

Word of Trust

## Israel-Japan Yearly Insight Report

## 2022

Prepared by:

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## President



### Israel – Japan January 2022

Japanese investments in Israeli startups reach a record \$2.9 billion in 20217
JAPAN - UAE- ISRAEL INNOVATION FORUM was held on January 18th
Tier-1 Mobile Network Carrier in Japan Expanding Their 4G Cellular Network with Gilat's Backhaul over Satellite
MagniLearn, an AI-based 100% personalized platform for teaching English, is rapidly expanding in Japan10
Alpha Tau Announces Completion of Enrollment of Japanese Pivotal Clinical Trial in Recurrent Head & Neck Cancer
WEKA Announces \$73M Funding Led by Hitachi Ventures13
Initial Closing of Corundum's Second Israeli VC Fund, and Start of Consulting Service for New Business Development
DriveNets Announce Partnership with ITOCHU Techno-Solutions to Transform Service Providers' Networks in Japan
Scodix and Nihon Seizuki Kogyo Form a New Distribution Partnership in Japan
TriEye Collaborates with Major Tier 1 Hitachi Astemo to Accelerate the Launch of Cutting-Edge ADAS Technology
JAPANESE AUTO-PARTS GIANT TPR INVESTS \$5M IN AQUARIUS ENGINES
Japan Asks Israel to Actively Engage with Palestinians For Peace Making
Israel – Japan February 2022
Knesset honors Japanese righteous who saved lives in Holocaust
NEC Invests in CropX as it Goes Beyond Irrigation25
Sompo Japan begins collaboration with GeoX to advance insurance underwriting
ScoutCam Signs Royalty Licensing Agreement with Sumita Optical Glass
Classiq raises \$33 million Series B for quantum computing software platform
4D IMAGING RADAR LEADER VAYYAR EXPANDS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT WITH NEW JAPAN OFFICE
GenCell Achieves a Significant Scientific Breakthrough in Its Innovative Green Ammonia Synthesis Development Project
Zsquare secures a \$15m round with its lead investor
Cybertech Tokyo: the challenges of securing connected vehicles
Israel – Japan March 2022

The 9th Japan-Israel Joint Committee Meeting on Cooperation on Science and Technology	38
Exaware powers NTT DATA's 5G SEPP	38
Tatsuta wire and Cable invest in Bendit Technologies	40
Japanese Food Giant Ajinomoto to Scale Cultivated Meat Production	41



Israeli - Japanese VC funds high-tech Saudi trucking firm	.42
Plus500 Enters Japanese Market, Acquires EZ Invest Securities	.43
D-ID Closes \$25 Million Funding Round, Bringing Total Funding For The Creative Reality™ Company to \$48 million	.45
RapidAPI Raises \$150M Series D Led by SoftBank Vision Fund 2 to Empower Develop to Innovate and Build Software Faster with APIs	
Firedome Announces Partnership with Hitachi Solutions Create to Drive IoT Security in Japan	.49

## Israel – Japan April 2022

Toshiba Teli and TriEye Collaborate to Deliver SWIR Sensing Capabilities for the Industrial Visio Systems Market	
DeFi startup bloXroute raises \$70 million Series B led by Softbank	54
NTT Experiments Optimizes Customer and Partner Experience via Privacy Preserving Initiatives That Enable Groundbreaking Insights Across Multisource Data	
Source Defense Raises \$27M in Series B Funding	57
MOFA: -Statement by Press Secretary ONO Hikariko on Terrorist attacks in Israel	58
Japan to help struggling Palestinian tourism industry	58

## Israel – Japan May 2022

Video message by Prime Minister KISHIDA at the Reception on the 74th Anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel	
Governor of Aichi Prefecture visits Israel heading a Business Delegation	.61
Late-stage tech backer Liquidity raises \$775M for its fintech platform from Apollo and MUFG	.62
Liquidity Group to launch \$2 billion fund with Japan's MUFG Bank	.63
Classiq Announces Strategic Investment from Global Business Leaders	64
Limaca Medical and HekaBio Announce Japan Partnership	.66
Datumate signs a strategic distribution agreement with Hitachi Solutions, Ltd. for the constructior market in Japan	
Flexspace raise \$6M from M13 Magenta Ventures and R-Squared Ventures	.70
NYK to Invest in theDOCK's Navigator II Fund	.72
Terilogy and KDDI Evolva start partner collaboration with visual support tool "TechSee"	.73
NTT Finance Invests in D-ID, World Leader in AI-Driven Creative Media	.75
Seemplicity raises \$26 million for productivity platform for cybersecurity teams NTTVC joins as new investor	
Inauguration of Japan-funded project in Ramallah to improve educational conditions for people with special needs	.79
Japan condemns Israel for its illegal settlement construction	.80



## Israel – Japan June 2022

Parametrix and Sompo launch cloud outages insurance product	.81
InsurTech EasySend strengthens in Japan by establishing a Japanese entity in order to accelerate digitization within the Japanese financial industry	82
Heavy equipment ADAS co INTSITE teams with Japan's Komatsu	84
Hakuhodo DY Media Partners Co., Ltd. and Augmind Ltd. collaborate on providing new groundbreaking, AI-driven, technology services in Japan	86
Rail Vision Ltd. Receives Japanese Patent Allowance for Railway Obstacle Detection Technology	87
D-ID Announces New Partnership With Japanese E-learning Company Skill Plus	89
AI Chipmaker Hailo Collaborates with Renesas to Enable Automotive Customers to Seamless Scale from ADAS to Automated Driving	

## Israel – Japan July 2022

Israel's El Al to offer direct flights to Tokyo and Melbourne9	2
Toyota Tsusho Partners With Quantum Machines To Provide Quantum Solutions for Japanese Market9	3
Japan Post Unveils Cutting-Edge Initiative to Digitize Roads for Digital Maps Using Innoviz LiDAR 9	
IN Venture (Sumitomo) raises \$150 million fund to invest in Israeli deep-tech startups	
Teva, Takeda offload generics, manufacturing plant to Nichi-Iko in Japanese venture reshuffle9	8
Go2Films seals key deals on Israeli doc slate (exclusive)9	9
Vesttoo Hires Kunihiko linuma, Former Vice Chairman of RGA Japan and SBI Insurance Holdings, as General Manager of Vesttoo Japan10	0

## Israel – Japan August 2022

Gantz-MOD arrives in Tokyo for visit marking 70 years of diplomatic relations	102
Meeting between Foreign Minister Hayashi and Mr. Gantz, Deputy Prime Minister an Minister of Defense of the State of Israel	
Benny Gantz signs Israel-Japan defense cooperation deal in Tokyo	106
Israel's MOD visits Japan: A potential milestone?   Opinion	109
Japan's Aichi region eyeing Israeli startups for partnerships with large leading local corporatio	
	111
Japanese Official Calls for Trilateral Security Agreement with Israel, U.S.	113
634AI's is a part of SixAI sign agreement with Musashi Seimitsu	116
Teva-Takeda offload Generic Manufacturing plant to Nichi-Iko in Japanese venture reshuffle.	118
IN Venture raises \$150 million fund to invest in Israeli deep-tech startups	119
Theranica raises \$45M for migraine digital therapeutic	120



Japanese-funded water network expansion project inaugurated in a village near Ramallah	
Israel – Japan September 2022	
Japan To Purchase Combat Drones In 2023, Acquire Several Hundred From 2025 - Rep	orts122
El Al to begin Tel Aviv-Tokyo flights in March	123
Japan's startup landscape grows as it reaches abroad	124
Taranis Raises \$40 Million Series D to Advance Crop Intelligence and Unlock Growth Opportunities for Agribusinesses	126
SIXAI Launching Massive Global Deployment of Autonomous Mobile Robots in Manufac Facilities Worldwide	•
Pente Networks raise \$10M A Round to accelerate expansion	130
NanoLock and Renesas Partner to Safeguard Smart Meters	
Japan urges against moves harming Palestinian peace process, including settlements	134
Japan contributes \$1.5 million in food assistance for Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip	135
Grant signing ceremonies for three GGP projects in Palestine funded by Japan	
Japan, Jordan confirm strong cooperation during summit talk	
Israel – Japan October 2022	
Japan lauds agreement between Israel and Lebanon on maritime boundary	
MUFG Bank to invest another \$250 million in Liquidity Group	139
Marubeni: Invests in Galileo Wheel Ltd., a Company Developing Airless Tires in Israel	140
Israel's EVR Motors partners with Tsukasa Electric to brink breakthrough electric motors t	•
Fourth Generation CathWorks FFRangio® System Receives Regulatory Approval in Jap	an143
Nagoya's Toho Technology to expand collaboration with Israel Emerging	144
Dentsu Ventures makes a follow up investment in OpenWeb	145
SBI JI INNOVATION FUND Makes a follow up investment in Trigo Vision	146
Israel – Japan November 2022	
Launching of the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)	
KEIDANREN STRATEGY AND POLICY PROPOSAL: Launching EPA Negotiati	
Franker Minister Hannehister de Deservice in selekarting of the 70th Annihum	



NTT DATA Selects Atidot to Provide Advanced AI/ML and Predictive Analytics Solutions to Life and Annuity Insurance Carriers	55
KUBOTA INVESTS IN CLARIFRUIT15	57
Japan's ORIX sells Ormat stake for \$337m15	58
DIC Launches Domestic Sales of UltraNanno™ Microalgae Feed for the Aquaculture Industry of Vaxa, Israel15	
Sports Broadcast Specialist Nexion Selects LiveU for Dynamic Sports Video Delivery16	51
Murata integrates Autotalks' V2X technology into its own modules16	62
Sony Semiconductor Israel Redefines IoT Connectivity Platform with New Ultra Low Power 5G LPWA ALT1350 Chipset	54
NanoLock Brings Built-in Meter-Level Cybersecurity to Renesas Customers, Enabling Faster Built of Protected Meters	

## Israel – Japan December 2022

Third Joint Foreign Affairs and Security Consultation (Pol-Mil Dialogue) between Japan and Israel	
Medcase & NTT DATA Sign a Definitive Agreement to Enable Healthcare AI Developers Holistic Solution to Access, Annotate, and Label Critical Imaging Data	
AI-powered pharmaceutical drug testing startup Quris Technologies raises \$9M in funding17	'0
Marubeni: Investing in the Cyber Security Business for Operational Technology of Critical Infrastructure and Manufacturing. Investment and Collaboration with CyberGym, Israel	'1
MediWound's partner Kaken Pharma gets Japanese approval to market NexoBrid17	'3
GITV joins the Dock Ventures to Invest in Gigaton Carbon Ltd seed round	'5

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## Israel – Japan January 2022

## Japanese investments in Israeli startups reach a record \$2.9 billion in 2021

This marks a 190% leap compared to 2020. The number of investments also rose - 85 compared to 63 the year prior. Japanese investments accounted for 15.8% of all foreign investments in Israel, and since 2000, Japanese companies have invested a total of \$13 billion

### Meir Orbach16:4109.01.22

2021 was a record-breaking year in terms of investments in Israeli tech, and it was revealed on Sunday that Japanese investments played no small part in that. According to research conducted by the **Harel-Hertz Investment House Ltd.**, Japanese investments in Israeli companies in 2021 reached an all-time record high of \$2.945 billion, showcasing a rise of 190% compared to the year prior. The number of investments also rose dramatically, leaping from 63 in 2020 to 85 in 2021, while in 2019, that number stood at 70. Japanese investments accounted for 12% of all investments in Israeli companies, and 15.8% of all foreign investments.

An additional positive statistic was the diversity of investments across different fields. In 2015, most investments (61%) focused on telecommunications and internet, but the share of such investments dropped to 13% in 2021, with growth being seen in life sciences, medicine, foodtech, cybersecurity, fintech, cleantech, and the automotive industry.

## A total of \$13 billion since 2000

Since the year 2000, Japanese companies have invested \$13 billion in Israel. The momentum of Japanese investment in Israel soared from 2015 after the exchange of diplomatic visits between then-prime ministers Benjamin Netanyahu and Shinzo Abe. This trend continued following the signing of investment agreements and a security memorandum of understanding and led to collaborations in the fields of cybersecurity, space, academic research, and agriculture.



While 2020 was defined by the entrance of Japanese institutional investors (insurance companies and banks) who increased their presence in Israel, including the establishment of independent offices and cooperation with their Israeli counterparts, 2021 saw the entry of Japanese venture capital funds into the country, whether through Israeli branches or independently. Currently, 18 Japanese VCs operate in Israel through cooperation agreements. That includes the public entry of Japan's two leading tech companies - NTT and SoftBank. They join 95 other tech, investment, industrial, telecommunications, and other companies which have created an active Japanese community that influences the Israeli high tech scene. This year, nine new companies made their first investment in the country and joined this community.

Another factor that proves the maturity of Japanese investments in Israel is the transition to more advanced stages of investments. A few years ago, the majority of investments were in initial stages of development, while this year the share in growth stages has increased.

A major part of the impressive growth were the three significant acquisitions that were completed this past year by Japanese companies, with Itamar Medical being acquired by the ZOLL Medical Corp., an Asahi-Kasei company, Medi-Tate being acquired by Olympus, and Celano being acquired by Renesas.

**Elchanan Harel, CEO of Harel-Hertz** noted that these growth figures are more impressive when considering they were all "digital investments," which were conducted through Zoom calls and without any physical meetings between the parties due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic. That also points to the maturity of the relations between Japanese business people and their Israeli counterparts.

According to the **Harel-Hertz group**, the escalation in the trade wars between the U.S. and China, as well as the rise in tensions between Eastern Asian countries and China, Israeli companies focus on Japan as their Asian business center. Many Israeli companies are now examining options of opening branches and offices in Japan, and are appointing local Japanese managers to represent their companies locally, recognizing their economic importance, and viewing Japan as a convenient center for operations in Asian countries.



## JAPAN - UAE- ISRAEL INNOVATION FORUM was held on January 18th.

The Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI) of Japan, Ministry of Economy (MOE) of UAE, Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (MOEI) of Israel, and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) are pleased to announce the jointly organized **UAE-Japan-Israel Innovation Forum** to provide insights and highlight various business opportunities centered on innovation among the three countries.

From the perspectives of both policy and private sector initiatives, this is indeed a valuable opportunity to explore the possibilities of collaboration that leverages the strengths of each country and the business that are created through cooperation. **The forum was held online on 18th January 2022, Tuesday**.

**Organizers:** Ministry of Economy Trade & Industry (METI) of Japan, Ministry of Economy (MOE) of UAE, Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (MOEI) of Israel, and Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

**In Cooperation with:** Embassy of Israel in Japan, Embassy of Japan in UAE, Embassy of Japan in Israel, Japan-Israel Innovation Network (JIIN) Members

## Tier-1 Mobile Network Carrier in Japan Expanding Their 4G Cellular Network with Gilat's Backhaul over Satellite

## Gilat receives order for additional VSATs to enable the operator's 4G/LTE network growth

January 06, 2022 07:05 ET | Source: Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd.

PETAH TIKVA, Israel, Jan. 06, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Gilat Satellite Networks Ltd. (Nasdaq: GILT, TASE: GILT), a worldwide leader in satellite networking technology, solutions, and services, announced today it has received an order for additional VSATs from its Tier-1 mobile network carrier customer in Japan.

Using Gilat's unique SkyEdge II-c cellular backhaul system, the mobile network carrier will be expanding their cellular backhaul over satellite. This will enable further growth of their 4G/LTE network into rural zones that are lacking fiber access.



"This additional order is a vote of confidence and a testament to the quality and effectiveness of our cellular backhaul over satellite solution," said Michal Aharonov, Chief Commercial Officer at Gilat. "As a flexible and modular platform, SkyEdge II-c can readily support the advanced features present in the operator's open architecture. With technology that enables timely deployment for network extension, Gilat is helping to create a dynamic that massively benefits the local population, as well as setting an enviable example of implementation that can be used by similar MNOs in other countries."

#### 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).

Gilat's comprehensive solutions support multiple applications with a full portfolio of products to address key applications including broadband access, cellular backhaul, enterprise, in-flight connectivity, maritime, trains, defense and public safety, all while meeting the most stringent service level requirements. Gilat controlling shareholders are the FIMI Private Equity Funds.

# MagniLearn, an Al-based 100% personalized platform for teaching English, is rapidly expanding in Japan

TOKYO, Jan. 3, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>MagniLearn</u> announced today that the company has signed a strategic agreement in Japan with a large private school network. The network, <u>AIC</u> <u>Education</u> — with over 61 private after-schools (Jukus) and more than 12,000 students — chose to implement <u>MagniLearn's localized solution</u> to facilitate extremely efficient and hyperpersonalized learning for its students. AIC Education has already launched MagniLearn in seven schools and four of its locations: Kurashiki, Hiroshima, Fukuyama, and Okayama.



"Efficiency is the key to successfully acquiring a foreign language. With built-in language awareness, our system discerns which vocabulary and grammar rules have not yet been completely understood by the student. It identifies common errors, provides recommendations, alerts teachers and builds the next lesson plan for that student's needs," said Lana Tockus, CEO of MagniLearn.

"MagniLearn arms our schools with a unique, data driven, real-time personalized learning and insights system. These insights, coupled with the curriculum integration to our schools' textbooks, enable us to further empower our students to realize their full potential, and provide our teachers with the tools to maximize their role in-class. This partnership with MagniLearn brings cutting-edge technology to our schools, allowing students to dramatically improve their English in a much shorter time frame," said Mr. Kuwabara, President of AIC Education.

According to Tockus, the Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) algorithms at the heart of MagniLearn restore the ability to teach one-on-one. The user's experience is extremely personalized and flexible, as each exercise is generated by an NLP-engine in real-time to maximize the user's learning efficiency.

According to language learning experts, fluency in English involves attaining an active vocabulary of about 8,000 words as well as hundreds of grammatical patterns. MagniLearn reports that students using its system have demonstrated an ability to acquire these language skills three times faster than by using traditional methods.

MagniLearn targets a variety of customers, such as K-12, higher education institutions, book publishers, information service companies, and EdTech corporations. For the Japanese market, MagniLearn has integrated the national textbook's curriculum to its existing product, and included unique customized features tailored to Japanese schools, teachers and students.

MagniLearn emerged from the groundbreaking work of scientists at the **Hebrew University of Jerusalem** in Natural Language Processing, Neuroscience, Cognition and Education led by <u>Professor Ari Rappoport</u>.



## Alpha Tau Announces Completion of Enrollment of Japanese Pivotal Clinical Trial in Recurrent Head & Neck Cancer

JERUSALEM, Jan. 3, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Alpha Tau Medical Ltd. ("Alpha Tau"), the developer of the innovative alpha-radiation cancer therapy **Alpha DaRT**<sup>™</sup>, announced today that it has been notified by **HekaBio K.K.**, its clinical trial partner in Japan, that recruitment has been completed in its open-label multi-center pivotal study evaluating the Alpha DaRT in Japanese patients with recurrent Head & Neck cancer after radiotherapy.

HekaBio has reported that preliminary results of this trial are highly encouraging, and that it will continue compilation and analysis of the data in collaboration with its medical experts, in an effort to prepare a submission seeking marketing approval via the *shonin* pathway in consultation with Japanese authorities. No results of the clinical trial are expected to be published until submission to the Japanese authorities.

Alpha Tau CEO Uzi Sofer remarked, "This is an important milestone for Alpha Tau, as we look to bring our unique Alpha DaRT therapy to patients around the world. Having secured our first marketing authorization in Israel, we look forward to seeing pivotal trial data from Japan, with an eye toward initiating a pivotal trial in the U.S. in 2022. Japan is an important market for Alpha Tau, and we appreciate the untiring efforts of HekaBio CEO Rob Claar and his team, as well as all of the investigators from leading cancer centers in Japan who have participated in this trial."

### About Alpha DaRT

Alpha DaRT (Diffusing Alpha-emitters Radiation Therapy) is designed to enable highly potent and conformal alpha-irradiation of solid tumors by intratumoral delivery of radium-224 impregnated sources. When the radium decays, its short-lived daughters are released from the source and disperse while emitting high-energy alpha particles with the goal of destroying the tumor. Since the alpha-emitting atoms diffuse only a short distance, Alpha DaRT aims to mainly affect the tumor, and to spare the healthy tissue around it.

#### About Alpha Tau Medical Ltd.



Founded in 2016, Alpha Tau is an Israeli medical device company that focuses on research, development, and potential commercialization of the Alpha DaRT for the treatment of solid tumors. The technology was initially developed by Prof. Itzhak Kelson and Prof. Yona Keisari from Tel Aviv University.

On July 8, 2021, Alpha Tau announced that it had entered into a definitive merger agreement (the "Merger Agreement") with Healthcare Capital Corp. (Nasdaq: <u>HCCC</u>) ("HCCC"), a special purpose acquisition company, pursuant to which Alpha Tau would consummate a business combination transaction (the "Business Combination") with HCCC and become a Nasdaq-listed public company.

## WEKA Announces \$73M Funding Led by Hitachi Ventures

January 4, 2022

CAMPBELL, Calif., Jan. 4, 2022 — WEKA, the data platform for AI, today announced that **Hitachi Ventures** led its recent round raising \$73 million in funding, which brings the total amount raised to \$140 million. Other investors participating in this round were strategic investors, including **Hewlett Packard Enterprise**, **NVIDIA**, **Micron**, **and Cisco**, **and financial investors including MoreTech Ventures**, **Ibex Investors**, **and Key 1 Capital**. The company will use the funds to accelerate go-to-market activities, operations, and engineering.

WEKA saw tremendous customer velocity in FY21 (ending November 2021) delivering >2x ARR growth (annual recurring revenue), >125% growth in new customers and with WEKA being deployed in 18 new countries globally. WEKA was also recognized by Gartner as a Magic Quadrant Visionary. This velocity continues into 1Q'FY22, achieving its 1QFY22 revenue target in the first 14 days of the quarter.

"The Global 1000s are now aggressively integrating Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning practices and technology into their core business processes, creating new products and services that were impossible to even imagine previously," said Liran Zvibel, Co-Founder and CEO of WEKA. "GPUs and accelerated computing technologies are rapidly replacing traditional CPU compute at 100-1000 times performance, shifting the AI bottleneck from CPU access to data access, and creating a huge market opportunity for WEKA's modern Data Platform for AI. At



WEKA we have built the best data platform technology for Cloud and AI, alongside the most innovative go-to-market motion selling through the public cloud providers and the large server vendors, being a true software company. Our latest round will enable WEKA to deliver better and faster outcomes to more customers and improved integration with our ecosystem."

The oversubscribed round was led by Hitachi Ventures. "WEKA's market-leading highperformance, scalable data platform enables data-driven organizations to speed up research, analytics and other data intensive applications resulting in faster outcomes that accelerate timeto-market and provide a competitive edge," said **Jun Abe, Chairman of the Board at Hitachi Vantara LLC.** "As the volume of unstructured data skyrockets, CIOs and IT professionals are now looking at object storage and WEKA's distributed file solution to support modern GPU workloads, high performance data analytics, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to make faster and more accurate decisions from their data."

In addition, MoreTech Ventures, Ibex Investors and Key 1 Capital commented further:

"WEKA's technology is a groundbreaking one, particularly in the high-performance computing and AI/ML space," said Danny Akerman, Founding Partner of Key 1 Capital. "Its software-defined storage approach is unique and has proven invaluable in rapidly expanding its customer base and accelerating top line growth. We are delighted to join WEKA's strong investor base and management team at this transformative time in the company's life."

In addition, further commentary was provided by Strategic Investors Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Digital Alpha and Micron:

"WEKA offers a modern flash-based data platform ideal for modern workloads with large GPUclusters," said Paul Glaser, Vice President and Head of Hewlett Packard Pathfinder. "With their recent Ezmeral validation, we look forward to additional business success together in the future."

"Ongoing participation from growth stage strategic investors is a valuable performance metric for any growing business," said Intekhab Nazeer, WEKA's CFO. "I'm very pleased that this round brought us significant investment from many of our existing investors, as well as new investors, including Hitachi Ventures, Cisco's Growth Investment Fund, Micron Ventures, Ibex Investors, MoreTech Ventures and Key 1 Capital. We are now extremely well-positioned to ramp our end-toend operations, engineering, and go-to-market activities for the next wave of Enterprise AI."

For more information or to schedule a demo, please visit www.weka.io.

#### About WekalO

<u>WekalO</u> (WEKA), the leading data platform for achieving first-to-market results in artificial intelligence/machine learning (AI/ML), life sciences research, and high-performance computing



(HPC) is used by eight of the Fortune 50 enterprise organizations to uniquely solve the newest, biggest problems holding back innovation and discovery. WEKA solutions are purpose-built to future-ready the accelerated and agile data center. Optimized for NVMe-flash and the hybrid cloud, its advanced architecture handles the most demanding storage challenges in the most data-intensive technical computing environments, delivering truly epic performance at any scale, enabling organizations to maximize the full value of their data center investments. WEKA helps the enterprise solve big IT infrastructure problems to accelerate business outcomes and speed productivity.

## 2022.01.19

## Initial Closing of Corundum's Second Israeli VC Fund, and Start of Consulting Service for New Business Development

**Corundum Innovation Co., Ltd. and Corundum Ventures Ltd.** announce the initial closing of Corundum Open Innovation Fund II (COIF II), which invests in promising Israeli high-tech startups. In addition, Corundum Innovation has launched consulting service for new business development for the investors of COIF II.

**Nikon Corporation, NGK INSULATORS, LTD**., a consumer goods companies, and other Japanese companies invested in COIF II. We continue to seek for additional investors until the final closing of COIF II.

The first fund, COIF I, invested in several startups and a Vertex fund managed by Vertex Ventures, a top Israeli venture capital firm. Corundum Innovation has been providing consulting services to COIF I's investors for investors' new business development, utilizing non-public information obtained through the fund activities. Eleven direct/indirect portfolio startups of COIF I have completed their exits through M&A and IPO, which has brought outstanding financial return to the investors. Corundum has also contributed to investors' new business developments through investors' direct investment, partnering and so forth.

COIF II will also invest in promising Israeli startups and top VC funds for higher achievements, expanding and deepening the COIF I scheme. COIF II widely covers investment domain, for example, smart manufacturing, cleantech, AI, agriculture, food, materials, digital health,



cybersecurity, automation, robotics, life sciences, and fintech. Collaborating with COIF II also enhances the quality and quantity of the sourcing capability in our consulting service. Corundum will support for investors' business development activities with the combination of COIF II and Corundum's various high expertise.

It will invest 2-5 million dollars (230-570 million yen) per promising start-up company in Israel.

