. JSR-Keio University Medical and Chemical Innovation Center (JKiC), a joint research facility, opened in October 2017 to create innovation through investigating the wholly novel concept of fusing medicine and chemistry to establish practical technologies that contribute to global society with people live long and healthy lives.

About BiomX

BiomX is a microbiome drug discovery company developing both natural and engineered phage therapies that target and destroy harmful bacteria in chronic diseases such as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and cancer. We discover and validate proprietary bacterial targets and customize our phage compositions against these targets.

Konica Minolta Healthcare Partners with DiA Imaging Analysis to Offer Advanced AI-based Cardiac Ultrasound Analysis

BE'ER SHEVA, Israel, June 27, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- DiA Imaging Analysis, a leading provider of artificial intelligence (AI) powered ultrasound analysis solutions, announced today that it has partnered with Konica Minolta Healthcare Americas Inc., a market leader in medical diagnostic imaging and healthcare IT, to expand analysis capabilities of Konica Minolta's Exa® Cardio PACS Platform (Cardiovascular Information System) with DiA's cardiac analysis, "LVivo Toolbox."

The LVivo Cardiac Toolbox is designed to analyze cardiac ultrasound images automatically and objectively, to reduce the subjectivity of manual or visual analysis methods used today.



DiA's LVivo Cardiac Toolbox uses novel pattern recognition, deep-learning and machine learning algorithms that automatically imitate how the human eye detects borders and motion. DiA's automated solution generates fast and accurate image analysis to support the clinician's decision-making process.

LVivo Cardiac Toolbox is vendor-neutral, supporting DICOM clips of various ultrasound systems. Konica Minolta will offer the LVivo Toolbox as a part of Exa's diagnostic-quality Zero Footprint, Server Side Rendering Universal Viewer for DICOM and non-DICOM images. The integration has been designed according to Exa's user interface to assure the most efficient workflow and accessibility to all Exa® Cardio PACS users.

"With DiA's LVivo Toolbox, Konica Minolta offers clinicians decision support with objective data," says Andrew Horning, Konica Minolta's Cardiology Product Manager. "Through this partnership, we integrate innovative, AI-based cardiac analysis into Exa's already powerful and user-customizable structured reporting system; all available anywhere - from a multi-monitor workstation on a hospital network, to a laptop PC on Wi-Fi. This helps cardiologists make better decisions sooner. "

Konica Minolta's Exa® platform provides hospitals and imaging centers with the ability to view DICOM and non-DICOM images and information across departments and facilities, regardless of the original source. Exa also provides a vendor-neutral centralized archive and image exchange.

"We are excited to partner with Konica and offer the LVivo Cardiac Toolbox to Exa® Cardio PACS users," said Hila Goldman Aslan, DiA's CEO and Co-Founder. "Konica Minolta is a world leader in providing innovative, state-of-the-art healthcare solutions to its customers. With LVivo Toolbox offered as a part of Exa® Cardio PACS, Konica's users will be able to get fast, valuable and objective insights into cardiac function analysis. Our mission is to support clinicians with various cardiac analysis experience levels, in their decision-making process and to use our solutions as part of their everyday analysis routine."

To learn more about how to improve clinical workflow, enhance patient management, please visit Konica Minolta Healthcare at the Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine (SIIM) 2019 in booth #500, June 26-28 in Aurora, CO.



About DiA Imaging Analysis

DiA Imaging Analysis makes ultrasound analysis accessible to all by using its advanced AI-based technology which assists clinicians, at all experience levels, analyze ultrasound images - objectively and accurately. The technology is based on advanced pattern recognition, deep learning and machine learning algorithms which imitate the way the human eye detects borders and identifies motion. DiA's automated tools deliver fast and accurate clinical indications to support the decision-making process, ultimately improving patient care. The company was founded by Dr. Noah Liel-Cohen, Hila Goldman Aslan (CEO), Michal Yaacobi (CTO), and Arnon Toussia-Cohen (CCO).

About Konica Minolta Healthcare Americas

Konica Minolta Healthcare is a world-class provider and market leader in medical diagnostic imaging and healthcare information technology. With over 75 years of endless innovation, Konica Minolta is globally recognized as a leader providing cutting-edge technologies and comprehensive support aimed at providing real solutions to meet customers' needs and helping make better decisions sooner. Konica Minolta Healthcare Americas, Inc., headquartered in Wayne, NJ, is a unit of Konica Minolta, Inc. (TSE:4902).

Israeli digital forensics firm Cellebrite gets \$110 mln IGP investment

JERUSALEM, June 17 (Reuters) - Israel's Cellebrite, whose software can unlock and extract data from mobile devices and is used by law enforcement and government agencies as well as businesses, said on Monday it had received a \$110 million investment from IGP Capital.

The company, which was **acquired by Japan's Sun Corp in 2007**, did not provide further financial details.

Since 2015, Cellebrite has been moving beyond its core mobile forensics offering and has redefined its strategy to make the company the leading vendor and consolidation platform in the Digital Intelligence space for Law Enforcement, Government, and Enterprise investigations. The company has focused on expanding its offering with analytics, advanced software tools and services to accelerate investigations and help customers achieve operational readiness to overcome the challenges in an ever-changing and complex digital data environment.



“As we continue our growth journey in the Digital Intelligence market, we identified the need to add a strategic partner that will support our long-term vision and our commitment to our customers,” commented Yossi Carmil, Global Co-CEO of Cellebrite. “We are pleased to announce that after careful consideration through a rigorous process we were able to successfully structure a long-term partnership with IGP.”

“IGP’s strategic decision is the ultimate recognition of our leadership position and validation of our vision and strategy in our core markets,” Carmil added. “This partnership will allow Cellebrite to accelerate our growth strategy both organically and through acquisitions, creating significant value for our shareholders Sun Corporation, IGP Capital and the employees of Cellebrite. We are confident that Cellebrite will benefit from IGP’s vast experience in the capital market, software analytics, M&As and the SAAS domain.”

Haim Shani, IGP’s Co-Founder and General Partner and Uri Erde, General Partner at IGP will join Cellebrite’s board of directors. “We have identified the expansive opportunity that Cellebrite has in the Digital Intelligence space,” said Haim Shani. “We were impressed by what Cellebrite’s management and employees have been able to build – a strong and committed global team, cutting edge technology, loyal global customer base, and a powerful value proposition along with commercial strength around the world.”

“We believe that Cellebrite is well positioned to capitalize on its leadership in the Digital Intelligence markets as they continue to expand and transform. We at IGP are committed to bringing our experience, financial resources, global presence and relationship in order to help the company achieve its ambitious growth plans.”

Israeli news website Calcalist said that after the deal, which values Cellebrite at \$440 million, investment fund Israel Growth Partners (IGP) will hold about a 25% stake in Cellebrite.

Elbit Systems' Subsidiary, BrightWay Vision, Raises \$25 Million Investment

HAIFA, Israel, June 25, 2019 /PRNewswire/, **BrightWay Vision Ltd.** ("BWV"), raised a \$25 million investment from **Koito Manufacturing Co, Ltd.** (TYO: 7276) and **Magenta Venture Partners**, following which they will hold approximately 38.5% of BWV's shares, on a fully diluted basis.

BWVs' patented system, BrightEye™, uniquely combines sensing and laser illumination technologies for the automobile industry, to generate a clear long-range image of the road ahead at night and in low visibility conditions while also detecting objects in the vehicle path thus enabling effective hazard alerts, collision and other safety warnings.

About Koito

Under the corporate message, 'Lighting for Your Safety', Koito Manufacturing Co., Ltd (Koito) has been marking a history of leadership in automotive lighting since its establishment in 1915. Today, the Koito Group consists of 32 companies located in 12 countries worldwide and provides products and services to customers all over the world, through the global network led by five major regions (Japan, North America, Europe, China, and Asia.) Its products, recognized for its high quality and advanced technology, are widely used by automotive makers worldwide. The company is responding to the future transformation of mobility through the development of next-generation lighting technologies and related equipment, control systems, and environmentally friendly products, materials, and production methods.

About Magenta Venture Partners

Magenta Venture Partners is a venture capital firm focused exclusively on Israeli and Israeli-related early stage technology startups across multiple categories including Automotive, Mobility, Enterprise Software, IoT, Industry 4.0, Artificial Intelligence, Fintech, and Digitalization. Magenta seeks to partner with the best Israeli entrepreneurs and work with them towards building significant global companies. Magenta is backed by prominent Japanese institutional and strategic investors, including Mitsui & Co. Ltd., all with strong global reach in multiple domains across a wide range of industries. The fund is led by four seasoned professionals with significant global experience in high-tech, startup investment, and corporate business development.

About Elbit Systems

Elbit Systems Ltd. is an international high technology company engaged in a wide range of defense, homeland security and commercial programs throughout the world. The Company, which includes Elbit Systems and its subsidiaries, operates in the areas of aerospace, land and naval systems, command, control, communications, computers, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance ("C4ISR"), unmanned aircraft systems, advanced electro-optics, electro-optic space systems, EW suites, signal intelligence systems, data links and communications systems, radios, cyber-based systems and munitions. The Company also focuses on the upgrading of



existing platforms, developing new technologies for defense, homeland security and commercial applications and providing a range of support services, including training and simulation systems.

ADK, Japan's Third-Largest ad agency, partners with CHEQ for Brand Safety and Anti-Fraud Prevention

, June 18, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- ADK, Japan's third-largest ad agency has chosen military-grade ad-verification firm CHEQ to provide AI-based brand safety, viewability and anti-fraud prevention for its roster of advertisers..

In a statement announcing the pilot, the agency said: "We are committed to offering an ad-serving environment that keeps advertisers safe. In order to make the sector healthier, we have been making huge strides. The services offered by CHEQ, using AI, ensure protection before an ad is served.

"This enables real-time prevention of ads from being served on unsuitable sites. More concretely it is done on a per-impression level. Using CHEQ, we have confirmed the viability and effectiveness to provide a brand-safe and viewable environment."

ADK will now be offering CHEQ as a service for its clients who are seeking real-time prevention of fraud, and brand safety incidents.

About ADK

Along with Dentsu, and Hakuhodo DY Holdings, Asatsu-DK is among the top-three agency companies in Japan. ADK has won awards for clients including Toyota and Unilever, and it has offices in many Asian cities, as well as in New York, Amsterdam and Frankfurt. The move comes as the \$8.1 billion Japanese online advertising sector has prioritized measures to prevent fraud, brand safety violations and lack of viewability on campaigns.

About CHEQ

[CHEQ](#) is an AI-driven cybersecurity company disrupting the ad-verification space. The company's



mission is to help sustain the digital ecosystem by protecting leading advertisers from the risks of online advertising and helping them restore confidence in the space. Founded by former military intelligence and cybersecurity personnel, the company has introduced the first Neural-Network based solution for brand safety, ad-fraud and viewability, running powerful AI, NLP, computer vision and deep learning algorithms. The company is growing rapidly and was recently announced as one of the next 10 unicorns to emerge from the Israeli tech scene.

Airobotics Provides Drone-data Platform for Japanese Insurance Carrier

dronelife.com/2019/06/11

Israeli drone provider [Airobotics](#) is partnering with one of Japan's largest non-life insurance companies to optimize the insurer's drone-based inspection and disaster-management efforts.

[Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance](#) will use the **Airobotics** platform to digitize multiple sites, enable detailed change detection, and optimize current workflows. TMNF became aware of the need for better disaster-data management following several devastating hurricanes and earthquakes over the past few years across Japan.

"We are honored to provide TMNF with full visibility across their portfolio, automating much of the manual work, to deliver a seamless experience as well as actively identify and predict hazardous situations," said Ran Krauss, Airobotics CEO. "Integrated directly into TMNF's workflow, we are making aerial data a standard and integral part of their routine inspection and disaster recovery practices."

Rick Baker, Airobotics' CRO added, "Airobotics and TMNF are closely aligned in our joint vision that data is the driver for predictive analytics. We are excited that Airobotics' AI-driven data platform will enable TMNF to shift from traditional inspection and disaster management practices to proactively plan and operate using near real-time, accurate data."

Airobotics has developed a first-of-its-kind pilotless UAV solution with an end-to-end, fully automatic solution for collecting aerial data and processing key data points. The industrial-grade platform is available on-site and on-demand, enabling industrial facilities to access premium aerial data in a faster, safer, more efficient way.



In March, the company announced the [integration of LiDAR payload](#) with its Optimus drones. The use of LiDAR reduces the time it takes for aerial data to be collected, even at night or in low light, and allows for rapid turn-around time on data processing.

Last year, Airobotics received the FAA's first ever three-prong certificate of waiver for "flying Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) for automated drone operations, over human beings, with a visual observer that is not required to keep a visual line of sight on the drone."

The waiver will allow the company to operate drones from its Remote Operations Center in Scottsdale, Ariz. In September, Airobotics launched its North American [headquarters](#) in Scottsdale and will operate all North and South American operations from the facility. BHP, the world's largest mining company, is Airobotics' first customer in the U.S.

Nintendo chooses Israel for its second official store

First new outlet in 14 years now open, Tokyo store planned for later this year

Nintendo has opened a second retail store, this time in Israeli city Tel Aviv.

The shop is based in the city's Dizengoff Center shopping mall and enjoyed its grand opening yesterday evening, according to [NintendoLife](#).

A live countdown had been running on the platform holder's [website](#), where Nintendo also launched a local online store a few months ago.

Nintendo already has an official retail store in New York's Rockefeller Plaza, which [first opened its doors in 2005](#) (although the building was actually home an official Pokémon Store for four years before this).

Like the New York outlet, Tel Aviv's store will sell a range of games, hardware and other Nintendo merchandise, and will no doubt host community events, like the E3 Direct parties Nintendo of America hosts each year.

The platform holder announced earlier this year that a [third store will open in Tokyo](#) later this year.



NEW ISRAELI-JAPANESE-AMERICAN STRATEGY COULD HELP ELIMINATE CANCER CELLS

The study, which was published recently in “Nature Chemistry,” is considered a milestone in the application of the discovery of the ubiquitin system.

BY MAAYAN JAFFE-HOFFMAN JPOST JUNE 28, 2019

A new, innovative strategy for eliminating cancer cells has been developed by an international team led by Israel’s Technion.

The study, which was published recently in “**Nature Chemistry**,” is considered a milestone in the application of the discovery of the ubiquitin system. **Israeli researchers Avram Hershko and Aaron Ciechanover, and America’s Irwin Rose, won the 2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for studying the roles of the ubiquitin system in controlling the cell division process, which today is playing a key role in understanding and curing certain types of cancer.**

While many research groups around the world have been working on the ubiquitin system and harnessing it for developing innovative medical treatments – including discovering four drugs approved for treatments – “the progress in the study of the ubiquitin system and the development of drugs based on its understanding are very slow relative to its potential,” said **Prof. Ashraf Brik of the Schulich Faculty of Chemistry at the Technion**, who headed the recent study.

The strategy developed by Brik and colleagues from Japan and America neutralizes the ability of the malignancy to perform the same manipulation. It is based on an unprecedented combination of Brik’s skill in producing ubiquitin chains using advanced chemical methods and **Prof. Hiro Suga of the University of Tokyo’s** method of creating very large libraries of molecules called cyclic peptides. As part of the collaboration, the researchers discovered how these cyclic peptides bind to the ubiquitin chains and thus inhibit the breakdown of proteins that help the cancer to grow and thrive.

“We use total chemical synthesis of proteins to generate highly homogeneous Ub chains for screening against trillion-member macrocyclic peptide libraries,” the researchers explain in a medical abstract. “De novo cyclic peptides were found that can bind tightly and specifically to K48-linked Ub chains, confirmed by NMR studies. These cyclic peptides protected K48-linked Ub chains from deubiquitinating enzymes and prevented proteasomal degradation of Ub-tagged



proteins. The cyclic peptides could enter cells, inhibit growth and induce programmed cell death, opening new opportunities for therapeutic intervention.”

In other words, this highly synthetic approach, with both protein target generation and cyclic peptide discovery performed in vitro, will make other elaborate post-translationally modified targets accessible for drug discovery and pave the way for new types of anticancer treatments, according to a release by the Technion.

Ub refers to ubiquitination (the covalent conjugation of ubiquitin to other cellular proteins), which regulates a wide range of cellular processes. Often, multiple Ub molecules are added to the substrate to form a Ub chain.

The other researchers involved in the project include Nobel winner Ciechanover of the Technion’s Rappaport Faculty of Medicine, and Prof. **David Fushman of the University of Maryland’s** Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Israeli scientists and researchers have been at the forefront of extensive studies on cancer and cancer treatment over the past several decades.

With Japanese support: UNDP Supports the Harnessing of Solar Power to Treat Wastewater in Gaza

Gaza Strip/PNN/

The United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Japan, in partnership with the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA) and the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility inaugurated the Photo Voltaic Solar System for the Rafah Wastewater Treatment and Reuse Plants project.

The project, worth US\$ 500,000, will provide more than 170,000 Palestinians, including farmers, in Gaza with improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services. This will be done through the provision of 200 KWp of sustainable electricity supply that will allow the Rafah Wastewater Treatment and Reuse plants to treat the wastewater for irrigation and pump the treated water into farming areas.

H.E. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, expressed his gratitude to all partners for making the project successful including UNDP and the

Palestinian Counterpart. “For the past decade, the Gaza Strip has suffered from a chronic electricity deficit as well as severe waste water problems, which undermined fragile living conditions. Therefore, Japan provided an additional grant of US\$ 500,000 to UNDP with the aim of providing a renewable energy source as a sustainable solution to the current energy crisis which would ensure the optimal operation of the Rafah WWTP,” he said. “Japan is committed to supporting humanitarian aspect as well as long term development plans in Gaza as a friend in need and we hope this project will alleviate the suffering of people in Gaza”, he added.

According to the United Nations “Gaza in 2020: A livable Place?” report, some 90,000 CM of raw or partially treated sewage is being discharged daily into the Mediterranean Sea (almost 33 MCM per year). This is causing pollution and creating public health hazards.

UNDP Head of Office in Gaza, Chitose Noguchi, said “Energy is a critical enabler for people to live a safe, healthy and productive life. Yet, the Gaza strip has been suffering from a chronic electricity deficit since 2006. Thanks to the Government of Japan, we have installed a renewable energy system that will improve public health and environment conditions. The 7000 CM of the treated water will be pumped to irrigate farming areas, benefiting almost 500 farmers and their families”.

The ceremony took place at the Rafah Wastewater Treatment and Reuse Plants in Rafah on 17 June 2019 and was attended by H.E. Takeshi Okubo, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, Mr Monther Shublaq, General Director of Coastal Municipalities Water Utility, and Ms Chitose Noguchi, Head of UNDP office in Gaza.

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.



July

Israel sells \$138mn in private bond sale to Japanese Institutional investor

JERUSALEM: Israel raised 15 billion yen (\$138 million) in a private placement of bonds to a large Japanese institutional investor, the Finance Ministry said on Monday.

The seven-year bonds, which will pay fixed interest of 0.15pc, came after the accountant general held meetings last month in Tokyo and as part of a strategy to expand the Israeli government's investor base and diversify sources of financing.

The ministry said the placement was made to one of Japan's largest investors and that it was its first investment in Israeli government debt. It declined to name the investor.

A month ago, Israel issued its first 50-year bonds in a deal worth 500 million euros with an institutional investor in Europe.

These issues, "attest to the growing demand from quality global investors who are interested in investing in Israel's economy as well as the importance of expanding the investor base,"

Accountant General Rony Hizkiyahu said.

Goldman Sachs served as the underwriter of the offering.

Sony, Daiwa set up VC fund to invest in startups in US, Japan, Israel, Europe

Joint Innovation Growth Ventures firm closes its first fund, which will target mid-stage startups in AI, robotics, fintech

By [SHOSHANNA SOLOMON](#) 3 JULY 2019

Japanese giant Sony Corporation and Daiwa Capital Holdings Co., Ltd. said Wednesday they have set up a joint venture capital firm that will raise funds to invest in mid- to-late-stage startup companies based in Japan, the US, Europe and Israel.

The new VC firm, called Innovation Growth Ventures Co., Ltd., has already received commitments for its first fund, the Innovation Growth Fund, which will focus on investing in firms in the fields of artificial intelligence, fintech and robotics, as well as other “fast growing tech startups in other market segments,” the firms said in a statement.

Daiwa Capital Holdings is a subsidiary of Daiwa Securities Group Inc., a Japanese investment bank.

The new fund seeks to raise \$140 million-\$185 million in total. Besides Sony and Daiwa, other investors in the Innovation Growth Fund are financial institutions such as Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and Osaka Shoko Shinkin Bank, along with entities such as Mitsubishi UFJ Lease & Finance Company Limited, who will be limited partners of the IGV fund.

The IGV fund is not supplanting the \$100 million Sony Innovation Fund, a corporate venture arm that Sony set up in 2016 and has to date invested in 43 seed and early stage startups in Japan, the US, Europe and Israel in the fields of AI and robotics, among others, Sony said.

“Through its corporate venture capital activities to date, Sony has incubated the next generation of technologies and startups while promoting open innovation,” Toshimoto Mitomo, executive vice president at Sony, said in the statement. “Sony will support IGV’s efforts to maximize the performance of this fund, based on the experience it has cultivated through its corporate venture capital activities.”

“Through this fund, we hope to contribute and provide various forms of support to our investment targets, including sourcing, support with stock market listing, and matching support with other



listed firms,” said Yoshihisa Kaneko, executive managing director at Daiwa. “We believe that the integration of Sony’s insight of cutting-edge technologies and Daiwa Securities Group’s expertise in finance will lead to the creation of a new kind of venture capital business while providing the spark for new trends in the venture capital ecosystem.”

Japan is the third-largest economy in the world and is home to some of the largest manufacturing and automotive companies. As the world moves toward digitalization and software, however, these firms are now scouting overseas for technologies for solutions that will enable them to maintain their edge over global competitors.

Japanese investments in Israel have surged over the past 20 years, with total investments reaching some \$6.35 billion from 2001 to the end of 2018 in 180 deals, a report **by Harel-Hertz Investment House Ltd.**, a Herzliya Pituah-based investment house and consultancy, published in April showed.

In 2018, Japanese firms’ investments and acquisitions relating to Israeli startups and tech firms totaled some \$791 million in 28 deals

Sony is the Latest Japanese Company Looking to Tap Israeli Startups With New Fund

In the first half of 2019, Japanese investors backed 34 Israeli companies, up from 28 companies in 2018

Meir Orbach11:4908.07.19

Sony Corp. is the latest Japanese company looking to tap Israeli startups. Last week, the company announced a plan to establish a joint fund with **Daiwa Capital Holdings Co., Ltd.**, a subsidiary of Tokyo-listed investment bank Daiwa Securities Group Inc. The fund, called **Innovation Growth Ventures (IGV)**, is aiming to raise \$185 million to invest in tech startups in Japan, Europe, the U.S., and Israel.

In the first half of 2019, Japanese investors backed 34 Israeli companies, up from 28 companies during the entire year 2018, **Elchanan S. Harel, president of Harel-Hertz Investment House Ltd., an investment firm promoting business between Japan and Israel**, said in a recent interview with Calcalist. “There are currently 87 offices in Israel that represent almost all of the

leading Japanese corporations, with the exception of Tokyo-listed Sumitomo Corp., who are also planning to inaugurate offices in Israel," Harel said.

Last week, Tokyo-listed Japanese advertising and public relation corporation Dentsu Inc. [backed](#) Tel Aviv-based digital communication startup Imprint. Back in June, Dentsu announced it was scouting Israeli startups for investment and collaboration opportunities. To support its operations in Israel, the company [set up a new division](#) called the solution intelligence center.

In May, **Mitsubishi Corp.** opened a [Tel Aviv liaison office](#) to operate as a business intelligence outpost. Mitsubishi is the third Japanese general trading company to set up a local development center in the country, after the Mitsui Group and the Marubeni Corporation. Japanese multinational the Hitachi Group also has a center in Israel.

In October, Japanese insurance company Sompo Holdings Inc. [announced](#) it was launching an innovation hub in Tel Aviv, which will serve as a local operational branch of the company's digital division.

There is a rising trend of Japanese delegations and businesspeople that come to Israel for every tech event to look for potential investments, Guy Lachmann, partner at Pearl Cohen Zedek Latzer Baratz specializing in Japanese relations, told Calcalist in a recent interview.

This trend is growing and more and more Japanese corporations are creating investment funds specifically for Israeli companies, he said.

Trade between Israel and Japan, not including diamonds, amounted to \$3.5 billion in 2018, according to the Israeli ministry of economy, an increase of around 20% from 2017. Overall, Japan is the 11th largest importer of Israeli goods in terms of annual turnover, according to the Israeli Export Institute, and the third largest Asian importe

Japanese Insurer Tokio Marine Partners With Israel's Harel Insurance

Harel Insurance Group was chosen by Japan's largest insurance company Tokio Marine Holdings to help find Israeli hi-tech companies.

Arutz Sheva Staff, 24/07/19

Harel Insurance Group was chosen by Japan's largest insurance company **Tokio Marine Holdings** to collaborate on finding Israeli hi-tech companies in the innovation and digital sectors. According to this agreement, Harel Group and Tokio Marine will identify Israeli companies that specialize in innovative technologies and services, and will allow Harel Group access the cutting-edge technological infrastructure of Tokio Marine, which is engaged in the technological sectors.

Tokio Marine Group is the largest P&C insurance group in Japan founded in 1879. It currently operates in 38 countries worldwide, and generated 4.6 trillion JPY (150 Billion NIS) revenue in the last year (Net premiums written + life insurance premium). It has realized stable growth through well diversified business model with a stable profit base in Japan as well as a strong specialty franchise in developed countries and a business footprint capturing high market growth in emerging countries.

In recent years, the Japanese group is driving innovation based on 3 concepts which are "Mission driven", "Fusion of people's power and technologies" and "Global Digital Synergies".

The agreement was signed between Japanese corporate giant and the Harel Group. Attending the signing ceremony were Mr. Makoto Okada - Executive Vice President, Group Chief Strategy and Synergy Officer, Group Chief Digital Officer, Tokio Marine Holdings Inc, Mr. Yair Hamburger – Chairman, Harel Insurance investments & Financial services Ltd., and senior leadership from both companies. According to the agreement, the two companies would collaborate to identify innovative technologies, products and services in various sectors, including health, cyber, distribution and customer experience, that would be integrated in the insurance's core businesses. The agreement further established that the companies would share information in various sectors – customer service and integration of technological systems to enhance customer experience, rapid payment of claims, as well as include joint study of the world of cyber.



This collaboration positions Harel as a leading Israeli financial group that integrates state-of-the-art technologies in the group's business processes. The Harel Group will enable Israeli startups to introduce themselves to investors from Israel and around the world through the arrangement with Tokio Marine, through joint ventures that the companies will co-manage.

Mr. Makoto Okada from Tokio Marine Holdings Inc stated that "We are pursuing new values through collaboration with our diverse partners and we are the most delighted to reach the partnership agreement with a leading company like Harel who can bridge us to Israel innovation eco-systems. We hope that both of us will nurture our win-win relationship and will create the maximum value in this collaboration."

CEO of Harel Insurance and Finance Group Michel Siboni stated that "This agreement will facilitate the integration of other advanced technological developments that will benefit Harel customers and agents, while reinforcing its status in various markets." According to Siboni, "The decision of Japan's largest insurance corporation to choose Harel as a partner in finding advanced technologies and products is an expression of trust in Harel Insurance Group and in its abilities to find Israeli technologies and companies that are leaders in the field". Siboni further adds that "the entry of a Japanese corporation into investments in Israeli hi-tech sectors creates vast potential for Israeli start-ups and entrepreneurs, which will develop products and services in insurtech".

As a result of the Agreement, representatives of Japan's largest insurance corporation will visit Israel in the next several months to examine Israeli technologies.

Siboni emphasizes that "the Harel Group looks and pushes ahead. We identify technological opportunities and integrate them in an optimal manner for our insureds and agents. The agreement with Japan's largest insurance corporation will support this goal, in trendspotting and in appealing to new markets with future growth potential."



Tokyo-listed Dentsu Backs Digital Communication Startup Imprint

Japanese Advertising Corporation Dentsu INC. Has Signed a New Investment and Multilateral Business Cooperation Agreement With Imprint Social, a Tel Aviv-Based Media Technology Company Specializing in Digital Marketing Engines

Ctech + <https://martechseries.com> 4th july 2019

Dentsu is the largest advertising and communications corporation in Japan with over 60,000 employees. Listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, it is valued at over \$13 billion. It has been combing the Israeli marketplace in recent years to find exciting tech companies in which to invest. The corporation, one of the largest of its kind in the world, and ranked fifth after Omnicom, WPP, Publicis and Interpublic, is continuing with its acquisitions and investments in Israeli technologies, while growing its strategic operations.

Imprint is a digital communications company, barely six years old, which has developed remarkable capabilities to facilitate authentic personal networking in online communities around the world. A unique form of community marketing, Imprint's technologies, and techniques are used to discuss ideas, disseminate high-quality information, and engage in public discourse and hot topics on social media. As a technology company, Imprint focuses on the application of digital marketing engines to organic interpersonal marketing and networking in the online social space. The company conducts discourse-based market research on social media to gain sophisticated insights and develop precise messaging strategies that work with varied target audiences. Located in Tel Aviv and employing a staff of 100 people, Imprint is a proven expert in digital intelligence, audience psychology and the behavioral science of online communities. While the exact scope of Dentsu's investment in Imprint remains confidential, it is estimated at millions of dollars.

Masakazu Takemori, the Senior Solutions Manager of the Intelligence Solutions Center at Dentsu, stated, "Dentsu considers the strategic partnership with Imprint as both an investment and a tremendous opportunity. We're delighted to be boosting Israel's hi-tech sector to obtain innovative technologies and new services that Israeli companies have to offer." He further added, "We will continue to actively seek new opportunities for the Japanese and broader Asian markets. We anticipate that the cooperation with Imprint will constitute a basis for the growth of the current transaction, as well as various future business developments."



Imprint's CEO, [Mark Goldblatt](#), believes the partnership has huge potential: "We consider Dentsu's current investment in Imprint as key to our strategic cooperation in Japan and around the world. Dentsu is a global superpower in digital advertising, and it sees an opportunity for exposure for the Israeli industry. Our cooperation, which has been underway for almost two years, is already generating results for both companies."

Imprint's Chief Technology Officer, [Motti Koren](#), added that "As a global leader in advertising, Dentsu is making a strategic investment in Imprint, which it considers integral to its future as a digital marketing engine. We see Dentsu as a natural partner for growth and technological specialization that will provide a global solution for other corporations and companies, both local and global. The third investment in an Israeli company by a corporation of Dentsu's size and stature reflects the strengthening ties between us as well as Dentsu's commitment to the Israeli tech sector at large, and we're excited about this."

Rigaku Announces Acquisition of XwinSys Technology Development

New industrial solutions from the partnership include in-line X-ray semiconductor metrology with microfocus mirror optics

18 Jul 2019

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X-ray analytical instrument manufacturer [Rigaku Corporation](#) and DYG Holdings LTD have announced the closing of the acquisition process by Rigaku, a privately held scientific instrumentation company headquartered in Tokyo, as of July 1st 2019, to acquire XwinSys Technology Development Ltd, headquartered in Migdal Haemek, Israel.

XwinSys is dedicated to designing, manufacturing and marketing innovative metrology solutions based on enhanced X-ray technology, combined with automated optical 3D and 2D technologies, for the semiconductor and related industries. New industrial solutions will be developed using both Rigaku technologies, including in-line X-ray semiconductor metrology with microfocus mirror optics, and XwinSys technologies.

"The acquisition of XwinSys Technology Development Ltd., with its unique hybrid technology, represents a significant step in the expansion of our semiconductor division," said **Hikaru Shimura, Rigaku President and CEO**. "By combining the existing product lines for the semiconductor industry and other state of the art technologies from Rigaku together with XwinSys



Technology products and technologies, we will be able to rapidly increase our ability to act both in the semiconductor front end and back end markets.”

“XwinSys and Rigaku intend to jointly develop new in-line X-ray metrology equipment for semiconductor front end and back end processes, MEMS, electronics devices and packaging, and other applications using unique technologies from both companies,” said Dr. Kiyoshi Ogata, Executive Vice President & General Manager, X-ray Instrument Division and Semiconductor Metrology Division - Rigaku Corporation. “By implementing new technologies developed by Rigaku for the XwinSys system, we will be able to present to the market a new system by the end of December 2019.”

“The acquisition of XwinSys by Rigaku is an ideal situation where both companies have unique, complementary technologies to enable the creation of new machines supporting multiple applications in the semiconductors market,” said Doron Reinis, founder and CEO of XwinSys Technology Development Ltd. “We intend to take full advantage of the great cooperation we get from Rigaku to support the enhancement of the semiconductor business of Rigaku Corporation.”

Products from XwinSys, along with newly developed products, will be sold and supported worldwide by Rigaku Corporation’s sales, service and application support organizations. XwinSys will support semiconductor customers of Rigaku products in Israel. The first joint products will be micro X-ray fluorescence (XRF) systems, which will be released by the end of December 2019.

Socionext Starts Shipping of Low-Latency 4K/HEVC Encoder Unit “X500E”

Socionext Inc. Published Thu, Jul 04, 2019 06:22 EDT

Socionext Inc., a leading provider of SoC-based solutions for a wide range of advanced video applications, will start shipping its new “X500E”, an HEVC/H.265 encoder unit powered by the company’s high-performance codec technology. The X500E, which enables IP live streaming of broadcast-quality UHD video, will be available for worldwide distribution in late July.

The X500E has been developed jointly with **XVTEC Ltd. of Israel**, and is equipped with Socionext’s high-performance codec IC, the SC2M50, integrated into a compact case. The unit is designed to simplify the development of various video content distribution environments. X500E generates IP streams of broadcast-quality UHD video with HEVC/H.265 encoding, and consumes only 20W with the process under standard usage conditions. It also features low latency, as little



as less than 50ms, making it ideal for use in various video distribution applications including electronic news gathering and live streaming of sporting and other events. The company also expects the X500E to be utilized for emerging applications such as high-definition video capture from surveillance camera and transmission of medical video images. Socionext is now taking orders of X500E, with shipping to start on July 29, 2019.

- X500E features: Broadcast-quality video
- IP live streaming of UHD video through HEVC
- Support of HEVC, main 4:2:2 10bit, level 5.1
- Low latency less than 50ms
- HDMI 2.0a Input
- Support of TS-UDP, RTP, RTSP streaming protocol
- Easy user interface via web browser
- Low power consumption 18~20W (typical; actual power consumption varies depending on the usage conditions)

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ABOUT US

Socionext is a global, innovative enterprise that designs, develops and delivers System-on-Chip solutions to customers worldwide. The company is focused on imaging, networking, computing and other dynamic technologies that drive today's leading-edge applications. Socionext combines world-class expertise, experience, and an extensive IP portfolio to provide exceptional solutions and ensure a better quality of experience for customers. Founded in 2015, Socionext Inc. is headquartered in Yokohama, and has offices in Japan, Asia, United States and Europe to lead its product development and sales activities

Karamba Security Announces with Alpine Electronics Self-Protected In-vehicle Infotainment Systems

July 15, 2019

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, Mich. & HOD HASHARON, Israel--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--[Karamba Security](#), a world leader in automotive and enterprise edge cybersecurity, today announced the signing of a production agreement of its leading [Carwall](#)® runtime integrity software, in [Alpine](#) infotainment systems.

The platform provides an ECU self-protection against remote code execution (RCE), helping to protect vehicles from cyberattacks.

Protection against cyberattacks is critical in order to safeguard customer safety in the connected and autonomous vehicle era. Such exploits of in-memory vulnerabilities can jeopardize customer safety by controlling a vehicle's speed and direction. Karamba's runtime integrity technology provides self-protection against remote code execution, using Control Flow Integrity (CFI).

"This is the first time a production of commercial, embedded, self-protection software is available for automotive ECUs and vehicles," said Ami Dotan, Karamba co-founder and CEO.

Dotan added that the partnership with Alpine's product team allowed Karamba to overcome production hurdles (such as automated implementation without delaying time to market) and implement the same security software on Alpine's various systems.

Karamba's patented Embedded Runtime Integrity is a state-of-the-art attack detection and prevention software that leverages Control Flow Integrity (CFI) and continuously maintains vendor settings. With Karamba's technology installed, the infotainment software system detects, prevents, and reports attempted cyberattacks.

On July 3rd a paper published by leading OEMs such as Audi, BMW, Daimler, Fiat-Chrysler, and Volkswagen, indicated the Control Flow Integrity (CFI) as a recommended technology to protect safety systems against cyberattacks. Karamba Carwall is the industry-leading CFI solution, thanks to its seamless implementation and negligible performance impact of less than 5 percent CPU overhead.



“Protecting our customers against cyberattacks is a key mission for Alpine,” said Yasuhiro Ikeuchi, president of Alpine Europe. “We were looking for a solution that can be seamlessly applied to our product without delaying time to market, with negligible performance impact, while providing strong security measures. We have found those qualities in Karamba Security Carwall® and we are excited to team up with this high growth company.”

Karamba is demonstrating with this production deployment a proven ability to automatically prevent exploits of in-memory vulnerabilities in connected machines, without any need for software or hardware changes. This solution makes embedded security reality in the connected vehicles revolution.

About Karamba Security

Karamba Security provides industry-leading embedded cybersecurity solutions for connected systems.

Product manufacturers in automotive, Industry 4.0, IoT, and enterprise edge rely on Karamba’s automated runtime integrity software to self-protect their products against remote code execution (RCE) cyberattacks with negligible performance impact.

After 32 successful engagements with 17 automotive OEMs and tier 1s, product providers trust Karamba’s award-winning solutions to increase their brand competitiveness and protect their customers against cyberthreats.

About Alpine Electronics

Alpine Electronics is an automotive electronics manufacturer that provides consumers and leading auto makers with audio, video, navigation and driver assistance products. The company specializes in system integration solutions with innovative vehicle entertainment and information technologies. Alpine’s R&D and manufacturing facilities in Japan, China, Europe and North America ensure that all products address the real world requirements of drivers in each market. The company is committed to developing safe, comfortable and eco-friendly automotive electronics products



Jerusalem Mayor Meets Mayor of Kyoto

Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion met with Kyoto Mayor Daisaku Kadokawa in Japan on Wednesday.

Lion and Kadokawa discussed the development and cooperation between Israel and Japan. They also spoke about exchanging delegations between the two cities.

"I thank the Mayor of Kyoto for an excellent meeting, for the warm relations and fruitful cooperation, and I invite the Mayor for a reciprocal visit to Jerusalem, where we would be happy to host him," said Lion.

The mayor is visiting Japan in hopes of bringing about new cooperation between Jerusalem and Japan in areas of art, culture, science and technology, and tourism.

Lion is also scheduled to meet with the Governor of Tokyo, other elected officials, technology entrepreneurs and also with the Japanese Jewish community.

Wix.com Opens Japan Operations

Wix expands global reach with the opening of business operations and support team in Tokyo.

TOKYO, July 18, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [Wix.com Ltd.](#) (NASDAQ: [WIX](#)), a leading cloud-based website development platform, is proud to announce expanded efforts in Tokyo and the Japan market including the establishment of an office and extended customer support.

"With more than 150 million users worldwide, Wix is used across 190 countries and is translated into 19 languages," said Nir Zohar, Wix President and COO. "The expansion to Tokyo allows us to better serve an important market that has already produced significant opportunities for our platform and the Wix business as a whole. We are delighted that Hideaki Tsumita has joined the team as our country manager and look forward to continued growth in the region."

Hideaki Tsumita joins Wix from Evernote where he was the country manager in charge of Japan and the Asia Pacific market.



In addition to enhanced business operations for marketing and the ongoing development of partnerships, a call center will be newly available for Japanese customers during business hours beginning this fall. Wix views the market as strategic and plans to grow the number of customer support agents to assist Japanese language customers as the company expands in the region.

About Wix

Wix is leading the way with a cloud-based website development platform for over 150 million registered users worldwide today. The Wix website builder was founded on the belief that the Internet should be accessible to everyone to develop, create and contribute. Through free and premium subscriptions, Wix empowers millions of businesses, organizations, artists, and individuals to take their businesses, brands and workflow online. The Wix Editor, Wix ADI, a highly curated App Market, Ascend by Wix and Corvid by Wix enable users to build and manage a fully integrated and dynamic digital presence. Wix's headquarters are in Tel Aviv with offices in Be'er Sheva, Berlin, Dnipro, Dublin, Kiev, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, San Francisco, São Paulo, Tokyo and Vilnius.

Toyota, Volvo lead \$31m investment in Israeli co UVeye

UVeye has developed automated vehicle inspection systems with both security and quality control applications.