### **About Corundum Innovation**

Corundum Innovation Co., Ltd., and Corundum Ventures Ltd. (Hereafter Corundum) provide venture capital (VC) investment and consulting services to investors for both financial and strategic returns. Corundum provides flexible services to COIF's investors for new business development in various phases with our expertise in science, technology, business development, corporate management, finance and consulting, as well as our strong network with top Israeli VC and the valuable information we can access through fund activities. Corundum's support includes information gathering, negotiation for partnership, direct investment, market development, HR development, and fund formation.

## DriveNets Announce Partnership with ITOCHU Techno-Solutions to Transform Service Providers' Networks in Japan

Tue, January 18, 2022, 11:00 AM-4 min read

## The companies are already working together to deploy DriveNets Network Cloud solution at Tier-1 service providers in Japan

RA'ANANA, Israel, Jan. 18, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>DriveNets</u>, a leader in cloud-native and disaggregated networking solutions, today announced a strategic partnership with <u>ITOCHU</u> <u>Techno-Solutions</u>, <u>https://www.epsglobal.com/</u>a comprehensive services company providing optimum solutions and cloud services to its customers, to help service providers in Japan leverage the cloud architecture to accelerate growth and realize operational efficiencies, by disaggregating their networks and deploying cloud-native solution.



ITOCHU Techno-Solutions is joining DriveNets' <u>Partner Program</u>, and will integrate DriveNets Network Cloud solution at service providers and hyperscalers in Japan, streamlining and accelerating the evolution to cloud-based networking. ITOCHU Techno-Solutions will support the critical steps of network rollouts, including design, testing, validation, production readiness, sourcing and logistics, end-to-end seamless integration, and technical support.

The companies have already secured deployment agreements with key Tier-1 service providers in Japan, and are currently expanding to additional joint projects in the region. ITOCHU Techno-Solutions and DriveNets are building up on this partnership and planning to extend it to other APAC countries.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with ITOCHU Techno-Solutions – a highly respected, leading system integrator in Japan, with extensive experience with key players in the region," said Nir Gasko, head of Global Strategic Alliances at DriveNets. "The company's deep knowledge of networking technologies and operations, along with their strong, longstanding brand and excellent customer relationship, make it an ideal partner for DriveNets. The combined strength of an experienced partner like ITOCHU Techno-Solutions and a groundbreaking solution like DriveNets Network Cloud enable service providers in the region to accelerate service innovation while transforming their networks."

"A growing number of leading service providers have realized that cloud-based network solutions will not only simplify their network and lower their cost, but will also accelerate scaling and innovation," said Yasuhiko Terada, Senior Managing Executive Officer. "With this partnership, ITOCHU Techno-Solutions Corporation will be able to help leading operators in Japan to remain ahead of the market in network excellence and innovation, by accelerating the deployment of innovative cloud-based solutions."

#### **DriveNets Partner Program**

The DriveNets <u>Partner Program</u> was established to accelerate the transformation in the telecom field, from a closed, vendor-dependent model to a cloud-like architecture with an open ecosystem, where each partner plays to its strength, leading to a combined solution that is better, more cost effective, and more innovative than each individual element.

The program has been designed to leverage the disaggregated network model and bring together a wide range of worldwide players, including channel partners, solution providers, hardware manufacturers, and application developers. DriveNets' Partner Program combines DriveNets' solution with our partners' value-added expertise to accelerate innovation in the service provider space.



### About ITOCHU Techno-Solutions Corporation

ITOCHU Techno-Solutions Corporation is a comprehensive IT services company that partners with its customers. From consulting to design, development and construction, operational and maintenance support, ITOCHU Techno-Solutions combines sophisticated IT solutions and cloud services to solve customers' issues and to contribute to digital transformation. Providing optimum services in all fields including communication, broadcasting, manufacturing, finance, logistics and retail, public services, life sciences, science and engineering.

### **About DriveNets**

DriveNets is a leader in cloud-native networking software and network disaggregation solutions. Founded in 2015 and based in Israel, DriveNets offers communications service providers (CSPs) and cloud providers a radical new way to build networks, substantially growing their profitability by changing their technological and economic models. DriveNets' solution – Network Cloud – adapts the architectural model of cloud to telco-grade networking. Network Cloud is a cloud-native software that runs over a shared physical infrastructure of standard white-boxes, radically simplifying the network's operations, offering telco-scale performance and elasticity at a much lower cost.

## Scodix and Nihon Seizuki Kogyo Form a New Distribution Partnership in Japan

### Wednesday, January 19, 2022

### Press release from the issuing company

Scodix, Israel – Scodix, the leading provider of digital enhancement solutions for the graphic arts industry, today announces signing the partnership agreement with NSK (Nihon Seizuki Kogyo Co., Ltd) to distribute Scodix solutions in Japan.

NSK, a Japanese company with over 50 years of experience in graphic arts, provides digital and conventional solutions to more than 2,000 customers.

Masanori Fukuda, NSK CEO says, "We are extremely excited to add Scodix to our solution portfolio as Scodix is the best in digital enhancement printing and a growth engine for our



current and future customers. Our reputation is known as distributors of cutting-edge technologies, and Scodix leads the pack."

NSK's passion is to understand their customers' business to help them overcome their challenges through design, development, and solutions. NSK's strength is in its close consultations with customers and delivery of the correct solutions that enable end-user business growth.

Ziki Kuly, Scodix APJ President, adds, "We are honored at the inclusion of Scodix solutions at NSK. We look forward to a strong alliance and further growth in the dynamic Japanese market."

Shin-Ichi Sugiyama, Scodix Japan Manager, comments further, "We are looking to significantly penetrate into the packaging market segment as NSK and Scodix together provide the necessary sustainability changes that the world is pushing for while increasing value to customers, brands and end-users."

## TriEye Collaborates with Major Tier 1 Hitachi Astemo to Accelerate the Launch of Cutting-Edge ADAS Technology

The TriEye SEDAR is the ultimate perception solution, enabling autonomous vehicles and advanced driver assist systems (ADAS) with HD imaging and depth perception capabilities in all weather and lighting conditions

TEL AVIV, Israel, Jan. 20, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>TriEye</u>, the pioneer of the world's first massmarket Short-Wave Infrared (SWIR) sensing technology, announces collaboration with Hitachi Astemo, Tier 1 automotive supplier of world-class products. Combining their expertise, the companies will work together to further enhance the capabilities of advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) for adverse weather and low-light conditions by accelerating the launch of TriEye technology. The SEDAR (Spectrum Enhanced Detection And Ranging), has also received



significant recognition when it was named CES 2022 Innovation Award Honoree, in the Vehicle Intelligence category.

TriEye developed the SEDAR, the industry's first affordable and complete solution capable of producing both HD image-data and a detailed depth-map for automated driving applications. The SEDAR was designed to meet the automotive market's requirements and redefine safety standards by enabling perception in all visibility conditions. TriEye's SEDAR, based on the world first CMOS based sensor, the Raven, uniquely operates in the SWIR spectrum, enabling HD SWIR imaging and deterministic 3D mapping - in one sensor modality.

Hitachi Astemo manufactures systems for major OEMs, using their leading-edge facilities to develop technologies and ensure maximum quality. Applying this expertise, Hitachi Astemo will evaluate the SEDAR and validate that it can be easily integrated into their ADAS system to deliver mission-critical 2D and 3D depth information under low-visibility conditions.

"Our goal is to continue to work towards improving vehicle safety," said John Nunneley, Senior Vice President, Design Engineering, Hitachi Astemo Americas, Inc. "and we believe that TriEye's SEDAR can provide autonomous vehicles with ranging and accurate detection capabilities that are needed to increase the safety and operability under all visibility conditions."

"We are excited to collaborate with Hitachi Astemo, a leading Tier 1 committed to driving innovations that accelerate the advancement of next-generation technologies," said Ziv Livne, TriEye's Chief Business Officer, "together with Hitachi Astemo's expertise in building and deploying complex ADAS systems, we can create a clear and focused path towards vehicle integration, saving lives on the road."

### About TriEye

TriEye is the pioneer of mass-market, CMOS-based Short-Wave infrared (SWIR) sensing solutions. Based on advanced academic research, TriEye's breakthrough and proprietary technology enables cost-effective, high-resolution image data and depth perception in all weather and lighting conditions. Founded in 2017, the company's cutting-edge technology allows perception systems to operate and deliver reliable image data and actionable information, while



reducing expenditure by up to 1,000x the existing industry rates. For more information, visit <u>www.TriEye.tech</u>

#### About Hitachi Astemo Americas, Inc.

Hitachi Astemo Americas, Inc. manufactures and markets engine management, electric powertrain, integrated vehicle control for major automotive manufacturers worldwide, adhering to ISO/TS:16949:2009 industry standards.

## JAPANESE AUTO-PARTS GIANT TPR INVESTS ADDITIONAL \$5M IN AQUARIUS ENGINES

• By AQUARIUS ENGINES, TPR

YAKUM,Israel, Feb. 1, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Japanese auto-parts manufacturer TPR have invested \$5M in <u>Aquarius Engines</u>. TPR is a Japanese publicly traded manufacturer of engine components for the global automotive industry and was already a non-material shareholder in <u>Aquarius Engines</u> (TASE: AQUA). The new capital will accelerate the development, production, and distribution of the Aquarius Engine in Japan and beyond.

The news comes as the two companies continue to negotiate an additional TPR investment in Aquarius Engines' subsidiary in Tokyo, as reported in October 2021. As well as a potential manufacturing agreement under which TPR will manufacture <u>Aquarius Engines'</u> products in Japan.

"TPR is a leading force in the Japanese automotive industry, specializing in engine parts. Beyond the monetary investment, we see TPR as a natural partner to champion our interests in Japan and beyond. As we continue to promote and explore collaborations with other significant



strategic players in all of our global target markets." Said Ariel Gorfung, CEO of <u>Aquarius</u> Engines.

TPR was the second major Japanese automotive company to invest in <u>Aquarius</u> <u>Engines</u> following Honda-affiliate Musashi Seimitsu in 2019.

In November 2021, <u>Aquarius Engines</u> reported it's first purchase order for generators from the Italian-based Tecnoelettra, which supplies state-of-the-art power solutions to a wide range of clients, including those in the telecommunications industry. The €5M order was received after successful completion of a series of field tests, with the supply of generators to begin in stages from October 2022 until the end of 2023.

<u>Aquarius Engines</u> also enjoys a strategic partnership with Nokia in the field of remote communication and energy equipment management. The Aquarius Engines Generator is currently undergoing additional field tests in North America, Europe, Asia and Australasia.

The 10kg <u>Aquarius Engine</u> was invented in 2014 and is designed to be used as an onboard power generator in a vehicle or as a stand-alone electricity generator. Unlike most conventional engines that are made of hundreds of parts, the Aquarius Engine has just twenty components and one moving part. The lightweight streamlined design makes it inexpensive and highly efficient with minimal need for maintenance, compared to traditional engines.

The <u>Aquarius Engines</u> technology currently has around two dozen patents registered worldwide. The company Chairman is Gal Fridman and CEO is Ariel Gorfung. <u>Aquarius Engines</u> has manufacturing and development centers in Israel, Germany and Poland.



## Japan Asks Israel to Actively Engage with Palestinians For Peace Making

Arab News Japan By Kayla Roberts On Jan 14, 2022

TOKYO: **Foreign Minister HAYASHI Yoshimasa** reiterated Japan's support for a two-state solution during the Middle East Peace process, and asked Israel to actively engage with the Palestinian side to achieve that goal.

In a telephone talk with his Israeli counterpart **Yair Lapid** on Friday, Hayashi noted that Japan's engagement included the "Economy for Security" plan for the Gaza Strip, and will pay close attention to the progress of the plan.

Hayashi also expressed his hope that confidence-building measures respectively taken by the Israeli and Palestinian sides would lead to an easing of tensions and stability in the region.

Hayashi requested understanding and cooperation from Israel for Japan's assistance projects toward Palestine, such as the "Corridor for Peace and Prosperity" initiative.

Minister Lapid, in response, said he valued Japan's assistance and expressed his willingness to continue cooperation, according to the ministry.

The two ministers agreed to cooperate toward further development of the bilateral relations between the two countries, leading up to the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year, foreign ministry in Tokyo said.



## Israel – Japan February 2022

## Knesset honors Japanese righteous who saved lives in Holocaust

## Last week marked the International Holocaust Memorial Day.

By GIL HOFFMAN FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Japanese citizens who took steps to save Jews fleeing Europe during the Holocaust were honored at a special virtual event of the Israel-Japan Friendship Group in the Knesset on Tuesday.

The event was initiated by MK Zvi Hauser (New Hope) and National Diet member Gen Nakatani, who head the friendship group in their respective parliaments, in honor of last week's Holocaust Remembrance Day and marking 70 years of relations between Israel and Japan.

"The sparks of brotherhood between the Japanese and Jewish people were born in the darkest period of humanity and the history of the Jewish people," Hauser said at the event. "It was sparks of light of individuals in the darkness that covered the surface. The Jewish people and Japanese are both ancient people. The two nations both have curiosity to understand the future and make it better. They both see themselves as active in making the world a better place."

Hauser singled out Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat in Lithuania who helped thousands of Jews flee Europe by issuing transit visas so that they could travel through Japanese territory. Lesser known is Prof. Setsuzo Kotsuji, who helped the refugees extend their stay in Japan from a few days on their permits to many months.

Kotsuji, who was the top scholar on Judaism in Japan, was tortured for refuting Nazi propaganda and saving some 300 yeshiva students from Lithuania, including Rabbi Pinchas Hirschsprung, who later became chief rabbi of Montreal, and Rabbi Dr. Avraham Mordechai Hershberg, who was the chief rabbi of Mexico for 25 years.

Kotsuji later became a Jew and is buried in Jerusalem.

Hauser, whose own mother was saved during the Holocaust by a Righteous Gentile in Europe, said Sugihara and Kotsuji "did not only save people, they saved generations."

"The recognition given to Japanese citizens who saved Jews during the Holocaust is a symbolic step that strengthens relations between the two peoples," Nakatani said.



The event was attended by other members of the National Diet, MKs Uri Maklev (UTJ) and Moshe Tur-Paz (Yesh Atid), Japanese Ambassador to Israel Mizushima Koichi, Israeli Ambassador to Japan Gilad Cohen and Yad Vashem chairman Dani Dayan.

"We cannot leave the chapter of Jewish-Japanese relations in the Holocaust to Consul Sugihara alone," Dayan said. "We should do much more to reveal acts of heroism, which are under-researched and under-exhibited to the public. More education and recognition is necessary in this sacred endeavor."

## NEC Invests in CropX as it Goes Beyond Irrigation

TEL AVIV, Israel, Feb. 9, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- NEC Corp (OTCMKTS: NIPNF), a multinational corporation headquartered in Minato, Tokyo, that specializes in communications infrastructure technology, announces a strategic investment in CropX, a global leader in digital farm management solutions.

NEC's investment comes after a successful implementation with CropX technologies and NEC's CropScope, its agricultural ICT Platform on tomato's sustainable farming. The CropX technology suite offers farmers and agribusinesses powerful decision and planning tools accessible via a web and mobile app. CropX harnesses real-time soil data and satellite imagery to guide farmers to higher yields with lower inputs, supporting wise land and water stewardship, a win-win for farmers and the Earth.

Teruyuki Nakajima, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Corporate Business Development Division, NEC Corporation: NEC has been continuously developing and providing solutions that contribute to the cultivation through our AI farming advising platform 'CropScope'. By having an alignment with powerful tools by CropX, we will be creating new values for agricultural production, helping to overcome social issues such as climate change and food safety concerns.



CropX CEO Tomer Tzach: It is an exciting day when a happy customer becomes an investor, especially when that customer is NEC Corp, a transformative force at the forefront of technology innovation for over a century. This investment shows an aligned vision for future farming sustainability and validation of the great benefits CropX can bring to NEC's farmer-customers worldwide.

#### About CropX

Since 2015, CropX has been helping farmers everywhere grow more with less - less water, less labor, less energy, and less stress. Its technologies and cloud-based platform offer advanced farm intelligence to farmers in over 40 countries, across all the arable continents, on over 75 crop types. With experienced teams of agronomists, data scientists, and engineers, CropX is committed to improving and simplifying digital tools for profitable and sustainable farm management.

#### **About NEC Corporation**

NEC Corporation is a leader in the integration of IT and network technologies that benefit businesses and people around the world. By providing a combination of products and solutions that cross utilize the company's experience and global resources, NEC's advanced technologies meet the complex and ever-changing needs of its customers. NEC brings more than 100 years of expertise in technological innovation to empower people, businesses and society.

## Sompo Japan begins collaboration with GeoX to advance insurance underwriting

news Insurance company news 2022-02-14

#### Utilizing building image analysis AI technology for insurance underwriting

Sompo Japan Insurance Co., Ltd. (hereinafter, Sompo Japan), SOMPO Holdings Co., Ltd., and SOMPO Risk Management Co., Ltd. are underwriting insurance utilizing the Israeli startup company "GeoX Innovations" (hereinafter, GeoX) and building image analysis AI technology. The company announced that it will start collaborating in February 2022 to improve its sophistication.

#### Joint development of technology for automatic building risk assessment



Sompo Japan, SOMPO Holdings, and SOMPO Risk Management will accurately and speedily investigate the risks of diversification and complication of natural disasters that occur frequently in recent years, and will be able to propose optimal insurance products and services. This time, we have decided to collaborate with GeoX.

GeoX is a company with advanced 3D geospatial image analysis technology using AI, and provides solutions for overseas insurance companies to analyze corporate and residential properties.

Since January 2021, the three companies and GeoX have conducted technical verification on building attribute information estimation in Japan and completed the technical verification, so utilizing this know-how, the building will be built from 3D aerial images using AI and an original algorithm. Agreed to collaborate on the development of technology for automatic risk assessment.

In the future, through this collaboration, the company plans to work on development for advanced insurance underwriting utilizing geospatial data

The collaboration between GeoX and Sompo has been led by **Sompo's innovation center in Tel Aviv,** which is responsible for investments and collaborations with Israeli companies in the fields of transport, fintech, agritech, cybersecurity, and digital health.

Sompo, the second largest insurance company in Japan, operates in more than 30 countries and has annual revenue of \$36 billion. In 2018, the digital lab was founded in Tel Aviv, led by Yinnon Dolev, which has since launched several commercial collaborations with Israeli tech companies and venture capital investments.

## ScoutCam Signs Royalty Licensing Agreement with Sumita Optical Glass

## Japan-based Sumita To Integrate ScoutCam's Patented Micro-Visualization Technology Into Its Medical Devices

**OMER, Israel, Feb. 18, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE)** -- ScoutCam (OTCQB: SCTC), a leading provider of image based solutions (including cloud and AI image processing) to the Condition Based Maintenance and the Predictive Maintenance markets as well as a leading provider of image based solutions to the medical device market, announced today that it has entered into a royalty licensing agreement for its patented micro-visualization solutions with Japan-based Sumita Optical Glass, Inc., a specialty optical fiber technology company ("Sumita"), for use in the manufacture and development of its medical device products.



Sumita designs and manufactures micro-optical parts such as micro-lenses, image bundles, lenses and light guides for use in small-diameter endoscope sub-assemblies sold in Japan and around the world. Sumita opened a new manufacturing facility in May 2021 to increase its capacity for high volume production of its micro and high precision optical components used in endoscopes as well as new medical device products currently under development.

According to the terms of the agreement, Sumita will pay ScoutCam a royalty for use of the Company's small diameter video camera technology. The license entitles Sumita to include the Company's technology in products sold worldwide.

Yovav Sameah, Chief Executive Officer of ScoutCam, commented on the announcement, "We are very excited to enter this licensing agreement of our technology; Sumita is one of world's leading optical glass manufacturers and their products are widely used in technology-based applications. Licensing our micro visualization patents for use in their growing medical device business confirms the excellence of our technology and the value of our patent portfolio."

"ScoutCam will continue focusing its business strategy on solidifying its position in the Industry 4.0 market," said Mr. Sameah. "However, licensing offers another way to monetize our technology; the royalties from our agreement with Sumita will provide ScoutCam with a valuable passive revenue stream that we believe could reach millions of dollars in the long term based on Sumita's potential endoscope business, while expanding our presence in the market. We continue to evaluate similar opportunities and I believe this will be one of many licensing opportunities for the Company."

Toshiaki Sumita, President of Sumita, said: "We are delighted to have reached an agreement with ScoutCam which further validates Sumita's long-term investments in R&D and commitment to improving our optical fiber technology standards."

#### About ScoutCam

ScoutCam is pioneering the Predictive Maintenance and Condition Based Monitoring markets with its visualization and AI platform. Pioneering the use of its visualization and AI platform in Industry 4.0 markets such as aviation, energy, mobility and transportation, ScoutCam's cameraas-a-sensor<sup>™</sup> technology, accompanied by specialized trained AI models, is being deployed in hard to reach locations and harsh environments, across a variety of Predictive Maintenance and Condition Based Monitoring use cases. ScoutCam's platform allows maintenance and operations teams visibility into areas which are inaccessible under normal operation, or where the operating ambience is not suitable for continuous real-time monitoring



## Classiq raises \$33 million Series B for quantum computing software platform

The Israeli startup has developed a technological solution that facilitates a simpler way for quantum computer software development, the investment arm of the Sumitomo Corporation (IN Venture), join the round.

#### Meir Orbach16:0617.02.22

Israeli company Classiq, which develops solutions for the quantum software market, announced on Thursday the closure of a \$33 million Series B funding round. The funding round took place under the leadership of Phoenix, the venture capital arm of HPE, the investment arm of the Sumitomo Corporation (IN Venture), Spike Ventures, a Stanford University alumni investment fund and Samsung Next. The current round also included personal investments from Lip-Bu Tan, current president and former CEO of Cadence, and Harvey Jones, CEO of Synopsys, and a board member at Nvidia. The company's previous investors, Entree Capital, Wing Capital, Team8, and OurCrowd, also participated in the round of funding. The capital raised by the company after the current round stands at \$48 million.

Classiq was founded in 2020 by Nir Minerbi, currently the company's CEO, Amir Naveh VP Product, and CTO, Dr. Yehuda Naveh. The company employs 30 employees in Tel Aviv and the United States and plans to grow to approximately 90 employees during the coming year.

Quantum computing is based on a vision that has existed since the 1980s. The hardware effort (i.e., building quantum computers) is led by the technology giants (IBM, Amazon, Microsoft, Intel, Google, and others), governments, and research centers. According to most predictions, the development is rapid, and quantum computing is expected to bring value to commercial use. Some of the predicted applications include drug discovery, advanced materials, optimization, problems from the financial world, machine learning, and environmental research.

Classiq developed a technological solution that facilitates a simpler way for quantum computer software development and allows people who are not necessarily quantum specialists in programming this type of software. The classiq solution is also geared toward scaling, for a future where there will be thousands of qubits and even the most experienced of quantum developers will not be able to program using existing methods. The company said that its customers include some of the largest organizations in the world, including corporations and academic institutions.



At the same time, Classiq collaborates with technological giants such as Amazon, Microsoft, IBM, and Nvidia that are working to construct quantum computers.

"The quantum computing revolution is in full swing. In recent years the vision is rapidly becoming a reality and is creating a real 'arms race' for constructing the quantum computer," said Nir Minerbi, Classiq co-founder and CEO. "Parallel to constructing the hardware led by the technological giants, Classiq is leading the world of software and enabling organizations today to develop the software that will bring tremendous value over the coming years."

## 4D IMAGING RADAR LEADER VAYYAR EXPANDS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT WITH NEW JAPAN OFFICE

TOKYO and TEL AVIV, Israel, Feb. 22, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Vayyar Imaging, the global leader in 4D imaging radar, is set to open a new office in Tokyo, Japan, as the company intensifies its advanced engagements with leading enterprises. Vayyar Imaging Japan LLC will spearhead the company's continued expansion in the APAC region, primarily in the senior care and automotive industries.

The newly assembled team is comprised of experts from across the senior care, automotive and semiconductor sectors. The office will specialize in business development, system application and marketing.

Vayyar's senior care solutions are deployed in facilities and private homes around the world, providing real-time activity monitoring that supports automatic fall detection and a wide range of behavioral insights, enabling person-centred care.

Sensors mounted on walls or ceilings constantly monitor the surroundings, delivering exceptional resolution across an ultra-wide field of view in all conditions, including pitch darkness and even dense steam, making them ideal for use in bathrooms and bedrooms where privacy, as well as safety, is key.

The solution's multifunctionality allows facilities to reduce the number of single-purpose sensors installed in residents' rooms, providing rich data that creates a comprehensive view of health and wellbeing.

"Establishing an office in Japan is a vital step in our global expansion, enabling us to deepen our existing relationships with many of the world's leading healthcare and automotive players and to



redefine numerous other verticals," said Raviv Melamed, Vayyar Co-founder and CEO. "We look forward to continuing our close collaborations with Japanese partners, improving safety using best-in-class imaging radar technology."

Vayyar's automotive platform enables cost-effective advanced safety applications across the In-Cabin Monitoring Systems (ICMS), ADAS/ARAS, and AV domains. Built around a highperformance radar-on-chip array of up to 48 transceivers, it delivers exceptional resolution across an ultra-wide field of view in all road conditions, while protecting user privacy.

"We are very proud to be advancing Vayyar's goal of providing affordable, multifunctional radaron-chip platforms to Japan's leading automakers and suppliers and senior care providers, which can leverage our uniquely versatile technology to protect some of society's most vulnerable people," Melamed added.

### About Vayyar Imaging

Vayyar, the leader in 4D imaging radar, has created the world's most advanced radar-on-chip platform to gather life's essential data, providing solutions for senior care, automotive, security, smart home, robotics, and more, while maintaining privacy at all times. Vayyar's mission is to deliver the next generation of sensing technology that is miniature, affordable, and versatile enough to impact everyone's lives, enabling a safer world.

## GenCell Achieves a Significant Scientific Breakthrough in Its Innovative Green Ammonia Synthesis Development Project

## Upon Evaluating this Breakthrough, TDK Corporation Announced its Intention to Exercise its Right to Continue to Invest in Joint Green Ammonia Synthesis Project with GenCell Energy

PETAH TIKVA, Israel, Feb. 28, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>GenCell Energy</u>, (TASE: **GNCL)**, the leading provider of hydrogen and ammonia to power solutions, announces that in continuation from the Company's Immediate Release dated February 23, 2021 regarding the participation of the Japanese technology provider TDK Corporation in the Company's innovative, zero-emission green ammonia synthesis project, the Company is now proud to announce achievement of a significant scientific breakthrough which enables the production of green ammonia directly from water at very low temperature and pressure in comparison to the traditional ammonia production processes commonly carried out today around the world.