Israeli company UVeye (short for Under Vehicle Eye), which provides solutions for automatic external inspection of vehicles, **has raised \$31 million in a round led by Toyota Tsusho, Volvo Cars and W. R. Berkley Corporation**, with participation by other investors, among them F.I.T. Ventures. Altogether, the company has raised \$35 million.

UVeye was founded by brothers Amir and Ohad Hever in 2016. The company currently employs 80 people, 70 of them in Israel. It plans to use the money raised to expand its workforce in Israel. Amir Hever previously founded Visual Lead, which was sold to Alibaba in 2015 for an amount estimated at the time at \$6-9 million.

The company told "Globes" in the past that the idea for UVeye came to Amir Hever when he arrived for a meeting at the Ministry of Economy and Industry in Jerusalem following the sale of

Visual Lead. The guard at the building bent down to the ground to look under his vehicle, but admitted to Hever that he couldn't see a thing, but that he did it because there was a camera filming the area, and if anything happened, he would be seen to have done what he was supposed to do.

UVeye developed as a security company, and its systems were installed at sensitive sites such as embassies, military bases, and ports, with the aim of detecting bombs, drug smuggling, and so forth. Two years ago, the company decided to develop in the technical sphere, that is, using its systems to identify faults in vehicles. The company says that revenue is similar in both divisions, but that the civilian business is growing rapidly. It currently works with five vehicle makers: Toyota, Skoda, Daimler, Volvo, and a fifth manufacturer that the company will not name. They say that since it was founded, UVeye's systems have carried out millions of vehicle scans in dozens of countries.

The system combines hardware and software, and the company says that its algorithms learn what the relevant parts of the vehicle in question look like, without pictures of all the models being fed into it. The system is relevant to production sites, haulage, vehicles already on the road, and vehicle fleet management. UVeye collaborates for example with Israeli bus company Kavim. Volvo and Toyota plan to start using the system at their production sites around the world. The system no longer inspects only the underside of the vehicle, but also the tires and vehicle in its entirety.

"Premium quality standards are at the core of the Volvo brand and we are intrigued by the possibilities that UVeye's technology offers," said Zaki Fasihuddin, CEO of the Volvo Cars Tech Fund. "This type of advanced scanning technology could allow us to take the next step in quality".

UVeye would not disclose revenue figures. Its business model is based on payment for use and not on systems sales. VP Marketing Yaron Saghiv says that the product fits in with three trends in the automotive industry. The first is autonomous vehicles: they will travel for longer periods of time, and it will be possible to construct inspection points that they will traverse in the course of the day. The second trend is Industry 4.0, and a switch by manufacturers to a single production line for different models. The third is the rise in the number of companies providing services to car owners.

Foresight Receives Order of QuadSight™ Prototype from Leading Japanese Tier One Supplier

Business Wire July 19, 2019 NESS ZIONA, Israel--(BUSINESS WIRE)—

The supplier ordered the system following a successful technological roadshow carried out in Japan earlier this year.

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), an innovator in automotive vision systems, announced today an additional sale of a prototype of its QuadSight™ four-camera vision system, targeted for the semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicle market. The prototype system was ordered by a leading Japanese Tier One automotive supplier. Revenue from the prototype system sale is expected to total tens of thousands of dollars.

Cornes Technologies, Foresight's distributor in Japan, facilitated the prototype system sale, the first from a Japanese customer. The Japanese Tier One automotive supplier participated in a technological roadshow that took place earlier this year, as reported by the Company on May 14, 2019. The roadshow consisted of live, real-time demonstrations of the QuadSight system to interested parties. Different scenarios were tested, simulating obstacle detection in challenging weather and lighting conditions. Customer satisfaction following initial installation may lead to orders of QuadSight systems by the leading Japanese supplier for mass production.

"This order affirms the importance of our technological roadshow strategy, which offers potential strategic partners the chance to experience our QuadSight system in real time and better understand its outstanding detection capabilities," said Haim Siboni, CEO of Foresight. "I am confident that the successful roadshow in Japan will generate additional orders of prototype systems from vehicle manufacturers and Tier One suppliers in the coming months."

By selling additional prototypes, Foresight intends to increase awareness of its unique solutions, address potential customers, and expand its presence with vehicle manufacturers and Tier One automotive suppliers. Foresight believes that closer evaluation of the technology by potential customers may lead to future collaborations in research and development, integration, production and other areas.



About QuadSight™

The QuadSight system was launched in January 2018 at the Consumers Electronics Show in Las Vegas. Foresight regards QuadSight as the industry's most accurate quad-camera vision system, offering exceptional obstacle detection for semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicle safety. Through sensor fusion, QuadSight leverages reflected light from visible-light cameras with thermal energy captured by long-wave infrared cameras for robust accurate object detection of any shape, form or material, in all weather and lighting conditions - including complete darkness, rain, haze, fog and glare. By adapting field-proven security technology that has been deployed for almost two decades, QuadSight™ offers autonomous vehicles perception capabilities beyond those of human eyes and reduces the likelihood of accidents and injuries.

About Foresight

Foresight Autonomous Holdings Ltd. (Nasdaq and TASE: FRSX), founded in 2015, is a technology company engaged in the design, development and commercialization of sensors systems for the automotive industry. Through the company's wholly owned subsidiaries, Foresight Automotive Ltd. and Eye-Net Mobile Ltd., Foresight develops both "in-line-of-sight" vision systems and "beyond-line-of-sight" cellular-based applications. Foresight's vision sensor is a four-camera system based on 3D video analysis, advanced algorithms for image processing, and sensor fusion. Eye-Net Mobile's cellular-based application is a V2X (vehicle-to-everything) accident prevention solution based on real-time spatial analysis of clients' movement.

The company's systems are designed to improve driving safety by enabling highly accurate and reliable threat detection while ensuring the lowest rates of false alerts. Foresight is targeting the semi-autonomous and autonomous vehicle markets and predicts that its systems will revolutionize automotive safety by providing an automotive-grade, cost-effective platform and advanced technology.

Palestinians welcome Japan offer to mediate in Palestine-Israeli conflict

DAOUD KUTTAB

July 04, 2019

Saeb Erekat, PLO official, tells Arab News Japan is a country that has shown ‘tremendous commitment’ to the cause

Malki said that the initiative of the CEAPAD conference gives hope to the Palestinian people

AMMAN: Palestinians welcomed the initiative made by Japan’s **Foreign Minister Taro Kono** in the exclusive interview he gave to Arab News about his country’s interest playing the role of an “**honest broker**” in helping to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Saeb Erekat, the secretary of the executive committee of the PLO, told Arab News that Japan is a country that has shown a ‘tremendous commitment’ to peace and the two-state solution.

“They have invested in the development of institutions in Palestine and have kept a position against Israeli settlements,” Erekat said. “We welcome their position which is consistent with the peace plan presented by President Abbas before the Security Council in February 2018, calling for a group of countries to facilitate the peace process as we are not going to accept the United States to play this role.”

Ibrahim Milhem, spokesman of the Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh, noted that the premier met a Japanese delegation that included the **Middle East peace envoy Masahiro Kono and Japan’s head of diplomatic mission in Ramallah Takeshi Okubo**. In a statement after the meeting on Wednesday the Palestinian prime minister noted his appreciation of the bilateral relations between both sides. “Shtayyeh praised the continuous political and economic support from Japan, especially their support in the building of the institutions of the state of Palestine,” the statement concluded.

Ahmad Deek, political affairs advisor of the Palestinian Foreign Ministry, said that the ministry “welcomes” the calls made by the Japanese foreign minister. In answer to a question by Arab News, Deek said, “we welcome the suggestion made by the foreign minister because we believe that any movement is helpful.” Deek noted that Palestinians yearn for peace and welcome support from “our international friends so long as it is not limited to only the Americans.”



Hanna Issa, director of Islamic-Christian Commission for Support of Jerusalem, said that Japan's position is the correct one. "Both the Israeli and American positions are constantly changing and therefore it is important to have a country that is neutral like Japan, which supports the two-state solution and has shown its backing on projects in support of Palestinian statehood."

The Japanese delegation to Palestine has met a number of senior Palestinian officials and observed Japanese funded projects. Japan is a major supporter of Palestinian agriculture through its efforts to help agricultural exports, especially from the Jordan valley area. They also attended the first conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian development (CEAPAD) held in Palestine.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Riyad Malki opened the conference, stressing that CEAPAD is an effective model for building bridges of communication and transferring successful experiences in East Asia to Palestine to support the two-state solution.

Malki said that the initiative of the CEAPAD conference gives hope to the Palestinian people, especially in light of Israel's control over the Palestinian economy. He added that with the help of the countries participating in the conference they hope to move from a state under occupation to a developed country achieving development freely and with dignity.

The first CEAPAD conference was first held in the Japanese capital Tokyo in 2013; the second was in the Indonesian capital Jakarta in 2014, and the third in the Thai capital Bangkok in 2018.

CEAPAD member states include: Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Vietnam, the Sultanate of Brunei and Palestine. The observer countries and organizations are: South Korea, Egypt, Jordan, the International Quartet, UNRWA and the Islamic Development Bank

Japan sponsors Trade Fair in the West Bank

A trade fair has been held in the West Bank town of Jericho to promote business between Palestinian and Indonesian companies. Japan's government sponsored the event to help the Palestinians develop their economy.

Nine Indonesian firms took part in Wednesday's fair at the invitation of the Japanese government.

Islamic countries in Southeast Asia, such as Indonesia and Malaysia, recognize Palestine as a sovereign state, while refusing to have diplomatic ties with Israel.

Without cooperation from Israel, it has been difficult for these Southeast Asian nations to have economic exchanges with Palestinian firms in the West Bank.

At Wednesday's fair, Palestinian companies sold processed foods and health supplements made from dates and olives to Indonesian firms.

An official from the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry told NHK they hope that the Indonesian people's desire to help their Muslim colleagues will help to create new business exchanges.

The Japanese government says it plans to continue assisting similar corporate exchanges in the region.

It also says it will urge Israel to ease its restrictions on the movement of people and goods into the Palestinian areas.

August

Cybereason Raises \$200 Million Led by Softbank Ahead Of IPO

Forbes and TechCrunch 6th August 2019

Cybereason, a cloud-based cybersecurity company and [Forbes 2019 Next Billion-Dollar Startups honoree](#) announced Tuesday \$200 million in new funding. Led by Softbank, the Series E round boosts the company's valuation to \$900 million, with \$389 million in total equity. The fresh influx provides padding as Cybereason prepares for an initial public offering, the timing of which depends on market conditions, CEO and cofounder Lior Div told *Forbes*. In the meantime, Cybereason aims to expand its already global reach, the details of which will be announced this week at Black Hat, the annual infosec conference in Las Vegas.

it's a sign of the belief that SoftBank has in the technology, since the Japanese investment firm is basically doubling down on commitments it made [to the Boston-based company four years ago](#).

The company first came to our [attention five years ago](#) when it raised a \$25 million financing from investors including CRV, Spark Capital and Lockheed Martin.

Cybereason's technology processes and analyzes data in real-time across an organization's daily operations and relationships. It looks for anomalies in behavior across nodes on networks and uses those anomalies to flag suspicious activity.

The company also provides reporting tools to inform customers of the root cause, the timeline, the person involved in the breach or breaches, what tools they use and what information was being disseminated within and outside of the organization.

For founder Lior Div, Cybereason's work is the continuation of the six years of training and service he spent working with the Israeli army's 8200 Unit, the military incubator for half of the security startups pitching their wares today. After his time in the military, Div worked for the Israeli government as a private contractor reverse engineering hacking operations.

Over the last two years, Cybereason has expanded the scope of its service to a network that spans 6 million endpoints tracked by 500 employees with offices in Boston, Tel Aviv, Tokyo and London.

"Cybereason's big data analytics approach to mitigating cyber risk has fueled explosive expansion at the leading edge of the EDR domain, disrupting the EPP market. We are leading the wave, becoming the world's most reliable and effective endpoint prevention and detection solution



because of our technology, our people and our partners,” said Div, in a statement. “We help all security teams prevent more attacks, sooner, in ways that enable understanding and taking decisive action faster.”

The company said it will use the new funding to accelerate its sales and marketing efforts across all geographies and push further ahead with research and development to make more of its security operations autonomous.

“Today we’re protecting the biggest banks, hospitals, manufacturers in the world, all these companies have a significant presence on mobile, from iPads to phone, we’ll be able to cover them and the ISP environment as well,” Div said. This week at Black Hat the company plans to demo its mobile product which it plans to launch in the next quarter. “We will be adding the ability to stop threats on mobile devices, and invest more in the ability to accelerate our artificial intelligence capabilities.”

In June, Cybereason revealed [a massive telecommunications attack, with a “very high probability” that it was funded by the Chinese government](#). A suspected ring of APT 10 (advanced persistent threat), attackers, for at least seven years, had strategically accessed and exfiltrated banks of cellphone data to track the location of individuals, some of which were spies and politicians, without using call records.

“We managed to uncover the hackers offensive, attack infrastructure, through this we identified that they weren’t just hacking this specific telco, but another 10 different telcos,” Div told *Forbes*. “They used this infrastructure as their own to track people, they tracked 20 specific individuals, every location, phone call, SMS for six months.”

A global network of millions of endpoints helped Cybereason reveal yet another separate and ongoing espionage attack of similar size, of which Div said he was not at liberty to provide details.

IceCure signs Japan, Singapore distribution deal with Terumo

1 Sep, 2019 [Gali Weinreb](#)

Japanese company Terumo is committed to at least \$13.2 million in orders for IceCure's minimally invasive cryoablation breast cancer therapy.



Israeli minimally invasive cryoablation breast cancer therapy company [IceCure Ltd.](#) (TASE: ICCM) has announced the signing of a marketing agreement for the distribution of its products in Japan and Singapore. The agreement was signed with Japanese company Terumo, listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange at a market cap of over \$22 billion. Terumo specializes in marketing medical equipment. IceCure's share price jumped 5.9% following the announcement, after having dropped 35% since the beginning of the year.

IceCure has developed and markets a cryoablation therapy for freezing and eliminating benign and malignant tumors.

Under the agreement, IceCure will receive \$2.5 million within 30 days of the signing of the agreement, plus \$1.5 million upon initial supply of the first products, which the company says will happen in the first quarter of 2020. The Japanese company is committed to a minimum of \$13.2 million in orders. The agreement is for five years. The minimum quantities are contingent on obtaining marketing approval and insurance reimbursement. Terumo will be responsible for obtaining these approvals.

If the agreement goes through as planned, it will substantially boost IceCure's revenue, which stood at NIS 2 million in the first half of 2019, 15% more than in the corresponding period last year. IceCure currently markets its products mainly in the US, and has focused primarily on the benign breast tumors market, but its business did not develop as planned, and the company's reports currently bear a going concern warning.

Chinese businessman Dr. Haixiang Lee became the controlling shareholder in IceCure in March 2015, when the company began looking to Asia and focusing its efforts on treatment of malignant tumors. Meanwhile, the US market still accounts for most of the company's revenue. The company recently obtained insurance reimbursement for its treatment for malignant tumors. IceCure is managed by CEO Eyal Shamir.

IceCure currently has NIS 11 million in cash, and used NIS 7.3 million for its routine needs in the first half of 2019.

Harel-Hertz (HIH) has been consulting to **IceCure** in its Japan entry for the last seven years.

WSC Sports Raises \$23 Million in Series C Funding

Series C financing round led by Eyal Ofer's O.G. Tech Ventures together with NTT DOCOMO Ventures,

TEL AVIV, Israel, Aug. 8, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [WSC Sports](#), the leader in AI-powered sports video content, announced today it has raised \$23 million in Series C funding, bringing the company's total funding to \$39 million. The new capital will be used to further expand WSC's growth across new sports, products and geographic regions.

This funding round was led by Eyal Ofer's O.G. Tech Ventures ("O.G. Tech") – the international tech investment arm of Ofer Global, along with NTT DOCOMO Ventures, HBSE Ventures - the venture arm of Harris Blitzer Sports & Entertainment, Maor Investments, ISF and Go4it Capital. Roy Oron, Managing Director at O.G. Tech, will be joining the company's board of directors. This follows the June announcement that David Stern, Commissioner Emeritus of the NBA and John Kosner, former Vice President of Digital Media at ESPN, have joined WSC Sports as advisors.

WSC Sports' award-winning AI technology generates personalized and automatic sports video content in near real-time. WSC has innovated the way sports and media owners create and distribute short-form video highlights at scale and works with tier-1 clients including NBA, Bundesliga, PGA Tour, US Open, Bleacher Report, Discovery, MLS, FIBA, Cricket Australia, WarnerMedia and many more. In 2018, WSC Sports analyzed more than 17,000 sporting events and produced more than 850,000 videos for its customers.

"I am thrilled that such strategic investors have joined WSC Sports and am incredibly appreciative that our existing investors believe in the company and continue to support us. I am proud of what we have built so far with our amazing team and unique culture, and confident this new round of funding will help us to continue to grow and impact the way sports media rights owners provide the best experience to their fans," said Daniel Shichman, CEO and Co-Founder, WSC Sports.

Eyal Ofer, Chairman of Ofer Global, said: "We are proud to be a part of WSC Sports' journey as it leads the way in revolutionizing the way in which people consume sports around the world. O.G. Tech's lead role is consistent with our strategic ambition of focusing on unique growth



opportunities led by exceptional founders. We are delighted that this funding will help the company with its global expansion across new sports, products and countries."

Existing investors also joined the funding round, including Intel Capital, Detroit Venture Partners (Dan Gilbert's venture capital firm), Elysian Park Ventures, WISE Ventures (Wilf family, owners of the Minnesota Vikings), 2BAngels and iAngels. The funding comes after a year of explosive growth for WSC Sports – doubling its customer base and revenue year over year for the last 3 years, growing to more than 100 employees worldwide and expanding its global footprint with offices in New York and Sydney.

About WSC Sports

WSC Sports' platform generates personalized sports videos for every platform and every sports fan - automatically and in real-time.

Currently being used by leading media rights owners such as WarnerMedia, NBA, MLS, US Open, PGA Tour, Bundesliga and others, WSC Sports' platform utilizes advanced AI capabilities to analyze live sports broadcasts, identify each and every event that occurs in the game, create customized short-form video content, and publish to any digital destination.

This enables partners to instantly generate and distribute professionally edited personalized clips and videos on a large scale to engage audiences and maximize video monetization opportunities.



Japan's Sompo, AT Partners, NTT Finance Launch Joint \$40 Million Fund to Invest in Israel

The fund made its first limited partnership in Israel last month, according to Nobuyuki Akimoto, co-founder and managing director at AT Partners

Adi Pick: 22.08.19

Japanese insurance company Sompo Holdings Inc. has partnered with Tokyo-based venture capital firms NTT Finance Corp. and AT Partners Inc. to launch a \$40 million fund that will become a limited partner in Israeli venture capital firms, Nobuyuki Akimoto, co-founder and managing director at AT Partners, said in a Wednesday interview with CTech by Calcalist. The new fund will not invest in specific startups, but rather partner with approximately 10 Israel venture capital firms, Akimoto said.

The fund made its first commitment in Israel last month, investing \$2 million in a fund managed by Vertex Ventures Israel, Akimoto said. Vertex Ventures was one of the two most active venture firms in Israel in 2018, according to [a report published in January](#) by Tel Aviv-based research firm IVC Research Center. Vertex Ventures has \$960 million in assets under management, and its portfolio companies include no-checkout shopping startup Trigo Vision Ltd., LiDAR startup Innoviz Technologies Ltd., and Cloud backup startup OwnBackup Ltd.

The Japanese alliance fund will be announcing its second and third commitments next month, Akimoto said, each valued between \$3 million and \$5 million. The fund is particularly interested in the fields of digital health, cybersecurity, robotech, and artificial intelligence, Akimoto said.

The new fund does not currently employ any full-time employees on-the-ground in Israel, says Akimoto, but that may soon change. The fund intends to invest the \$40 million it has already raised within five years, Akimoto said, adding that it is continuing to raise more funding.

Sompo already has local activity in Israel after setting up [an innovation hub](#) in Tel Aviv In 2018. Sompo's Israeli arm focuses on startups in the fields of insurtech, mobility, health and care for the elderly, blockchain, home IoT, and cybersecurity, the company said.

Trend Micro to open an R&D center in Israel

The center will develop solutions to deal with complex cyber problems, as well as prototypes for solutions, ripening them and bringing them to the market. • Kevin Simzer, the company's chief operating officer, talks to people and computers about the center and its activities in general

By [Yossi Toni](#) August 5, 2019,

Trend Micro will open an R&D center in the country - The center will develop and present solutions for dealing with complex problems in the cyber scene, as well as developing prototypes for solutions, ripening them and bringing them to the market. It will collaborate with industry parties, as well as with academic and research institutions. In Israel and around the world. The company has yet to decide which way the center will be set up, when there are two options: acquiring an Israeli startup that works in cyber defense or building a team of staff, security professionals. In an exclusive interview with People and Computers, **Kevin Simzer**, chief operating officer of Trend Micro, said: "I know, though not in depth, the Israeli market. Israel is the father of cyber and vision - the multitude of start-ups in this area." He said that "We have experienced an increase in our continued operations in Israel, and the trend will continue. We have increased the volume of sales staff in Israel and will continue to invest in our local branch. We are scanning the local market through our investment arm, looking at investments - and we will continue to do so."

Simzer noted that the establishment of the R&D center in Israel is another action the company is taking to address cyber protection challenges. He says, "There are more than 2,000 employees in our R&D labs. Our R&D systems are relatively larger than our competitors - we invest 14 % Of our annual turnover in the field. Unlike other companies, we rely on organic growth and acquire one company a year. Our focus is on companies that provide security in the cloud, this is the place that drives us the most growth. "

With the establishment of the center, Trend Micro joins a number of multinational information security and cyber companies, or those with a lot of activity in the field, who have R&D centers in the country, including **Symantec**, **IBM**, **Cisco**, **Dell-EMC**, **Palo Alto** and **Check Point** The Israeli.



The challenges of information security executives in organizations, according to Simzer

Simzer was an engineer at **Nortel** and then established a sold-out startup. He said, "The most important and distinct challenge of enterprise information security managers is the growing shortage of professional personnel in the field. 2020 is around the corner, so around two million cyber professionals will be lost worldwide.

"Another challenge," Simzer noted, "involves directly the rapid technological and weight changes in the industry. It is a challenge for infrastructure providers and, at the same time, significant cyber threats to organizations. It begins with virtualization in the various IT layers, storage, networking and communication. The security dynamics - not many internalize the cyber protection problems it creates - other security challenges are mobility, home or other work, outsourcing managed services, and fear of harming a third-party organization in the supply chain. , The Internet of Things - an area that is growing from Shot, requiring a defensive response. The situation worsens when connected to the IoT industry public cloud. "

"The threat landscape has also changed," he added. "Five years ago, there were advanced and consistent threats (APTs) and today, these have not disappeared, but we see threats that are gaining momentum for the unbelievers, along with attempts to damage end-stations. The infrastructure-user-threat triangle needs to be rethought."

"For a better security response, we cracked down on a decade ago in collaboration with **VMware** , and we have been investing in public cloud security solutions for years and collaborating with Azure of **Microsoft** and **AWS** . The goal is to launch an IT project, in the enterprise or in the cloud, to secure information. Get integrated right from the start, called Security by Design. " Also, Simzer said, "We have collaborations with Symantec, **McAfee** and IBM's X-Force, and we are working closely with the US government as well."

"Vulnerability - Hackers' Best Companies"

Simzer noted that "Vulnerabilities are the best cybercriminals companies. So, we joined the Zero Day Initiative, where we work with 3,000 researchers, good, financially rewarded hackers - to find vulnerabilities, alert against vulnerabilities and secure tighter products Before they are released to the market. We work with them to get patched, free, damaged apps. "

"Knowing vulnerability or damage in advance gives us and the market the ability to better prepare for, repair, and provide higher-level security to customers. Security patch management is a constant headache for most organizations and can turn into a nightmare if a zero-day injury hits the organization Which will require the repair of hundreds of systems. "



In conclusion, Simzer said, "One of our solutions to the chronic manpower shortage in security is to combine artificial intelligence and machine learning for our products and services. , In favor of building better security systems. "

Revuze and Gaprise Partner to Bring Self-service CX to Brands in Japan

NETANYA, Israel and TOKYO, Japan, Aug. 15, 2019 /PRNewswire/ – Revuze Ltd. and Gaprise Inc. announce partnership to expand Revuze Big Data Consumer Analytics service to the Japanese market.

With increased demand to predict products success in the market and to understand markets needs and sentiment, Japan-based Brands can now have an opportunity to learn from their consumers and improve their Products competitive edge.

Revuze enables brands to quickly understand their product and customer satisfaction issues, and to automatically score and rank their brand's performance relative to its competitors and to the market.

Revuze uses AI, powered by Natural-language programming (NLP) and machine learning, to empower Brands that previously have relied on manually intensive solutions, such as text analytics, social listening and monitoring with a simple online service. Without the need to pre-define a single keyword, rule, topic or sentiment value – Insight Analysts can access the most nuanced information available. The data is delivered, via a single screen, about consumers and their needs, across thousands of internal and external data sources, on any given product Category.

Gaprise expertise in introducing Global technologies to the Japanese market, has proven over the years to improve many marketing teams' performance. Revuze is a synergetic addition to Gaprise's unique portfolio of marketing-oriented solutions.

About the new partnership, Keisuke Doi, Gaprise Inc. Director COO, says: "It's a great opportunity for Gaprise to introduce Revuze solutions to Japan-based Brands and enable them to analyze their consumers' data both, in Japan and overseas. Gaprise expects Revuze to assist Japanese enterprise to utilize their customer voice more efficiently for Marketing, User Support and Product development teams."



Revuze entrance to the Japanese market is part of its global approach to support multi-language and multi-cultural markets. "We are excited to partner with Gaprise to introduce Revuze to the Japanese Market. We trust Gaprise to be in the best position to represent Revuze and to ensure successful deployments in the demanding Japanese market" says Shai Etzion, CRO at Revuze.

About Revuze

Backed by investors such as SAP.io, Nielsen and NPD, Revuze transforms how brands consume CX insights with the first automated solution so they can be efficient and competitive. While other solutions rely heavily on experts and manual labor which is expensive, slow and inaccurate, the Revuze solution is up and running quickly and without professional resources. Our unique self-learning AI technology understands consumer intent regardless of choice of words, feedback channel or language. For more information visit www.revuze.it

Revuze is a venture-backed company with investors that include Nielsen, The NPD Group, SAP and TIC Group. The company is headquartered in Netanya, Israel, with U.S. operations in San Francisco, and New York City.

About Gaprise

Gaprise was founded in 2005 and have been working since with top Israeli start-ups such as Clicktale, Smlilarweb, monday.com and Yotpo, to introduce them to the Japanese market.

Lufthansa to offer routes from Israel to Japan, Lufthansa subsidiary to offer flights to Osaka, Japan, and - all with stopovers in Switzerland.

Arutz Sheva Staff, 12/08/19

Lufthansa subsidiary Swiss International Air Lines will operate five weekly flights from Tel Aviv to Osaka, Japan, with a stopover in Zurich, Switzerland, Israel Hayom reported.

The decision follows a rise in the number of Israelis flying to Japan since the summer of 2018.

In addition, beginning in March 2020, Swiss Airlines will operate flights from Tel Aviv to Tokyo, Japan, which will also include a stopover in Zurich.

The Lufthansa Group also said it expects to significantly expand its activities to include long-haul trips which it did not previously offer, and that it is launching a line of new flights to various destinations in Asia, North America, and various popular vacation islands.



Ofer Kish, CEO of the Lufthansa Group In Israel, said: "In light of the Lufthansa Group's growth in the Israeli market and in Europe in general, we are happy to expand our flight offerings, which will allow families and individuals to visit the most beautiful places on earth, efficiently and at a reasonable cost."

Foreign Minister Kono receives courtesy call by Mr. Yair Lapid, Co-Chairman of the Blue and White Party of Israel

August 19, 2019 MOFA



On Monday, August 19th 2019, commencing from 10:30 AM for about twenty minutes, Mr.Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs received a courtesy call by Mr. Yair Lapid, Co-Chairman of the Blue and White Party of Israel. The overview of the courtesy call is as follows.

At the outset, Foreign Minister Kono said he welcomed the fact that the bilateral relationship between Japan and Israel is steadily making progress, that he appreciates Israel's significance for Japan in the area of cutting-edge high-technology, noted that a regular direct flight service between Israel and Japan will start next year, and hoped that this will lead to increased people-to-people exchanges.

In response, Mr. Lapid stated that Israel and Japan has similarities in that both are ancient people who are thriving now, that trade between the two countries have increased since the time

he had been Minister of Finance and this should be continued forward, and that he wished to cooperate in areas such as the fight against international terrorism.

The two then exchanged views on bilateral relations, the regional situations in East Asia and the Middle East, and Israel's domestic situation, among other matters.

Abbas wishes to strengthen relations with Japan **PA chairman meets Japanese parliamentary delegation, praises** **Japan's support for "Palestine".**

Elad Benari, 19/08/19 Reuters

Palestinian Authority (PA) chairman Mahmoud Abbas met on Sunday with a Japanese parliamentary delegation, headed by Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs at Japan's House of Representatives Wakamiya Kenji, in Ramallah.

According to the PA's official *Wafa* news agency, Abbas stressed the depth of relations between "Palestine" and Japan and the keenness of the "State of Palestine" to strengthen them for the benefit of the two friendly peoples, praising the continuous political and economic support of Japan to the Palestinian people.

For his part, according to *Wafa*, Kenji reiterated Japan's commitment to the two-state solution and the right of the Palestinian people to establish their state alongside the state of Israel.

He stressed Japan's commitment to continue their economic support to build the Palestinian institutions as well as to support the corridor of peace and prosperity and the Jericho industrial zone.

Japan has in the past expressed willingness to mediate in the peace talks between Israel and the PA. In 2017, [Japan invited](#) Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu to a four-way meeting in Tokyo with Abbas and White House senior adviser Jared Kushner, in an effort to restart peace efforts. But it failed.



September

Israel signs defense MOU with Japan

10/09/19

Memorandum of Understanding signed with Japanese Defense Ministry in Tokyo to strengthen defense cooperation between Israel and Japan

Israel has signed a defense agreement with Japan, the government announced Tuesday.

Prime Minister Netanyahu stated following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): "I applaud the important agreement that was signed this morning with the Japanese Ministry of Defense. The agreement will deepen and strengthen security relations between the countries. We have brought Israel-Japan relations to an all-time high."

The MOU between Israel and Japan was signed at a celebratory ceremony today at the Japanese Ministry of Defense headquarters in Tokyo. This agreement is expected to strengthen and deepen the defense cooperation and relations between the two countries.

The MOU was signed by the Director of Security for the Defense Establishment, **Mr. Nir Ben Moshe**, accompanied by the **Israel Ambassador to Japan, Mrs. Yafa Ben Ari**. Japan was represented by **Director General, International Affairs, Mr. Suzuki** and **Director General, Equipment Policy, ATLA Mr. Aoyagi**



NTT DOCOMO Awards Gilat an LTE Satellite Backhaul Project to Expand Its LTE Footprint

PR Newswire September 3, 2019

Gilat in partnership with JSAT to provide NTT DOCOMO a solution to extend rural coverage

Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd. ([GILT](#)) ([GILT](#)), a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions and services, announced today that NTT DOCOMO, INC., the largest mobile carrier in Japan, awarded Gilat a project for LTE satellite backhaul, to expand its LTE footprint. Gilat in partnership with SKY Perfect JSAT (JSAT) will provide NTT DOCOMO a solution for rural coverage extension, while ensuring secure and robust coverage even in the most challenging weather conditions.

NTT DOCOMO is engaged in a project to extend LTE service to islands and other hard to reach regions to provide a superior user experience to their customer base throughout Japan. Gilat's satellite backhaul operated by JSAT's powerful JCSAT-4B satellite will enable this DOCOMO service in selected areas of Japan.

In support of Japan's highly demanding cellular market, NTT DOCOMO is leading in development of 5G networks, leveraging network function virtualization (NFV) and other technologies, actively pursuing the next generation cellular networks. Gilat, as an active member in the SaT5G standard organization, looks forward to providing satellite backhaul to support NTT DOCOMO's 5G leadership.

"NTT DOCOMO sees great value in satellite backhauling to extend its leading broad fiber network to islands, destinations, and areas where terrestrial coverage is not available," said Takumi Togi, Senior Manager of Radio Access Network Engineering Department of NTT DOCOMO. "We are pleased to be partnering with Gilat, the recognized satellite backhauling leader in Japan as well as worldwide, for materializing our cellular network vision."

"It is a matter of honor for Gilat to have the opportunity to gain NTT DOCOMO's trust and further strengthen the close partnership with JSAT to enable NTT DOCOMO to provide 4G coverage extension to rural areas," said Abhay Kumar, Regional Vice President Asia-Pacific, Japan and North America for Gilat. "NTT DOCOMO selected Gilat after careful evaluation



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and further to Gilat's proven track record in Japan and worldwide, thus further solidifying Gilat's LTE backhauling leadership and demonstrating our technological superiority."

About SKY Perfect JSAT

SKY Perfect JSAT Corporation is a leader in the converging fields of broadcasting and communications. It is Asia's largest satellite operator with a fleet of 18 satellites, and Japan's only provider of both multi-channel pay TV broadcasting and satellite communications services. SKY Perfect JSAT delivers a broad range of entertainment through the SKY PerfecTV! platform, the most extensive in Japan with a total of 3 million subscribers. In addition, SKY Perfect JSAT's satellite communications services, which cover Japan and the rest of Asia, as well as Oceania, Russia, Middle East, Hawaii and North America, play a vital role in supporting safety, security and convenience for society as a whole

About Gilat

Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd. (NASDAQ: GILT, TASE: GILT) is a leading global provider of satellite-based broadband communications. With 30 years of experience, we design and manufacture cutting-edge ground segment equipment, and provide comprehensive solutions and end-to-end services, powered by our innovative technology. Delivering high value competitive solutions, our portfolio comprises of a cloud based VSAT network platform, high-speed modems, high performance on-the-move antennas and high efficiency, high power Solid State Amplifiers (SSPA) and Block Upconverters (BUC)

Todos Medical, Orot+ Partner to Expand Breast Cancer Blood Test Into Japan

Sep 03, 2019

NEW YORK – *In vitro* diagnostics company Todos Medical announced today it has expanded its partnership with Orot[+] to launch and distribute Todos' early breast cancer detection blood tests, TM-B1 and TM-B2, in Japan.

The firms have entered into a nonbinding memorandum of understanding under which Orot will spend at least \$2.5 million on regulatory approval, clinical development, and the commercial launch of the tests.

Orot plans to create a Japanese distribution company for the tests, and that company will hold exclusive rights to sell and distribute TM-B1 and TM-B2 in Japan.



"Japan, like much of Asia, has an enhanced need for alternatives to mammogram as the primary breast cancer diagnostic, due to the high incidence of women with dense breast tissue, making this an especially important market for us," Herman Weiss, president and CEO of Todos Medical, said in a press release.

Earlier this year, the two companies agreed on an [exclusive distribution agreement](#) for both tests in Romania and Austria.

TM-B1 and TM-B2 have both been approved by the European Commission.

Todos Medical, based in Rehovot, Israel, is an *in vitro* diagnostic company that develops blood tests for early detection of a range of cancers, as well as neurodegenerative disorders like Alzheimer's disease.

The Tel-Aviv, Israel-based Orot is the operational division of Orot-Luces focusing on distribution of medical services in the cancer arena, mainly in Europe and Southeast Asia

Jungo to Collaborate With Renesas, a Premier Automotive Processor Supplier

Delivers Driver Monitoring and Cabin Sensing Software For Automated Driving, Optimized to Renesas' Scalable Automotive R-Car SoC Platform

NETANYA, Israel, Sept. 3, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Jungo, a leader in in-cabin sensing software, announced that their driver monitoring and cabin sensing software "CoDriver" is now optimized and available for Renesas Electronics Corporation's automotive R-Car System- on-Chip (SoC) platform, enabling OEMs and Tier 1s to rapidly bring to market accurate and cost effective in-cabin sensing.

Compliant with Euro NCAP and upcoming regulations, the CoDriver for R-Car enables OEMs to rapidly and affordably introduce NCAP compliant in-cabin sensing.



DMS and OCS

Driver monitoring systems (DMS) detect driver's condition such as distraction, drowsiness, emotion and position and are part of accident prevention functions and personalization features. With increasing automation of vehicles, DMS has received increasing attention as an indispensable technology. The market demand of DMS is forecasted from 13 M Units in 2019 to 42 M Units in 2025 (as reported by Strategy Analytics in 2019).

Already in vehicles that embed ADAS features and support up to Level 2 automated driving, where the driver is always in control of the car, the DMS helps to prevent accidents to alert the driver when being distracted. With conditional automation at Level 3, it is considered essential to determine at all times whether the driver can take control of the vehicle when the system hands back the control to the driver. As this can happen at any time when the situation becomes unmanageable for the system, it requires an advanced and reliable driver monitoring system.

In addition, Occupant Classification Systems (OCS) are being adopted rapidly, for applications that detect the presence or absence of passengers, monitoring of the passenger's condition, and measures against leaving children behind in the car.

CoDriver

"CoDriver" is Jungo's software which uses state-of-the-art deep learning, machine learning, and computer vision algorithms to detect in real time the driver state using driver facing cameras. It also supports in-vehicle full detection technology with functions such as counting of the number of occupants, detection of seat belt wearing or detection or observing of critical medical conditions. These features are important today but also in the future for shared mobility vehicles, that will drive fully automated.

Key Functions of "CoDriver"

Main detection function: Head posture, face direction, pupil / gaze direction, eye openness / blinking, seat position, driver ID, body posture, and multiple people detection.

Key prediction functions: Drowsiness, distraction, gaze tracking, face recognition, age and gender estimation, emotion estimation, seat belt detection, posture position, left behind detection, and detection of abnormal conditions in the cabin.

CoDriver ported on Renesas R-Car SoCs

Jungo's CoDriver was ported, optimized and tested on Renesas' scalable R-Car SoCs, which has a large market share in the automotive SoC market, based on its highly scalable roadmap, functional safety architecture and low power technology. From entry R-Car E3 (for standalone systems) to high end R-Car H3 (for shared applications such as cockpit IVI and cluster), CoDriver supports the entire R-Car SoC range, leveraging embedded computer vision and CNN accelerators, where available, to get maximum performance at low power consumption.

Renesas' R-Car integrates multiple, heterogenous cores, enabling applications to execute tasks simultaneously and achieve advanced computer vision at low power consumption. Especially for computer vision algorithms, R-Car SoCs offer special power saving and CPU-load saving embedded circuits.

This enables manufacturers developing automotive equipment to rapidly develop driver monitoring and cabin monitoring system, while reducing schedules and cost, and solving the heat problems that have been faced so far.

The combination of R-Car and "CoDriver" provides solutions suitable for efficient development of DMS functions, integrated in Cluster, Cockpit or standalone DMS ECUs.

Israeli Startup REE and Japan's Musashi Seimitsu To Unveil New Prototype Of Futuristic Vehicle Chassis

Wheel Reinvented - REE Holds European Debut for World's First Truly Flat and Modular Skateboard Chassis at IAA, Frankfurt

Alongside strategic partner, Musashi Seimitsu, REE is pioneering the future of electric mobility by reimagining the vehicle, creating the basis for a more efficient, reliable and scalable electric future.



FRANKFURT, Germany, Sept. 11, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Today, [REE](#) held its European debut for its revolutionary flat and modular platform which fundamentally changes the way electric vehicles are built to power widespread vehicle electrification. The launch takes place at IAA in Frankfurt alongside strategic partners, [Musashi Seimitsu](#), a global Japanese Tier 1 with 34 manufacturing sites worldwide and a strong innovative spirit that specializes in the production of drivetrain and suspension systems.

REE's unique approach strategically places the motor, steering, suspension, drivetrain, sensing, brakes, thermal systems, and electronics into the wheel, creating a truly flat modular skateboard chassis that allows optimal design flexibility and multiple body configurations on a single platform

By integrating all of the components formerly found under the hood of the car into the wheel, REE offers optimal freedom of design, multiple body configurations on a single platform, reduced vehicle size and weight, and increased energy and operational efficiency.

REE's unique approach strategically places the motor, steering, suspension, drivetrain, sensing, brakes, thermal systems, and electronics into the wheel, creating a truly flat platform. This design provides a low center of gravity to maximize efficiency and supports the vehicle's agility and stability. REE's innovation drastically reduces a vehicle's footprint and weight and improves both energy efficiency and performance – aspects crucial to the electric and autonomous vehicle revolution.