Accordingly, following their evaluation of this breakthrough, TDK has announced its intention to exercise its right to continue to invest in the green ammonia synthesis project in accordance with the terms of its agreement with GenCell so as to continue the development of the project towards the next milestone.

States Rami Reshef, co-founder and CEO, GenCell, "We are extremely proud and excited to report this important scientific breakthrough in our efforts to develop a novel approach to producing green ammonia, the fuel of the future, within the framework of the project we are carrying out together with the support of TDK. This news will certainly be of interest to the broader market seeking innovative solutions to reduce carbon emissions."

Continues Reshef, "We believe that the new process will expand the availability of green ammonia for diverse uses, not only as fuel for the backup and off-grid solutions used by our customers, but also for a far wider range of industrial and agricultural applications. As such we understand this scientific breakthrough to signify strong business potential and to reinforce our strong interest in advancing the project and moving forward with our technology development towards the next milestone."

In the framework of this development project, the Company is devising a clean, energy-efficient method for producing green ammonia which could ostensibly offer an emission-free alternative to some 235 million tons of ammonia being produced each year by means of traditional processes involving pollutant carbon emissions. Green ammonia may serve as a central hydrogen carrier for the energy industry, as well as be a key component of fertilizers for agriculture and a key resource for maritime, aviation, semiconductors, and many other applications. The successful completion of this project may not only help companies meet their ambitious carbon neutrality targets, but also increase the availability of green ammonia for a wide range of uses.

#### About GenCell Energy

<u>GenCell Energy</u> (TASE: **GNCL)** develops total green power solutions based on reliable, zeroemission alkaline fuel cells and green ammonia-to-energy technology which deliver uninterrupted power to help the world #SayNoToDiesel and transition to clean energy. The ability to produce not only clean power from GenCell's fuel cells, but also the green fuel on which the fuel cells run, sets GenCell in a far superior position as a well-to-wheel total green energy solution



provider. GenCell delivers resilient, robust and weather-resistant backup power for utilities, telecom and other mission-critical applications which have been deployed in 22 countries. Our hydrogen-on-demand solution provides primary power for off-grid and poor-grid sites, as well as for rural electrification. GenCell Energy numbers more than 130 employees, including veterans of space and submarine projects. The Company is headquartered in Israel with a worldwide distribution and support network and retains unique intellectual property that includes patents, trade secrets and know-how.

## Zsquare secures a \$15m round with its lead investor

TEL AVIV, Israel, March 1, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Zsquare, a leading developer of highperformance, single-use endoscopes, has raised \$15M in financing for the soft launch of its disruptive single-use ENT endoscope and further R&D to expand potential use in other indications. The soft launch is planned following FDA clearance expected in the third quarter of 2022.

This \$15M round of financing was led by Chartered Group, a private equity firm specializing in disruptive technologies with a far-reaching presence in Europe and Asia. This is their second consecutive investment in Zsquare, signaling strong confidence in the company's technology and growth potential.

"We are excited to witness and support the maturation of Zsquare's disruptive technology and are confident that it will bring significant benefits to the world of endoscopy by changing the entire cost-benefit structure of these widely used devices," says Eyal Agmoni, Chairman of Chartered Group.

Zsquare's <u>high-performance</u>, <u>single-use endoscopic platform</u> is designed to improve diagnostic performance, eliminate risk of cross-infection and dramatically reduce healthcare costs. With a hybrid design that includes a universal, reusable imaging core and alternating, indication-specific



disposable shells it is capable of addressing multiple indications, as well as solving unmet imaging needs for new indications.

According to Asaf Shahmoon, CEO and co-founder of Zsquare, "As the world is rapidly moving towards single-use devices, Zsquare is advancing to introduce new groundbreaking technologies and capabilities to this up-and-coming market. This round will help the company advance our go-to-market plan for the initial ENT product, as well as ramp up R&D for next generation capabilities and further indications."

Zsquare's <u>unique design</u> overcomes the inherent diameter versus image quality tradeoff of conventional chip-on-the-tip designs, in a cost-effective way. Zsquare's solution houses the less costly optics in a single-use shell, with high-value imaging electronics in a detachable, reusable imaging core. The result is a cost-effective solution that dramatically reduces the optical component's diameter without compromising on image resolution, eliminates the risk of cross-contamination, and enables access to anatomies that could never be properly imaged before.

"Zsquare's single-use endoscopic platform is showcasing remarkable, never-seen before high-resolution images, using a flexible scope with an imaging diameter of less than 0.5mm," says Prof. Hisao Tajiri, M.D., Senior Advisor of the Japan Gastroenterological Endoscopy Society (JGES) and member of Zsquare Scientific Advisory Board. "This groundbreaking innovation will usher in a new era in endoscopy, combining superior diagnostic capabilities with an excellent safety profile."

#### About Zsquare:

Zsquare, a privately held medical device company with headquarters in Israel, develops costeffective, high-performance, single-use endoscopes to enable access to unserved indications, improve performance in current practices, and solve the industry's cross-contamination problem.



## Cybertech Tokyo: the challenges of securing connected vehicles

Various experts from both Israel and Japan participated in a panel discussion and cybersecurity and mobility, in the online Cybertech Tokyo conference

Mandi Kogosowski | 21/02/2022



"In spite of the global pandemic and absence of physical communication, the volume of Japanese investment in Israel has reached nearly \$3 billion in 2021, up from \$1 billion the year before."

These staggering number are provided by **Elhanan Harel**, **President of Harel-Hertz Investment House Ltd**, who shared the main findings of the organization's 2021 report at the **Cybertech** <u>Tokyo</u> <u>conference</u>, held online last week.

Harel spoke in the context of a panel titled "Cybersecurity and Mobility", moderated by Gilad Majerowitz, Partner & Head of Japan Practice Herzog Fox & Neeman. He notes the shift in investment from more traditional IT and internet to other high-tech sectors, such as cybersecurity, and credits former Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu for starting this process during his visit in Japan in 2014.

"Last year, we got some \$400 million in investment from Japan in 15 cases – the total cases of investment from Japan were 85 cases," said Harel, adding that although the pandemic kept face-to-face communications at bay, "the trust between the two business communities (Israel and Japan) is overwhelming."



However, replying to Majerowitz's question on whether these impressive numbers will continue in 2022, Harel was cautious. "It's quite early to state, we will have a better picture in spring, but I think it's going to be, hopefully, the same level. 2022 is forecast to be a difficult year, the market won't be as friendly as it used to be, it may lead to a moderate growth – I hope it will still be a growth."

### Continuous innovation as the key for survival

Turning the spotlight to the panel's main theme, Majerowitz asked Moshe Karako, CTO of NTT Labs in Israel, whether he thinks connected vehicles are more vulnerable to cybersecurity attacks than other connected assets. The reply was yes.

"First, they can be physically accessed when left unattended," explained Karako. "Also, the connectivity can be done through a public network. Third, in many cases, security is not thought through enough or implemented, software supply chain isn't thought of enough, control and monitoring of mobile apps, and more." In a later part of the discussion, Karako mentioned that Zero Trust could be the best solution for automotive cyber security.

Kenji Lijima, General Manager at Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance (MSI) and Managing Director of Global Digital Hub Managements for MSI's innovation hub in Israel, discussed his company's collaboration with Israeli cyber. "We think that continuous innovation is an essential factor in the survival of the company," he explains, adding that MSI established the digital hub in Tel Aviv in order to explore and implement the various solutions and technologies developed by Israeli start-ups.

Lijima also discussed advances in the automotive realm, especially security. "Autonomous vehicles will be universal and part of social structure. Mobility security is important for MSI because of our traditional insurance products. There are new challenges, so it's essential to collaborate with startups and come up with solutions."

#### From cyber education to privacy awareness

"Israel is known for its innovative start-up ecosystem, but we don't have any vehicle manufacturers, so it all depends on cooperation with manufacturers in other countries," said Dadi Gertler, Executive Director of Technology Systems at the Israel National Cyber Directorate, in response to a question on how Israel is addressing the challenge of automotive cyber security on a national level.



"Most of the cyber challenges are not just technology – it's the people, skills, know-how, the supply chain needs to understand this better," Gertler continued. "We're talking about education of the relevant supply chain, starting from the manufacturer all the to the car agency team."

Takahiro Sugimoto, President & CEO of Asgent, one of the first companies to distribute Israeli cybersecurity products in Japan, discussed the keys to the successful adoption of cybersecurity regulations in the automotive area: simple, easy assessment of software; seamless integration of security and threat mitigation solutions into the vehicles; and reducing the costs of cyber operations by minimizing false positives. Sugimoto also discussed the importance of using a designated high level cybersecurity solution.

Yoav Levy, CEO & Co-Founder of automotive cybersecurity startup Upstream Security – whose C round was led by MSI – shared how his company has been approaching the issue of cyber in the transportation realm. Upstream Security's solution is agentless and cloud-based.

"We believe that a purpose-built approach is key, as automotive security is quite different from enterprise security and needs tailor-made solutions for specific threats," said Levy, adding some of the unique challenges of the connected vehicular realm, such as mobile that can perform operations on the cars remotely, from unlocking doors to starting the engine.

Majerowitz asked Levy about the next phases, in which connected vehicles will collect massive amounts of data on their drivers, from habits on the road to health information. Where will this data be stored, and does my garage now need to have the best cybersecurity solution? He asked.

"In a connected world, privacy is a big concern and issue both to the consumers and to the vendors. Car manufacturers are taking serious measures in order to comply with GDPR and other privacy regulations," said Levy. Using his company as an example, Levy added that they "only deal with anonymized data, only tech coming from the vehicle, nothing about the driver." Still, he stressed the importance of consumer awareness to privacy matters.

"Data privacy is a big issue. Definitely in the coming years, when everything will be connected," added Gertler, mentioning that while privacy awareness in Israel is on the rise, it is still not at a sufficient level.



# Israel – Japan March 2022

### The 9th Japan-Israel Joint Committee Meeting on Cooperation on Science and Technology

The 9th Japan-Israel Joint Committee Meeting on Cooperation on Science and Technology took place online on March 2.

- The Joint Committee Meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Nakane Takeshi, Ambassador for Science and Technology Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Ms. Maya Yaron, Director of the North-East Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel. Attendees included a range of representatives from the relevant ministries and agencies of both countries.
- 2. At the meeting, congratulating the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic relations, both sides shared the recent developments of national science technology and innovation policies, and exchanged views on the current situation of collaborative activities. In this regard the committee discussed the ways to promote further cooperation such as that of between universities and research institutions of both countries through dispatching researchers. The committee also discussed the situation of bilateral cooperation and future directions in some of the priority areas such as ICT and agriculture, focusing on joint researches and academic exchange among industry, academia, and government.

## **Exaware powers NTT DATA's 5G SEPP**

# NTT DATA in partnership with Exaware introduces 5G SEPP at MWC Barcelona 2022, to increase security and endpoint protection at the edge of 5G networks,

NETANYA, Israel, March 3, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- **NTT DATA**, one of the leading global players in IT consultancy, has unveiled 5G SEPP (*Security Edge Protection Proxy*) at MWC 2022, its latest product in the 5G portfolio of NTT DATA. 5G SEPP combines several technologies into a robust security solution to address the needs of global corporations for high-speed wireless connectivity. **Exaware**, a leading provider of Open Network routing solutions for mobile and fixed telecommunications service providers, plays a central role providing the vital routing functionalities for the 5G SEPP connectivity requirement at the 5G core sites.



This collaboration between NTT DATA and Exaware gives birth to a certified Cloud-native solution to enrich current Edge/Cloud Computing-based scenarios and enables applications that require high efficiency and low latency. Mobile Service Providers and Roaming Carriers will be able to use **NTT DATA 5G SEPP** to offer companies and Public Institutions a new service delivery model in the implementation of 5G roaming solutions, capable of enabling technologically advanced deployment scenarios automatically, quickly and reliably.

"It's time to rethink the way we design, build and manage networks." - commented Ben Afshari, VP of Global Sales at Exaware - "Our Partnership with NTT Data is a significant milestone in Exaware's journey to deploy open networking solutions in Carrier Networks. We are pushing the edge of disaggregated networking towards new horizons by integrating 3rd party applications and network functions to our telco-grade NOS, our unique technology allows service providers to innovate and reduce time to market, by simply turning old school routers to extendable routers".

"We are thrilled to be attending the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona 2022. **NTT DATA** is ready for the 5G revolution" - says Francesco Petullà, Vice President and Head of Network Engineering at **NTT DATA** - "and this was made possible also thanks to the collaboration with **Exaware**, a partnership that will allow the two companies to act synergistically to offer the market increasingly advanced technological solutions."

#### About Exaware

Exaware is a leading provider of open and disaggregated routing solutions. ExaNOS, Exaware's Network Operating System, is designed from the ground up to power up a selection of Whitebox routers for various Telco use cases, from Access to Core applications. ExaNOS is a feature-rich routing stack, designed to meet carrier scale, performance and reliability. ExaNOS cloud-based architecture enables for the first time to integrate a wide range of third-party applications and Network Functions. <u>www.exaware.com</u>

#### About NTT DATA

NTT DATA Italia is part of the Japanese multinational NTT DATA, one of the world's leading players in IT Consulting and Services. Digital, Consulting, Cyber Security and System Integration



are just some of the main lines of business. Our mission is to create value for our customers through innovation. NTT DATA has a global presence in over 50 countries, 130,000 professionals and an international network of research and development centers in Tokyo, Palo Alto and Cosenza. NTT DATA is present in Italy with over 5000 employees and 11 offices in Milan, Rome, Turin, Genoa, Treviso, Pisa, Naples and Cosenza.

# Tatsuta wire and Cable invest in Bendit Technologies

#### Investment in Convertible Equity Issued by Bendit Technologies Ltd.

#### Harel Hertz Investment House Consulted and arranged this investment

TATSUTA Electric Wire and Cable Co., Ltd. (hereinafter "TATSUTA"; Headquarters: Higashiosaka City, Osaka Prefecture, Japan; President: Hirohito Miyashita) recently entered into a Convertible Equity agreement (a simple agreement for future equity, or "SAFE") with Bendit Technologies Ltd. (hereinafter "Bendit"; Headquarters: Petah Tikva, Israel; CEO: Yossi Mazel), an Israeli startup company.

Bendit develops 360-degree rotating microcatheters with multiple functions to improve their ease of use and operational accuracy in performing minimally invasive neurovascular surgeries. A first Bendit product has already been cleared by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and have a proven track record of use in multiple clinical cases at a limited number of medical institutions.

TATSUTA made this investment to strengthen its relationship with Bendit because the microcatheters developed by Bendit are in line with the strategic direction of TATSUTA's business of medical device components and materials for minimally invasive treatment and testing. In the future, TATSUTA will strengthen its medical device component and material business and hopes to y manufacturand distribute Bendit products in Japan and to introduce Bendit's elemental technologies into its product development.



Tatsuta Electric Wire and Cable Co Ltd engage in the manufacture and sale of cables, electric wires, device system and optical products, electronic equipment and materials. It produces bare wires, covered wires, power cables, communication cables, accessories, and fittings. The electronic materials unit offers conductive materials and bonding wires. Its offerings include equipment system products business, optical components business, and environmental analysis business.

**Bendit Technologies** is a medical device company developing solutions for steerable microcatheters, providing surgeons with 3D-controlled bending and navigation capabilities for peripheral vascular, neurovascular, and cardiology indications. The company's patented technology reduces the complex catheterization procedure to a single step and enables radial access to reduce patient risk.

Bendit Technologies has already received the CE mark and FDA approval for its microcatheter with an indication for peripheral use, and the company will be submitting the Bendit microcatheter for the neurovascular indication in the near future.

### Japanese Food Giant Ajinomoto to Scale Cultivated Meat Production

by Michael Wolf MARCH 10, 2022

SuperMeat, a cell-cultured meat company based in Israel, and Ajinomoto, a large Japanese food and biotechnology conglomerate, <u>announced</u> today the formation of a strategic partnership to "to establish a commercially viable supply chain platform for the cultivated meat industry."

According to the announcement, the partnership, which will include an investment by Ajinomoto in SuperMeat, will combine SuperMeat's expertise in cultivated meat with Ajinomoto's R&D technology and expertise in biotech and fermentation capabilities.

One of the main focuses of the new partnership will be in the development of cell-cultured growth media, the broth which contains the nutrients needed for animal cell growth, which remains one of the biggest overall cost drivers in the creation of cultivated meat. According to a study by the Good Food Institute conducted in 2020 of cultivated meat producers, 72% of respondents indicated that cell growth media represented over 50% of their operating costs, and 38% said growth media represented 80% or more of operating costs. By combining SuperMeat's technology advancements in cultivated meat with Anjinomoto's biomanufacturing expertise, the



two companies hope to drive down costs while increasing the supply of food-grade growth factors.

Anjinomoto's partnership is a further signal of the interest by the Japan food industry in cellcultured meat production. A number of Japanese investment funds recently participated in a \$7 million investment round <u>in Integriculture</u>, one of Japan's cultured meat pioneers, and before that Aleph Farms joined up with Mitsubishi to work on bringing cultured meat to the country. This interest in accelerating Japan's cultivated meat industry is not surprising given the country's historically low food self-sufficiency. Other countries with limited internal agriculture such as Singapore and Israel have identified future food sources like cultivated meat as strategically important, and Japan is following suit.

# Israeli - Japanese VC funds high-tech Saudi trucking firm

# The \$40 million in financing was approved within 72 hours of due diligence conducted using Liquidity's proprietary artificial intelligence technology.

By Abigail Klein Leichman MARCH 20, 2022,

Here's something that doesn't happen every day: an Israel-based fintech company was instrumental in providing \$40 million in growth capital to a Saudi Arabian business.

The fintech company, <u>Liquidity Group</u> – a multibillion-dollar global capital market credit automation company and fund manager — uses proprietary artificial intelligence technology to perform due diligence within 72 hours vs. an industry norm of six to 12 weeks.

**<u>TruKKer</u>** is the first technology-enabled truck aggregator in the Middle East and Asia, offering an Uber-like service for trucks, including automated booking, real-time tracking and monitoring.

The \$40 million was provided by Mars Growth, a joint venture of Liquidity Group and Japanbased Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG), the world's largest non-state-owned bank.

MUFG and Liquidity have two joint venture funds that rely on Liquidity's AI technology with a total MUFG investment of \$500 million.



"From start to finish, the process was fast and easy," said TruKKer founder and CEO Gaurav Biswas. "The non-dilutive funding will help us seize the opportunity to drive further growth in this sector with groundbreaking digitization and technology."

Over the past two years, Liquidity Group has used its technology to grow an initial \$70 million fund to more than \$1.5 billion.

"TruKKer is transforming the vertical with its digital freight network," said Liquidity Group cofounder and CEO Ron Daniel.

"Its exponential growth demonstrates the market's appetite for the region's first technologyenabled truck management system. We're pleased to provide financing for their continued expansion."

Perhaps this is a harbinger of continued positive change among Israel and its Gulf State neighbors.

## Plus500 Enters Japanese Market, Acquires EZ Invest Securities

- EZ Invest is regulated by Japan's FSA.
- The company plans to expand its global presence.

Monday, 21/03/2022 | 09:38 GMT+2 by Bilal Jafar

Plus500, an international multi-asset fintech group operating proprietary technology-based trading platforms, today confirmed its entrance into the growing market of Japan with the acquisition of EZ Invest Securities, Co., Ltd. (EZ Invest).

The latest news from Plus500 came nearly 5 weeks after the company secured a <u>new regulatory</u> <u>license in Estonia</u>. To expand its presence globally, Plus500 has increased its efforts significantly since the start of 2021.

Regulated by the Financial Services Agency (FSA) in Japan, EZ Invest is licensed as a Type 1 Financial Instruments Business Operator. The financial services provider is also a member of the Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA) and the Financial Futures Association of Japan (FFAJ). EZ Invest offers a broad range of services including CFDs and OTC Foreign Exchange.



"We are delighted to announce our entry into the Japanese market, with the acquisition of EZ Invest. This acquisition represents an important strategic step for Plus500 as we continue to strengthen our position as a global multi-asset fintech group, by further diversifying our geographic footprint. I am excited about the opportunities available in the substantial Japanese retail trading market and, given Plus500's considerable technical expertise and robust financial capability, I am confident that we will be able to maximize this opportunity," David Zruia, Chief Executive Officer of Plus500, <u>commented</u>

According to Plus500, the recent acquisition and the expansion of the company's operations in Japan will drive its global growth. The company is also planning to use its financial strength and technology-driven tools to scale and develop its business in Japan.

"This acquisition represents a major growth opportunity for Plus500 and further strengthens its strategic position as a global multi-asset fintech group, by diversifying the Group's geographic footprint through an immediate presence in the substantial retail trading market in Japan," the company explained.

**Plus500IL Ltd** is a company registered in Israel, licenced to operate a trading platform from the Israel Securities AuthorityPlus500 is listed on the London Stock Exchange,<sup>[5]</sup> and is a constituent of the FTSE 250 Index in the Investment Banking and Broking sector and Investment Services subsector.

The company was founded in 2008 by six alumni of the <u>Technion - Israel Institute of</u> <u>Technology</u> and headquartered in Haifa.



# D-ID Closes \$25 Million Funding Round, Bringing Total Funding For The Creative Reality™ Company to \$48 million

#### Series B round, led by Macquarie, With participation of Marubeni

TEL AVIV, Israel, March 22, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>D-ID</u>, the world leader in AI-driven creative media, announced today a \$25 million Series B round, led by investment firm Macquarie Capital, with significant investments from Pitango, AXA Venture Partners, OurCrowd, OIF, Maverick and Marubeni. This new infusion brings D-ID's total funding to \$48 million.

The proceeds from this round, from investors across three continents, will allow D-ID to double the number of experts on its world-class deep-learning and computer vision teams, broadening the scope and reach of its pioneering technology as it continues to produce products that transform the digital-human interface. The round will also enable D-ID to expand and support the company's sales and marketing teams in the United States, APAC and EMEA.

The Digital Human and Metaverse market is set to grow more than tenfold in the coming decade, and D-ID is rapidly engaging new clients in the fields of e-learning, corporate training, marketing communications, AI assistants, history and heritage.

D-ID uses AI and deep learning to develop reenactment-based products ranging from animating still photos to developing high-quality digital avatars. D-ID's wide range of customers include <u>Warner Bros. Studios</u>, <u>Mondelez</u>, <u>Publicis</u> and MyHeritage, whom D-ID partnered with to create the viral sensation <u>Deep Nostalgia</u>, which has created nearly 100M animations since its launch, and more recently, <u>LiveStory</u>, which enables the creation of AI-generated biographical videos narrated by photos of users' ancestors. D-ID has also partnered with <u>The Glimpse</u> <u>Group</u> (NASDAQ: <u>VRAR</u>), a diversified virtual reality and augmented reality platform, to develop AI, AR and VR applications for the Metaverse. D-ID is leading the charge to leverage Synthetic Media for good. The company has worked with nonprofit organizations and governments in public awareness campaigns on sensitive issues such as <u>domestic violence</u> and <u>HIV awareness</u>.

This new round of funding comes on the heels of a whirlwind of success for D-ID. In early March, the company was named by Fast Company as one of the <u>Most Innovative Companies of 2022</u> in



EMEA. In February, D-ID won <u>best use of AI</u> in the Digiday Marketing and Advertising Awards Europe, and in January, the company's proprietary Live Portrait technology was named a finalist for the prestigious <u>SXSW Innovation Award</u>.

"Over the past year we have witnessed the skyrocketing success of our technology across so many applications and industries, with the power to generate so much good," said Gil Perry, CEO and Co-Founder of D-ID. "We are incredibly grateful for this new round of funding and strong partnership with Macquarie, which will enable us to scale up our business and our technology to the next level. We're excited for what the future holds."

"Our purpose is about empowering people to innovate and invest for a better future. D-ID helps us imagine that future," said David Standen, Global Co-Head of Macquarie Capital Venture Capital Group. "We're delighted to gain exposure to this rapidly growing sector. This technology offers so many uses across such a wide variety of industries. They're true pioneers in a pioneering market. We know this is just the beginning for D-ID and Macquarie."

#### About D-ID

D-ID is a Tel Aviv-based Creative Reality<sup>™</sup> startup specializing in patented video reenactment technology using AI and deep learning. D-ID's products range from animating still photos, to facilitating high-quality video productions, and creating viral user experiences. With funding from tier 1 VCs, D-ID aims to radically disrupt the time, hassle and costs involved in video production, allowing for the creation of highly personalized media using AI, specifically in e-learning, corporate training, marcomms, AI assistants, history and the Metaverse. With international customers, D-ID's core competencies in the human face and deep learning enable its partners to create exciting and engaging content that was until now unimaginable.



## RapidAPI Raises \$150M Series D Led by SoftBank Vision Fund 2 to Empower Developers to Innovate and Build Software Faster with APIs

#### March 23, 2022

SAN FRANCISCO--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--<u>RapidAPI</u>, provider of the world's largest API Hub that enables millions of developers and enterprises to find, connect to, and manage thousands of APIs, announced today that it has raised \$150M in Series D funding at a \$1B valuation. The round was led by new investor SoftBank Vision Fund 2, with participation from Qumra, and many of the company's existing investors, which include Andreessen Horowitz, M12 (Microsoft's Venture Fund), Viola Growth, Green Bay, and Grove Ventures.

RapidAPI will use the investment to continue to scale its API Hub, adding more capabilities to help developers create and collaborate on APIs - following its release of API Testing tools and acquisition of API development tool Paw. RapidAPI has also seen tremendous adoption by Global 2000 enterprises and will use the new funding to grow its customer base by expanding key enterprise capabilities including governance and management.

"Demand for digital solutions and software innovation is increasing rapidly, and without enough developers, the world needs APIs to continue building software," said Nagraj Kashyap, Managing Partner at SoftBank Investment Advisers. "We believe that RapidAPI plays a critical role in supporting the API economy and has demonstrated impressive growth and execution to accelerate developer adoption and supply of APIs. We are excited to partner with Iddo and the team to support their mission to drive modern software development."

#### APIs - Solving the Developer Gap

As companies realize the importance of accelerating their digital transformation and softwarecentric initiatives, they increasingly turn to investment in software development. However, a shortage in software developers combined with tough hiring conditions amidst the "Great Resignation" makes scaling engineering organizations difficult. As a result, many companies are looking for tools - such as APIs - to bridge their developer shortage.