"The concepts of the past are limited and restrict the ability of the automotive industry to realize the electric and autonomous reality they are striving for," said **Daniel Barel, Co-Founder and CEO of REE**. Until now, the industry has operated by making incremental improvements on the traditional design of the automotive vehicle. Together with Musashi, we are reimagining the future for the automotive industry and hastening the automotive revolution by, quite literally, reinventing the wheel."

Hiroshi Otsuka, CEO of Musashi, says, "Musashi and REE share a vision for the future of automotive platforms – a zero emission, energy efficient, modular platform with an optimized

footprint. Together we are making that vision a reality and we are delighted to showcase the results of that partnership for the first time in Europe."

REE's platform provides automakers, mobility providers, and delivery companies a tailor-made solution. Based on a novel quad-motor system, and including active height-levelling suspension, steer-by-wire, and a smart quad-gear box, REE's technology provides the basis of any type of vehicle from a high-performance car able to do 0-60 mph in less than 3 seconds to an off-road SUV with advanced active suspension technology. The platform can also be used as the base of a robotaxi or even a 10-ton cross country truck.

The adaptation of REE's universal framework will replace multiple platforms for OEMs resulting in substantial savings. The design and validation of each platform traditionally costs manufacturers billions of US\$. By enabling them to utilize one platform for all of their vehicles, costs will be slashed, while performance, safety, comfort, and energy efficiency will all be drastically improved. Please click [here](#) to see a video of REE.

Demonstrations are available at Musashi's booth at IAA, Hall 8.0, booth C36 between the 10th-22nd of September.

About REE: Reinventing the Wheel

REE is fundamentally reinventing the way in which vehicles are built through best-in-class technologies and an innovative design. The company's architecture solution integrates the motors, steering, suspension, drivetrain, sensing, brakes, thermal systems, and power management into the wheel. By integrating all drive components into the wheel, REE offers a completely flat modular skateboard chassis that allows optimal design flexibility and multiple body configurations on a single platform. This unique approach reduces vehicle space and weight, increases efficiency and allows manufacturers to easily redesign and repurpose vehicles to meet radically shifting automotive and commercial vehicle needs. REE's solution is set to be crucial to the electrification process and will play a key role in shaping the future of mobility. REE was founded by Daniel Barel and Ahishay Sardes who are also the founders of [SoftWheel](#).

About Musashi:

Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd. is a global auto parts Tier1 company for automobiles and motorcycles, whose headquarters is located in Toyohashi, Japan. Its 34 manufacturing locations

are spread across Europe, North and South America, China, and South East Asia. Musashi specializes in designing, development, and manufacturing of powertrain products, including Differential Assemblies, Planetary Gear Assemblies, Transmission Gears and Assemblies, and Reduction Gears for xEVs, which are supplied to global major OEMs and Tier1s. Linkage and suspension products are other strategic products of Musashi. Musashi is listed on the first section of Tokyo Stock Exchange (TYO: 7220)

B2B network Fundbox raises \$176 million

24 September 2019

B2B payments and credit network Fundbox has raised \$176 million in growth equity funding for its Series C round.

MUFG INNOVATION FUND and RECRUIT Strategic Partners among new investors

Fundbox is aiming to transform the B2B economy by freeing up trillions of dollars stuck in accounts receivable 'limbo'. The firm applies automated machine-learning risk decisions, offering faster payments to sellers, and more flexible payment terms to the buyer.

The Series C round was oversubscribed and includes a diverse range of institutional investors, including Allianz X, Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP), HarbourVest, 9Yards Capital, Hamilton Lane, SEB Private Equity, Cathay Innovation, Synchrony, MUFG Innovation Partners, Recruit Strategic Partners, GMO Internet Group, and Arbor Ventures, as well as participation from the major existing Fundbox investors including Khosla Ventures, General Catalyst and Spark Capital Growth.

In addition, the company also announced that it has secured a \$150 million credit facility.

“The status quo for B2B transactions is uncertain cash flow and antiquated payment systems, which stifles business growth. If you’re a business owner and don’t know when you’re getting paid next or whether you have the funds to complete a transaction, you lose valuable time and important business opportunities,” says Eyal Shinar, founder, and CEO of Fundbox. “The remedy to this uncertainty is the ability to facilitate quick risk decisions, faster payments, and more flexible terms so our customers have greater predictability related to their revenue and cash flow. This new investment round validates the market opportunity and that our team is on the right path as we continue to focus on transforming B2B commerce for the better.”



PM Abe and Jordan's King discuss Middle East tension

NHK Sept 23rd 2019

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Jordan's King Abdullah have agreed to work together through diplomatic efforts to ease tensions in the Middle East.

Abe is visiting New York to attend the UN General Assembly.

In a meeting with King Abdullah, Abe said Japan will continue to support Jordan financially and help it cope with Syrian refugees.

Abe also said Japan will work with Middle Eastern countries to bring peace to the region through an economic project called the "Corridor for Peace and Prosperity."

Japan initiated the project with Palestine, Israel and Jordan taking part.

The Prime Minister and the King also discussed the situation in Israel where elections were held recently, as well as heightened tensions between the US and Iran following attacks on oil facilities in Saudi Arabia.



October

SBI JI vc joins aMoon vc as Adicet Bio Raises \$80M in Series B Financing

MENLO PARK, Calif., Oct. 2, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- **Adicet Bio, Inc.**, a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of allogeneic cell therapies for cancer using innovative gamma delta T cells, announced today the completion of an \$80 million Series B financing.

"**Gamma delta T cells** are a highly promising, emerging modality for treating cancer," said Anil Singhal, Ph.D. President and Chief Executive officer of Adicet Bio, Inc. "This financing will permit Adicet to continue to develop our proprietary technology, to enter the clinic in Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma and to advance our solid tumor programs. We are gratified with the support of the investment community."

New investors include aMoon2 Fund, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc. (JJDC), OCI Enterprises, Inc, KB Investment Co., Ltd., Consensus Business Group, **SBI JI Innovation Fund**, Samsung Venture Investment Corporation, Handok, Inc., and DSC Investment, Inc. All existing investors including OrbiMed, Novartis Venture Fund and Pontifax also participated in the financing.

As part of the Series B financing, aMoon and JJDC will be joining Adicet's Board of Directors. Representing aMoon Fund will be Yair Schindel, M.D., Co-Founder & Managing Partner.

RM Global Partners LLC, an investment banking and strategic advisory firm, acted as Adicet Bio's advisors for the Series B financing.

About Adicet Bio, Inc.

Adicet Bio, Inc. is a privately held, pre-clinical stage biotechnology company developing novel universal immune cell therapies based on gamma delta T cells engineered with Chimeric Antigen Receptors. Adicet is also focused on identifying and validating cancer specific targets directed to



the intracellular proteome and then generating T Cell Receptor-like monoclonal antibodies (TCRLs) directed to these cancer-specific peptide targets presented by MHC Class I complexes. These TCRLs are being used to arm T cells or as T cell engagers in solid tumors. In August 2016, Adicet entered into a strategic collaboration with Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to develop next-generation engineered immune-cell therapeutics using Adicet's gamma delta T cell allogeneic platform technology.

Israel's Upstream wins funding to expand in automotive cybersecurity

Upstream Security, a cloud-based cybersecurity platform for connected cars, has raised \$30 million in a series B round of funding led by Alliance Ventures, an automotive alliance constituting Renault, Mitsubishi, and Nissan, Volvo Group, Hyundai, Charles River Ventures, Glilot Capital, Maniv Mobility, and Nationwide also participated in the round.

Monday, October 21, 2019 5:03 a.m. CDT

DETROIT (Reuters) - Israel's Upstream Security has secured \$30 million funding from a wide range of global automakers and venture capital firms as it looks to tap into the increasingly competitive market for software to protect vehicles from hackers.

The automotive cybersecurity market is forecast to see exponential growth, from around \$16 million in 2017 to an expected \$2.3 billion in 2025 according to IHS Markit.

"This ... is a testament to the severity of the problem the industry is tackling," Upstream Chief Executive Yoav Levy said in a statement announcing it had secured \$30 million from Alliance Ventures, the venture capital fund of French automaker Renault and Japan's Nissan Motor Co Ltd and Mitsubishi Motors Corp.

Swedish truckmaker Volvo, South Korea's Hyundai Motor Co, Nationwide Mutual Insurance Co [NMUIC.UL] and early - Charles River Ventures, Glilot Capital and Maniv Mobility - also took part, Upstream said.

Cyber carjacking received attention when a 2015 article by technology magazine Wired showed researchers hacking a Jeep Cherokee SUV while it was driving.



"The problem on the mind in some boardrooms of the (automakers) is really what are the consequences and the risks that we now have in our cars once we introduce connectivity to them," Upstream Vice President Dan Sahar told Reuters. "No company wants to be the next one that happens to."

Hackers affecting the safety of cars would be the "doomsday scenario" for the industry, but recalls or damage to a company's brand can be costly as well, he said.

Upstream will use the funds to double staff numbers, Sahar said, particularly in sales as well as research and development.

"Security is the core element of the connected vehicle which we cannot compromise," Yunseong Hwang, vice president of Hyundai's Open Innovation Investment Group, said in the statement. "Upstream has demonstrated how its optimized security technology can strengthen vehicle security."

Discipline administration software program startup Workiz raises \$5 million

The funding was led by Magenta Venture Partners,

<http://marketresearchreporting.com/2019/10/30>

[Workiz](#), a startup whose software helps field service professionals manage their work, said today it has raised \$5 million in Series A funding. The funding was led by Magenta Venture Partners, with participation from returning investor Aleph. The company announced the launch of [Workiz Voice](#), an Amazon Alexa-powered feature that allows the app to be controlled with voice commands, making it safer to use while field service workers are driving.

[Magenta Venture Partners](#) general partner Ran Levitzky will join Workiz's board of directors. The Series A brings Workiz's total funding so far to \$7.3 million. The company says it grew 247% last year and CEO Adi Azaria told TechCrunch that the company currently has thousands of customers in the U.S. and Canada. Many are home or equipment maintenance companies, including locksmiths, garage door repair, junk removal, appliance repair and carpet cleaning businesses. The software has also been used by medical transport companies, including Trinity Air Medical, to manage highly time-sensitive delivery of organ donations to their recipients. The company targets field services businesses with fewer than 50 employees, but can scale up to organizations with many more technicians and franchises.



Workiz' new funding is being used on its automation platform for field service workers and Workiz Voice, as well as hiring for its North American team and operations.

The startup was founded in 2015 by Saar Kohanovitch, Idan Kadosh and Erez Marom. Kadosh and Marom worked as locksmiths for more than 15 years in San Diego, Calif. They were frustrated by the field service management software options available and reliance on pen, paper and Excel spreadsheets to manage their business. They also carried multiple cell phones, as most customer appointments were arranged by phone calls and they could not hide their personal numbers.

Workiz was created to give field service companies a full set of tools, including the ability to monitor interactions between technicians and customers, keep detailed records of client calls and texts, send clients reminders, track advertising spending and effectiveness and process credit card payments.

“At Workiz, we have a vision to transform tradespeople into business professionals, and the Workiz platform is able to successfully do so. While 75% of small businesses close within their first five years of business, businesses who are using Workiz are able to slash that number down to just 20%,” said Azaria.

[About 52% of field services companies](#) still rely on pen and paper to manage their businesses, presenting a growth opportunity for Workiz. To get them to switch, Workiz provides free help for onboarding, which can be completed in as little as one or two days. The software syncs with QuickBooks or CSV files.

The startup says Workiz Voice, which enables workers to look up job schedules, sort through leads, communicate with team members or clients and find directions to their next job, is the first feature of its kind on the market. It helps Workiz Voice differentiate from other field service management software like Jobber or HouseCall Pro.

The Israeli startup, which has developed technology that allows small and medium businesses to find financial solutions, has completed a successful round of funding



29/10/2019

Magenta Ventures and Benson Oak lead the round

Israeli startup Become (formerly Lending Express), which has developed a digital platform to find financial solutions for small and medium businesses, announced the completion of a \$ 12.5 million round of funding. The capital will be used by the company to expand its operations in the US and Australia and to deepen the development of the technology platform that allows any business owner to receive funding.

"More than 200,000 small and medium-sized business owners have joined Become's platform since it began operations in October 2016, and have received loans of \$ 170 million in total. And a 107% increase in customer numbers, "the company said.

The \$ 10 million fundraising round was led by Benson Oak and Magenta Venture, with participation from RIO Ventures Holding, iAngels and Entrée Capital. To this was added \$ 2.5 million "debt to growth" that Viola gave credit to the company. Attorneys Yair Geva and Lior Katz of the Herzog Fox Neeman office led the deal on Become.

"We believe it is time to change the existing ways to get a business loan. Become's technology empowers small businesses, providing them with the transparency and insights needed to improve their financial profile to be attractive to lenders. The product we have developed creates a new market for lenders and opens up business opportunities Get a loan. They can now become a business they always dreamed of, "says Eden Amirav, Become's co-founder and co-founder." The capital we raised will enable us to expand our global operations and enable real change in the industry. We guarantee that every business worth financing will have the tools ".

"We have known the Become team for many years, and we have witnessed their rapid ability to meet new demands with market changes." Said Robert Cohen, managing partner at the Benson Oak Foundation. "We are delighted to be part of the Become campaign that sets new industry standards and has a real and significant impact on businesses around the world."

OurCrowd and Toyota Tsusho Corporation Announce Partnership to Support a New Wave of Tech Collaboration

October 23, 2019



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JERUSALEM & TOKYO--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--OurCrowd, the global venture investing platform and Israel's leading venture investor, and the Toyota Tsusho Corporation (Toyota Tsusho), one of Japan's general trading companies and a member of the Toyota Group, which comprises of 17 companies including Toyota Motor, Denso etc., have today announced a new business and technology scouting partnership. OurCrowd will act as a technology scout and source innovation and investments in both Israel and worldwide. The partnership combines the strength of OurCrowd's Israeli and global network, robust deal flow pipeline and growing portfolio of 200 promising startups along with the broad reach and core values of Toyota Tsusho to seek innovative products and services in their key business sectors of Mobility, Resources & Environment, Life & Community.

The focus of the scouting agreement will be to seek out next generation startup leaders in the areas of Autonomous driving with a focus on sensors, image recognition, data compression, and security. Moreover the partnership will seek out disruptive technologies in a diverse group of other sectors such as smart cities, medtech, including cancer examination, digital health, environmental technologies, and big data in agriculture.

Minoru Murata, Executive Vice President, Regional CEO & CTO of Toyota Tsusho said, "The future belongs to the bold who are implementing game changing technologies. Toyota Tsusho and its 58,000 employees all over the world are proud to be leaders in our focus industries, but to ensure our future leadership we must identify, invest and work with startups who are changing the world we live in. Our partnership with OurCrowd will bring us these key technologies and leaders to work together on the next generation of global challenges."

Jon Medved, Founder and CEO of OurCrowd said, "We are proud to be partnering with a general trading company such as Toyota Tsusho. Not only do they represent a 70 year tradition of excellence in global business, but they are focused on solving real global problems. Together we can help startups turn into "scaleups" by providing access to Toyota Tsusho's unrivaled platform that can deploy new technologies and products quickly and effectively in over 120 markets around the world. This is good news for startups and good news for the world."

OurCrowd is a unique innovation and investment platform that connects investors and startups around the world, and has already raised over \$1.28B in funding commitments and has made investments in 200 diversified companies and funds. OurCrowd will help funnel Israeli and other technology startups that support the Toyota Tsusho Corporation's core values to leverage the



collective force and innovative spirit in order to further penetrate global markets in Mobility, Resources & Environment, and Life & Community.

Laly David, OurCrowd's Business Development Partner, will spearhead this effort along with OurCrowd's 13 global offices, said, "We support the Toyota Tsusho Group way of "Genchi, Genbutsu, Genjitsu," which means "On Site, Hands on, In touch." This means a lot to OurCrowd and will guide our work and our collective mission with our partners at Toyota Tsusho and the startups in our community."

OurCrowd continues to expand its newly launched OC Innovate program to provide multinationals with the ability to stay ahead of the latest innovation trends globally by providing access to Israel's bustling tech startup community. For more information click [here](#).

About the Toyota Tsusho Corporation: Toyota Tsusho has long developed its business with functions tailored to customers' needs and with original added value by leveraging its general trading and project management company functions, such as information collection and the logistics and financial functions necessary to import / export and broker domestic business transactions. We are also engaged in the development and investment business, working with partners all over the world to accelerate investment in fields in which future growth is expected.

About OurCrowd: OurCrowd is the leading global equity crowdfunding platform for accredited investors. Managed by a team of seasoned investment professionals and led by serial entrepreneur Jon Medved, OurCrowd vets and selects companies, invests its own capital, and invites its accredited membership of investors and institutional partners to invest alongside in these opportunities. OurCrowd provides support to its portfolio companies, assigns industry experts as mentors, and creates growth opportunities through its network of strategic multinational partnerships. The OurCrowd community consists of almost 37,000 registered investors from over 183 countries. Rated "the most active venture investor in Israel" by Pitchbook, OurCrowd has \$1.28B in commitments and has made investments in 200 companies and funds. OurCrowd already has 35 exits to date. OurCrowd exits include: Beyond Meat's IPO (NASDAQ:BYND); JUMP Bikes sold to Uber, Briefcam sold to Canon, Argus sold to Continental, Crosswise sold to Oracle, and Replay sold to Intel.

REE Cooperates with Hino Motors to Showcase New FlatFormer Concept Vehicle at the 46th Tokyo Motor Show

REE's advanced corner module technology enables Hino to showcase a completely flat, modular chassis - poised to change the future of mobility as we know it today.

TOKYO--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Tokyo Motor Show – Today, REE announced its cooperation with Hino Motors, a leading provider of commercial vehicles, and showcased its technology within **Hino's new FlatFormer modular concept model**, a super-flexible chassis that optimizes electric mobility solutions, at the 46th Tokyo Motor Show.

REE's corner module technology plays an important role to the **FlatFormer** concept design. FlatFormer leverages REE's unique technology, which allows the entire drive components to reside within the wheel housing, thus creating a fully flat chassis.

With the contribution of REE's novel electric solution, Hino's light duty FlatFormer chassis delivers optimized space, flexibility and energy efficiency to customers. [SO2] It supports a diverse range of plug-and-play body configurations that optimize internal vehicle space and provide room for additional in-car batteries and advanced safety technologies.

"It was a wonderful opportunity to cooperate and build FlatFormer together with REE, which we unveiled at Tokyo Motor Show 2019," said Mr. Akira Yamaguchi, the General Manager of the design division at Hino Motors. "REE and Hino share the same vision of creating a sustainable and vividly prosperous future and reinventing the concept of mobility to deliver new value."

"REE is on a mission toward widespread sustainable and modular electrified mobility, and we're honored to showcase the results of our cooperation with Hino's team at this year's event," said Daniel Barel, Co-Founder and CEO of REE. "REE's goal is to enable Hino's future plan with more space in a smaller footprint with full compatibility with their advanced chassis.[SO3] REE's modular corner technology works seamlessly within the FlatFormer allowing for a flat chassis configuration. Hino Motors is our first Japanese relationship in the commercial market, and we



are extremely excited and humbled by this opportunity to collaborate and be part of this joint journey towards a new electric mobility future.”

REE’s fully modular corner supports any size EV and enables rapid e-mobility market innovation by significantly simplifying and expediting model development cycles. Japan is a leader in the e-mobility arena, and REE was fortunate to work together with Million Steps, a business development firm that extends the reach of Israeli companies throughout Japan, to bring this cooperation to fruition.

FlatFormer demonstrations are available at Hino’s booth at the Tokyo Motor Show, Aomi Exhibition Hall A, Tokyo Big Sight, from the 24th of October through the 4th of November.

About REE

REE is fundamentally reinventing the way in which vehicles are built through best-in-class technologies and an innovative design. The company’s architecture solution integrates the motors, steering, suspension, drivetrain, sensing, brakes, thermal systems, and power management into the wheel well. By concentrating all drive components into such a small footprint, REE offers a completely flat and modular chassis that allows optimal design flexibility and multiple body configurations on a single platform. This unique approach reduces vehicle space and weight, increases efficiency and allows manufacturers to easily redesign and repurpose vehicles to meet radically shifting automotive and commercial vehicle needs, this significantly reducing their capital expenditures. REE’s solution is set to be crucial to the electrification process and will play a key role in shaping the future of mobility. REE was founded by Daniel Barel and Ahishay Sardes.

About Hino Motors:

Founded in 1942, Hino is a global automotive company of commercial vehicles, with the corporate mission of contributing to a better world and future by supporting the mobility of people and goods. By offering the optimal truck and bus for each and every driver, Hino supports the life of people around the world.

DENSO and Kitov.ai Signed a Partnership Agreement for Adopting Kitov's Smart Visual Inspection Technology Across DENSO's Manufacturing Lines

KARIYA, Japan, Oct. 30, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- DENSO, the world's second largest mobility supplier and Kitov.ai, a developer and manufacturer of automated smart visual inspection solutions, announced today the signing of a partnership agreement.

The agreement will enable DENSO to adopt Kitov's technology for smart quality inspection across its global manufacturing facilities. According to the terms of the agreement, the parties will co-design a standard smart visual inspection solution, based on Kitov's state-of-the-art technology, that is expected to be used across DENSO's manufacturing lines. DENSO will install the first co-designed visual inspection system this fall, and Kitov and DENSO will together develop and enrich AI-based automated visual inspection system based on real production needs.

Kitov.ai develops AI-based solutions for visual inspection in industrial manufacturing. The solutions developed by Kitov improve quality and reduce manufacturing costs. Kitov's technology is leveraging Computer Vision, Artificial Intelligence capabilities, advanced Robotics, and Big Data Analytics.

"While constantly striving for the best quality in our manufacturing lines, we've been realizing that complex robot programming and time-consuming robot teaching had been the enemy of accelerating automation in factories worldwide. Kitov System is the solution to this problem. I strongly believe that together with Denso's expertise robotic automation hands on experience, we could revolutionize the auto manufacturing market and so many others." says Katsuhiko Sugito, DENSO Executive Officer and DENSO WAVE Incorporated CEO.

Hanan Gino, the CEO of Kitov.ai states: "The Kitov solution has already been deployed by leading Electronics, Automotive and Aerospace manufacturers in Europe, China, Malaysia, USA, Mexico and Israel. We are proud to team up with DENSO, a global leader in the automotive industry and pleased about the opportunity to introduce our unique technology to the Japanese automotive industry. We value the strategic partnership with DENSO that will allow us to adopt our solutions in the most demanding environments constantly seeking top quality."



About DENSO Corporation

DENSO is a \$48.3 billion global mobility supplier that develops advanced technology and components for nearly every vehicle make and model on the road today. With manufacturing at its core, DENSO invests in its 211 facilities in 35 countries to produce thermal, powertrain, mobility, electrification, & electronic systems, to create jobs that directly change how the world moves. The company's 170,000+ employees are paving the way to a mobility future that improves lives, eliminates traffic accidents, and preserves the environment. Globally headquartered in Kariya, Japan, DENSO spent 9.3 percent of its global consolidated sales on research and development in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2019.

About Kitov.ai

Kitov.ai is a supplier of smart visual inspection solutions for manufacturers in electronics, automotive, aerospace, defense and medical devices industries.

Kitov develops a fully automated, universal 3D visual inspection system that can be trained by a non-expert in a fast and intuitive manner to inspect almost any product.

Fujitsu and Personetics Announce Partnership to Accelerate Japan's Financial Digital Transformation

Personetics' AI technologies to play a key role in delivering new personalized banking services through a new cloud service for Fujitsu's Finplex financial services brand

TOKYO and TEL AVIV, Israel, Oct. 24, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- [Fujitsu](#) Limited, Japan's leading information and communication technology (ICT) company, and [Personetics](#), the global provider of AI-powered personalization and customer advocacy solutions used by the world's top banks, today announced a new partnership that leverages Personetics' cognitive AI recommendation engine for Fujitsu's new personalized banking cloud service for its Finplex range of SOE solutions. This new offering draws on the technological expertise of both partners to deliver new personalized service experiences for users in the rapidly growing fintech space, with an anticipated launch date for availability in Japan during FY2020.



Background

With the ongoing digital transformation of the financial services industry and increasing diversity throughout society, the need to provide personalized financial advice tailored to users' individual lifestyles continues to grow. To address this burgeoning demand for customized digital financial service experiences, Fujitsu and Personetics signed a Reseller Agreement that will ultimately result in the delivery of a new financial cloud service for Fujitsu's Finplex range of SOE solutions. The service will offer personalized banking services ideally suited to the needs of users and businesses in Japan.

Under the partnership agreement, Fujitsu will lead a wide range of tasks including service production, cloud service platform operations and maintenance, while Personetics will provide the self-driving finance platform with an extensive library of financial insights, automated financial programs, and a rich customization environment, all based on its cognitive AI engine. The sales target for the first year of Fujitsu's new financial service is set for hundreds of thousands of bank customers.

Comments from the Partners

"We are committed to providing personalized banking solutions to a wide range of Japanese financial institutions, and are thrilled to have Personetics' advanced technology and expertise powering our service," said Tooru Hashimoto, Head of Systems Unit I, State Infrastructure and Finance Business Group, Technology Solution Business of Fujitsu. "We will continue to proactively partner with best-in-class fintech companies in order to offer all of the technologies critical to Japan's financial digital transformation."

"We are tremendously excited about our partnership with Fujitsu," said David Sosna, CEO and Co-Founder of Personetics. "There has been enormous growth in demand for personalized banking solutions worldwide, with numerous American, European and Asian institutions already implementing Personetics technologies. In Japan, Fujitsu is our reseller partner as they are a trusted general IT vendor and we are confident this will ensure increased exposure and the smooth integration of our solutions in this market."

About Personetics:

Personetics is the leading provider of customer-facing AI solutions for financial services and the company behind the industry's first Self-Driving Finance™ platform. Harnessing the power of AI,

Personetics' Self-Driving Finance™ solutions are used by the world's largest financial institutions to transform digital banking into the center of the customer's financial life – providing real-time personalized insight and advice, automating financial decisions, and simplifying day-to-day money management. Serving over 60 million bank customers worldwide, Personetics has the largest direct customer impact of any AI solution provider in banking today. Personetics customers include 6 of the top 12 banks in North America and Europe and other leading banks throughout the world. Led by a team of seasoned FinTech entrepreneurs with a proven track record, Personetics is a rapidly growing company with offices in New York, London, Paris, Singapore, and Tel Aviv. The company has been named a Gartner Cool Vendor, a Top Ten FinTech Company by KPMG, and a Top Ten Company to Watch by American Banker..

About Fujitsu:

Fujitsu is the leading Japanese information and communication technology (ICT) company, offering a full range of technology products, solutions, and services. Approximately 132,000 Fujitsu people support customers in more than 100 countries. We use our experience and the power of ICT to shape the future of society with our customers. Fujitsu Limited (TSE: 6702) reported consolidated revenues of 4.0 trillion yen (US \$36 billion) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019.

Pepticom Raises \$5 Million in Series A Funding

JERUSALEM, Oct. 24, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Pepticom, a leader in artificial intelligence peptide drug discovery, announced today that it has secured \$5 million in Series A funding from the Chartered Group.

Pepticom's unique artificial intelligence (AI) technology streamlines and significantly accelerates the ability of researchers to discover advanced peptide-based drug candidates. Peptides are used in various therapies, and are recognized for being highly selective and efficacious as well as relatively safe. The pharma industry has recently shown an increased interest in peptide research and development, leading to a resurgence of peptide drug candidates. The process of discovering new peptides with lifesaving potential, however, is still costly and time consuming. Pepticom's AI technology enables the discovery of the most advanced peptide-



based drug candidates by searching an enormous set of possible solutions, vastly reducing the risk of failure during development.

Pepticom's technology covers a chemical-space of 10^{30} possible molecular options - which is much larger than current screening techniques - while simultaneously filtering out the most suitable candidates with properties such as solubility and permeability amongst others. The ability to search a large amount of variables while considering their pharmacological impact, and also eliminating nonviable molecules at an early stage is groundbreaking in peptide drug discovery. Pepticom's technology brings down the cost of drug discovery in a quick, comprehensive and successful manner.

The Chartered Group's strategic investment will facilitate the development of new AI models to further increase molecular discovery efficacy while reducing risk for the next stages of development. "This \$5 million investment by Chartered Group signals confidence in Pepticom's technology and abilities going forward," said **Immanuel Lerner**, Founder and CEO of Pepticom. "Pepticom already improves discovery time by almost a year, and this investment will further reduce that time and thus improve time to market considerably."

The Chartered Group has previously invested in promising Israeli deep tech companies and has broad networks in Europe, East Asia and Japan. "We made this investment out of our belief in Pepticom's application of AI in peptide drug discovery and the Israeli high-tech industry," said **Eyal Agmoni**, Chairman of Chartered Group and High Tech division. "Pepticom's unique AI platform allows for multifaceted collaborations, and we are excited to join this company as it revolutionizes peptide drug discovery. The funding will allow the further development of Pepticom's unique technology and specific applications."

"Pepticom's breakthrough technological platform, marrying AI to pharma and biology, is a unique and groundbreaking approach to drug discovery and highlights the deep multi-disciplinary research capabilities of Hebrew University," said **Dr. Yaron Daniely**, CEO and President of Yissum, the technology transfer company of The Hebrew University. Pepticom is a spin out of Yissum.

About Pepticom

Pepticom is a privately held AI company with headquarters in Israel committed to offering AI peptide drug discovery solutions for a better and healthier world. It is the leader in the emerging peptide drugs software solutions, AI and prediction tools that allow research centers, pharma and agriculture companies to accelerate innovative molecules discovery while reducing time, costs



and risks. Pepticom operates in various markets; past successful discoveries include peptide molecules related to metabolic diseases and Immuno-modulators. Pepticom was founded in 2011 by a select team of multidisciplinary PhD graduates from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem with technology licensed from Yissum, the technology transfer company of The Hebrew University.

About Chartered Group

The Chartered Group focuses its business in Europe and Asia, with more than 350 employees in 6 locations around the globe (including Japan, Singapore, Germany, Thailand, Luxembourg and Israel). Its group of companies are organized into four core business segments comprised of Securities, Credit Lending and Real Estate & Hospitality and Technology.

3D Printing Startup Castor Raises \$2 Million

Castor develops 3D printing software that automatically scans a company's parts catalog to identify parts that can be manufactured using a 3D printer

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Tel Aviv-based startup Castor Technologies Ltd. has raised \$2 million in seed, the company announced Tuesday. **Japan-Israel Hi-Tech Ventures**, a venture fund operated by Singapore-based asset management firm **Chartered Group**, Essen, Germany-based chemicals company Evonik Industries AG, and TAU Ventures, Tel Aviv University's venture arm participated in the round, bringing Castor's total funding to date to \$2,370,000.

Founded in 2017, Castor develops 3D printing software that automatically scans a company's parts catalog to identify parts that could be manufactured using a 3D printer. Castor employs 10 people.

"3D printing is an ideal solution for companies that manufacture parts on a small scale of hundreds or thousands of units a year," Castor Co-Founder and CEO Omer Blaier said in a phone interview with Calcalist Tuesday. According to Blaier, Castor's technology allows companies to reduce the cost and the time required for producing complex parts. 3D printing also reduces the weight of the parts, which is crucial for the automotive and aviation industries



Japanese PM reaffirms support for Palestine's two-state solution

GMT TOKYO, Oct 21 (KUNA) -- Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe reiterated Japan's commitment in support for the two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as he met Palestine's President Mahmoud Abbas on Monday. During their talks in Tokyo, Abe told Abbas that Japan's support for a two-state solution remains unchanged, saying, "Japan will continue to support Palestine's stability and development," according to a press release from the Foreign Ministry. "I would like to continue to work with President Abbas with a view to further advancing Japan's unique initiatives, including the 'Corridor for Peace and Prosperity' initiative and the 'Conference on Cooperation East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development,'" the premier said.

The ongoing Japan-led initiatives aim at helping achieve peace in the Middle East through economic independence of the Palestinians. In response, Abbas expressed his appreciation for Japan's consistent support for a two-state solution and for the significant assistance provided by Japan. The two leaders also exchanged views on the current status of the Middle East peace process. "Although the outlook for the Middle East peace process is unclear, it is important to resume dialogue with Israel and the US," Abe said. "Unless peace talks can be resumed it is unlikely that a two-state solution could be achieved," he said, adding that Japan will spare no effort in seeking to bring the parties concerned back to the dialogue table. For his part, Abbas praised Japan's continued contribution towards the realization of the Middle East peace Politics

Japan is Arabs' favored Middle East peace mediator, poll finds

Updated 27 October 2019

Japan was ranked first by 56 percent of respondents, followed by EU and Russia

Japan was ranked first by 56 percent of Arab respondents, followed by the EU at 15 percent and Russia at 13 percent.

This is an overwhelming majority, considering the US only received 11 percent approval and the UK 5 percent.



DUBAI: Japan could potentially be a mediator in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. At least that is what the majority of Arabs in a YouGov survey hope for.

The study looked at Arabs' perception of Japan, polling the views of 3,033 people from the GCC, the Levant and North Africa.

When asked to name the most neutral mediator for a possible peace deal between Israelis and Palestinians, **Japan was ranked first by 56 percent of Arab respondents, followed by the EU at 15 percent and Russia at 13 percent.**

This is an overwhelming majority, considering the US only received 11 percent approval and the UK 5 percent.

"The findings of the survey are not surprising because of the Japanese approach to the region and the nature of Japanese society that puts Tokyo in that specific light," said Theodore Karasik, senior adviser at Gulf State Analytics in Washington, DC.

"Japan's approach to the Middle East earns respect from many different stakeholders. It is a mix between the politics of accommodation combined with the evolution of Japanese business practices, especially by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and other agencies."

Support for mediation by Japan is highest in the older age group: 66 percent of those aged 40 and above chose Japan, compared to 45 percent of 16 to 24-year-olds.

The older age group were less likely to support the US as a mediator, with only 6 percent.

In terms of nationalities, Jordanians had the lowest support of the US as a mediator, with only 4 percent considering them a neutral mediator, and 73 percent choosing Japan.

Palestinians also ranked Japan high on their list – at 50 percent – followed by the EU, which 27 percent of Palestinians said would be a good mediator.

The figure is significantly higher than other Arab countries, of which on average only 15 percent selected the EU as their top choice.

"The findings are not a bit surprising," said Albadr Alshateri, politics professor at the National Defense College in Abu Dhabi.

"Japan has always maintained an equidistance from the belligerents. It recognized Palestinian rights and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) early on, while maintaining friendly ties with the Arab world."

He said Japan extended a lot of aid to Palestinians through many programs such as Assistance to the Palestinian refugees, to the Gaza Strip, socially vulnerable people and for improving financial conditions.

"Japan has no stake in the Arab-Israeli conflict one way or the other, thus appearing neutral in such conflict," he told Arab News. "Secondly, Japan's geographical distance from the Middle East



allows for a more detached approach to the conflict.”

Palestine is not the only Arab state that has been aided by Japan. In May 2016, the Japanese government announced it would accept a maximum of 150 Syrians as students over five years with the aim of offering educational opportunities to Syrian youth, who will contribute to Syria's future reconstruction when it takes place.

For this purpose the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) established the program “Japanese Initiative for the future of Syrian Refugees” in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Japan has also contributed \$7 million this year for emergency assistance in Syria.

In the survey 60 percent of Syrians picked Japan as a potential mediator, over Russia at 21 percent. Nationals from the Levant strongly supported Japan in a mediator role, at 63 percent, whereas only 6 percent selected the US.

“There is no pro-Israeli constituency within Japan; and no Israelis are of Japanese descent,” Alshateri noted.

“Whereas Russia is exactly the opposite: a large number of Israelis are of Russian descent of recent and older immigration. Likewise, with Europeans who have greater skin in the game.” Looking to the future, Karasik said Japan could become a mediator on the Israeli-Palestinian issue because of Tokyo's balanced approach. In addition, because of Japanese interests in the region in infrastructure and investment, he believes Tokyo may be a good candidate.

“It also helps, of course, that Japan has excellent relations with all “area” states, which puts it in an interesting position,” Dr. Karasik said.

“Investment by Gulf States in Japan and Tokyo's investment in the region make for a good balance in approaching the Israeli-Palestinian issue from the East without a Russia or a China fully involved, although both Moscow and Beijing will have much to say in this scenario.”

Karasik believes Japan's entry into this arena is likely to be halted by Moscow since the Kremlin wishes to be the driver of any settlement.

“But if Russia sees an advantage in Japan leading such talks, then there may be a geopolitical bonus in another arena, probably in Northeast Asia,” he said.

In Alshateri's opinion, Japan could play an auxiliary role in the mediation of the conflict, given its economic and financial muscle and diplomatic weight.

However, he believes it lacks leverage on the principle protagonist — Israel — to persuade it to make the necessary concessions to obtain peace.

“Japan understands that the conflict is quite radioactive, and perhaps will avoid being entangled in a process that it will reap no benefits from,” he said.

“The sensitivity of the conflict for the US is all-obvious for anyone to attempt at resolution. Last but not least, Japan has enormous interest in oil, and oil producers are distancing themselves



from the conflict, to put it mildly.”

Given all of these factors, he concluded that one cannot be very sanguine about Japan or anybody else’s mediation in this “rather intractable” conflict.

“Japan’s role will be welcomed by Arabs and Palestinians for all these reasons,” he said.

“Whether it will bear fruits is something else.”



November

Japan's Olympus Corporation to Open Local Innovation Office in Tel Aviv

The life science company is interested in Israeli technologies and startups in the fields of digital health and medtech, with a particular interest in prostate stent technologies

CTech Adi Pick13:20

Tokyo-listed medical device and life science company Olympus Corp. is set to open an innovation office in Tel Aviv in 2020, the company's chief technology officer Haruo Ogawa told Calcalist in a Tuesday interview. Olympus recently opened an innovation office in Tokyo, and intends to open two international outposts next year, with the second one planned in San Francisco, Ogawa said.

The local office will be led by Kiyoshi Miyake, a senior executive at the company's technology scouting, collaboration, and innovation division. Olympus is interested in scouting for Israeli technologies and startups in the digital health and medtech fields, with a particular interest in prostate stent technologies, Miyake told Calcalist Tuesday.

The company does not have a set date or location for the new office yet, Miyake said.

According to the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, more than 70 Japanese companies, have set up Israeli outposts.

Harel-Hertz (HIH) is OLYMPUS consultant and Technology Scouting Agent in Israel, HIH is assisting Olympus in their endeavor of opening the office in Israel



Keidanren delegation headed by NTT Chairman Shinohara San visits Israel.

Japan business chief: We're building Society 5.0 with Israeli tech

The need of Bilateral FTA agreement discussed with Industry Association and IJ -Chamber of Commerce.

In the framework of a delegation of Japanese Top businesspeople visiting Israel last week, a meeting took place between the Israel Manufacturers Association, Israel Japan Chamber of Commerce and Keidanren (Japanese Business Federation), in which all Japanese economic organizations are members, including industrial companies and banks. "The two reasons why we came to Israel today are profound cooperation between the two governments and the fact that Japan is trying to consolidate a new concept, called Society 5.0," Keidanren Vice Chairperson **Hirohichi Shinohara**, the chairperson of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, told "Globes."

Society 5.0 is somewhat similar to the Industry 4.0 concept used in the West. "Up until now, technologies and data were used to make society more efficient. In the future, however, we'll want to develop new values in society using these technologies that will affect all of our lives. I believe that in order to achieve this vision, we will have to use technologies in which Israel excels and the technological capabilities of Japan," he added.

The need to sign an FTA agreement between the two governments was also discussed, to match the agreements signed with South Korea and under discussions with other Asian countries.

The delegation met also IIA , Incubation centers and Israel Economic Ministry.

In parallel a **Jetro delegation of Medical Equipment and Pharmaceutical Industry** visited Israel held professional seminars and met start-ups in those fields.



Toppan and D-ID Sign Strategic Partnership Agreement

Partnership to exceed sales of \$9 million over two years and bring advanced identity protection with facial de-identification technologies to Japanese market

TOKYO and TEL AVIV, Israel, Nov. 19, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- D-ID, a leader in identity privacy protection software, today announced a strategic partnership with Toppan Printing (Toppan), a global printing company and innovator in security solutions, to provide D-ID's technology to customers across Japan and Asia. With this partnership, the companies expect to exceed sales of over one billion yen (US\$9.1 million) within two years in Toppan's focus markets of Japan and ASEAN countries. The combined offering will enhance privacy protection for customers in industry verticals such as smart cities, tourism and travel, human resources, healthcare, finance, and more.