The developer gap has fueled the rapid expansion of the API economy - which is currently growing at over 63% CAGR.<sup>1</sup> APIs - which provide encapsulated pieces of functionality that developers can embed in their apps like "Lego pieces" - save developers critical time when adding common functions to their applications such as charging credit cards, sending messages, or getting geolocation information.

RapidAPI's <u>The State of Enterprise APIs Survey</u> found that nearly all respondents (98%) believe that APIs are an essential part of their organization's digital transformation, and 97% agree that successfully executing an API strategy is essential to secure organizations' future revenue and growth. Its <u>State of APIs Developer Survey</u> found that a majority (68.5%) of developers indicated that they will rely on APIs more in 2022 for all of their coding projects.

"The pandemic and the rapid change it has precipitated over the last two years has compelled almost every company to become a digital player very quickly. It's not nice to have, it's basic survival," said Iddo Gino, CEO and Founder of RapidAPI. "This has created a huge demand and subsequent shortage of developers, hindering an organization's ability to fully invest in digital transformation initiatives. As a result, companies are turning to APIs and tools like RapidAPI to realize the productivity and innovation benefits of digitizing their organization."

#### Rapid Growth at RapidAPI

Fueled by the increasing focus on APIs, RapidAPI grew its developer community to 4M developers over the last year and increased ARR by well over 100 percent. ARR growth for RapidAPI was fueled by both self-service users subscribing to RapidAPI and Global 2000 enterprise companies strategically adopting RapidAPI as their own internal API Hub.

Self-service developers leverage RapidAPI to consume paid APIs, as well as set up private workspaces using RapidAPI for Teams where they can collaborate on internal APIs and microservices. Over 25,000 new developers subscribed to paid plans on RapidAPI in 2021 alone.

Enterprise clients create a private internal API hub with RapidAPI, where all of their developers can publish and consume APIs. This easier access to APIs helps companies break down silos, accelerate digital transformation, and reduce time to market of new initiatives.



RapidAPI has seen rapid adoption across multiple enterprise sectors, including financial services, automotive, energy, and retail. RapidAPI almost tripled the number of enterprise deployments in 2021 and plans to continue growing at that rate in 2022.

#### About RapidAPI

RapidAPI is the world's largest API Hub where millions of developers discover and connect to APIs, and where the largest companies find, manage and collaborate on their internal and external APIs. For enterprise organizations, RapidAPI offers RapidAPI Enterprise Hub, a private, customizable version of the public hub that enables the company's developers, customers, and partners to find, manage, and connect to hundreds of internal APIs, as well as external API subscriptions.

# Firedome Announces Partnership with Hitachi Solutions Create to Drive IoT Security in Japan

NEW YORK, March 31, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Firedome and Hitachi Solutions Create, Ltd. (HSC), the information technology services arm of Hitachi Group, announced a partnership agreement in which HSC will resell Firedome's IoT Security Platform in Japan.

This partnership culminated after a year-long relationship that included a thorough market feasibility study led by HSC. The purpose of the market feasibility study was to determine market demand in the smart device vendors in Japan to embed a dedicated IoT security solution. The study proved overwhelmingly strong market demand, with Japanese brands and manufacturers initializing projects to address IoT security to both increase product reliability and protect their brand reputation.

Providing a tailored solution for product leaders of smart devices, Firedome provides a security platform for IoT devices which detects and prevents cyber threats and attacks from infiltrating. The first of its kind, lightweight agent built for IoT devices, causes no impact on the user experience, and provides 24/7 monitoring to ensure the device's ongoing security.



Firedome and HSC worked closely throughout the market feasibility study. Presenting to Japanese IoT device manufacturers and leading workshops on the value of the security platform to provide technical expertise on how to embed the agent, its advanced management features, and operations. The Firedome IoT Security Platform received strong market validation and resulted in a number of opportunities from IoT device manufacturers in Japan. HSC will be officially launching a *Security Solution for IoT Devices* ahead of Information Security EXPO (Spring), which will be held at Tokyo Big Sight in Japan from April 6-8, 2022.

This partnership signifies a major milestone for Firedome as it marks the company's entrance into the critical Japanese market. "We're excited about this partnership with Hitachi Solutions Create. Hitachi has an enormous business network and HSC is perfectly positioned to deliver the value of Firedome's IoT Security Platform throughout Japan," said Moti Shkolnik, CEO and Co-Founder of Firedome. "Furthermore, their vantage point of technical excellence and market knowledge provides profound testimony to Firedome's value and efficacy."

For HSC, this partnership is solidified through the launch of new cutting-edge security solutions for IoT in the Japanese market, to both protect connected devices from cyberattacks while enabling customer growth through superior security. "Our partnership with Firedome followed an extensive process that included global research of the IoT security market and leading a thorough market feasibility study. Our decision to work with Firedome was due to the superiority of their product and the excellent support they provided throughout these processes. They are experts in both cybersecurity and IoT" said Atsushi Kihira, Executive Officer of Hitachi Solutions Create. "Our partnership with Firedome will allow us to address a major market need in the Japanese market to secure connected devices with unmatched 24/7 security."

#### About Hitachi Solutions Create

Hitachi Solutions Create, Ltd., headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, is one of the core IT Companies of Hitachi Group delivering proven business and IT strategies and solutions to companies across many industries. The company provides value-driven services throughout the IT life cycle from systems planning to systems integration, operation, and maintenance. For more information, visit the company's website at <u>www.hitachi-solutions-create.co.jp</u>

#### About Firedome

Firedome Inc. (https://firedome.io/) is a growth enabler for disruptive IoT brands. Offering a robust



IoT security and privacy platform with advanced marketing and cyber services, Firedome enables IoT brands to protect their devices and their users while growing their market share. Firedome is a global company with a presence in North America, South America, Europe, Asia Pacific and the Middle East



# Israel – Japan April 2022

# Toshiba Teli and TriEye Collaborate to Deliver SWIR Sensing Capabilities for the Industrial Vision Systems Market

TEL-AVIV, Israel, April 14, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>TriEye</u>, the pioneer of the world's first massmarket Short-Wave Infrared (SWIR) sensing technology, announces collaboration with <u>Toshiba</u> <u>Teli</u>, a global leader in providing integrated cameras for automation. The two companies are working together to commercialise a SWIR camera for industrial-related processes and applications.

TriEye and Toshiba Teli have successfully built the world's first Industrial oriented CMOS-based HD SWIR camera. Currently, industrial machine vision systems lack vital image data required for full-range functionality. This new integration will leverage TriEye's SWIR sensing technology to provide vision systems with an additional layer of information, reshaping the industrial sector and enhancing processes capabilities. This partnership intends to make their solution available globally, introducing its advanced benefits to a wide range of verticals.

Although InGaAs-based SWIR sensing has been around for decades, it remained limited to industries like semiconductor fabrication, aerospace, and science due to the high costs and low production yield. TriEye's unique technology introduces the industry's first CMOS-based SWIR solutions for mass markets. Its technology enhances machine vision capabilities and assists in the detection of visible and invisible malfunctions, allowing them to accomplish tasks that were previously unattainable. Leveraging this solution will provide Toshiba's customers with vital information such as material sensing and quality control.

"We are excited to partner with Toshiba, such a respected and well-known industry leader," said Avi Bakal, CEO and Co-Founder of TriEye, "We believe their constant push to deliver value to their customers combined with their industrial specific advanced knowledge will be extremely beneficial to bring our SWIR sensing solution to be an industry standard."



"We are pleased to partner with TriEye and integrate its world's first CMOS-based SWIR technology," said Shinichi Itokawa, CTO of Toshiba Teli, "TriEye is providing markets with SWIR imaging capabilities needed for reliable automation in industrial processes at an unprecedented cost. This joint effort will accelerate the development of next-generation superior imaging tech capabilities for industrial cameras that will translate into every aspect of our lives. Toshiba Teli is thrilled to be at the front of this technological revolution."

Recently, TriEye's Raven sensor was named a top innovation by InVISION. In the past, the company announced collaborations with Hitachi Astemo, Porsche, Continental Engineering, Trimble and DENSO. TriEye recently announced a significant capital acquisition in funding to support their product commercialization and global expansion. This investment was led by M&G Investments and Varana Capital, Samsung Ventures, Deep Insight, Tawazun Group, Allied Group, and Discount Capital, including follow-on investors Intel Capital, Porsche and Marius Nacht.

#### About TriEye

TriEye is the pioneer of mass-market, CMOS-based Short-Wave infrared (SWIR) sensing solutions. Based on advanced academic research, TriEye's breakthrough and proprietary technology enables cost-effective, high-resolution image data and depth perception in all weather and lighting conditions. Founded in 2017, the company's cutting-edge technology allows perception systems to operate and deliver reliable image data and actionable information, while reducing expenditure by up to 1,000x the existing industry rates. For more information, visit www.TriEye.tech

#### About Toshiba Teli (Japan)

Toshiba Teli is an imaging company specializing in design, manufacture and sale of industrial camera and surveillance camera but also the provision of image-based system solution. The company continues to support corporate activities and society by providing high-precision image information through imaging system solutions focused on camera technologies. Toshiba Teli's industrial cameras are widely used as the eyes of various manufacturing and testing equipment as well as for quality control management and medical equipment.



## DeFi startup bloXroute raises \$70 million Series B led by Softbank

bloXroute, headed by Israeli CEO Uri Klarman, is a global content distribution network for blockchain scalability which enables decentralized finance traders to win more trades

#### CTech10:19, 13.04.22

bloXroute, which has developed a blockchain distribution network (BDN) that helps DeFi traders on Ethereum, Polygon, and BSC, has completed a \$70 million Series B funding. The campaign was led by SoftBank Vision Fund 2 with participation from Blindspot, Dragonfly, Flow Traders, Flybridge, GSR, Jane Street, Lightspeed, ParaFi Capital, and Rockaway Blockchain Fund.

bloXroute, headed by Israeli CEO Uri Klarman, is a global content distribution network for blockchain scalability. The company, which is headquartered in Chicago and has an R&D center in Israel, enables decentralized finance (DeFi) traders to win more trades by providing infrastructure for mempool services and transactions/block propagation. bloXroute's unique network topology offers up to two seconds faster block propagation, up to one second faster transaction propagation, and 50-400 milliseconds faster transaction discovery (also known as mempool services).

"This investment enables us to expand our team, extend our reach, and continue making the propagation of data more efficient and reliable," said Uri Klarman, Co-founder and CEO of bloXroute. Klarman founded the company in 2017 together with COO Eyal Markovich and Chief Architect Prof. Aleksandar Kuzmanovic.

"We believe that bloXroute holds the key to unlocking faster transaction speeds and reduced latency on multiple blockchain networks," said Aaron Wong, investor at SoftBank Investment Advisers. "bloXroute's global distribution network enables unparalleled transaction settlements for trading and we foresee exciting use cases to emerge in industries such as NFTs, blockchain-based metaverses and gaming."

As part of the fundraising round, Robert Kaplan, Investment Director at SoftBank Investment Advisors, will be joining the board.



# NTT Experiments Optimizes Customer and Partner Experience via Privacy Preserving Initiatives That Enable Groundbreaking Insights Across Multisource Data

Hoboken, New Jersey (April 26, 2022) – <u>Duality Technologies</u>, the leader in privacy enhanced data collaboration, and NTT DATA, a global digital business and IT services leader, today announced that they have worked together to evaluate the use of sensitive multisource data, while ensuring privacy is maintained. NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel supported the engagement to complete the successful evaluation process.

NTT DATA sought Duality's platform to support two company-wide initiatives that would empower them to enrich their overall customers' and partners' experience by enabling secure data collaboration across multisource data sets. The first initiative was focused on securely analyzing highly sensitive and strictly regulated health data across multiple institutions that would allow NTT DATA Scientists to analyze and learn from previously inaccessible data to make recommendations on personalized health plans.

"In working with Duality, we are able to leverage the data in our extended client and partner networks to open new lines of business in a variety of industries – all for the greater good of our customers, without infringing on their privacy or their rights." Commented, Hiroyuki Yamanaka, NTT, manager, Data Secure Team

The second initiative sought to leverage telecommunications data from varied mobile GPS devices to compare millions of data points, from multiple data sources – while preserving user information and location privacy. This visibility into user geolocation data helps NTT DATA Scientists analyze and establish patterns that help them predict usage peak times, people's trajectories, and transportation demands that will serve to optimize user experience, transportation efficiency and much more.

"As the value of data continues to grow in our digital world, the impact of combining data from multiple sources has an exponential value," stated Alon Kaufman, chief executive officer and co-founder at Duality. "NTT DATA is a true forward-thinker and a commendable example of how enterprises can transform the customer experience by employing proven data collaboration methodologies that better predict their needs."

One-size fits all approaches to data encryption and data sharing need to evolve to support the ever-changing needs of today's global enterprise. Traditionally, organizations were unable to



share data from multiple sources into a single repository due to the sensitivity of the data. Duality empowers enterprises to securely learn from their own data as well as their collaborating partners' data and provides a framework for the unique ways that organizations collect, consume, and most importantly benefit from shared data – making them a one-stop-shop for secure data collaboration that leverages expert knowledge, unmatched techniques, and advanced methodologies.

Kaufman added, "enterprise organizations are no longer limited by regulations or the inability to combine data sources across multiple contributors. The advancements within the PETs space have dramatically changed the data collaboration landscape."

For more information on these two innovation initiatives, read the case studies.

#### ABOUT DUALITY TECHNOLOGIES

Duality is the leader in privacy preserving data collaboration empowering organizations worldwide to maximize the value of their data without compromising on privacy or regulatory compliance. Founded and led by world-renowned cryptographers and data scientists, Duality operationalizes privacy enhancing technologies (PETs) to accelerate data insights by enabling analysis and AI on encrypted data, while preserving data privacy, compliance and protecting valuable IP. A Gartner Cool Vendor, Duality was recently named a Tech Pioneer 2021 by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and listed on Fast Company's 2020 Most Innovative Companies.

#### ABOUT NTT ISRAEL

<u>NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel</u> (NTT Israel) is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT and serves as a strategic focal point to the vibrant Israeli ecosystem. NTT Israel's mission is to support the evolution of NTT and its' customer businesses, promote innovation and digital transformation. The company collaborates with Israeli companies and academia developing cutting-edge technologies in Cyber Security, Digital Health and AI Automation and other various fields, as well as promote investment opportunities with Israeli companies.

#### ABOUT NTT DATA

NTT DATA – a part of NTT Group – is a trusted global innovator of IT and business services headquartered in Tokyo. We help clients transform through consulting, industry solutions, business process services, IT modernization and managed services. NTT DATA enables clients, as well as society, to move confidently into the digital future. We are committed to our clients'



long-term success and combine global reach with local client attention to serve them in over 50 countries.

# Source Defense Raises \$27M in Series B Funding

#### Japan's GlobalBrains VC among investors

#### Published on April 26, 2022

**Source Defense**, a Rosh Ha'ayin, Israel- and New Haven, Conn.-based web application clientside protection company, raised \$27m in Series B funding.

The round is led by new investor Springtide Ventures with all existing investors also participating, including Jerusalem Venture Partners (JVP), AllegisCyber Capital, **Global Brain**, Connecticut Innovations, Inc., NightDragon, LLC, and Capital One Ventures. In addition to the funding, Karel Tusek, CTO of Springtide Ventures, will join the Source Defense Board of Directors.

The company intends to use the new funds to accelerate growth plans, including investments in Sales, Marketing, Alliances, and Research and Development.

Led by Dan Dinnar, CEO, Source Defense is a security and compliance platform for any website that collects sensitive data or is transaction-oriented. It addresses a ubiquitous gap in the management of third-party digital supply chain risk with a zero-trust model that extends security beyond the network to the client-side. As the market leader in web application client-side protection, Source Defense provides real-time threat detection, protection, and prevention of vulnerabilities originating in JavaScript. The patented Source Defense Platform offers a complete solution to address threats and risks originating from the increased use of JavaScript, third-party vendors, and open-source code in websites today. It protects leading organizations across multiple verticals, including financial services, healthcare, hospitality, and retail, offering cybersecurity prevention capability, compliance (e.g., PCI, HIPAA, GDPR), as well as better flexibility for marketing teams and developers.

The company currently protects nearly a billion monthly site visits and defends transactions for some of the world's largest businesses, preventing approximately 6 billion quarterly violations of security and compliance policies from occurring in the process



# **MOFA: -Statement by Press Secretary ONO** Hikariko on Terrorist attacks in Israel

March 30, 2022

- 1. Japan firmly condemns the recent terrorist attacks in Israel, including the shootings that occurred in Bnei Brak on March 29th. Terrorism cannot be justified for any reason.
- 2. Japan extends its sincere condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of these terrorist attacks and expresses its heartfelt sympathy to those who were injured.

# Japan to help struggling Palestinian tourism industry

# A Japanese nonprofit is also supporting a female-run dairy farm in the Gaza Strip.

Al-Monitor Staff April 5, 2022

Japan and the World Bank announced Monday a new grant for the Palestinian tourism industry, which has been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Japan Social Development Fund will provide \$2.4 million to increase economic opportunities and improve livelihoods of Palestinians living alongside the Palestinian Heritage Trail hiking route in the West Bank. The money will specifically go toward women and youth working in the tourism industry. Households, businesses and wage workers will be among the recipients, <u>The World Bank said</u> in a press release. The Japan Social Development Fund is a partnership between Japan and The World Bank.

The <u>Palestinian Heritage Trail</u> is a 500-kilometer hiking trail that runs throughout the West Bank. The purpose of the trail is to allow hikers to experience the area's nature and Palestinian culture. The Palestinian tourism industry has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. The sector has lost more than \$1 billion in revenue since the virus first emerged, according to The World Bank. Like other regional authorities, the Palestinian Authority <u>closed businesses</u> to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus.

In the Gaza Strip, hotels <u>suffered financially</u> when they were turned into quarantine centers. Local tourism companies have recently been <u>promoting domestic tourism</u>.



Israel's tourism industry was also <u>negatively impacted</u> by the government's harsh antivirus measures.

This is not the first time Japan and The World Bank have provided aid to the Palestinian territories. In February, the DC-based financial institution allocated a <u>\$3 million grant</u> to help pay for coronavirus-related medical supplies. The Japanese nonprofit is also supporting a <u>women-run</u> <u>dairy farm</u> in Gaza.



# Israel – Japan May 2022

# Video message by Prime Minister KISHIDA at the Reception on the 74th Anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel

May 10, 2022



- 1. On May 5, Prime Minister Kishida delivered a congratulatory video message at the reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Isaac HERZOG, President of the State of Israel, on the occasion of the 74th Anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel.
- 2. A number of Heads of State and Government including from the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr., President of the United States of America also sent a message of congratulation to the same reception.

< Prime Minister Kishida's message>

I am KISHIDA Fumio, Prime Minister of Japan.

Your Excellency Mr. Isaac Herzog, President of the State of Israel, and the people of Israel,

Let me extend my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 74th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel.

We are commemorating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year. I am determined to lift the Japan-Israel relations to a new height and to contribute toward the realization of the Middle East Peace.

I wish further progress and prosperity of Israel and great happiness of the people of Israel.

Thank you.



# Governor of Aichi Prefecture visits Israel heading a Business Delegation.

#### 23.5.2022

The Governor of Aichi Prefecture Mr. Hideaki Ohmura with his extended delegation held discussions with the Foreign Trade Administration - Ministry of Economy & Industry office.

Mr. Ohmura met with Dr. Shai Moses Director, Asia-Pacific Division at Foreign Trade Administration - Ministry of Economy & Industry and with Mr. Ohad Cohen Director General of the Foreign Trade Administration

As one of the leading Prefectures in Japan the Aichi-Startup Strategy and Station AI Plan was presented as a platform for cooperation. Ways to increase our bilateral trade and investment relations was an important item on the agenda.

Aichi is a Japanese prefecture in central Honshu Island. Its capital, Nagoya, is a manufacturing hub with a rich cultural heritage.

The Chubu region, which includes Aichi prefecture, is a major manufacturing center for the aerospace industry, with 50 percent of Japan's production of aircrafts and aircraft parts. Aichi Prefecture is home to Toyota Motor (Toyota City), a world's leader in vehicle sales and a world-class agglomeration of the automobile and related industries.



# Late-stage tech backer Liquidity raises \$775M for its fintech platform from Apollo and MUFG.

#### Mike Butcher@mikebutcher / 5:02 PM GMT+3•April 5, 2022

#### Comment

The credit-oriented fintech platform <u>Liquidity Group</u>, which funds later-stage technology companies, has announced a new raise of \$775 million from private equity house Apollo and MUFG Bank.

In a statement Ron Daniel, co-founder and CEO of Liquidity Group, said: "The new capital partnership with Apollo and the continued and successful partnership with MUFG is a validation of our founding vision to use artificial intelligence to transform the capital markets."

The round was led by funds and entities managed by affiliates of Apollo (NYSE: APO). The commitments include \$425 million from Apollo Funds for a credit facility to help Liquidity scale its lending activity for late-stage technology companies. It also includes \$300 million from MUFG Bank (NYSE: MUFG), for a debt fund joint venture named Mars Growth Capital. This will now invest in late-stage tech companies. Finally, there is also a \$50 million SAFE note investment by Apollo Funds, MUFG Innovation Partners and Spark Capital.

Founded in 2018, Liquidity employs machine learning and real-time data to automate the full credit investment lifecycle, committing more than \$1 billion in capital. Investments to date include Etoro, Zetwerk and Homer.

Apollo Partner Joshua Black will also join Liquidity's board of directors.

Bret Leas, Apollo partner and global head of Structured Corporate Credit & ABS said: "Ron and his team at Liquidity are connecting technology borrowers and credit investors via an innovative, datadriven ecosystem, and we look forward to working with them as they scale the business."



# Liquidity Group to launch \$2 billion fund with Japan's MUFG Bank

The fund will invest in growth companies and is set to begin investing in around a month, with the investment in each company set to stand at between \$25-50 million

#### Golan Hazani -ctech 23:17, 28.05.22

Liquidity Group has signed an agreement to set up a massive \$2 billion investment fund in partnership with Japan's MUFG Bank. American venture capital firm Spark Capital will also be a partner in the fund.

The new fund has already raised \$500 million and will begin recruiting the rest of the sum from international institutional investors in the coming days. The fund will invest in growth companies and is set to begin investing in around a month, with the investment in each company set to stand at between \$25-50 million. Liquidity will manage the fund, with a senior executive from MUFG to serve as the president of the fund.

Founded in 2018, Tel-Aviv-based Liquidity is a provider of unlimited unsecured, non-recourse, no dilution growth capital. The company was founded by Ron Daniel, who also serves as the CEO. Meitav Dash, MUFG and Spark are all partners in the company. Liquidity Group announced last month that it had entered into agreements with respect to approximately \$775 million in capital commitments year-to-date 2022, led by funds and entities managed by affiliates of Apollo. The commitments, which are subject to satisfaction of certain conditions, will include \$425 million from Apollo Funds for a credit facility to help Liquidity scale its lending activity for late-stage technology companies, \$300 million from MUFG Bank, for a debt fund JV named Mars Growth Capital, investing in future unicorn companies, as well as a \$50 million SAFE note investment by Apollo Funds, MUFG Innovation Partners and Spark Capital.

Liquidity is a credit-oriented fintech platform that invests, syndicates and automates growth and middle market lending for businesses around the world, providing capital mainly to later-stage technology companies. MUFG's core banking subsidiary, MUFG Bank, is a key strategic capital partner to Liquidity, having invested equity venture capital in the business as well as formed multiple joint lending ventures.



## Classiq Announces Strategic Investment from Global Business Leaders NTT Finance joins Classig Investment round

#### May 16, 2022

TEL AVIV, Israel, May 16, 2022 — Classiq, a leader in quantum software development, today announced the participation of three industry leaders – HSBC, NTT Finance, and Intesa Sanpaolo – in the second closing of its Series B funding. This comes on the heels of its earlier <u>Series B round</u> news, and brings Classiq's funding for this round to \$36 million and its overall funding to \$51 million. It also demonstrates that key industry players view quantum as a strategic imperative.

HSBC, which is based in the U.K., is the second-largest bank in Europe. Japan's NTT is the world's fourth-largest telecom company and a Classiq customer. Neva SGR is part of the Intesa Sanpaolo Group, the Italian leading bank in Europe. The three new, noteworthy investors join existing Classiq investors Wing VC, Entrée Capital, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Team8, Phoenix, Sumitomo Corp. (through IN Venture), OurCrowd, Spike Ventures, Samsung NEXT, and chip design titans Lip-Bu Tan and Harvey Jones.

"We are pleased to welcome three new corporate investors, all leaders in their fields," said Classiq CEO Nir Minerbi. "Quantum is poised to be one of the most impactful technology categories of the coming decades, and these companies share our vision of what quantum could deliver and understand the problems that need to be solved to reach that goal. We look forward to collaborating with them to advance the state-of-the-art in quantum software."

"Quantum computing has the potential to overhaul how we operate areas of the bank, like option pricing and risk analysis, which would lead to greater efficiencies and customer service improvements. We look forward to working with Classiq to explore this technology further," said Steve Suarez, global head of innovation, global functions at HSBC.

NTT forecasts that the need for and availability of quantum computing will rise dramatically. It is investing in Classiq and its platform, which <u>NTT DATA</u> is using to create novel credit risk analysis algorithms in the quantum field. The NTT investment by NTT Finance was initiated by NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel.

"Quantum computing is certainly a key technology for the future," explained Mario Costantini, CEO of Neva SGR. "



Quantum computing will change cybersecurity and national security posture, prompt investment, and unlock value in the world. Leading public and private organizations will use quantum to solve complex problems and create innovative, new solutions across disciplines.

#### **About NTT Innovation Labs**

NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel (NTT Israel) is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT and serves as an internal strategic resource to breakthrough innovation from Israel. NTT Israel's mission is to support the evolution of NTT Group customer businesses, promote innovation and digital transformation. NTT Israel collaborates with Israeli companies and academia developing cuttingedge technologies in cybersecurity, digital health and AI robotics and other various fields, as well as promotes investment opportunities with Israeli companies.