Founded in 2017 by veterans of the Israel Defense Forces Intelligence Corps' elite 8200 unit, D-ID created the first facial image de-identification solution that protects user privacy against facial recognition software. D-ID allows organizations to enhance security and ensure the privacy of their customers and employees with state-of-the-art technology that protects sensitive biometric information in facial images and videos. With advanced image processing and deep learning techniques, D-ID's De-Identification solutions can resynthesize any given photo in a way that enables humans to recognize it but prevents facial recognition engines from identifying it with biometric scanning tools. D-ID also offers Smart Anonymization tools to replace facial images with AI-generated faces in videos and still images, allowing organizations to apply advanced analytics and monetize video data, while still meeting strict privacy regulations.

"More than 80% of data traffic is video, and much of that includes identifiable facial images. Facial recognition has become so widespread and accurate that many governments, companies, privacy groups and individuals are concerned about how their sensitive biometric data is being collected, accessed and used. At the same time, businesses are desperately seeking solutions to de-identify and anonymize this data so they can use it commercially while still ensuring customer privacy," said Gil Perry, co-founder and CEO of D-ID. "We are proud to partner with an innovation-leader like Toppan, to offer the most advanced privacy protection solutions to the Japanese market. The demand for solutions to protect identities from the misuse of facial



recognition growing rapidly around the world as more and more businesses wish to enhance privacy protection and avoid the threat aspects of automated face recognition."

Built around D-ID's solutions, Toppan's new service prevents the identification of personal information by AI facial recognition technology. As a result, personal privacy can be protected and secure data retention and utilization can be realized in companies. Toppan intends to deploy the service in its businesses related to smart cities, travel and tourism, human resources, healthcare, finance, and revitalization of regional economies, and to develop new services focused on personal privacy protection through combination with its own diverse solutions.

"Securing personal data is an increasingly important challenge for global companies following the introduction of strict regulations, including the European GDPR and Japanese APPI. Businesses need to ensure compliance and security with their product offerings, but also convenience. This partnership allows us to ensure the protection of personal privacy by linking facial de-identification services with our various customer solutions, and provides protection against data breaches and leaks of personally identifiable information," said Minoru Saito, Senior General Manager of Toppan's Digital Security business. "With our joint offering, Toppan and D-ID will allow companies to improve their security and ensure that the privacy of data subjects, customers and employees, is properly protected."

Based in Tel Aviv, Israel D-ID employs market-leading experts in deep learning, computer vision and image processing, and its solutions are being implemented in Fortune 500 companies and institutions worldwide. For more information on D-ID products and services, please visit D-ID.com

About D-ID

D-ID allows organizations to enhance security and ensure their customers' and employees' privacy by removing sensitive biometric Personally Identifiable Information (PII) from videos and still images. The company's revolutionary De-Identification solution makes images unrecognizable to facial recognition algorithms – while keeping them similar to human eyes. At the same time, D-ID's Smart Anonymization replaces facial images with AI-generated faces, allowing organizations to apply advanced analytics and monetize video data, while still meeting strict privacy regulations and promoting standardization frameworks such as GDPR and Privacy by Design.

About Toppan

Toppan is a leading global provider of integrated solutions in the fields of printing, communications, security, packaging, décor materials, and electronics. Serving customers in every sector of business and industry, Toppan's global team of more than 50,000 employees offers optimal solutions enabled by industry-leading expertise and technologies to address the diverse challenges that businesses and society face in today's rapidly changing market.

Renesas and Altair Semiconductor Announce Collaboration for Cellular IoT Solutions

Renesas Microcontroller Technology and Altair Cellular IoT Technology Bring Best-in-Class Solutions to the Cellular IoT Market

TOKYO, Japan and HOD HASHARON, Israel – November 5, 2019 – [Renesas Electronics Corporation](#) (TSE:6723), a premier supplier of advanced semiconductor solutions, and Altair Semiconductor ([altair-semi.com](#)), a leading provider of cellular IoT chipsets, jointly announced a partnership aimed at bringing ultra-small and ultra-low-power cellular IoT solutions to the global IoT market. Cellular IoT device makers will be able to use this combination of best-in-class solutions to create highly differentiated IoT products and services that offer much greater efficiencies and faster time to market. These integrated solutions will be delivered through Renesas' sales channels, enabling cellular connectivity to all of its markets.

"We are delighted to collaborate with Altair to deliver the industry's best cellular IoT solutions to the booming IoT market," said Sailesh Chittipeddi, Executive Vice President and General Manager of Renesas' IoT and Infrastructure Business Unit. "Our combined technical excellence and differentiated IP will allow us to design the smallest and lowest power multi-protocol cellular chip-to-cloud solution for Industrial IoT applications desired by our customers for their next-generation products."

With billions of devices expected to be deployed by 2024, the IoT market demands products that operate seamlessly out of the box. Sensors, cameras, metering, tracking, and smart devices all rely on ultra-low power consumption, offering the potential for a sensor to operate in the field for 10 to 20 years without requiring any hardware maintenance.



“This collaboration makes Altair’s technology accessible to the full breadth of Renesas customers and partners ecosystem,” said Oded Melamed, CEO of Altair Semiconductor. “The Integration of Altair’s differentiated cellular IoT technology with Renesas’ industry-leading MCUs will make this great technology immediately accessible to the mass market of IoT devices and service providers.”

As a first step of this collaboration, Renesas and Altair plan to develop cellular IoT solutions with CAT-M and NB-IoT dual mode chipsets and technologies. They will also design a variety of development tools and software to further streamline the adoption of cellular IoT solutions for industrial and consumer applications. This partnership aims to achieve technical leadership in size reduction, power consumption, and IoT security.

Altair Semiconductor

Altair Semiconductor, a Sony Group Company, is a leading provider of Cellular IoT chipsets. The company’s flagship ALT1250 is the smallest and most highly integrated LTE CAT-M and NB-IoT chipset, featuring ultra-low power consumption, hardware-based security, and a carrier-grade integrated SIM (iUICC), all 5G ready.

Altair partners with leading global vendors, including G+D (Giesecke+Devrient), HERE Technologies, Murata, Sierra Wireless and WNC, to provide low-power and cost-efficient modules for a range of industrial and consumer IoT applications such as trackers, smart meters, wearables, and vehicle telematics. Altair’s chipsets have been commercially deployed on the world’s most advanced LTE networks, including AT&T, China Mobile, KDDI, SoftBank Corp., Verizon, and Vodafone.

Renesas Electronics Corporation

Renesas Electronics Corporation ([TSE: 6723](#)) delivers trusted embedded design innovation with complete semiconductor solutions that enable billions of connected, intelligent devices to enhance the way people work and live. A [global](#) leader in microcontrollers, analog, power, and SoC products, Renesas provides comprehensive solutions for a broad range of automotive, industrial, home electronics, office automation, and information communication technology applications that help shape a limitless future.



SBI encourages introduction to partner banks to enable remittance with dialogue app

Joint venture with Israel PAYKEY

5/11/2019 Nihon Keizai Shimbun electronic version

In October, [SBI Holdings](#) launched a remittance system sales company using a dialogue app in collaboration with an Israeli company. A system that allows you to send money directly from the bank application that you normally use on the screen of the dialog application. Capture the expansion of the P2P (peer-to-peer) payment market between individuals. Sales will begin in November for financial institutions and business companies throughout Japan and Asia.

SBI invested 70% and Israeli startup invested 30% to establish SBI PayKey Asia (Minato, Tokyo). The name of the service to sell is "PayKey".

The feature is that when you download an application such as a bank, the icon of the bank logo appears on the dialog application screen. You can use the bank and other apps while continuing the dialogue app to make payments between individuals and check the balance.

Even if a company started a new money transfer app, it could only be used by people who had the app. Aiming to improve services of financial institutions and acquire young customers by enabling the creation of remittance means within the already popular messenger service.

SBI is proceeding with the regional bank union concept, and will support the introduction of this remittance system to regional banks that are affiliated. They are also sold to securities companies. Twenty foreign financial institutions have already introduced the system, which is owned by an Israeli company. In Japan and Asia, financial institutions and others are promoting external connection of API (application programming interface), and decided that more companies can be introduced.

The remittance system can be used by non-financial institutions. For example, if a restaurant information site is introduced, a user can propose a store smoothly in parallel with the exchange of dialogue applications. Young people are getting more time to interact with social networking sites (SNS), and the system aims to increase usage opportunities.



ProteKt Therapeutics Raises \$3.6 Million in Post-Incubation Financing

TAKEDA VENTURES Inc Joins this financial round ProteKt was found in FUTURX Incubator (OrbiMed, J&J and Takeda)

NESS ZIONA, Israel, Nov. 13, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- ProteKt Therapeutics, a biotech company developing new PKR kinase inhibitor-based therapies for neurodegenerative diseases including Alzheimer's Disease, today announced the signing of a binding agreement for a \$US 3.6 million equity financing round. The financing was co-led by Fonds de solidarité FTQ and Bukwang Pharmaceutical together with existing investors FutuRx, OrbiMed, Johnson & Johnson Innovation – JJDC, Inc., Takeda Ventures, Inc. and RM Global Partners (RMGP) BioPharma Investment Fund. Proceeds from the financing will be used primarily to select a lead drug candidate molecule and validate its neurotherapeutic effects in vivo. In addition, the Company plans to initiate the clinical development of a related diagnostic assay for patient selection and treatment personalization.

"We are happy to welcome new investors Fonds de solidarité FTQ and Bukwang Pharmaceutical, and greatly appreciate the continued support, guidance and assistance of our existing investors," said Yotam Nisemlat, CEO of ProteKt Therapeutics. "The new funding will enable us to select and validate novel and selective neuroinflammation inhibitors and continue their development all the way to clinical studies with our next financing round. In addition, adopting a precision medicine approach and developing a patient selection diagnostic assay should increase the likelihood for an effective treatment."

"We are proud to see our portfolio company ProteKt graduate from the FutuRx incubator with the capability to continue its development of novel therapies for unmet medical needs in neurology such as neurodegenerative diseases with the help of new and existing investors," said Kinneret Savitzky, Ph.D., CEO of FutuRx.

"The Fonds de solidarité FTQ's investment in ProteKt is our first in the field of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's. We are delighted that ProteKt's innovative approach will be combined with Québec's expertise in medicinal chemistry in the fight against this devastating illness," said Didier Leconte, Vice-President for Investments, Life Sciences and Funds-of-Funds at the Fonds.



"We are impressed with ProteKt's capability in drug discovery and are delighted to be part of this financing round to move this promising program toward a treatment for neurodegenerative diseases. Bukwang has a strong R&D heritage and this financing round participation further strengthens Bukwang's portfolio and emphasizes our commitment in the development of novel drugs targets," said Hee-Won Yoo, Ph.D., CEO of Bukwang Pharmaceutical.

About ProteKt Therapeutics

ProteKt Therapeutics is a drug development company aiming to develop potent and selective oral inhibitors of the kinase PKR for the treatment of neurodegenerative and neuroinflammatory diseases. The company was founded by Carmel, Haifa University Economic Corporation, and the Carmel Innovations Fund based on the research of Prof. Kobi Rosenblum of the Haifa University. ProteKt Therapeutics joined the FutuRx accelerator in 2015, where it has discovered and developed a series of novel and selective molecules by applying unique computational methods and validating the inhibitors in clinically relevant assays

Nanox Introduces Digital X-ray Technology

NAVE ILAN, Israel--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Nano-X Imaging Ltd. ("**Nanox**" or the "**Company**"), a medical imaging technology company, introduces the first commercial-grade digital X-ray technology based on a proprietary silicon MEMs semiconductor technology. This technology is introduced after 15 years of "under the radar" Japanese and Israeli development and substantial investment to overcome one of the biggest barriers to modern medical imaging. This novel digital X-ray source may enable a significant reduction in the cost of medical imaging systems, with the goal of making medical imaging more accessible and available globally.

"It is a proud moment for my team and I. We have been working for years to produce a stable digital X-ray technology that we believe can literally be the basis of saving millions of lives", said Ran Poliakine, Founder & CEO of Nanox, "our mission is to replace all legacy sources with our digital X-ray."

X-rays were originally discovered by Wilhelm Röntgen in 1895 and the base technology remained fundamentally unchanged for the past 124 years. In legacy systems, X- rays are generated by heating up a filament to over 2,000° Celsius which creates an electron cloud (called a "Hot Cathode") that when pulled towards a metal anode produces X-rays on impact. This is an analog way of X-ray generation involving continuous radiation.



Led by the Israeli entrepreneur Ran Poliakine, the international teams of Israeli and Japanese engineers have achieved the **digital** generation of electrons without the use of heat (called a “Cold Cathode”). Nanox has built a novel “Electron Gun” based on a field emission array of a 100 million molybdenum Nano-cones (instead of the one metal filament used in legacy sources) enabling a controlled and steady generation of electrons using low voltage to achieve the same effect as the legacy X-ray source.

We believe that the Nanox digital X-ray source represents a similar analog-to-digital technology jump as the transition achieved by the lighting industry moving from a heated filament-based lightbulb designed by Edison to the modern LED.

The Company achieved operating stability of its novel X-ray source four years ago and is now moving toward commercialization of its novel X-ray source.

“There were many attempts to create a digital, Cold Cathode X-ray source over the past few decades with little to no success.” Said Hitoshi Masuya, CEO of Nanox Japan, “while some companies have made achievements using carbon nano tubes as a basis for field emission X-ray with similar approach to the one used by Nanox, to the best of our knowledge no company have achieved a commercially stable source that can be embedded inside a medical imaging system and operate with an acceptable lifespan. We are proud at our achievement and look forward to beginning to revolutionizing medical imaging in the world.”

About Nanox

Nanox, founded by the serial entrepreneur Ran Poliakine, is an Israeli/Japanese cooperation that has created the world’s first commercial-grade digital X-ray source for real-world medical imaging applications. Nanox promotes the use of its novel technology as the new industry standard to significantly reduce the costs of medical imaging systems and looks to develop collaborations with world-leading healthcare players, aiming to provide affordable, early detection imaging service for all. For more information, please visit www.nanox.vision.

NEC and AudioCodes Collaborate to Provide Monitoring and Analytics Solution

AudioCodes is collaborating with NEC Corporation to offer a comprehensive voice and data layer network monitoring and analytics solution. The joint solution is facilitated through integration of

the AudioCodes One Voice Operations Center (OVOC) and NEC's MasterScope and is designed to help enterprises, contact centers and service providers simplify voice network operations, improve user experience and reduce downtime. Both companies will sell the joint solution to customers around the world.

The combination of OVOC and MasterScope enables customers to monitor and analyze voice and data layers via a single pane of glass. Customers can corroborate statistics from different network layers to ensure accurate troubleshooting and root cause analysis. Current and historical call data can be viewed along with the underlying data layer information with just a few clicks, offering intelligent insights into network trends and performance that can assist in network planning and design.

AudioCodes' One Voice Operations Center (OVOC) is a holistic life-cycle FCAPS (fault, configuration, accounting, performance and security) management and voice network design solution that combines management of voice network devices and quality of experience monitoring into a single, intuitive web-based application. OVOC enables administrators to adopt a holistic approach to network lifecycle management by simplifying everyday tasks and assisting in the troubleshooting process from detection to correction. Through the collaboration with NEC, OVOC is now able to monitor a variety of NEC network devices.

[AudioCodes](#) is a leading vendor of advanced voice networking and media processing solutions for the digital workplace. AudioCodes enables enterprises and service providers to build and operate all-IP voice networks for unified communications, contact centers, and hosted business services. AudioCodes offers a broad range of innovative products, solutions and services that are used by large multi-national enterprises and leading tier-1 operators around the world.

Cognata Signs Distribution Agreements in Japan, South Korea

Israel-based Cognata develops a system capable of simulating various situations a self-driving car may encounter within a specific city

Adi Pick15:5720.11.19

Israel-based autotech company Cognata Ltd. has signed distribution agreements for its systems in China, Japan, and South Korea, the company announced Wednesday. The company signed agreements with HiRain Technologies, an electronics supplier for the Chinese automotive market,

and with Tokyo-listed electronics company **Innotech Corp.** and its Korean subsidiary K-Innotech. The financial details of the agreements were not disclosed.

Founded in 2016 and based in central Israeli city Rehovot, Cognata develops a system capable of simulating various situations a self-driving car may encounter within a specific city. The system is meant to reduce the time and resources required for testing the vehicles in real-life situations

Loom Systems Raises \$10 Million to Predict IT Incidents With AIOps

Led by Flint Capital, in participation of **Global-Brains VC this round enables Loom Systems to further expand in North America and EMEA and continue its market-leading innovation in predictive AIOps**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- Loom Systems, creator of the leading predictive AIOps platform, today announced \$10 million in new venture capital investment, which will help fund the company's expansion in North America & EMEA; boost sales, marketing, and research and development; and continue its expansion into enterprise markets.

Loom's award-winning AIOps platform, "Sophie," detects IT issues before traditional monitoring tools by ingesting, understanding, and then trending against the richest source of machine data, logs. Loom then delivers the knowledge the frontline needs to resolve those issues quickly.

This round was led by Flint Capital, which boasts dozens of category-leading growth technology companies, such as Socure, Walkme, CyberX, BlazeMeter (acquired by Computer Associates), and AppSee (acquired by ServiceNow). Existing investors participating in this round include JVP, Meron Capital, and 31Ventures Global Innovation Fund managed by Global Brain Corporations.

"We believe that predictive intelligence driven by AIOps is a necessity in today's complex IT environments," said Loom co-founder and CEO, Gabby Menachem. "We're thrilled to have Flint Capital join our existing investors as we ensure predictive IT operations intelligence is available to the entire Fortune 2000. This funding allows us to accelerate the industry-leading innovations we are bringing to the market, while we expand our sales capacity and further our expansion in North America and Europe."



Loom grew by 3x over the past 12 months, driven by greater adoption of hybrid-cloud and microservices in enterprises. More and more Fortune 2000 enterprises are digitally transforming and turning to AI-based solutions to help them prevent incidents in increasingly complex IT environments. Loom's market-leading AIOps platform captures logs, metrics, alerts and events, to correlate and predict IT issues before the business is impacted, while also delivering the insights and knowledge the frontline needs to resolve them quickly.

"As an investment firm, we see a lot of vendors in the market promising the benefits of AI, yet very few actually delivering on them," said Sergey Gribov, Partner at Flint Capital. "I have extensive experience in IT operations and after an exhaustive analysis, it was obvious that Loom Systems is the rare company delivering on its promise, predicting IT issues and helping teams resolve them before critical business systems are impacted. We are very excited to partner with Loom Systems in building a global AIOps leader."

About Loom Systems

Loom Systems' AIOps solution predicts and solves IT incidents in enterprises undergoing digital transformation or cloud migration. Sophie, the technology behind Loom's AIOps platform, proactively detects IT incidents, alerts IT teams before issues impact customers, and enriches alerts with insights and resolutions in plain English

Dentsu Group's Leading Digital Marketing Company, Cyber Communications inc., Partners with CHEQ to Offer Autonomous Brand Safety for Its Advertisers & Publishers

Cyber Communications Inc. (CCI) (Head office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Representative Director and President: Akio Niizawa), today announced cybersecurity company **CHEQ** as their official partner, offering advertisers and publishers its AI-driven autonomous brand safety solution. Through the partnership with CHEQ, CCI will enable its clients to preemptively tackle brand-safety, ad-fraud and viewability in real-time.

CHEQ's autonomous solution takes brand safety to the next level by enabling advertisers to proactively prevent negative brand association and fake bot traffic before the damage is done.



CHEQ's technology is based on military-grade AI and NLP modules that prevent ads from being served to unsafe environments, non-human users, or unviewable placements. With CHEQ, advertisers will be able to purchase only effective impressions, while publishers can expand advertising revenue by selling quality impressions at a higher value.

CCI plans to introduce CHEQ to its partners and build a safe, reliable and viewable inventory of advertisements on a large scale in Japan.

Akio Niizawa, CCI's Representative Director and President said: "In the Japanese market, increasing caution on ad fraud, and ensuring increase in brand safety and viewability are becoming important. In order to also develop a more secure digital industry, CCI considers taking the lead in engaging in the above mentioned areas a very important mission it has been entrusted with. By entering a partnership with CHEQ, CCI firmly believes this will be realized."