#### **About Classiq**

Classiq is the leading quantum software company, providing a development platform built for organizations that want to jumpstart and accelerate their quantum computing programs. Our patented "CAD for quantum software" engine automatically converts high-level functional models into optimized, hardware-aware circuits. Customers use the Classiq platform to build sophisticated algorithms that could not otherwise be created, bypassing the need to work at the quantum assembly level. Backed by powerful investors such as HPE, HSBC, Samsung NEXT, NTT and others, Classiq has raised more than \$50 million since its 2020 inception, built a world-class team of scientists and engineers, and distilled decades of their quantum expertise into its groundbreaking platform. With Classiq, customers can push the envelope of what's possible in quantum software, build valuable IP blocks, explore quantum solutions for real-life problems, and prepare to take full advantage of the coming quantum computing revolution.



### Limaca Medical and HekaBio Announce Japan Partnership

YOKNEAM, Israel, May 16, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>Limaca Medical</u> ("Limaca") and <u>HekaBio K.K.</u> announced today that they have inked a strategic partnership agreement, whereby HekaBio is to distribute Limaca's Precision-GI<sup>™</sup> Endoscopic Biopsy Device in Japan.

Gastrointestinal-related cancer is a significant challenge in Japan. Although Japan's adult population is just 40% of the US adult population, its pancreatic and liver cancer incidence almost matches the US in actual numbers.

Limaca's vision is to ensure that endoscopic biopsies always achieve a definitive diagnosis to enable optimal and timely GI-cancer treatment. Limaca Medical, based in Israel, has as its mission to provide a far better endoscopic biopsy experience for the endoscopist and patient, with the goal to achieve a faster, more efficient biopsy yield with highly consistent results. Limaca recently announced the <u>FDA's decision to grant Breakthrough Device Designation to Precision-GI</u>.

HekaBio is a Tokyo-based emerging major platform for healthcare innovation, with an initial focus on oncology and radiation therapy. HekaBio is dedicated to partnering with and investing in breakthrough technology originators to accelerate programs for commercialization in Japan and achieve significant benefits for patients and the healthcare system.

This partnership has far-reaching impact for Limaca, as HekaBio provides full operational capability in Japan for Limaca's Precision-GI device and ensures compliance with Japan's PMDA regulatory requirements. HekaBio will provide in-country logistics, physician training and case support.

#### **About Limaca Medical**

Limaca Medical, Ltd, is a privately held company based in Israel that is dedicated to improving endoscopic biopsy results for patients facing potentially life-threatening gastroenterology cancers. Limaca has an experienced team of engineers, clinicians, and business professionals with



successful track records of innovating, developing, and commercializing specialized medical devices. Limaca Medical's investors include The Trendlines Group and agrifood technologies to fulfil its mission to improve the human condition, and Agriline, a trust of which Vincent Tchenguiz is a discretionary beneficiary. Limaca also receives support from the Israeli Innovation Authority.

#### About HekaBio

HekaBio K.K. is a privately held healthcare company based in Tokyo, Japan. Created by a diverse group of multicultural experts, HekaBio generates significant value through astute partner selection, investment, and hands-on program management through to commercialization.

# Datumate signs a strategic distribution agreement with Hitachi Solutions, Ltd. for the construction market in Japan

YOKNEAM, Israel, May 17, 2022 /PRNewswire/ – Datumate, an <u>infrastructure construction</u> <u>software company</u> and developer of the DatuBIM cloud-based Construction Data Analytics platform, announced today a new strategic distribution partnership with <u>Hitachi Solutions</u>, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Tokyo-headquartered multinational conglomerate Hitachi Group and a leading systems integrator in Japan.

The multi-year strategic partnership agreement entails that Hitachi Solutions, Ltd. will integrate <u>Datumate's construction analytics platform</u> into its professional service offering to the Japanese infrastructure construction market. The DatuBIM platform will be used by major Japanese contractors in the building of roads, highways, railways and other critical transportation infrastructure.

Hitachi Solutions' decision to partner with Datumate follows rigorous testing of other construction data analytics solutions. Following successful trials of DatuBIM in Japan and confirmation of



value and product market fit by leading contractors, Hitachi Solutions declared their decision to proceed with Datumate.

"We're absolutely thrilled to be partnering with Hitachi Solutions. DatuBIM generates engineering digital-twins of the construction site to enable collaborative monitoring of construction processes, reduce uncertainty, boost efficiency, and deliver infrastructure projects safely, on time and within budget," said **Tal Meirzon, CEO of Datumate**.

"Japan is home to some of the world's most impressive transport infrastructure projects. We are always looking for experienced local engineering partners to facilitate digital construction transformation for general contractors and project owners, and Hitachi Solutions fits the bill perfectly."

Already a leading system integrator in Japan, Hitachi Solutions has a rich history of providing their clients with tier-1 professional services and support. The complete service package tailored for infrastructure construction now combines a cutting-edge construction data analytics platform and world-class value-added services, translating into end-to-end digitization of the construction planning and execution process.

"In Japan, construction infrastructure projects are carried out with extra care and precision down to the last detail. Our partnership with Datumate introduces a first-rate platform into our professional service offering. It enables us to continuously and accurately compare digital As-Built versus Design to an unprecedented degree, and to continue to lead the way in Japan's techdriven construction infrastructure sector," said **Bahadir Gultekin Ph.D., Director, Business Promotion & Alliances Sustainable City Business Division at Hitachi Solutions**.

DatuBIM provides infrastructure construction companies and project owners with a complete job site mapping, measurements, predictions and corrective actions solution that empowers their teams to make data-driven decisions and:

- remotely and collaboratively monitor project progress over time, with survey-grade accuracy
- increase transparency, accountability, and efficiency



- compare digital As-Built vs. Design and Schedule Plan
- receive automated engineering reports
- supervise teams, assure quality, and control bills
- track progress, detect deviation and prevent costly rework

#### About Hitachi Solutions, Ltd.

Hitachi Solutions, Ltd., headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, provides value-driven services throughout the IT life cycle from systems planning to systems integration, operation and maintenance. Hitachi Solutions delivers products and services of superior value to customers worldwide through key subsidiaries in China, Asia, the United States and Europe. The flagship company in the Hitachi Group's information and communication system solutions business, Hitachi Solutions also offers solutions for social innovation such as smart cities. For more information on Hitachi Solutions, please visit: <u>http://www.hitachi-solutions.com</u>.

#### About Datumate

Datumate is a construction technology (ConTech) company offering a cloud-based 4D infrastructure construction data analytics platform. Our AI Construction Engine (ACE) analyzes multi-dimensional data models consisting of digital as-built, design and project schedules. It provides deviation analysis and predictive intelligence to reduce uncertainty and accelerate project delivery.

Trusted by departments of transportation, project owners and general contractors, our platform effectively digitizes the infrastructure construction site, enabling collaboration, monitoring and control over design validation, construction progress and inspection processes. This dramatically reduces construction lifecycle costs while improving efficiency and overall quality.



## Flexspace raise \$6M from M13 Magenta Ventures and R-Squared Ventures

#### Flexspace Launches On-Demand Workspace Platform to Offer Teams Seamless Access to Third Party Collaboration Spaces

#### May 19, 2022

SAN FRANCISCO & NEW YORK--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--<u>Flexspace</u> today announced the launch of a corporate solution for hybrid-remote companies providing employees a seamlessly integrated platform to discover, book and manage flexible workspace on-demand directly from the existing workflows. The company also announced a \$6 million seed investment round, led by <u>M13</u>, with participation from <u>R-Squared Ventures</u> (who led the pre-seed round), <u>Magenta Venture Partners</u>, and individual investors including former and current Silicon Valley executives from Uber and WeWork. The capital will be used to expand the network of operators throughout the United States, and further develop Flexspace's product for teams with technology integrations.

Flexspace co-founders Eyal Lasker and Justin Law met while in senior growth product and software engineering roles at WeWork. In 2020, the pair formed Flexspace to address the explosive need for easy access to collaborative workspaces for both scaling startups as well as established companies supporting hybrid workforces amidst blurred office lines created by the pandemic. Researchers from Stanford, the University of Chicago, and MIT have found that, today, more than one-third of all remote hours are not spent in home offices, but in "third places" such as libraries, coffee shops and co-working spaces. A recent Stanford Graduate School of Business report also noted that virtual meetings can hinder creativity and in-person meetings generate more creative ideas. Additionally, in its 2021 Global Flex Space Report, real estate services leader JLL reported flexible space will grow to 30 percent of the total office supply in the U.S.

"The issue is bigger than how to return to the office or adopt a hybrid worklife, it's akin to demand for an entirely rethought workplace experience. Committing to expensive, multi-year leases on massive office space - a static experience - has been replaced by adopting technology that offers dynamic, on-demand access to a wider variety of spaces and locations," said Eyal Lasker, Cofounder and CEO of Flexspace. "The current infrastructure is not set up to support this in realtime, so we've created a network that connects directly to the operators' inventory and seamlessly delivers it to workers from their existing workflows. Four years ago at WeWork this notion of a digitized on-demand space booking experience was considered first principles



thinking. Today, we are transforming an entire industry: employers will no longer be financially confined by a set number of assets in set locations, instead they'll tap into different spaces for a variety of needs as they arise."

Flexspace provides the infrastructure to search, price, book, and process services in real-time to hybrid-remote companies and flexible space operators. The platform sits at the intersection of coworking space supply and demand: Flexspace helps real-estate owners and operators be discovered by companies so they can monetize unused inventory. Companies then gain access to off-site workspaces, giving employees the freedom to independently choose when and where to meet up with teams or book space for solo work outside their home offices.

In Q1 of 2022, Flexspace's bookings more than doubled and today it partners with operators including WeWork, Mindspace, TheYard, Nomadworks, TheMalin, and Werqwise. With this fresh capital, the company plans to further expand to metropolitan cities throughout the U.S. Monthly transactions volume has grown nearly 40% month-over-month since the beginning of the year.

The Flexspace platform provides unique insights into user behavior, specifically for their locations but also industry-wide for trends across operators. For example, collaborative spaces are typically booked 4.5 days in advance with nearly 31 percent of all Flexspace bookings occurring mid-week. Wednesdays have emerged as the most popular weekday for hybrid-remote workers to hold in-person meetings, and Tuesdays are the preferred day of the week for solo work with nearly 70 percent of Flexspace single office books taking place earlier in the week. Armed with these insights, operators are incentivized to create events and agendas around these behaviors that will attract traffic.

"Work happens anywhere and not just in the office; what employees need from a workplace is changing constantly. Space needs to be more than desks, meeting rooms and amenities," said M13's Managing Partner Karl Alomar, who was appointed to Flexspace's Board of Directors. "There is a paradigm shift - the open-office plan cramming more workers into smaller spaces to stimulate serendipitous collaboration is over. Ultimately, people want flexibility and autonomy but will still need to maintain the ability to easily connect when needed. Flexspace fulfills that need."

#### ABOUT FLEXSPACE

Flexspace provides companies with an easy-to-use platform that empowers their employees to discover, book, and manage on-demand workspaces with no commitment or upfront cost.



Flexspace does that by providing the critical services to flexible workspace providers to fractionalize and price their unused inventory in real-time.

# NYK to Invest in theDOCK's Navigator II Fund

#### in International Shipping News 25/05/2022

NYK has signed an agreement to invest in "Navigator II," an investment fund managed by theDOCK, an Israeli venture capital firm specializing in maritime technology. Navigator II invests in and supports startup companies that research and develop innovative technologies in the fields of shipping, ports, and supply chains. Through Navigator II, NYK will promote open innovation with startup companies by identifying new technologies and ideas that will strengthen existing businesses and create new businesses.

In the past, NYK has directly invested in startup companies having innovative technologies in the fields of decarbonization and DX (Digital Transformation) and has also launched startup accelerator programs that create opportunities to collaborate with emerging startups through joint platforms with other companies. NYK has now decided to invest in Navigator II based on the judgment that it will become more important to collaborate with startup companies researching various technologies in the fast-growing fields of decarbonization and DX on a global scale. This is the first time that NYK has signed an agreement to invest in an investment fund managed by a venture capital firm specializing in the maritime business.

This investment is not limited to a simple investment. NYK and theDOCK will acquire know-how, including the discerning ability of venture capitalists, through personnel exchanges, including secondment from NYK, and through joint discovery and evaluation of startups. Additionally, the two companies will further accelerate activities to create new value by accumulating this knowledge and building new networks in conjunction with an innovation ecosystem that includes startups.

In February 2021, NYK released the "NYK Group ESG Story," which aims to further integrate ESG into the company's management strategy and promotes activities that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs through business activities. In March this year, NYK released the updated "NYK Group ESG Story 2022," which introduces initiatives for integrating ESG into the Group's management strategies set forth in the "NYK Group ESG Story" and provides a partial explanation of the Group's sustainable growth strategy from a long-term perspective. To strongly



promote ESG management, the NYK Group will promote the creation of new value as a sustainable solution provider.

"We highly value this partnership with theDOCK,"

said Tomoyuki Koyama, Senior Managing Executive Officer at NYK Source: Nippon Yusen Kaisha

## Terilogy and KDDI Evolva start partner collaboration with visual support tool "TechSee"

## Techsee will provide KDDI with Video Support Service tools

### Terilogy Co., Ltd. May 25, 2022 15:46

Terilogy Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President: Akihiko Abe, hereafter Terilogy) and KDDI Evolva Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, President: Hajime Wakatsuki, hereafter KDDI Evolva) are the next generation. KDDI Evolva officially started offering a new contact center "Video Support Service" that utilizes video in May 2022 after concluding a sales agency contract for the visual customer assistance tool "TechSee" \* 1. rice field.

"Video support service" is a contact center service that combines the video support of "TechSee" using Web-RTC and the operation of KDDI Evolva, which has the know-how and achievements of contact center construction and operation and improvement of major domestic companies.

Customers will be able to easily convey the content they want to inquire to the operator by visual i nformation by sharing the video taken with a smartphone etc. in real time while talking to the oper ator. In addition, operations that utilize video will lead to an intuitive understanding of customers . As a result, we will increase the primary resolution rate for complicated inquiries that could not b e solved by conventional telephone and chat, repairs that require dispatch of technicians, etc., an d improve loyalty and CX, and improve corporate productivity. ...

The "video support service", which is a collaboration between Terilogy and KDDI Evolva, has alre



ady been introduced to technical support centers (call centers) of domestic companies, and has a track record of operation design and operation.

### Introduction process

"TechSee," which enables remote support without dispatching human resources such as engineers, is being introduced mainly by major European telecommunications carriers as a new DX solution that leads to infectious disease control, and is also being used by domestic companies. It is expanding. Terilogy and KDDI Evolva will continue to work on co-creation of good practices that will serve as a reference for the domestic call center market, and will continue to improve CX and solve DX promotion issues in companies. In addition, both companies will consider efforts to realize smoother problem solving for customers in the field of video support.

#### About Terilogy Co., Ltd.

Headquarters: 1-13-5 Kudankita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0073

Established on the 4th floor of Hulic Kudan Building: July 1989

Representative: Akihiko Abe, President and CEO

Capital: 1,581,306 thousand yen (Securities) Code 3356 Tokyo Stock Exchange "Standard Market")

Business: Import and sale of overseas hardware and software products / Sales of network-related products / System consulting and construction / education / network construction / construction for end users (construction license) Acquired) / Maintenance service for network-related products / Development of application software

Terilogy Co., Ltd. has four segments of security, network, monitoring, and solution service as its core, and the market and customers. We are a technology value creator who handles a wide range of products from hardware to software and service provision that meet the needs. We have more than 300 customers, mainly large companies and telecommunications carriers, and have a wealth of experience and achievements in network-related businesses.

#### Harel-Hertz Investment House (HIH) is Terilogy's consultant and Israeli Representative

About KDDI Evolva Co., Ltd.
Headquarters: Shinjuku First West, 1-23-7 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0023



KDDI Evolva develops BPO business centered on contact centers. We provide BPO services that integrate people and IT solutions that utilize technologies such as AI, RPA, and eKYC, and improve CX and promote DX with a wide range of high-quality communication services based on our track record and know-how provided to companies in a wide range of industries. Contributes to the realization of customer success.

#### About Techsee

TechSee is an Israeli startup that has developed a cognitive visual engagement "Support of Things" platform powered by augmented reality and artificial intelligence to revolutionize the customer support domain. TechSee empowers customer support teams to deliver a visual customer experience that significantly reduces service costs and enhances service quality. Techsee is led by customer service industry veterans with years of experience in contact center technologies, video, computer vision and big data. TechSee counts Orange, Vodafone, Samsung and Nespresso among its global marquee customers.

# NTT Finance Invests in D-ID, World Leader in AI-Driven Creative Media

NTT Finance joined recent Series B round to help D-ID expand the horizons of cutting-edge Digital Human and Reenactment technologies

TOKYO, May 31, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- NTT Finance, financial group company of Japanese telecommunications giant NTT, invested in D-ID, the world leader in AI-driven creative media. The funding is part of D-ID's recent **\$25 million** <u>Series B round</u>. The round was led by investment firm Macquarie Capital, with significant investments from Pitango, AXA Venture Partners, OurCrowd, OIF Ventures, Maverick and Marubeni. The new infusion brings D-ID's total funding to \$48 million.

Investment in D-ID was facilitated by NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel (NTT Israel), a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT that serves as an internal strategic resource to breakthrough innovation from Israel. NTT Israel's mission is to support the evolution of NTT Group customer businesses,



promote innovation and digital transformation. NTT Israel collaborates with Israeli companies and academia developing cutting-edge technologies in Cyber Security, Digital Health, AI, Robotics and other various fields, as well as promoting investment opportunities with Israeli companies.

The proceeds from this round, from investors across three continents, will allow D-ID to double the number of experts on its world-class deep-learning and computer vision teams, broadening the scope and reach of its pioneering technology as it continues to produce products that transform the digital-human interface. The round will also enable D-ID to expand and support the company's sales and marketing teams in the United States, APAC and EMEA.

D-ID uses AI and deep learning to develop reenactment-based products ranging from animating still photos to developing high-quality digital avatars. D-ID's wide range of customers include <u>Warner Bros. Studios</u>, <u>Mondelēz</u>, <u>Publicis</u> and MyHeritage, whom D-ID partnered with to create the viral sensation <u>Deep Nostalgia</u>, which has created nearly 100M animations since its launch, and more recently, <u>LiveStory</u>, which enables the creation of AI-generated biographical videos narrated by photos of users' ancestors. D-ID has also partnered with <u>The Glimpse</u> <u>Group</u> (NASDAQ: <u>VRAR</u>), a diversified virtual reality and augmented reality platform, to develop AI, AR and VR applications for the Metaverse. D-ID is leading the charge to leverage Synthetic Media for good. The company has worked with nonprofit organizations and governments in public awareness campaigns on sensitive issues such as <u>domestic violence</u> and <u>HIV awareness</u>.

This new round of funding comes on the heels of a whirlwind of success for D-ID. In early March, the company was named by Fast Company as one of the <u>Most Innovative Companies of 2022</u> in EMEA. In February, D-ID won <u>best use of AI</u> in the Digiday Marketing and Advertising Awards Europe, and in January, the company's proprietary Live Portrait technology was named a finalist for the prestigious <u>SXSW Innovation Award</u>.

"We are grateful for this vote of confidence from NTT group, and thrilled to embark on a meaningful partnership that will enable us to continue expanding and strengthening our relationships and reach within Japan and globally," said Gil Perry, CEO and Co-Founder of D-ID.

#### **About NTT Finance**

NTT FINANCE, which is the first company that NTT established in April 1985 after being privatized, offers financial settlements and finance services. We aim to create new value through



our billing solution business that provides billing/collection services and cloud payment services, credit card business, and finance services business that offers various services related to finance and accounting. NTT FINANCE is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT. Visit us at <a href="https://www.ntt-finance.co.jp/eng/">https://www.ntt-finance.co.jp/eng/</a>

#### About NTT Israel

NTT Innovation Laboratory Israel (NTT Israel) is a strategic focal point to NTT in Israel, a world leader in providing technology and business solutions to people, clients, and communities. With \$112B in revenue and more than 320,000 employees in over 80 countries and regions, NTT leads the Japanese communications market, and is a Fortune 100 company. Established on July 2021, NTT Israel facilitates synergies between NTT and the Israeli ecosystem. Company offerings include open innovation processes, consulting with NTT business units, as well as Labs and Tailored services and collaboration with academia. NTT Israel is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT.

#### About D-ID

D-ID is a Tel Aviv-based Creative Reality<sup>™</sup> startup specializing in patented video reenactment technology using AI and deep learning. D-ID's products range from animating still photos, to facilitating high-quality video productions, and creating viral user experiences. With funding from tier 1 VCs, D-ID aims to radically disrupt the time, hassle and costs involved in video production, allowing for the creation of highly personalized media using AI, specifically in e-learning, corporate training, marcomms, AI assistants, history and the Metaverse. With international customers, D-ID's core competencies in the human face and deep learning enable its partners to create exciting and engaging content that was until now unimaginable.



## Seemplicity raises \$26 million for productivity platform for cybersecurity teams-- NTTVC joins as new investor

The Israeli startup's platform aggregates, normalizes, and orchestrates findings from multiple siloed security tools to generate a single consistent security backlog

#### Meir Orbach 15:00, 31.05.22

Seemplicity, which has developed a risk reduction and productivity platform for cybersecurity teams, announced on Tuesday that it has completed a \$26 million Series A led by Glilot Capital Partners through its early growth fund, Glilot+, with participation from new investors NTTVC and Atlantic Bridge and existing investors S Capital and Rain Capital. The company previously raised a \$6 million Seed round led by S Capital. Renowned cybersecurity investors including René Bonvanie, Tom Banahan, Mark Smith, Elad Yoran, and Kevin Mahaffey also participated in the financing rounds.

Seemplicity was founded in 2020 by cybersecurity veterans Yoran Sirkis, Ravid Circus, and Rotem Cohen Gadol.

In an effort to drive down risk, organizations heavily invest in hiring security talent and deploy multiple security solutions. Yet time to remediation remains stubbornly long and thousands of hours are wasted on manually pushing remediation tasks across the organization. With remediation often depending on people, procedures, and infrastructure beyond the security team's direct control, a huge amount of time is wasted on untangling, delegating, and following up on the status of every security finding scattered across the organization.

Seemplicity's Productivity Platform connects security findings with those who can fix them, thus removing security teams as the bottleneck. Seemplicity aggregates, normalizes, and orchestrates findings from multiple siloed security tools to generate a single consistent security backlog.

"No one can think of developing software without Jira, so why do security teams still work with spreadsheets?" said Yoran Sirkis, co-founder and CEO of Seemplicity. "While the security industry excels at identifying weaknesses and vulnerabilities, it falls incredibly short when it comes to remediation and assurance. Security teams need a workflow tool to help them keep the queue moving, remediate more issues in less time, and scale their operations."



## Inauguration of Japan-funded project in Ramallah to improve educational conditions for people with special needs

RAMALLAH, Monday, May 16, 2022 (WAFA) – **Masayuki Magoshi, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine**, visited today Qibya village in Ramallah to celebrate the completion of a project for improving the educational environment for people with disabilities in 11 Schools in Ramallah.

The project was funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

A grant of \$89,971 was extended to the Palestinian Youth Union for the improvement of the educational environment for people with disabilities in 11 Schools in Ramallah by rehabilitating/constructing barrier-free toilets, wheelchair slopes, and water drinking areas, according to a statement issued by the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine.

Now that the project has been completed, about 45 disabled students will directly benefit from the project, and about other 3000 students have been benefiting from the water drinking areas.

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

Since 1993 the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance to approximately USD 2.2 billion, to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through the Ministry of Finance and Planning since 2010.



# Japan condemns Israel for its illegal settlement construction

ARAB NEWS JAPAN May 17, 202213:01

TOKYO: The Japanese government deplored Israel's decision to advance plans to construct over 4,000 housing units in settlements on the occupied territories in the West Bank and urged Israel to reverse the decision and fully freeze its settlement activities.

"The Government of Japan remains seriously concerned by and deeply deplores the continued settlement activities by the government of Israel despite repeated calls from Japan and the international community," an official statement by the foreign ministry said.

Japan stressed that Israel's illegal settlement plans "violates the international law and undermine the viability of a two-state solution" and called on the Israelis to refrain from actions that escalate tensions.



## Israel – Japan June 2022

# Parametrix and Sompo launch cloud outages insurance product

### 6 Jun, 2022 Globes correspondent

## The new insurance product will mitigate the risk of downtime during virtual shareholders meetings.

Japanese insurance giant **Sompo** has launched a new insurance product based on technology from Israeli company **Parametrix** to mitigate the risk of a cloud outage during virtual shareholders meetings. The new product has been launched in cooperation with the virtual shareholder meeting support service **Sharely, provided by Coincheck Inc.** 

Traditionally, shareholder meetings were held at physical designated locations where directors and shareholders could gather. However, in response to the spread of Covid, virtual meetings were introduced to help prevent the spread of infection by enabling participation from remote locations. Another result of shifting to virtual meetings was a reduction in operating costs.

Many businesses worldwide experience technological glitches which disrupt routine operations, processes and services. Downtime can lead to lost opportunities and lost revenue. Cloud outages also tarnish brand reputation and result in customer churn.

The insurance provided covers costs incurred when a virtual shareholder meeting is forced to be canceled or modified if the cloud service used by Sharely is down. The insurance is only applicable for a hybrid attendance or virtual-only shareholder meetings.

Parametrix develops insurance policies that cover cloud-based crashes or downtime. The startup, which was founded three years ago and has more than 50 employees in offices in Israel, the US, the UK and Germany, has raised \$17.5 million last year from FirstMark Capital, and F2 Ventures. The company offers their insurance products in Israel, the US, and Europe. Its partnership with Sompo is helping expand to the Japanese market as well.

Parametrix has developed innovative technology, which continuously monitors many third-party systems such as cloud computing, Internet service providers, customer relations management systems, e-commerce services, and digital payment means. This system provides precise alerts



when downtime occurs, identifying impacted services. They provide the data and insights required to produce policies based on parametric models. Parametric insurance is insurance that allows rapid provision of insurance indemnity, without the need for a claim clearing process, and which is adapted to the needs of the customer, in terms of the level of the coverage.

The collaboration between Parametrix and Sompo has been led by Sompo's innovation center in Tel Aviv, which was founded in 2018 and leads investments and collaborations with Israeli companies, in the fields of transport, digital health services, cybersecurity and insurance services.

Sompo Digital Lab Israel & Europe head Yinnon Dolev said, "The world and our business culture changed in the past two years due to the global pandemic. Even though we are able today to meet face to face some of the times, everyone enjoyed the benefits and cost efficiency of working remotely. We are delighted our collaboration with Parametrix is progressing to the next level and allows us to adapt our raft of products to the changing digital world".

## InsurTech EasySend strengthens in Japan by establishing a Japanese entity in order to accelerate digitization within the Japanese financial industry

By Newswire | June 9, 2022

## No-code platform speeds up service delivery and significantly enhances customer experience for insurance, banking and other financial institutions

**Tokyo, June 09, 2022** – **EasySend Ltd.** (Headquarters: Israel, CEO & Co-Founder: Tal Daskal, "EasySend"), an InsurTech company supporting the digitalization of the insurance and financial industries, has established a Japanese entity, **EasySend Godo Kaisha in Tokyo**. With Kazuyo, Yamashita as Director of Business Development in Japan, EasySend will further expand its customer base and partner companies in Japan and promote the digitalization of the financial industry in Japan including insurance companies and banks by leveraging its knowledge and experience in the global market, while addressing Japanese laws and market needs such as privacy data and security.



The importance of digitalization is widely recognized in the insurance and financial industries, with strategies to simplify, accelerate, and automate business processes. Driven by Covid 19, the industry has also been rapidly strengthening non-face-to-face channels and digitizing and automating administrative procedures of various forms in paper and PDF, contract processing and payment claims.

EasySend meets the needs of these insurance companies and financial institutions by providing a no-code development platform that does not require programming expertise. In particular, EasySend supports digitization by streamlining customer data intake and automating workflows that previously required paper forms into web forms and workflows in a short period of time and at a low cost. EasySend's platform has already been implemented by dozens of insurance companies and banks in Europe, the U.S., and Israel. In Japan, EasySend's platform has been implemented by **Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. Toppan Forms Co., Ltd. has also signed a distributor agreement.** 

EasySend's platform allows non-system developers to quickly and easily develop systems with intuitive drag-and-drop operations and simple configuration, reducing a company's five-year digital transformation plan to just three months, speeding service delivery, reducing system development and operations costs and improving customer services, resulting in the increase in the revenue. It also leverages a cloud-based, no-code builder that leverages third-party integrations, and analytics to address increasingly diverse and complex customer needs, giving it a competitive advantage over its competitors. EasySend also connects to Salesforce CRM to prepopulate fields, collect electronic signatures, initiate journeys, and optimize results. Enterprises can initiate the digital process through their website, email, SMS or CRM and the customers can start the process from any device, at any place or time. EasySend's platform keeps personal and corporate information secure with strict security measures that comply with Japanese and international standards.

Tal Daskal, EasySend's CEO stated, "The establishment of EasySend's presence in the important Japanese market will allow us to build relationships with many companies, including Japanese insurance companies and financial institutions. EasySend is a digitalization expert in the insurance and financial industries. EasySend shortens sales cycles, reduces manual work, and increases brand loyalty."

Akiyuki Matsuda, Data Business Group, DX Promotion Department, Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. said, "By using EasySend, we are smoothly digitizing our traditional paper-based operations without major changes to our workflow. The file upload function, check boxes, electronic



signatures, and other useful tools have made implementation easy. We also feel that intuitive operations such as copy and paste and drag and drop allow us to develop sophisticatedly designed web flows without advanced digital skills," he said.

# Heavy equipment ADAS co INTSITE teams with Japan's Komatsu

16 Jun, 2022 Globes correspondent

# The Israeli company is also in talks with Komatsu over a commercial agreement, which would see the company's systems embedded in Komatsu's heavy equipment.

After Mobileye has proven its Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS) capabilities for cars, another Israeli company <u>INTSITE</u> is pioneering similar systems for heavy mechanical engineering equipment such as excavators and trucks. To this end, INTSITE has reached a collaboration agreement with Japanese company Komatsu, the world's second largest manufacturer of heavy-machinery, after US company Caterpillar. The collaboration is being undertaken with five different projects, making Komatsu INTSITE's biggest customer.

INTSITE is also in talks with Komatsu over a commercial agreement, which would see INTSITE's systems embedded into Komatsu's heavy equipment. This collaboration will not grant the Japanese company exclusivity, so that INTSITE will not be prevented from associating with other companies, through similar collaborations. For example, INTSITE recently began working with the world's seventh largest heavy-machinery manufacturer.

INTSITE was founded in 2018 by twin brothers Tzach, a civil engineer and Mor Ram-On (36), an aerospace engineer who previously worked for Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. The ADAS that the company has developed is based on image processing using artificial intelligence (AI) to analyze real-time photographic data for heavy equipment, such as excavators, bulldozers, and various types of trucks.

The systems developed by INTSITE serve two aims: creating and improving safety for the users of the equipment, mainly the drivers, and all those within their close proximity (preventing the equipment from turning over, preventing damage to the equipment and workers in close vicinity to



the machinery, identifying the distance from dangerous cliffs, and the like); and creating and increasing operational efficiency for the company's management, which is responsible for the equipment, or the mine (for example reducing the time for loading dirt, identifying anomalies and bottlenecks during mining work and more).

From its outset, INTSITE focused on the development of systems based on artificial intelligence designed to make cranes, one of the most important and dangerous pieces of equipment on construction sites, autonomous, while also at the same time developing the aforementioned ADAS systems. One year ago, following a strategic shift, the company decided to focus exclusively on ADAS systems for heavy-machinery, allowing the company to move up a gear in its business development. According to INTSITE, the advantage of the system that it has developed is that it can be connected to any analog camera and that it does not require the installations of other expensive lidar systems and sensors.

To date INTSITE has raised \$2 million in a seed round and it recently closed a similar sum in another round. In contrast to companies that raise very large financing rounds, INTSITE has remained in stealth, with its financing rounds, due to a creative business model that enables it to create positive cash flow and not to have to rely on large scale external financing.

The company has 10 employees, with a lean and operationally efficient expenditure structure. INTSITE plans to use the funds from its latest financing round to hire sales staff this year, mainly to expand its operations in Europe and Asia. Apart from Japan, the company's systems are operating in countries like Thailand, the UK, Germany, and Denmark. Following the expansion of its activities, INTSITE expects a significant increase in revenue in 2023 and 2024.

A collaboration agreement was recently signed between the company and New Feldman, which is part of the Tiferet Holdings Group. New Feldman represents the world's leading mechanical engineering manufacturers including GEHL, Komatsu and Zoomlion and also imports and markets agricultural equipment from New Holland and Fiat unit Case. As part of this cooperation, New Feldman will equip its overall fleet of equipment with INTSITE systems.



## Hakuhodo DY Media Partners Co., Ltd. and Augmind Ltd. collaborate on providing new groundbreaking, Al-driven, technology services in Japan

Published: Jun. 22, 2022 at 2:30 AM HST

## Hakuhodo DY Media Partners Co., Ltd selects Augmind's unique and cutting-edge Extended Reality & AI technologies to build a one-of-a-kind AI Content Production System

HERZLIYA, Israel , June 22, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>Hakuhodo DY Holdings Co., Ltd</u>. (HQ: Minato-ku, Tokyo. President: Masayuki Hishima), one of the largest advertising and public relations companies in Japan, and its cross-sectional R&D organization [Creative Technology Lab, Beat ("**Beat**")] selected <u>Augmind</u>, an Israeli-based deep-tech company specializing in inventing new XR & AI technologies, as their technology enabler. This came after a lengthy process of evaluating multiple other well-known and global companies.

Hakuhodo is soon to launch an exclusive and innovative AI-tech service called **H-AI UPRES**, that automatically restores low-resolution, dated, damaged or compressed footage and content, and converts it to fully remastered, 4K resolution (and higher), digital assets, using cutting-edge AI technology. Additional key aspects of this service entail face-swapping and AI-Teleshopping, ready to be streamed in ultra-high resolution as never seen before. The service is said to target media related stakeholders and other IP holders (incl. NFTs).

Ken Matsuzaki, Creative Director at Hakuhodo Inc., stated that "*Through Augmind's ground*breaking specialties we are able to expand our services for our clients and provide them with a true next-level quality content and assets at a very competitive cost."

Hakuhodo DY Holdings Co., Ltd.'s H-AI UPRES service is only the beginning of the two companies' cooperation and talks about additional potential joint ventures are at hand. These include the potential for the adaptation of this content into AR & VR experiences, which will ultimately enable a swift integration into the Metaverse.

In parallel, Augmind is now gearing to launch its new flagship, MaxScene, a superior and holistic developers suite, promising to revolutionize the entire process of creating Extended Reality (XR)



graphics, and empowering even novice developers with the tools to easily create state-of-the-art high-res realistic 3D content within a few simple clicks. Previously, this could only be seen on powerful PCs and consoles. This 3D content is automatically created to be performance-ready and presented smoothly on all web and mobile platforms. Augmind's goal is to ultimately clear the path for global metaverse adoption.

"Augmind is honored to be joining forces with one of the most reputable agencies in Japan, representing some of the strongest brands across the continent and we look forward to servicing their clients via this collaboration," says Augmind's CEO, Ran Kern

### About Augmind Ltd.

Augmind is a future-oriented company at the forefront of 3D, AR, VR, and MR visualization. Its proprietary technology uses the latest developments in AI to produce fast-loading, staggeringly life-like XR content that runs on all web and mobile platforms and is cost-effective to produce.

By deploying advanced AI systems, Augmind slashes content-creation time without any compromise in quality, reduces costs, and delivers superior results in days, rather than weeks.

## Rail Vision Ltd. Receives Japanese Patent Allowance for Railway Obstacle Detection Technology

### GuruFocusNews 21/06/2022

## Patent allowance enables Rail Vision to commence sales of its cuttingedge, A.I.-based, industry-leading technology in Japan

Ra'anana, Israel, June 01, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Rail Vision Ltd. (the "Company") ( RVSN), a development stage technology company that is seeking to revolutionize railway safety and the data-related market, today announced it received notice of allowance from the Japan <u>Patent Office (JPO)</u> for its patent titled, "System and Methods for Object and Obstacle Detection and Classification in Collision Avoidance of Railway Applications," covering the Company's cutting-edge, artificial intelligence (A.I.) based, industry-leading technology specifically designed for railways.



"Rail Vision's technology, which enables the identification and classification of objects on and around the tracks is a game changer," commented Rail Vision CEO Shahar Hania. "Japan has one of the most advanced rail networks in the world with more than 27,000 kilometers of track that carry an estimated 180 million passengers annually, in addition to a large volume of freight. With IP protections now in place in Japan, Rail Vision can enter this large market from a position of strength as we bring new advancements to the rail industry designed to save lives, increase efficiency, and dramatically reduce expenses for railway operators."

The new Japanese patent was allowed by the Japanese Patent Office on May 10, 2022, and covers a system for the detection and identification of objects and obstacles near, between, or on the railway. The capability of the system includes image processing that is applied to define obstacles, a living creature in the image frame and to distinguish it from the environment based on temperature differences, as well as electro-optic sensors (e.g. thermal infrared imaging sensor and visible band imaging sensor) used to survey and monitor railway scenes in real-time.

#### About Rail Vision Ltd.

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



## D-ID Announces New Partnership With Japanese E-learning Company Skill Plus

By D-ID, Jun 27, 2022

TEL AVIV, Israel, June 27, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>D-ID</u>, a world leader in Al-driven creative media, today announced a new partnership with <u>Skill Plus</u>, a Japanese e-learning platform which plans and sells seminars and e-learning courses, to incorporate D-ID's digital human technology into their offering.

Post Covid, the demand for online communication has increased in many fields, not least of which includes education and e-learning. There are however still old-world offline issues that need to be overcome. For instance, it is time-consuming to shoot and record lectures, often with the need for multiple crews with specific expertise to be present when shooting such as camera, lighting, and wardrobe, as well as the need for the continued presence of the e-learning Instructor.

As Skill Plus's Representative Director, Yu Tsukada says, "To record a 30-minute e-learning course, we had to allocate at least 4 hours for travel, preparation, filming, and cleanup. In addition to the instructor, a filming crew, and a director had to be present. We wanted to eliminate these problems and were looking for ways to utilize realistic digital human instructors. With D-ID's Speaking Portrait, we can now easily create e-learning videos that are more engaging and personal."

## Al Chipmaker Hailo Collaborates with Renesas to Enable Automotive Customers to Seamlessly Scale from ADAS to Automated Driving

TEL AVIV, Israel, June 27, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>Hailo</u>, the leading edge Artificial Intelligence (AI) chipmaker, today announced its collaboration with <u>Renesas</u>, a premier supplier of advanced semiconductor solutions, to deliver a powerful and energy-efficient processing solution enabling advanced driver-assistance (ADAS) functions and automated driving (AD) systems in motor



vehicles. The joint Hailo-Renesas solution will make sophisticated ADAS technology more accessible in cars of all types..

The combination of Hailo-8 processors, designed for heavy Neural Network (NN) acceleration, with the powerful Renesas R-Car V3H & R-Car V4H systems-on-chip (SoCs), powers robust, scalable, efficient, and cost-effective ADAS solutions for zonal and centralized vehicular ECUs. The solutions are scalable for a wide range of ADAS functions from ADAS L2+ up to L4 AD functions requiring very high tera-operations per second (TOPS), while delivering best-in-class TOPS/W.

"ADAS and AD features have proven to be instrumental in minimizing accidents and saving lives. However, technological challenges have caused great difficulties for automakers looking to make such advanced functions accessible in anything but higher-end vehicles," said Orr Danon, CEO and Co-Founder of Hailo. "Together with Renesas, we are offering a solution helping democratize ADAS, so its benefits can be enjoyed by more and more drivers. AI will play a major role in making our roads safer, and with industry leaders like Renesas helping us innovate, we will make driving both safer and more affordable."

"Automotive OEMs are looking for scalable solutions for ADAS and AD to streamline software development," said Yusuke Kawasaki, Director, Automotive Digital Products Marketing Division at Renesas. "We are confident that our collaboration with Hailo, which has expertise in AI technology, will enable our customers to easily extend the performance of the R-Car so that they can flexibly and quickly incorporate ADAS/AD functionality in various classes of vehicles."

Key features for the joint Hailo-Renesas solution include:

- Independent scalability in AI & compute, allowing flexibility and cost-effectiveness for Level 2+ to Level 4 ADAS designs
- The highest performing solution available today in the automotive market, ranging from 60 TOPS to over 170 TOPS for multi-sensor perception and fusion
- Best-in-class power efficiency, enabling ECUs to be passively cooled, which reduces the BOM and system cost



- Functional safety for the ADAS/AD ECU with Renesas R-Car (R-Car V4H is expected to achieve ASIL-B and D metrics for the real-time domain) and Hailo (Hailo-8 supports ASIL B)
- An open software ecosystem allowing OEMs/Tier-1s more control & possibility for innovation

A single Hailo-8<sup>™</sup> delivers unprecedented performance to edge devices. Featuring up to 26 TOPS at a typical power consumption of 2.5 W, the chip is built with an innovative architecture that enables edge devices to run sophisticated Deep Learning applications that could previously only run on the cloud. Hailo-8's advanced structure translates into higher performance, lower power, and minimal latency, enabling enhanced privacy and better reliability for smart devices operating at the edge.

Hailo continues to make significant strides in the automotive industry, partnering with industry leaders to create high-performance, scalable AI solutions for automotive Electronic Control Units (ECUs), enabling power-efficient AI acceleration with low energy consumption to advance automotive innovation.

### About Hailo

Hailo, an Al-focused, Israel-based chipmaker, has developed a specialized Al processor that delivers the performance of a data center-class computer to edge devices. Hailo's processor is the product of a rethinking of traditional computer architecture, enabling smart devices to perform sophisticated deep learning tasks such as object detection and segmentation in real-time, with minimal power consumption, size, and cost. The processor is designed to fit into a multitude of smart machines and devices, impacting a variety of sectors including automotive, Industry 4.0, smart cities, smart homes, and retail.



## Israel – Japan July 2022

## Israel's El Al to offer direct flights to Tokyo and Melbourne

## Following Saudi Arabia opening its airspace, Israel's top airline has announced that new routes to Japan and Australia are in the works.

#### ZACHY HENNESSEY JPOST JULY 27, 2022 18:04

Speaking at the Google tourism conference in Tel Aviv, <u>El Al Airlines</u> CEO Dina Ben-Tal Ganancia announced that the airline intends to launch direct flights from Israel to Melbourne and Tokyo.

This move follows the recent news of <u>Saudi Arabia opening its airspace</u> to all aircraft flying to and from Israel, with no exceptions – which has, in turn, opened a window of opportunity for Israeli airlines traveling to eastern destinations. As a result of the Saudi decision, flights from Tel Aviv to Melbourne could take only 15 hours, according to Ben-Tal Ganancia, more than two hours less than it takes now.

Prior to the outbreak of COVID-19 in early 2020, El Al had also planned to open direct flights to Japan, which have until now been shelved. The re-establishment of these routes could mean a significant uptick in tourism. Suspect

If these flight routes come into effect, EI AI would be the only airline to operate them. Following the news of the airspace opening, other Israeli airlines Arkia and Israir submitted requests to operate over the neighboring nation as well, though there has been little news regarding these carriers' plans for new or altered routes.

Ben-Tal Ganancia went on to elaborate on her belief that digitization is soon to reinvent the airline's business. According to *Globes*, today roughly 35% of tickets are sold via the Internet and El Al's application, with another 15% of digital bookings being made by travel agents, making up half of all sales. El Al's expectation is that within the next five years, 80% of ticket sales will be processed via digital channels.

Saudi Arabia's decision to open its airspace to Israeli aircraft was announced by US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan during US President Joe Biden's <u>latest trip to Israel</u>. Sullivan gave credit to the president for the Saudi move.



"This decision is the result of diplomatic activity of the president," he said, noting that it "paves the way for more stability and security in the Middle East region, which is critical for the people of the US, and the security and prosperity of Israel."

## Toyota Tsusho Partners With Quantum Machines To Provide Quantum Solutions for Japanese Market

TEL AVIV, Israel and TOKYO, July 5, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Quantum Machines, the provider of breakthrough quantum control solutions that accelerate the development and implementation of quantum computers, and Toyota Tsusho Corporation (Toyota Tsusho), a member of the Toyota Group, delivering to countries around the world a diverse range of products and services, today announced a partnership to offer Japanese customers cutting edge quantum technologies. The partnership will enable Toyota Tsusho customers to integrate comprehensive quantum technologies and build quantum capabilities for the future.

The emergence of quantum computing will revolutionize many industries including mobility and transportation, chemical materials, finance, and more. Today, the pace and quality of quantum development are constrained by the need to constantly reprogram and repurpose hardware that wasn't designed with the specific needs of quantum computing in mind.

Quantum Machines (QM) has established itself as the leading provider of control and operation systems - the actual "brain" within quantum computers. The company's Quantum Orchestration Platform (QOP) comprises the most advanced classical hardware and software for the control and operation of multi-qubit quantum processors. QM's OPX+ can support any existing QPU architecture and enables users to execute even the most challenging quantum algorithms right out of the box.

An early promoter of quantum technologies, Toyota Tsusho has been developing businesses utilizing quantum computers since 2017. The partnership combines Toyota Tsusho's unique understanding of their customer ecosystem with QM's quantum computing expertise to provide



access to innovative quantum control solutions that support their long-term goals and quantum computing aspirations.

"Quantum technologies hold immense potential for the future of many industries, but not every company has the capacity to develop the infrastructure to support their quantum computing ambitions," said Dr. Itamar Sivan, Co-founder and CEO of Quantum Machines. "Our partnership with Toyota Tsusho will enable organizations to take advantage of quantum technologies to develop new quantum-based solutions that disrupt their industries, without the need to reinvent the wheel, dramatically shortening the time to market."

"Our goal is to constantly provide our customers with new technologies and value propositions," said Mr. Kazunori Mori, a general manager at Toyota Tsusho. "Partnering with Quantum Machines is a natural fit for our mission and will provide our customers with access to crucial quantum computing technologies that have the potential to reshape entire industries moving forward."

#### About Toyota Tsusho

Toyota Tsusho Corporation was founded in 1948 as the trading company for the Toyota Group. Today, Toyota Tsusho operates in more than 130 countries with approximately 65,000 Group employees, all striving to contribute to the creation of prosperous societies. Toyota Tsusho continues to expand as a global leader in vehicle exports and automobile production support. The company has seven operating divisions (Metals/ Global Parts & Logistics/ Automotive/ Machinery, Energy & Project/ Chemicals & Electronics/ Food & Consumer Services/ Africa) focused around three business fields. These are the Mobility field, which contributes to future convenient societies, the Resources & Environment field, which ensures sustainable societies, and the Life & Community field, which supports comfortable and healthy lifestyles.

#### **About Quantum Machines**

Quantum Machines (QM) drives quantum breakthroughs that accelerate the path towards the new age of quantum computing. The company's Quantum Orchestration Platform (QOP) fundamentally redefines the control and operations architecture of quantum processors. The full-



stack hardware and software platform is capable of running even the most complex algorithms right out of the box, including quantum error correction, multi-qubit calibration, and more. Helping achieve the full potential of any quantum processor, the QOP allows for unprecedented advancement and speed-up of quantum technologies as well as the ability to scale into the thousands of qubits.

## Japan Post Unveils Cutting-Edge Initiative to Digitize Roads for Digital Maps Using Innoviz LiDAR

TEL AVIV, Israel and TOKYO, July 21, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Innoviz Technologies Ltd. (NASDAQ: INVZ) (the "Company" or "Innoviz"), a leading provider of high-performance, automotive-grade LiDAR sensors and perception software, today announced that Japan Post, a special private company under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, offering postal and logistics services as well as banking and life & non-life insurance agency services, aims to construct digital maps with Innoviz's high-performance InnovizOne LiDAR sensor, paving the way for next-generation smart city services such as autonomous driving and unmanned delivery.

Japan Post announced their plans to install InnovizOne LiDAR sensors on their postal delivery cars on July 20, 2022, during Scrum Ventures' <u>SmartCityX</u> Conference in San Francisco, which brought together more than 150 best-in-class founders, VCs, and stage-agnostic startups from across the globe. The InnovizOne equipped delivery vehicles will generate detailed digital maps that gather information such as changes in roads and buildings along delivery routes. These detailed maps will serve as foundational data to enable next-generation services for Japan's residents, such as automated driving and more.

The smart cities market is expanding rapidly, and Autonomous on-road delivery vehicles are a near-term priority for cities that are increasingly looking for efficient ways to move people and goods. <u>The Japanese market for smart city technologies is expected to grow from nearly</u> \$45 million USD in 2021 to over \$93 million USD by 2027.



"We greatly appreciate such an innovative approach full of possibilities to solve local issues across the country using the solution from Innoviz," said **Executive Officer at Japan Post, Yoshihiro Gomi**. "We hope that the combination of our assets and InnovizOne LiDAR sensor will lead to the creation of a new business."

"Our innovative collaboration with Japan Post highlights the versatility of the Innoviz LiDAR and this is another example of new ways to use LiDAR in smart cities," said **VP Asia at Innoviz Technologies, David Oberman**. "We are grateful for the resources and support from Scrum Ventures to accelerate deployment of our InnovizOne LiDAR sensors for constructing digital maps and bringing value to Japan residents."

Scrum Ventures' SmartCityX program aims to explore new innovations that can unlock new value through partnership with companies, local governments, and startups. Thirteen Japanese corporations representing a variety of industries took part in this year's event. InnovizOne was selected by Japan Post due to its ability to generate precise, high-resolution 3D point cloud data required for building the digital map. Following a successful demonstration last month, the two companies have begun to verify the needs and use of Japan Post data.

#### About Japan Post

Japan Post is a company that operates postal services and post offices in Japan, aiming to create new value in cooperation with companies outside the Japan Post Group by combining its post offices and delivery networks, one of its greatest strengths, with digital technologies to assist customers in cherishing safe, secure, and enriched lives in their communities.

#### **About Innoviz Technologies**

Innoviz is a global leader in LiDAR technology, working towards a future with safe autonomous vehicles on the world's roads. Innoviz's LiDAR and perception software "see" better than a human driver and reduce the possibility of error, meeting the automotive industry's strictest expectations for performance and safety. Operating across the U.S., Europe, and Asia, Innoviz has been selected by internationally recognized premium car brands for use in consumer vehicles as well as by other commercial and industrial leaders for a wide range of use cases.



## IN Venture (Sumitomo) raises \$150 million fund to invest in Israeli deep-tech startups

The new fund was launched two years after the VC raised a \$100 million fund, which has invested in the likes of quantum computing startup Classiq, visual content creation platform Bria, as well as cybersecurity company GK8, acquired last November for \$115 million

#### Sophie Shulman 01.08.22 CTech

IN Venture, a Sumitomo Corporation backed venture fund that invests in deep-tech early stage Israeli startups, has raised \$150 million for its second fund.

The new fund was launched two years after IN Venture raised its first \$100 million fund. The VC's first fund has made seven investments to date, including in quantum computing startup Classiq, visual content creation platform Bria, as well as Ottopia, which is developing solutions for remote operation of vehicles, and H2Pro, which is developing cheaper hydrogen fuel produced by sustainable energy.

IN Venture has also already registered one exit from its initial set of investments, with digital asset-focused cybersecurity company GK8 being acquired by Israel-American crypto company Celsius, long before its collapse, for \$115 million.

IN Venture was founded by Managing Partners Eitan Naor and Eyal Rosner.

Rosner is a former chairman and director of administration for the Alternative Fuels Initiative in the Israeli Prime Minister's Office. Naor is the former CEO of ECI Telecom subsidiary ECtel and former CEO of TTI Telcom, while also previously serving as Amdocs VP of Customer Care and Billing.

Japanese conglomerate Sumitomo employs around 74,000 people in 135 countries across the globe. The corporation is active in numerous industries, including steel, air travel, transport, energy, telecommunication, minerals, and chemicals



## Teva, Takeda offload generics, manufacturing plant to Nichi-Iko in Japanese venture reshuffle

Israeli drugmaker Teva and Japan's Takeda have undergone separate, yearslong cutback sprees, looking to slice away a range of underperforming assets. Now, the two drugmakers will take a scalpel to their joint venture in Japan as they continue to hunt for savings.

Teva and Takeda's Japanese venture will <u>offload</u> most of its generics portfolio and a manufacturing site to Nichi-Iko Pharmaceutical as the partners "shift focus" to a smaller core of specialty drugs and targeted generics, Teva said Thursday.

The strategic shift follows an "in-depth review of market opportunities" five years after the joint venture's launch, Teva said. The partners plan to close the sale by early 2021.

Arcadia offers an approach that highlights the importance of bias mitigation and consideration of health equity issues in AI tool development, as well as several tips for reducing implicit bias and improving the equity and diversity of predictive outputs while still optimizing the organizational and financial objectives of their design.