Japan's UMI and Yissum Establish Strategic Partnership

Yissum's Racah Nano Venture Fund Surpasses \$7M with UMI Investment

November 25, 2019 -Jerusalem - Yissum, the Technology Transfer Company of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, announced today a strategic partnership with Universal Materials Incubator Ltd. (UMI), a 16.5B JPY Investment Fund from Japan. The partnership will focus on commercialization of cutting-edge technologies from Hebrew University (HU) to Japanese corporations. As specialists in materials and chemical industries, UMI has also invested in Yissum's Racah Nano Venture Fund, an investment vehicle founded this year to focus on Hebrew University innovations in advanced materials and nanotechnology.

The strategic partnership allows Yissum and UMI to grow their international presence and facilitate the adaptation of HU technologies to the Japanese market as well as create joint investment opportunities.

CIO of UMI, Dr. Shosuke Kiba said, "Through this collaboration, we aim to strengthen our network in Israel and improve our position as a new business creation platform in the materials and chemical industries in Japan. Israel is a global leader in the startup ecosystem and one of our top international targets for finding investment projects that contribute to the development of the Japanese materials and chemical industries."



Yissum's Senior VP of Business Development and Alliance Management, Dr. Itzik Goldwaser said, "The partnership with UMI advances Yissum's efforts to bring Hebrew University innovations to global markets and furthers our international strategy of global outreach that already includes similar partnerships in China and South America."

The Racah Nano Venture Fund completed its initial closing in July and has now raised over \$7 million from top international and strategic investors. The fund's Chief Operating & Technology Officer Avi Voldman said, "The Racah fund aims to leverage Hebrew University's core strengths in advanced materials and nanotechnology. UMI's investment will help ensure the elite status of our technologies in the growing global nanomaterials markets."

About UMI

UMI is a venture capital focusing on chemicals and material science. It was established in October 2015 based on the vision of "Strengthening Japan's technological capabilities by fostering outstanding material and chemical companies and cultivating an industry structure that can compete in the global arena." Currently operating the UMI 1 & 2 Limited Partnership, with 16.5 billion yen in committed capital (from January 2016). For further information please visit www.umi.co.jp/en/.

About Yissum

Yissum is the technology transfer company of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Founded in 1964, it is the third company of its kind to be established and serves as a bridge between cutting-edge academic research and a global community of entrepreneurs, investors, and industry.

Yissum's mission is to benefit society by converting extraordinary innovations and transformational technologies into commercial solutions that address our most urgent global challenges. Yissum has registered over 10,000 patents covering 2,800 inventions; licensed over 900 technologies and has spun out more than 135 companies. Yissum's business partners span the globe and include companies such as Boston Scientific, Google, ICL, Intel, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Microsoft, Novartis and many more.

About Racah Nano Venture Fund

Racah Nano Venture Fund is The Hebrew University of Jerusalem's venture fund focused on smart materials and nanotechnology. The nanotech fund was established in 2019 as a unique blend of academia and entrepreneurship to commercially assess and develop the best ideas within

the University's walls. Racah Nano Venture Fund is a pro-active initiative which offers funding to university projects, allowing academic researchers to focus on perfecting their research, while also providing industry with high quality innovations that offer sufficient validation to provide initial de-risking of early-stage investments.

Nemesysco Empowers Emotion Detection Service for Leading Call Center in Japan

Published : Wednesday, November 27, 2019 ACROFAN=Seunghee Shin |

Kadima, Israel (November 26, 2019) – Nemesysco, a leading provider voice analytics technologies and solutions for genuine emotion detection, today announced that CENTRIC, a prominent provider of outsourced call center services in Japan, is using the company's core QA7™ and Layered Voice Analysis (LVA™) technologies in its award winning Deep SEA service.

CENTRIC is headquartered in Tokyo and maintains three call centers across Japan. As part of the company's strategic expansion plans, CENTRIC has recently opened a new call center in Wakayama in the south of the country and tripled its overall staff of call center agents during the past six months. CENTRIC's growing customer base includes one of the largest home appliance and electronics retailers in Japan, numerous e-commerce companies and other consumer-oriented businesses.

CENTRIC is leveraging Nemesysco's QA7 technology to enable its Deep SEA emotion detection and analysis service. The QA7 technology provides users of the Deep SEA service with real-time indications of the current emotional state of callers.

Deep SEA is an add-on service that CENTRIC offers its customers as part of its outsourced call center package. The Deep SEA service is applied in live operations to optimize outbound marketing and sales campaigns as well as identify upsell opportunities during inbound calls. Based on the emotional responses measured by the QA7 technology, call center agents receive real-time recommendations, including tailored scripts on how to approach each caller.

The QA7 technology is designed to reveal the genuine emotional state of a person. It detects and measures uncontrolled psychophysiological changes to a person's voice during conversations. The technology is indifferent to language or the content of speech and works by analyzing over 150 tiny bio-markers that correlate with many key human emotions. Examples of emotions that can be detected and measured by the QA7 technology include excitement, stress, uncertainty,



anger, happiness, hesitation, embarrassment and more.

“We consider Nemesysco’s voice analytics technologies and our Deep SEA service to be our main competitive differentiators that enable our call center service to stand out in an increasingly crowded market,” explained Ryo Yamada, CEO of CENTRIC. “We have confidence in Nemesysco and its technologies and are currently formulating plans to expand Deep SEA, including offering the service to companies that manage their own call centers.”

In addition, CENTRIC uses Nemesysco’s LVA technology to improve its human resources activities. The LVA technology helps CENTRIC evaluate applicants for open positions and candidates for promotions. With this technology, CENTRIC also monitors the wellbeing of agents and tracks changes over time in order to identify agents that are stressed and at risk of churning.

Both QA7 and LVA are built to reveal and measure the emotions of a person during voice-based communications. While QA7 focuses on softer emotions, LVA is designed to detect signs of risk.

At the recent 2019 Contact Center Award ceremony in Tokyo, CENTRIC won the Judge’s Choice Award for its Deep SEA emotion detection and analysis service. The Contact Center Awards are an annual award program organized by Call Center Japan magazine that recognizes outstanding contributions for improving the customer experience and management of contact and call center operations across Japan.

“The call center industry in Japan is clearly the most advanced and demanding in the world and we are proud to be playing an important role in the success of CENTRIC’s operation,” said Amir Liberman, CEO of Nemesysco. “The unique deployment of our voice analytics technologies for CENTRIC in Japan can serve as an example to other providers of outsourced call centers considering emotion detection as a value added service for improving the customer journey and sales performance of their customers.”



Assuta Medical Centers will provide advice on cyber protection to Japanese hospitals

Japan's International Cyber Conference Collaboration Agreement signed with Sumpo, one of Japan's largest insurance companies

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Assuta Medical Centers signed an agreement to provide cyber protection consulting services to health institutions with Japanese Sumpo .Sumpo is one of Japan's largest insurance companies serving about 20 million clients, insuring thousands of hospitals and prominently in the field of medical services and nursing for the elderly population.

The agreement was signed during the Cybertech Tokyo 2019 International Cyber Conference, held this week in Japan with the participation of Israeli entities and companies .During the conference, Prof. Ari Shamis, CEO of Assuta Medical Centers, presented Assuta's capabilities in the field of cyber protection in hospitals in light of the threats that exist in this area

According to Prof. Shamiss, "Assuta has gained significant knowledge and capabilities in the field of cyber hospitals in recent years and is proud to share this knowledge in consulting with Sumpo in Japan for formulating and implementing cyber security protocols and technologies in hospitals throughout Japan. We are also investigating collaboration on related issues. To the older population .

Yoshi Miyazaki, General Manager of Sumpo Sciuretti, said that the global cyber warfare scene requires a holistic solution that will address a global and effective response to the growing cyber threats worldwide. The combination of the experience and tools of the Assuta cyber team, along with detection and detection capabilities Sumpo, will allow the Japanese market the best defense capabilities in the world.



Cybertech Tokyo: Thousands Attend Japan's Largest Cyber Event

Major cooperation agreements between Israeli and Japanese organizations were signed and announced at the two-day event, which brought together hundreds of government officials, senior executives, and leading decision-makers from around the world

Cybertech Tokyo 2019 drew thousands of people from around the world to the Japanese capital. The two-day event featured presentations from leading government officials, industry and academic experts, and panel discussions on a variety of cyber topics.

The event consisted of attendance by a wide range of delegates and representatives from international governments and embassies around the world, as well as senior executives in the cyber domain. As in every Cybertech event, leading companies and promising startups showcased their technologies and innovations.

Dozens of Israeli officials and executives arrived at Cybertech Tokyo, and major cooperation agreements between Israeli and Japanese organizations were signed and announced at the event

Israeli companies at the JETRO Global Communication Zone in CEATEC 2019

Nov 10, 2019 Jetro

CEATEC 2019 (Combined Exhibition of Advanced Technologies) is an international exhibition which purpose is to harness CPS/IoT to create business opportunities based on co-creation involving a wide range of industries and fields. This event brings the technologies together in one venue that is ideal for the exchange of information. CEATEC 2019 theme this year was 'Connecting Society, Co-Creating the Future'.

CEATEC participating companies presented advanced technological solutions in the areas of mobility, smart-homes and health-tech.



This year 5 Israeli companies attended CEATEC in Chiba's Makuhari Messe, within the JETRO Global Connection Zone. In total 35 companies from countries spanning from Columbia and Canada to India and Singapore presented at the JETRO Zone. **The Israeli companies included Hailo Technologies (mobility), Innoviz Technologies (mobility), Neteera (health-tech), Innereye (health-tech) and Breezometer (health-tech).** The Israeli companies received high-ranking visitors from leading Japanese corporations.

In addition to exhibiting their companies at the JETRO Zone, two of the Israeli companies (Hailo Technologies, Neteera) pitched at the prestigious Venture Café weekly event in central Tokyo, before a crowd of 50.

December

Japan to send warship and planes to the Middle East

27/12/19

Japan will send a warship and patrol planes to protect Japanese ships in the Middle East amid regional tensions.

[Japan](#) will send a warship and patrol planes to protect Japanese ships in the Middle East as the situation in the region, from which it sources nearly 90 percent of its crude oil imports, remains volatile, a document approved by the cabinet showed on Friday.

Under the plan, a helicopter-equipped destroyer and two P-3C patrol planes will be dispatched for information-gathering aimed at ensuring safe passage for Japanese vessels through the region.

If there are any emergencies, a special order would be issued by the Japanese defense minister to allow the forces to use weapons to protect ships in danger.

Friction between [Iran](#) and the [United States](#) has increased since last year, when US President [Donald Trump](#) pulled the US out of a 2015 international nuclear deal with Iran and re-imposed sanctions on it, crippling its economy.

In May and June, there were several attacks on international merchant vessels, including the Japanese-owned tanker *Kokuka Courageous*, in the region, which the US blamed on Iran.

Tehran denies the accusations.

Japan, a US ally that has maintained friendly ties with Iran, has opted to launch its own operation rather than join a US-led mission to protect shipping in the region.

Last week, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe briefed visiting Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Tokyo's plan [to send naval forces to the Gulf](#).

The planned operation is set to cover high seas in the Gulf of Oman, the northern Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden, but not the Strait of Hormuz, the cabinet-approved document showed.



The Japanese government aims to start the operation of the patrol planes next month, while the destroyer will likely begin activities in the region in February, a defence ministry official said.

A European operation to ensure safe shipping in the Gulf will also get underway next month when a French warship starts patrolling there.

TowerJazz to Maintain its TPSCo Majority Ownership, Control and Manufacturing Activity

MIGDAL HAEMEK, Israel, and UOZU CITY, Japan, December 02, 2019 – TowerJazz, the global specialty foundry leader, clarifies following recent press releases in connection with the sale of Panasonic semiconductor business to Nuvoton that it will not sell its TPSCo shares and will maintain its 51% ownership and Board control in TPSCo.

Pursuant to its long-term strategy and growth plans, TowerJazz will continue its operations and manufacturing activity at TPSCo Japanese manufacturing facilities, in accordance with the recently extended contract with PSCS, and do not plan any changes to its foundry services and therefore no impact on the business relationship with its foundry customers.

About TowerJazz

Tower Semiconductor Ltd. (NASDAQ: TSEM, TASE: TSEM) and its subsidiaries operate collectively under the brand name TowerJazz, the global specialty foundry leader. TowerJazz manufactures next-generation integrated circuits (ICs) in growing markets such as consumer, industrial, automotive, medical and aerospace and defense. TowerJazz's advanced technology is comprised of a broad range of customizable process platforms such as: SiGe, BiCMOS, mixed-signal/CMOS, RF CMOS, CMOS image sensor, integrated power management (BCD and 700V), and MEMS. TowerJazz also provides world-class design enablement for a quick and accurate design cycle as well as Transfer Optimization and development Process Services (TOPS) to IDMs and fabless companies that need to expand capacity. To provide multi-fab sourcing and extended capacity for its customers, TowerJazz operates two manufacturing facilities in Israel (150mm and 200mm), two in the U.S. (200mm) and three facilities in Japan (two 200mm and one 300mm).



Sumitomo Chemical invests in nanoscent (Israeli company) to create new healthcare business (Nikkan Kogyo)

04/12/2019 | Editor: [Ahlam Rais](#)

Sumitomo Chemical has made the investment in Nanoscent, an Israeli start-up company that develops a high-precision scent recognition IoT platform. With this deal, Sumitomo Chemical intends to create new health care businesses by making use of the innovative platform.

Tokyo/Japan – Sumitomo Chemical has invested 2 million dollars in Nanoscent, a start-up company in Israel that develops a high-precision scent recognition IoT platform. Through this investment, Sumitomo Chemical will work to deepen its strategic and technological collaboration with Nanoscent and create new healthcare businesses.

Nanoscent is a spin-off company from the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology in Israel. It is developing a scent recognition sensor with a chemiregistor* and an IoT platform using the detected data. Nanoscent has already developed prototypes both of a portable device that can detect multiple scents in real time and an information infrastructure that accumulates and analyzes the detected data in the cloud and enables various devices, such as smartphones, to display the results. By applying machine learning to detected scent patterns by AI algorithms, the scent recognition platform could detect complex conditions, such as changes in a person's physical condition, in addition to simply detecting scent.

Sumitomo Chemical aims to achieve the visualisation of people's physical condition, which is a key to a next-generation healthcare platform, in cooperation with Nanoscent. Sumitomo Chemical is planning to conduct field trials in order to develop a system useful for health management, where fecal scent data can identify changes in physical condition and signs of disease, and propose solutions (food, medicines, lifestyle changes, etc.) suitable to a person's physical condition on a particular day



Sumitomo: Equity stake taken in Israeli agritech startup Taranis

Sumitomo Corporation (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President and Chief Executive Officer: Masayuki Hyodo) and **Sumitomo Corporation Europe Limited** (Head Office: London, U.K.; President and CEO: Takashi Yamana) (below, collectively referred to as the “Sumitomo Corporation Group”) have acquired an equity stake in **A.A.A Taranis Visual Ltd.** (Head Office: Israel; CEO: Ofir Schlam; below, “Taranis”), an Israeli agritech (see Note 1) company.

Throughout the world, and on a daily basis, farmers are faced with the risk of declines in yields as a result of natural disaster (extreme weather, infectious diseases, harmful insects, etc.). It is said that infectious diseases and harmful insects alone result in losses in the hundreds of millions of dollars every year. Furthermore, with climate-change risk becoming more evident, farmers around the world are increasingly required to be prepared for unexpected natural disasters.

Taranis is a startup company in the agritech sector that was founded in 2014. It provides farmers with a precision-agriculture intelligence platform (see Note 2), and offers risk-prediction/prevention solutions for crop cultivation (below, “digital crop doctor service”). Taranis uses remote sensing (see Note 3) performed by a camera loaded on a plane that flies over the farmland, and possesses innovative technology for high-speed acquisition and analysis of ultra-high-definition images (0.5mm/pixel). It also utilizes proprietary biological data and deep-learning technology for the integrated analysis of non-image data (weather, soil data, etc.), allowing it to identify crop stress levels in real time, and even predict outbreaks of infectious diseases and propose measures for tackling them. The digital crop doctor service involves the provision of advice based on information required by farmers for decision-making (germination status, weed proliferation, presence of harmful insects, and damage caused by infectious diseases or harmful insects), which improves crop yields by as much as 7.5%. The service has already been launched in some of the world’s major crop-producing regions, such as North and South America, Russia, and Ukraine.

The Sumitomo Corporation Group already operates agriculture-related businesses in 44 countries worldwide. These businesses encompass fertilizers, pesticides, agricultural machinery, and food products. By collaborating with Taranis, we expect to enhance the sophistication of these existing



businesses. We also believe that we will be able to help accelerate the growth of Taranis's business.

Going forward, we intend to continue identifying changes in the needs of society and contributing to the development of industry across the globe by investing in companies with innovative technology.

Note 1: Agritech refers to the trend of newly introducing IT in existing agricultural sectors to create new forms of agriculture.

Note 2: A precision-agriculture intelligence platform is a platform that provides advice on a PC, tablet, or smartphone screen for various types of agriculture-related decision-making.

Note 3: Remote sensing is one of the technologies for delivering precision agriculture. It allows the shapes, attributes, etc. of objects to be measured and analyzed without touching or damaging them.

Musashi Seimitsu and Aquarius sign deal to develop free piston engine

The engine can be used as an onboard power generator or as a standalone electricity generator

REUTERS Nov 28th 2019

TEL AVIV — Israel's **Aquarius Engines** said it has signed a deal with Japanese auto parts maker Musashi Seimitsu to co-develop its linear engine.

In addition to sharing expertise and manufacturing capabilities Musashi, which is 25% held by [Honda](#), has invested an undisclosed amount in Aquarius.

The 10-kg engine can be used as an onboard power generator in a vehicle or as a standalone electricity generator. It is a single linear piston that blasts to and fro inside a valveless 800cc cylinder, generating power from electromagnetic coils with each stroke and with very low emissions.

"Musashi sees clear synergy with Aquarius Engines and their new system, which provides electrical mobility and charging while braking," Musashi CEO Hiroshi Otsuka said in a statement.



The two companies will initially co-develop the Aquarius electricity system to power 5G cellular base stations and supply electricity to remote areas and then progress to other markets, including the auto industry, he said

Japanese-Israeli partnership launches 'job agency for robots'

“Our robot employment agency is a game-changer,” said Ran Poliakine, founder of SixAI. “It will provide capacity in markets that struggle with labor availability either through the difficulty of the work itself or the cost pressures they face.”

(December 20, 2019 / JNS) The world's first “employment agency” offering robots controlled by artificial-intelligence for hire has launched in Israel as a joint venture between **SixAI of Israel** and **Musashi Seimitsu of Japan**, according to *Daily Mail*.

MusashiAI provides a completely autonomous forklift and a visual inspection robot that factories can hire to work by the hour or pay a task-completed rate.

The MusashiAI robots work to a rate of one component every two seconds and an accuracy of 98 percent, according to the company. In contrast, traditional non-AI-controlled robots take more than 20 seconds per component to achieve a 70 percent accuracy rate.

The robots are “genuinely autonomous rather than automated” since they are given tasks and then determine their own optimal way to perform the job at hand, “just as humans do,” explained Ran Poliakine, founder of SixAI.

He added that the two robot models will take on essential tasks that humans find tiring, repetitive or unrewarding, while humans focus on more complicated and engaging responsibilities, where they have a competitive edge over machines.

“Our robot employment agency is a game-changer,” said Poliakine. “It will provide capacity in markets that struggle with labor availability either through the difficulty of the work itself or the cost pressures they face. By offering hourly or task-related salary rates, our autonomous robotic AI employees are easy to plan for and integrate in any factory workflow.”



CathWorks FFRangio System Receives Regulatory Approval in Japan

CathWorks announced the approval of The CathWorks FFRangio™ System by the Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW). The CathWorks FFRangio System is a non-invasive diagnostic technology that is used at the time of a routine angiography. The CathWorks FFRangio System transforms routine angiogram images into objective and comprehensive physiology information, including a color-coded 3D renderings of blood flow in the heart's arteries to help physicians optimize coronary artery disease decision making, including whether a stent is needed.

The CathWorks FFRangio System is also commercially available in the United States and Europe. It is non-invasive and performed intra-procedurally during coronary angiography without adding additional clinical risk or per procedure costs. The technology has the potential to positively impact a significant patient population in Japan, where heart disease is the second leading cause of death and coronary artery disease accounts for approximately half of these deaths.¹

CathWorks is a medical technology company focused on applying its advanced computational science platform to optimize coronary artery disease therapy decisions and elevate coronary angiography from visual assessment to an objective FFR-based decision-making tool for physicians. FFR-guided PCI decision-making is proven to provide significant clinical benefits for patients with coronary artery disease and economic benefits for patients and payers.