Download Now

Teva didn't specify how much of the venture's portfolio would be sold off but did say the partners would retain around 20 small-molecule generic drugs and "several" pipeline assets. The two companies will also market a range of specialty drugs and authorized generics.

The joint venture downsizing comes months after Teva wrapped up a multiyear restructuring that closed down facilities around the globe and cut around 13,000 jobs.

By December, Teva had not only sliced away those employees. It had also either shut down, sold or earmarked for disposal 23 manufacturing sites and shuttered 40 offices and laboratories.

That \$3 billion scale-back plan was the centerpiece of Teva's new strategy under CEO Kåre Schultz, enticed away from Lundbeck in November 2017 to help steer the ship after years of disastrous financial leadership.



Meanwhile, Takeda has also been shedding assets in recent years, selling off whole swaths of commercial medicines to hit its goal of cutting annual operating costs and retiring debt it took on to buy Shire in January 2019.

Most recently, Takeda said in June it would sell 18 over-the-counter and prescription drugs marketed in the Asia-Pacific region to South Korea's Celltrion for \$278 million.

The portfolio generated sales of about \$140 million in the fiscal year ended in March 2019, mainly driven by DPP-4 diabetes drug Nesina and hypertension med Edarbi, Takeda said at the time.

Previously, Takeda <u>sold</u> noncore assets in the Russia-CIS region to Germany's <u>Stada</u> and in the Middle East and Africa region to Swiss firm <u>Acino</u>. It also penned deals to offload products in Latin America to Hypera Pharma and in Europe to <u>Orifarm Group</u>. Plus, it handed Shire's eye drug <u>Xiidra</u> to Novartis in exchange for up to \$5.3 billion.

The money raised goes toward Takeda's \$10 billion selloff goal, aimed at reducing the debt load from the \$59 billion Shire takeover. Takeda was said to be working on selling its own consumer health unit in Japan, Nikkei Asia Review <u>reported</u> in April, which the drugmaker had pegged at a value of \$3.72 billion.

# Go2Films seals key deals on Israeli doc slate (exclusive)

### BY GEOFFREY MACNAB21 JULY 2022

Tokyo-based arthouse distributor Pandora has acquired Japanese rights to Daniel Raim's feature documentary *Fiddler's Journey To The Big Screen* from busy Jerusalem-based sales outfit Go2Films.

The film tells the story of how director Norman Jewison tunred the musical *Fiddler On The Roof* into a beloved hit feature film. Narrated by Jeff Goldblum, it includes interviews with Jewison as well as with star Topol, who played Tevye, the milkman protagonist, and the composer John Williams.



*Fiddler's Journey To The Big Screen is* screening in the Cinemania section of the Jerusalem Film Festival (JFF) which opens today (July 21) in Israel.

Zeitgeist released the film in the US earlier this year.; it has also been sold to Australia (JIFF) and Poland (Canal+).

Meanwhile, Go2Films has taken on sales duties on another Jerusalem festival title, Ruth Walk's *The Partisan With The Leica Camera,* produced by Yael Perlov. The documentary tells the story of a man who discovers that his photographer father, Mundek Lukawiecki, and housewife mother, Hannah Bern, were the commanders of a Polish assassination squad that operated during the Holocaust, assassinating Nazis and collaborators. During the war, as he and Hannah hid out in the forests, Mundek had his Leica camera with him and his photos now give a unique insight into the lives of the partisans.

Go2Films specializes in distribution, marketing and co-production of top Israeli docs, fiction films and TV series as well as international films with Jewish related content.

## Vesttoo Hires Kunihiko Iinuma, Former Vice Chairman of RGA Japan and SBI Insurance Holdings, as General Manager of Vesttoo Japan

TEL AVIV, Israel, Aug. 2, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>Vesttoo</u>, a leading insurance risk transfer and investment platform, announced today the hiring of financial industry executive Kunihiko linuma as General Manager, Vesttoo Japan.

Mr. linuma has over 30 years of experience in the insurance and financial industries and previously held executive positions in large global companies, including, among others, RGA Japan, SBI Insurance Holdings, SBI Life Insurance Company, and UBS. linuma is also a fellow at the Institute of Actuaries Japan and plays a senior role in the examination committee.

"It's my tremendous privilege to announce the opening of Vesttoo's office in Japan, headed by the capable Mr. linuma," said **Yaniv Bertele, CEO and Co-Founder of Vesttoo**. "His outstanding



experience and industry knowledge will be crucial in bringing about the Vesttoo vision of bridging the insurance and capital markets. Japan is an important global economic hub, and we're excited to expand our operations into that area."

"I'm eager to begin my role leading the Vesttoo office in Japan," said **Vesttoo Japan General Manager Mr. linuma**. "Vesttoo's products and services are a natural development in the reinsurance industry and can answer the needs of the Asian financial markets in the current economic environment. It is an honor to work with such a professional team."

Vesttoo has actively expanded its operations since the beginning of the year, announcing new offices in London, Hong Kong, Dubai, and Seoul, in addition to its established bases in Tel Aviv and New York. The company leverages its proprietary AI, its expert team of data scientists, and insurance and asset management professionals to build insurance-linked investment products that connect these two essential markets. It provides insurers with additional sources of capacity and investors with access to uncorrelated investment opportunities, offering a sustainable vision for the future of the industry.

#### About Vesttoo

Vesttoo connects the insurance industry and the capital markets, by combining AI-powered technology with expertise in fintech, insurance, and asset management so that insurers have the capacity they need, and investors have opportunities to diversify their portfolios with uncorrelated low volatility insurance risk.

Since beginning to transact in late 2020, Vesttoo has generated close to \$3.7 billion in capacity. Among its clients are well-established global insurers, renowned financial institutions, and large multinational brokers.



## Israel – Japan August 2022

## Gantz-MOD arrives in Tokyo for visit marking 70 years of diplomatic relations

Defense minister will meet with high-ranking Japanese government and security officials, as well as with US ambassador Rahm Emanuel

By ASH OBEL 29/8/2022



Defense Minister Benny Gantz is in Japan to celebrate 70 years of diplomatic relations between the countries, August 29th, 2022 (Ariel Hermoni/Defense Ministry)

Defense Minister Benny Gantz landed in Tokyo on Monday for an official visit celebrating 70 years of diplomatic relations between Israel and Japan, the first time in a decade an Israeli defense minister is visiting the East Asian nation.

Accompanied by Israeli ambassador to Japan Gilad Cohen, Gantz will conduct meetings with Japanese government and security officials during his visit, including with Cabinet Secretary Matsuno Hirokazu, the second most senior policymaker in Japan behind the prime minister.

According to a Defense Ministry statement, Gantz is also scheduled to meet with US Ambassador to Japan Rahm Emanuel, the Jewish ex-mayor of Chicago and White House chief of staff under former president Barak Obama.



On Monday Gantz will attend a ceremony to honor former Japanese defense minister Nakayama Yasuhide, presenting him with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Israeli government for the "great support he showed the State of Israel," the statement said.

Last week, air force Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Eyal Grinboim conducted a visit to Japan, meeting with Japan's top air force commander General Shunji Izutsu.



The visit was the first involving an IAF official since 1991.

Brig. Gen. Eyal Grinboim meets General Shunji Izutsu, Japan's highest ranking Air Force commander on August 26, 2022 (Israel Defense Forces)

Ties between Israel and Japan have flourished in recent years, particularly with regard to bilateral trade.

In 2021, Japanese firms invested some \$2.9 billion across 85 deals in Israeli companies, almost triple the amount in 2020, according to a study <u>published</u> in January by Harel-Hertz Investment House. In 2015 this figure totaled just \$87 million.

Japan now accounts for 15.8% of all foreign investments in the Israeli tech industry, compared to just 1.8% in 2016, and 12% of the total investment (foreign and Israeli), wrote Elhanan Harel, the founder and president of Harel-Hertz and the author of the report.





Defense Minister Benny Gantz is in Japan to celebrate 70 years of diplomatic relations between the countries, August 29th, 2022 (Ariel Hermoni/Defense Ministry)

Harel attributed the growth in economic integration between the two countries to the increasing volatility of the Chinese market following the US-China trade war, with Israeli investors seeing Japan as a safer alternative in East Asia.



## Meeting between Foreign Minister Hayashi and Mr. Gantz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense of the State of Israel

August 30, 2022



On August 30th, commencing at 4:00 PM for approximately 30 minutes, Mr. HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Benjamin Gantz, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defense of the State of Israel. The overview is as follows:

- 1. At the outset, Minister Hayashi welcomed the visit of Deputy Prime Minister Gantz, mentioning that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Japan and Israel. Deputy Prime Minister Gantz once again offered his condolences on the passing of former Prime Minister Abe. In response, Minister Hayashi expressed his gratitude for the sympathies from Deputy Prime Minister Gantz.
- 2. Both Ministers discussed the need for collaboration by the international community in the wake of Russia's aggression against Ukraine. They also exchanged views on the situation in East Asia and concurred to continue to work together.
- 3. During the discussion over the situation in the Middle East, Minister Hayashi reiterated Japan's support for a "two-state solution," and expressed his hope that confidence building measures respectively taken by Israeli and Palestinian sides would lead to easing of tensions in the region. In response, Deputy Prime Minister Gantz shared Israeli views on the situation in the region, including Iran and the Middle East Peace.



# Benny Gantz signs Israel-Japan defense cooperation deal in Tokyo

The agreement, which will allow the two countries to promote defense and military projects, topped off what Gantz hailed as a significant visit to the United States and Tokyo.

By ANNA AHRONHEIM Updated: AUGUST 30, 2022 16:27

<u>Defense Minister Benny Gantz</u> has signed a memorandum for defense cooperation with his Japanese counterpart Yasukazu Hamada which will enable the two countries to widen defense, strategic and military exchanges.

"Our countries share a common goal – defending our homes, and seeking peace and stability. Cooperation between Israel and Japan in developing technology and sharing knowledge will enable us to achieve our common vision," Gantz said.

In 2019, Japan and Israel signed a defense memorandum of understanding to strengthen defense relations between the two and the agreement signed on Tuesday had a number of additions that allows for the expansion of cooperation in a variety of fields including

According to Gantz, with the agreement "we open the doors to technological cooperation, information-sharing, military-to-military activities, and industrial ventures. These activities will strengthen the defense capabilities of each country, as well as our joint contribution to peace and stability in our regions and the world."



During his visit to Japan, Gantz held talks with top officials including Chief Cabinet Secretary Matsuno Hirokazu, National Security Adviser Akiba Takeo and Minister of Foreign Affairs



HAYASHI Yoshimasa. Gantz also held a meeting with US Ambassador to Japan, Rahm Emmanuel.

The visit comes "in order to build a framework for greater defense cooperation and strategic ties between the countries," the Defense Ministry said.

His visit not only marks 70 years of diplomatic ties between Jerusalem and Tokyo but is the first time in over a decade that an Israeli defense minister has visited Japan.

"This visit is central to further deepening our partnership and working together to promote a more stable, secure and free world," Gantz tweeted when he arrived.

Israel, Japan discuss strategic defense cooperation

Among the topics discussed during the meetings was strategic defense cooperation between Israel and Japan in light of regional and global challenges.

Under former prime mininister <u>Shinzo Abe</u> who was <u>assassinated in July</u>, ties between the two countries flourished with dozens of agreements signed in the fields of innovation and science, security, agriculture, cyber, sport, industrial R&D and more.

## According to a study by the Harel-Hertz Investment House, Japanese investment in Israeli firms also increased from some \$87 million in 2015 to \$2.9 billion in 2021.

Prior to Abe's assassination, he had been pushing hard to double the country's defense budget and reduce restrictions on the military after decades of pacifism following World War II. His nationalist government was also influenced by China's growing power and aggression as well as by North Korea. With Russia's invasion of Ukraine, there is concern that Beijing might be emboldened to attack neighboring Taiwan, which in turn would affect Tokyo.

Gantz aims for 'united international front' against Iran

According to Gantz, <u>the war in Ukraine</u> has influenced and shifted the perception of security of many countries that in recent years have invested less in security and more in other fields.

"Now they understand that war is not a theoretical threat, it is something that can happen," he said.

The defense minister also discussed the threat posed by Iran's nuclear program and told reporters that Tokyo does not want Tehran to have nuclear weapons and that any agreement should guarantee that.



"Global stability is threatened by Iran's nuclear program and malign activities. I have just returned from a visit to our close, shared ally – the United States, where I discussed the nuclear agreement with Iran. This threat requires a united international front led by the US," Gantz said.

Japan's current Prime Minister Kishida Fumio increased the country's defense budget from 1 percent of the GDP to 2 percent over a five-year period, turning Japan into the world's third largest defense spender.

According to *the Japan Times*, in its initial budget for fiscal 2022, Tokyo earmarked a total of ¥5.4 trillion for defense spending.

**Defense Attaché to Japan Alon Yehoshua** said that Japan is looking to upgrade its military and procurement in a variety of fields following developments across the world.

"Israel sees this as an opportunity both because of the relationship with the US and because of the technological capabilities that Japan has," he said, adding that during the meetings officials discussed the issue of cyber alot as "the Japanese have a great interest in promoting cooperation."

According to Yehousha, there have been "a number of fundamental changes" that have happened in the past year and a half, including the sending of an attaché that provides direct contact between Israeli and Japanese security officials and defense ministries. Japan, he said, has sent two attaches to Israel, a move that "reflects a genuine desire of the Japanese to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries."

Japan, which had traditionally aligned itself with the Arab world due to it being Tokyo's main oil producer, has shown "greater willingness to cooperate with Israel" since the signing of the Abraham Accords, Yehousha continued, adding that the historic agreement signed in 2020 "also opens up possibilities for us."

Last week, Israel Air Force Chief of Staff Brig.-Gen. Eyal Grinboim conducted an official visit to Japan, meeting with Japan's top air force commander General Shunji Izutsu. It was the first time that an IAF official visited the country since 1991.



# Israel's MOD visits Japan: A potential milestone? | Opinion

**Guest writer Elchanan Harel**, an investment consultant and expert on the Japanese and Israeli markets, analyzes the growing cooperation between both countries as they face new threats and shifting geopolitics

#### IsraelDefense | 28/08/2022

He may love Sushi, but that's not the reason Israel's Minister of Defense Benny Gantz, is heading to Japan today (Sunday) on the first official defense mission ever.

Gantz, who just wrapped up meetings in the US with top American Security officials in lastminute efforts to raise Israel's case and concerns ahead of resurrecting the nuclear deal with Iran, flew straight from Washington, DC to Tokyo on Saturday evening, to meet his Japanese counterpart.

Japan and Israel's defense relations have always been minor, albeit not nonexistent. Japan's pacifist doctrine was opposite to Israel's never-ending commitment to secure its presence and survival.

This has slowly changed, over the last decade.

Geopolitical developments and new threats in the Pacific rim, as well as dramatic developments in the Middle East, have contributed to stepping up the bilateral dialogue on security matters.

Consequential to their mutual interest and needs, in September 2019 Israel and Japan signed a <u>defense Memorandum of Understanding</u> to allow discreet flow of information and to strengthen defense relations between the two.

Another important agreement for cooperation was on the cyber security front.

Over the past year, new strategic alignments have been created to answer new security needs and confront escalating territorial threats.

Japan has intensified its strategic cooperation with the USA, Australia, the UK and India, in order to safeguard its interest in East Pacific and prevent China's escalating declarations.



Israel, at the other end of Asia, has deepened its understandings and collaboration with India and the UAE to answer expanding Iranian terrorist threats and to prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear state.

As it seems, Minister Gantz has many topic to discuss and much to offer:

- 1. Intensify the intelligence exchange to fight against the North Korean-Iranian "Axis of Evil".
- 2. Discuss possible cooperation in anti-missile defense, as North Korea's intimidations becomes riskier. Israel's multi-layer defense systems and technology has proven its outstanding efficiency in numerous adverse and grievous cases.
- 3. As China is speeding up its economic cooperation with Iran, avoiding international economic sanctions, Israel might wish to prevent the transfer of technologies that may contribute to Iran's military establishment.
- 4. As Israel and Japan's defense industries both have their own advantages and expertise, intensifying cooperation is mutually beneficial on the short and long run.
- 5. Cybersecurity warfare is constantly on the rise and has already become a major strategic threat to national infrastructures and utilities, as well as to industry, finance and commerce. Japan is in constantly being threatened and attacked on this front by North Korea, China and Russia. As Israel is a global leader in cyber warfare, deepening bilateral collaboration may provide immediate assistance on this front.
- 6. Immediate international conflicts such as in the case of Taiwan and the Persian Gulf need diplomatic, intelligence, and strategic platforms. Israel and Japan should establish all of these on the ministerial level.

Thus, Minister Gantz's visit to Japan may be a very important milestone in the development of strategic relations between the two countries.

As the two countries celebrate 70 years of diplomatic relations, it's time to add a new important dimension to their ever-growing levels of cooperation



### Japan's Aichi region eyeing Israeli startups for partnerships with large leading local corporations

KPMG Israel, in cooperation with Start-Up Nation Central and the Israel Innovation Authority, is partnering with the region to launch a collaboration program that would promote the creation of business connections between large leading corporations from Aichi and Israeli startups

#### CTech14:53, 25.08.22

KPMG Israel, in cooperation with Start-Up Nation Central and the Israel Innovation Authority, is partnering with the Aichi Prefecture in Japan to assist leading Japanese companies with technological collaborations and open innovation activities in Israel.

During a visit of the Governor of Aichi Prefecture to Israel in May, an agreement was signed to launch a collaboration program between the countries that would promote the creation of business connections between large leading corporations from the Aichi region and Israeli startups. The cooperation will begin this September with the initiative of the Japanese governor accompanied by the global firm KPMG and in cooperation with the Innovation Authority and Start-Up Nation Central.

In recent years, there has been an increasing understanding in Israel that the Japanese market represents a tremendous opportunity for Israeli companies to enter the Asian continent. In 2021, Japanese companies invested almost \$3 billion in Israeli startups and positioned Japan as a significant target market for Israeli companies. Meanwhile, Japanese multinational companies have entered Israel in recent years.

The program was created to promote successful collaborations between groundbreaking Israeli startups and international Japanese companies.

As part of the collaboration, **Aichi-Israel Matching program**, which will be launched this September, will be conducted in an "open innovation model" process in which Israeli startups with groundbreaking solutions will be connected to leading Japanese companies in the fields of climate, industry 4.0, smart mobility and health-tech. As part of the program, which is carried out with the support of the global accounting and consulting firm KPMG, Israel and Japan will select between September and December between 15-30 Israeli startups that would present



their technological solutions to representatives of the Japanese government and companies who will arrive in Israel in January-February 2023.

In order to maximize the chances of success of the collaborations, the Japanese companies will undergo mentoring, relevant workshops about the Israeli market and open innovation, as well as accompanying business, technological and cultural mediation between the selected startups and the Japanese companies so that they will build together a successful business plan for a POC project.

Aichi Governor Mr. Ohmura Hideaki: "We believe Aichi Prefecture's industrial potential and economy strategy matches well with the innovation that Israeli startups can bring. This project aims to revitalize the industry by bringing together the strengths of both sides, and is expected to bring significant benefits to both countries. Through this project, we would like to make every effort to further deepen economic exchange between Aichi Prefecture companies and Israeli startups."

KPMG Israel: "We are happy and excited to accompany leading companies with their innovation processes. The initiative will bring great value to all participants in the program and will contribute to the entire technology sector through increasing investments and expanding collaborations between the economies of Japan and Israel."

Director Of Global Partnerships at Start-Up Nation Central, Emma Vardimon: "Start-Up Nation Central specialized in connecting international organizations and large organizations to Israeli innovation in a structured and adapted process. At the same time, we would direct the most suitable technologies for business success and to strengthen the innovation activity of our partners in Japan"

The CEO of the Israel Innovation Authority, Dror Bin: "We are very pleased to embark on this collaboration with Aichi Prefecture and for extending the technological innovation collaboration between Israel and Japan. The Israel Innovation Authority is proud to be part of creating platforms that enable Israeli startups with breakthrough technologies in numerous fields to connect and collaboration with Japanese corporates that will offer them investment opportunities, technological collaborations and exposure to international markets as well as enable global business development networks."



## Japanese Official Calls for Trilateral Security Agreement with Israel, U.S.



Tuesday, August 2, 2022 Washington Sun

JERUSALEM — With tensions rising in Asia, one of Shinzo Abe's top former advisers, during a visit to the Jewish state, is calling for a trilateral defense partnership between Japan, America, and Israel.

**Yasuhide Nakayama** is the highest-profile Japanese figure to visit Israel since the assassination of Prime Minister Abe three weeks ago. Currently out of government, Mr. Nakayama was in Israel for a parley promoting private-sector ties between the nations.

Mr. Nakayama served as deputy defense minister under Abe, and says he had a "very close" relationship with the late leader.

"I was at the hospital with him that night," Mr. Nakayama said. He drove 40 minutes from Osaka and spent the night at Abe's bedside. Both men come from Japanese political dynasties, and they were the third generation of their respective families to serve together in the National Diet, Japan's parliament.

Mr. Nakayama, as president of the Japan-Israel Parliamentary League, played a role in Abe's pivot toward Israel and the strengthening of ties between the two nations. The Israeli ambassador at Tokyo, Gilad Cohen, once called the late prime minister "the architect of modern Israeli relations with Japan."

"He really considered himself a true friend of Israel," Mr. Cohen told the Sun. Abe was "influenced" by Israeli high tech and the country's deployment of emergency resources to help Japan in the aftermath of the 2011 tsunami.



Abe visited Israel twice and hosted Prime Minister Netanyahu in Japan. Under his leadership, the nations signed more than 16 agreements — including investment pacts for cyber-security and agricultural technology. According to the American Jewish Committee, Japanese investment in Israel during Abe's second term increased to more than \$6 billion from \$20 million.

"He told me, 'Everything related to Israel — it depends on you, you are responsible," Mr. Nakayama recalled Abe saying. Mr. Nakayama was part of the Japanese prime minister's first delegation to Israel in 2015 and planned much of the trip.

Mr. Nakayama is now calling for a trilateral security agreement between Japan, Israel, and America. He sees a defense-technology alliance between the three nations as the best way to counter the resources of Communist China, whose new aircraft capabilities made a big splash in June.

"Israel has very good tech, the U.S. is very good at technology in other ways. But Japan is very good at manufacturing," Mr. Nakayama said.

Mr. Nakayama is currently a venture partner focusing on Israeli high-tech startups, as well as a research adviser to the Diet, focused on game-changing technologies. His firm has invested in an Israeli drone technology company, XTend, that produces devices used by the Navy SEALs and NATO.

"Now we are trying to move the headquarters of XTend to Japan and also assemble everything ... in Japan, then export to the U.S.," Mr. Nakayama said. Innovators, he explained, love the "precision" and speed of Japanese manufacturing.

He points to the F-35 stealth fighter as an example of Japan's manufacturing prowess. American manufacturers take seven days to apply the stealth paint, whereas Japanese manufacturers can complete the job in 2.5 days.

Cyber warfare is an important front for Japanese-Israeli collaboration, Mr. Nakayama says. Because of cybersecurity attacks, China can now attack Japan without touching Japanese soil, he says. He also points to space and electromagnetic warfare as key areas of potential defense collaboration.

"I am Mr. Israel in Japan," Mr. Nakayama said of his reputation for supporting the Jewish state. His views, however, are not shared by all in Japan, which has long been wary of alienating Israel's enemies.



Mr. Nakayama came under fire for a tweet supporting Israel in its 2021 war with Hamas. "Our hearts are with Israel," he said in a since-deleted tweet that also referred to Hamas as "terrorists," breaking with the common Japanese rhetoric that supports de-escalation on both sides.

Japan's caution is partly because of its dependence on foreign oil. During the boycott by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, Japan suffered, and subsequently invested in diplomatic relations with Arab states. Now, because of the Abraham Accords, these concerns are mostly moot.

"Once a businessman may have thought if you do business with Israel, you'll hurt your business with Saudi Arabia or the Emirates, but it's no longer that way," the Israeli ambassador to Japan, Mr. Cohen, said.

Japan also imported about 4 percent of its oil from Israel's greatest strategic threat, Iran, until the Trump administration reinstated sanctions against the Islamic Republic in 2019.

Mr. Nakayama, however, foresees a deterioration of Japanese-Iranian relations as people realize the strength of Iranian-North Korean relations — particularly their collaboration on nuclear missile technology.

Israel has also come under criticism for Communist Chinese control of its Haifa Port, but Israel recently rejected a Chinese bid to build a new light rail in Tel Aviv, though the Chinese had offered the lowest price of all prospective builders. That signals a turning point in its strategic alignment, according to Mr. Nakayama.

Japan and Israel, Mr. Cohen says from Tokyo, "are really on the same side as the United States, with the West, with the peace-loving democracies that have to work together to maintain peace and stability in the world."



### 634AI's is a part of SixAI sign agreement with Musashi Seimitsu

634AI, the Israeli developers of MAESTRO, an AI-enabled control tower for indoor mobility management, and Musashi Seimitsu, a global tier-1 auto part manufacturer, have signed an agreement to deploy 200 Autonomous Mobile Robots (AMRs), powered by MAESTRO, across Musashi Seimitsu's 35 manufacturing facilities worldwide. 634AI's MAESTRO powered AMRs will be used to automate Musashi Seimitsu's intra logistics operation and increase the safety and efficiency of activity on its manufacturing floors.

Musashi Seimitsu, a global transmission gear manufacturer, is a major shareholder in 634AI. After two years of testing 634AI's MAESTRO in live manufacturing facilities in Japan, Musashi Seimitsu will be rolling out 634AI's AMRs under the management of MAESTRO over the next four years.

634AI is part of the SixAI family, helping to bring advanced technology and responsible artificial intelligence (AI) into traditional industries. SixAI products are designed to improve productivity and better serve people around the world. Established by Israeli entrepreneur Ran Poliakine, the company solves manufacturing and distribution shortcomings by providing solutions that raise productivity and lowers costs. SixAI introduces technology integration in legacy industries and acquires companies in both local and international markets, mainly in the fields of AI, robotics, green energy, cyber and fintech. SixAI has a strategic partnership with the Japanese corporation Musashi Seimitsu.

MAESTRO is 634AI's proprietary AI-powered centralized control tower that enables effective and harmonized indoor operations. MAESTRO offers a constant visual mapping of the entire floor, ensuring hazards and obstacles are recognized and prevented. Alongside 634AI's AMRs, MAESTRO can track raw material movements, provide productivity and utilization data of forklifts as well as provide safety alerts for forklift drivers, and even navigate the movement of heterogeneous AMR fleets. With MAESTRO, Musashi Seimitsu plans to have a more automated intra logistics operation and better coordinated activity, where man-driven forklifts, employees, and robots can operate in sync and with greater safety.

Musashi Seimitsu's global presence includes manufacturing facilities in Japan, Germany, US, Canada, India, China, Brazil, Mexico, Hungary, Spain, Thailand, Indonesia and Vietnam.



"We have been heavily investing in automation and AI capabilities over the past few years, with a vision to create a more humane workplace where people no longer carry out tedious, repetitive, unrewarding tasks," noted Isaku Takeshi, Managing Executive Officer of Musashi Seimitsu. "

"MAESTRO's global deployment with Musashi Seimitsu is a major leap forward for our company," said Oren Levy, CEO of 634AI. "It is a mark of trust and confidence in our ability to deliver an effective logistics automation solution in a real, busy industrial environment. Our computer vision-based AMRs powered by a central floor management brain and collaboration with Musashi confirm the distinct advantages of our technology in complex, dynamic industrial environments, and point the way forward for the rest of the industry."

#### About Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd

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 35 manufacturing sites in 14 countries spreading across Europe, North and South America, China, and SouthEast 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 Tier 1s. 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 SixAl

SixAI, which was established by the entrepreneur Ran Poliakine, is engaged in making Israeli and international technologies accessible to the world of traditional industry, with a focus on AI technologies. The company identifies problems in the world of industry and provides them with technological solutions through development, integration and acquisition of companies in the local and international market, mainly in the fields of artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, green energy, cyber and fintech. The company has a strategic partnership with the Japanese corporation Musashi Seimitsu. In addition, the company has signed an exclusive agreement with the Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) – to establish a joint corporation whose goal is to locate military technologies and convert them to civilian uses, as independent start-up companies. The



company's offices are located in the technology incubator established by Ran Poliakine in Neve Ilan, Israel.

### Teva-Takeda offload Generic Manufacturing plant to Nichi-Iko in Japanese venture reshuffle

https://www.fiercepharma.com/ 30.7.2022

Israeli drugmaker Teva and Japan's Takeda have undergone separate, years long cutback sprees, looking to slice away a range of underperforming assets. Now, the two drug-makers will take a scalpel to their joint venture in Japan as they continue to hunt for savings.

Teva and Takeda's Japanese venture will <u>offload</u> most of its generics portfolio and a manufacturing site to Nichi-Iko Pharmaceutical as the partners "shift focus" to a smaller core of specialty drugs and targeted generics, Teva said Thursday.

The strategic shift follows an "in-depth review of market opportunities" five years after the joint venture's launch, Teva said. The partners plan to close the sale by early 2021.

Teva didn't specify how much of the venture's portfolio would be sold off but did say the partners would retain around 20 small-molecule generic drugs and "several" pipeline assets. The two companies will also market a range of specialty drugs and authorized generics.

The joint venture downsizing comes months after Teva wrapped up a multiyear restructuring that closed down facilities around the globe and cut around 13,000 jobs.

By December, Teva had not only sliced away those employees. It had also either shut down, sold or earmarked for disposal 23 manufacturing sites and shuttered 40 offices and laboratories.

That \$3 billion scale-back plan was the centerpiece of Teva's new strategy under CEO Kåre Schultz, enticed away from Lundbeck in November 2017 to help steer the ship after years of disastrous financial leadership.



Meanwhile, Takeda has also been shedding assets in recent years, selling off whole swaths of commercial medicines to hit its goal of cutting annual operating costs and retiring debt it took on to buy Shire in January 2019.

### IN Venture raises \$150 million fund to invest in Israeli deep-tech startups

The new Sumitomo backed fund was launched two years after the VC raised a \$100 million first fund,

Sophie Shulman 08:30, 01.08.22

**IN Venture, a Sumitomo Corporation backed venture** fund that invests in deep-tech early stage Israeli startups, has raised \$150 million for its second fund.

The new fund was launched two years after IN Venture raised its first \$100 million fund. The VC's first fund has made seven investments to date, including in quantum computing startup Classiq, visual content creation platform Bria, as well as Ottopia, which is developing solutions for remote operation of vehicles, and H2Pro, which is developing cheaper hydrogen fuel produced by sustainable energy.

IN Venture has also already registered one exit from its initial set of investments, with digital asset-focused cybersecurity company GK8 being acquired by Israel-American crypto company Celsius, long before its collapse, for \$115 million.

IN Venture was founded by Managing Partners Eitan Naor and Eyal Rosner.

Rosner is a former chairman and director of administration for the Alternative Fuels Initiative in the Israeli Prime Minister's Office. Naor is the former CEO of ECI Telecom subsidiary ECtel and former CEO of TTI Telcom, while also previously serving as Amdocs VP of Customer Care and Billing.

Japanese conglomerate Sumitomo employs around 74,000 people in 135 countries across the globe. The corporation is active in numerous industries, including steel, air travel, transport, energy, telecommunication, minerals, and chemicals.



# Theranica raises \$45M for migraine digital therapeutic

#### **Corundum VC continues to invest in Theranica**

The startup plans to use the funding to expand in the U.S.

By Emily Olsen August 29, 2022

<u>Theranica</u>, an Israeli prescription digital therapeutics developer focused on migraine care, announced today that it has scored \$45 million in Series C funding.

The round was led by New Rhein Healthcare Investors with participation from aMoon, Lightspeed Venture Partners, LionBird, Takoa Invest and Corundum Open Innovation.

The startup announced a <u>\$35 million Series B round of funding in 2019</u> and a <u>\$6 million Series A</u> <u>in 2017</u>. Theranica said it will extend its Series C round of financing, with a final close planned for October.

The company offers **Nerivio**, a device worn on the arm that delivers low energy electrical pulses and pairs with a smartphone app. The wearable is worn for 45 minutes at the onset of a migraine and aims to trigger a conditioned pain modulation response to alleviate symptoms. The app can control the device's intensity, monitor treatment duration, and pause or stop the device. It also serves as a "migraine diary" that can be shared with healthcare providers.

Nerivio received FDA De Novo clearance in 2019, and later received green lights from the agency to expand its use to people with chronic migraines and adolescents.

Theranica plans to use the capital from the Series C to expand its presence in the U.S.

"Over the last couple of years, we have verified the three fundamental conditions of a successful new prescribed therapy in the U.S.: healthcare providers have confidence in prescribing our Nerivio for treating migraine, patients get <u>significant clinical benefit</u> from using it and payers realize the importance of providing their insured members with access to this therapy. With this triad demonstrated, we needed the appropriate funding to unleash the huge potential of Nerivio in the U.S.," Alon Ironi, CEO of Theranica, said in a statement.



Migraines are relatively common, <u>affecting about 12% of the U.S. population</u>. They're more prevalent in women and <u>can be disabling</u>, with some sufferers reporting severe impairment in activities such as work or school.

## Japanese-funded water network expansion project inaugurated in a village near Ramallah

RAMALLAH, Wednesday, August 10, 2022 (WAFA) – Japan's Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative to Palestine, Masayuki Magoshi, yesterday inaugurated a Japan-funded water network expansion project in Kobar village, northwest of Ramallah.

**Representative Office of Japan to Palestine** said in a press statement that Magoshi visited the village to celebrate the completion of the project funded by the Government of Japan through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The Government of Japan extended a grant of \$89,175 to Kobar Municipality to improve access to water in the village by installing 2,100 meters of galvanized steel pipes in eight suburb areas that were not connected to the water network.

Upon the completion of the project, 65 households will have access to the water network and solve the water issues for these areas.

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

Since 1993 the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance to approximately \$2.2 billion to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through the Ministry of Finance and Planning since 2010.



## Israel – Japan September 2022 Japan To Purchase Combat Drones In 2023, Acquire Several Hundred From 2025 -Reports

The Yomiuri Shimbun - 16:36 JST, September 14, 2022

The Defense Ministry is planning to introduce Israeli- and U.S.-made attack drones to Self-Defense Force units on a trial basis in fiscal 2023 to strengthen the defense of remote islands, according to government sources.

From fiscal 2025 onward, the ministry plans to deploy several hundred attack drones, including drones manufactured in Japan, several sources said.

Attack drones have been used by the Ukrainian military for counterstrikes against Russian forces, achieving significant results while limiting human casualties. The Japanese government has concluded that this will help strengthen its deterrence capabilities.

The government plans to deploy the drones mainly in the Nansei Islands. In the event of an emergency, it envisions their being used to attack enemy naval vessels approaching the islands and enemy forces attempting to land. The drones are also expected to be used for vigilance and surveillance at garrisons and bases.

The Israeli-made Harop drone and the U.S.-made Switchblade are expected to be introduced. The Harop is approximately 2.5 meters in length and can fly for nine hours, while the Switchblade is just about 36 centimeters long and easy to carry but can only fly for 15 minutes.

Both of these unmanned aerial vehicles can fly into the enemy and inflict damage. The Switchblade was recently provided to the Ukrainian military by U.S. forces.

The Turkish-made TB2 and other tactical unmanned aerial vehicle systems that can attack with onboard missiles are also being considered.



The SDF units will test the usefulness of each system, aiming to deploy them on a full-scale basis. The ministry also hopes to support the development of domestically produced attack drones.

The unmanned aerial systems currently owned by the SDF include the large Global Hawk reconnaissance aircraft and the small ScanEagle, both manufactured in the United States. But they are only for surveillance, reconnaissance and intelligence gathering.

China has been aggressively pursuing maritime advances and is said to be focusing on the development and deployment of unmanned attack aircraft. It has been pointed out that the SDF has been slow to respond.

The Japanese government is working to specify its policy for actively introducing and utilizing various types of unmanned aircraft, including attack drones, in three documents scheduled to be revised at the end of the year, including the National Security Strategy.

The Defense Ministry has indicated for the first time its policy to develop an unmanned aerial attack system in its budgetary request for fiscal 2023. The ministry plans to make a "request by item" that does not specify the amount of money at the budgetary request stage, with the number of unmanned aerial vehicles to be introduced and the budget to be finalized by the end of the year

### El Al to begin Tel Aviv-Tokyo flights in March

JERUSALEM, Sept 19 (Reuters) - El Al Israel Airlines (ELAL.TA) said on Monday it will start direct flights from Tel Aviv to Tokyo from next March, two years after the launch was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The airline has been looking to expand eastbound flights since its second-quarter results showed a rebound from the slump in travel during the pandemic. <u>read more</u>

The plan has been buoyed by Saudi Arabia's announcement, during a visit by U.S. President Joe Biden in July, that it would allow overhead flights by all foreign carriers. That would spell shorter flight times for Israeli planes headed to Asia.



## Japan's startup landscape grows as it reaches abroad

#### BY JOSEPH BODENHEIMER JAPAN STRATEGY ADVISER, VENTURE INVESS JAPAN TIMES Sep 20, 2022

Japanese investors are opening up to and actively seeking investment opportunities from all around the world, and they are turning to new platforms for access to domestic and overseas startups. Together, these startups enjoy accelerated growth while partnered Japanese investors see strong returns in new industries or from companies leveraging new sustainable technologies applied to traditional industries.

Not only financial firms, but also government agencies and accelerators are increasing interest in foreign startups. Even Japanese universities are growing internal entities that focus on startups and innovation. Top institutions such as **Tokyo University**, **Kyoto University** and financial powerhouses like **Sumitomo Mistui Banking Corp. and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial** Group are names recognized in this growing community. Naturally, many overseas startup representatives are visiting Tokyo to present ideas and search for funding opportunities.

Startups, together with an astute and savvy Japan investor base, are cultivating deeper ties and nurturing innovation in medical and financial technology, the Internet of Things and much more, fostering growth in these numerous areas and inspiring much-needed innovation in the Japanese economy.

With this growing interest in new startups, events that lead to new connections and relationships are important. On March 17 of this year, a group of Israeli venture capital firms presented their best selection of startups to interested Japanese and international thought leaders in Japan. Organized by Daniel Kolbar, minister of economic affairs from the Embassy of Israel, and Joseph Bodenheimer, founder of Venture Invess, this event kicked off a series of meetings and exchanges.

"While the number of Israeli-based startups has increased dramatically, Japanese investors have eagerly embraced the corresponding opportunities. Note that 2021 saw a record of nearly \$3 billion investment from Japan in Israeli high tech, representing nearly 16% of total foreign investment. The recent event provided a platform for startups and investors that accelerates the



investment process and builds relationships. It was a pleasure co-hosting the event with Joseph of Venture Invess, and we look forward to continue working together," Kolbar said.

"For any venture capitalists, including MPower Partners, Israel is a fascinating country to watch for its robust startup ecosystem. The event was immensely useful and informative, especially at a time when traveling was virtually impossible. We made many useful contacts and already look forward to future events," said Yumiko Murakami, general manager of MPower Partners.

#### Friendly, culturally acceptable

Reading a pitch deck online has limited utility. Ultimately, meeting founders face-to-face to hear their story and feel their passion is incredibly important when investing in early-stage companies that are pre-revenue and still developing a minimum viable product.

For over 30 years, Japanese companies have been enamored with technology companies in Israel. Fostering a highly diplomatic relationship, Japan has interacted with Israel in a way that benefits both countries in the near and long terms. While there remain challenges to curating and tailoring endless waves of information on startups, a growing number of investor groups are eager to build relationships with actionable startup ideas directly or via venture capital groups.

Japan as a country is known for studying and deep-dive learning, which makes the vetting process a long one. However, once strong relationships and trust are established, opportunities and the subsequent actions come to fruition.

Makio Inui, a venture financier, added: "To those who have the toolkit to remove the vail of cultural eccentricity and communication challenge posed by what is largely a monolingual society, the appeal of the Japanese startup asset class is irresistible. Smart money knows Japanese venture."

It is becoming clear that a key component of making decisions from quality information is building a startup culture, one that encourages organizing meetings, presentations, events and even userfriendly websites to enhance a deeper understanding of startups across the board.

While Japan has become a popular destination for global startups who seek to build mutually beneficial investor relationships, language barriers and cultural differences may still be a challenge. Startups that are patient, especially those committed to building strong interpersonal relationships, find success. We achieved our goal by building an investor ecosystem that is eager to engage and learn more about startups and their technologies. "Building a powerful ecosystem of thought leaders and investor relationships takes years but is well worth the effort, as Japanese



engage and open up to those who embrace sustainability and long-term investments," said Bodenheimer.

### Taranis Raises \$40 Million Series D to Advance Crop Intelligence and Unlock Growth Opportunities for Agribusinesses

## Hitachi Ventures and Sumitomo's Presidio Ventures take part in this Financial Round

WESTFIELD, Ind. and TEL AVIV, Israel, Sept. 7, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Taranis, the leading Alpowered crop intelligence provider, announced today that it has raised \$40 million in Series D funding. The round was led by Inven Capital, a European climate tech fund, with participation from new investors Seraphim Space Investment Trust ('SSIT') and Farglory Group, and strong backing from existing investors: Vertex Growth, Viola Ventures, Vertex Ventures Israel, La Maison Partners, Hitachi Ventures, K3 Ventures, UMC Capital, OurCrowd, Micron Ventures, iAngels Ventures, Presidio Ventures (Sumitomo), Cavallo Ventures (Wilbur Ellis), Finistere Ventures, and Eyal Gura. This latest round brings Taranis' total funding to \$100 million.

"We see a tremendous need for crop intelligence at scale as growers deal with soaring costs and a constant need to increase productivity and yield," said Ofir Schlam, Taranis' President & Co-Founder. "Over 100 agricultural retailers and advisors are sharing our journey as innovation partners. They rely on Taranis as the critical source of insights into crop health and threats across millions of acres, to drive better outcomes for their growers."

Taranis' crop intelligence platform uniquely leverages leaf-level imagery and is powered by cutting-edge machine learning, trained by the industry's largest crop dataset containing over 200 million AI-data points. In the most recent growing season, Taranis delivered millions of actionable insights to ag advisors and growers, empowering decision making, simplifying crop management, and improving their bottom line.

Petra Sokolová, Investment Manager at Inven Capital, said: "Inven Capital is delighted to lead this important investment round. Agritech innovations are critical in advancing sustainable



agriculture, making the most efficient use of our Earth's resources, and securing the future of farming. Technologies that facilitate crop intelligence and agricultural carbon credits such as Taranis' solutions have large-scale potential to improve sustainability and enduring prosperity. We are excited about the impact they will have in the local communities they serve, and to support them in their mission."

"Responsibly increasing global food supply is a critical challenge we face today. We have been following the Agritech market for quite some time as we see the value of using Earth observation data to optimize crop yields," said Andre Ronsoehr, Investment Principal at Seraphim Space Manager. "When we discovered Taranis, they immediately stood out to us, given their sub-millimeter imaging capabilities. These images unlock early detection of nutrient deficiencies and diseases which is the key to improving crop yields."

"I'm excited about our growth trajectory," said Bar Veinstein, Taranis' CEO. "The new funding will allow us to accelerate our 3-year plan, rapidly expand our operations, and deliver transformative technology to the market faster.."

#### About Taranis:

Taranis is the world's leading AI-powered crop intelligence platform, 100% focused on helping ag advisors demonstrate value to their growers and build better relationships through full-service, leaf-level data capture that allows them to accelerate decision making, simplify management, and improve their bottom line. Since starting in 2015, Taranis has worked with the world's top agricultural retailers and crop protection companies, serving millions of acres for customers in the United States, Brazil, and Europe. Taranis has offices located in Westfield, Indiana, Tel Aviv, Israel, and Campinas, Brazil.



## SIXAI Launching Massive Global Deployment of Autonomous Mobile Robots in Manufacturing Facilities Worldwide

SIXAI and Musashi Seimitsu drive the frontier of robotics with plans for the worldwide deployment of MAESTRO, an AI-enabled autonomous mobile robot management platform that will direct Autonomous Mobile Robots (AMRs), allowing the redistribution of human workers to more value-added jobs, while strengthening the supply chain.

NEVE ILAN, Israel & TOYOHASHI, Japan--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- SIXAI, the parent company of 634AI, the developers of MAESTRO, announced plans for the worldwide deployment of the most advanced AI-powered mobile robot system within the next few years. North America is among the regions under consideration for early distribution of the AMRs. The worldwide deployment is part of an initial plan to place 200 autonomous mobile robots across 35 global manufacturing facilities owned and operated by the tier-1 auto parts manufacturer Musashi Seimitsu. Within North America, Musashi owns facilities in Battle Creek, Michigan and Arthur, Ontario, and San Luis Potosi, Mexico.

The MAESTRO-orchestrated AMRs will help automate Musashi's operations, which supply parts to the world's top auto and motorcycle manufacturers. MAESTRO features a control tower that provides a bird's eye view of the manufacturing floor and a central AI-powered processing unit that enables a fully coordinated operation—from tracking and tracing the movement of goods and equipment to identifying hazards and obstacles. This new technology creates a safer workforce, where AMRs carry out rigorous and repetitive tasks, while humans handle specialized jobs. The goal is to realize the vision of Industry 4.0, where robots and humans complement one another, freeing up employees to take on jobs that are more fulfilling.

This marriage of man and machine will help solve one of today's most vexing workplace challenges: staffing shortages. MAESTRO has been developed by 634AI to create more automated intra-logistics operations and to better coordinate activity, creating environments where man-driven forklifts, employees, and robots can operate in sync and with greater safety.

"The future is a hybrid job market with robots and AI working in harmony with humans," said SIXAI Founder and CEO Ran Poliakine. "COVID-19 has exposed workforce and supply chain vulnerabilities and has revealed the need for better ways to serve humanity. However, well before the pandemic, we understood the importance of incorporating robots to address workforce



shortages and advance manufacturing. What SIXAI and Musashi are doing today will increase productivity and safety in industries worldwide."

The deployment of AMRs comes after two years of developing and testing MAESTRO in Musashi Seimitsu's manufacturing facilities in Japan. Musashi is a major shareholder in 634AI.

The robots will be deployed in phases, first as a pilot, followed by ramped-up integration over the course of the next several years. The AMRs require low maintenance and cost far less than competing models, making them the optimal choice for companies facing labor shortages and looking for cost-effective solutions.

"We have been heavily investing in automation and AI capabilities over the past few years, with a vision to create a more humane workplace where people no longer carry out tedious, repetitive, unrewarding tasks," said Isaku Takeshi, CIO of Musashi Seimitsu. "634AI's distinct approach for industrial floor management and control allows people and machines to effectively work side-by-side in a much safer environment. We look forward to a fruitful deployment of this next-generation technology across our global manufacturing sites."

SIXAI, together with its partner company Musashi, is also investing in a company that sells AIenabled Visual Control Inspectors to automotive and other manufacturers in Japan to boost their productivity and the accuracy of the inspection process. Manufacturers will have the option to "hire" robots as well.

To see the technology in action click here: https://vimeo.com/748830373

#### About SIXAI:

SIXAI brings advanced technology and AI into traditional industries to improve productivity to better serve people around the world. Established by Israeli entrepreneur Ran Poliakine, the company identifies manufacturing and distribution shortcomings and provides solutions that improve performance and lower cost. SIXAI specializes in technology integration into legacy industries. Captain's Eye, a maritime AI company, is one such enterprise, performing real-time detection of security threats, leaks, safety violations, and cargo movement for shipping companies. SIXAI also acquires companies in the local and international market, mainly in the fields of AI, robotics, green energy, cyber and fintech. SIXAI recently signed an exclusive agreement with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), one of the world's leading military and aerospace manufacturers to identify military technologies that can be converted to civilian use.

#### About Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd:

Musashi Seimitsu Industry Co., Ltd. is a tier-1 global manufacturer of auto parts for automobiles and motorcycles. Headquartered in Toyohashi, Japan, the company has manufacturing sites in



14 countries, including Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Thailand, and Vietnam. 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 634AI:

634AI was founded to enable the greater resilience and business continuity of organizations in an ever-changing world. Our mission is to simplify industrial mobility and allow safer, smarter operations – for everyone, everywhere. The company developed MAESTRO, a Computer Vision and AI-powered control tower that streamlines management of anything mobile on an industrial floor. MAESTRO gives superpowers to the most ordinary industrial space. Its semantic analytics, generated from a panoptic view of the floor, enables customers a fully coordinated operation of anything mobile – be it track and trace movements of goods and equipment, real time safety alerts for man driven vehicles, or navigating fleets of generic autonomous mobile robotic platforms, all through a unified and flexible modular system, with greater safety, at an affordable price. 634AI is on a mission to make a safer and smarter industrial mobility – from the industrial floor to the airport terminal, the warehouse floor or the hospital floor, and beyond.

# Pente Networks raise \$10M A Round to accelerate expansion

#### **Global Brains VC among Investors**

HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY, USA; TEL AVIV, ISRAEL; TORONTO, CANADA; Shibuya-ku, Tokyo; September 20, 2022 – Pente Networks<sup>™</sup>, developer of IT-friendly private enterprise LTE/5G solutions for service providers and end customers, today announced a \$10 million Series A funding round led by INcapital Ventures, with the participation of other notable private investors including existing investor Magma Venture Partners and Global Brain.



The new capital follows a seed round and brings Pente's total investment to date to over \$15 million. The company also announced it has established a North American headquarters in Hackensack, New Jersey, U.S.A., and is expanding its original headquarters in Israel.

Avi Cohen has joined the company as Chief Executive Officer, after co-founding and driving the growth of LiveU, where he most recently served as Chief Operating Officer. LiveU grew from a start-up established in 2006 to a global leader in the IoT live video streaming for TV, mobile, online, and social media content with more than 5,000 customers in over 150 countries.

"Given the success of our solution, the quality of the leadership team, the rapid growth of our global partner ecosystem, the demand forecast by industry experts and analysts, and the support of our board, Pente is well positioned to expand and leverage the rapidly growing 5G market," Cohen said. "I am truly honored and excited to join an amazing crew whose vision, determination, and talents will continue to drive a bigger and more meaningful business."

"We are excited to back Pente Networks and support the company's rapid growth," said Inbar Haham, Co-Founder and Managing Partner at INcapital Ventures "Pente's deep technology solutions are impressive, successfully filling a need in the market for user-friendly 5G private networks. We have high confidence in the leadership team of Pente and their ability to drive the company forward to a market leadership position."

"Pente's potential is limitless as enterprises continue to select private cellular networking in an increasingly 5G world," said **Naoki Kamimaeda**, Partner and Europe Division Head, Global Brain. "Given the leadership team's experience, talent, and commitment, and the benefits of Pente's software-based solution, we are confident Pente will continue to attract world-class partners, system integrators, and distributors and look forward to helping them accelerate growth in Asia, Europe, and North America."

Jonathan Schwartz has been named Chief Technical Officer, a role he has been playing since the inception of the company,

Roy Timor-Rousso has been named Chief Marketing Officer, driving many of the company's strategies in the Americas, including Latin America, as well as in Europe, Asia, and other regions.

Working with MVNOs, WISPs, MSPs, and SIs, Pente has been augmenting and replacing traditional enterprise networks with simplified, ultra-fast, and ultra-secure wireless broadband solutions, including CBRS, as the use of unlicensed spectrum becomes more readily available.

The massive shift in fixed and wireless access and communications, including the simplification of high-speed, highly secure private networks and the related reduction of complexity and costs compared to legacy approaches, is dramatically reshaping the competitive landscape, and



opening new opportunities for challengers to bring better solutions to market compared to legacy approaches.

Pente will continue to expand its core technology dev team in Israel, while focusing on strategy, business development, customer success, sales, and marketing in the U.S., given its successes in the North American region.

#### About Pente Networks

Pente provides an enterprise-grade LTE/5G Mobile Core & Management Platform. Established in 2015, the company is headquartered in Israel and the U.S., with R&D centers in Israel, India, and Eastern Europe. With deep knowledge of telecom and enterprise solutions and experience in building networks and business applications for dozens of enterprises and mobile operators, Pente has a growing partner ecosystem with leading system integrators, service providers, and equipment manufacturers focused on delivering end-to-end, wireless communications solutions to enterprises.

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

#### About Global Brain Corporation

Global Brain supports startups that tackle various problems and create innovation. Our professionals with high achievement and extensive experience discover excellent startups through our multiple global locations and provide growth support through hands-on. The total assets under management is more than 150 billion yen (over \$1 billion USD) making Global Brain the largest domestic independent venture capital firm.



### NanoLock and Renesas Partner to Safeguard Smart Meters

Amidst a worsening threat landscape for energy infrastructures, the partnership between NanoLock and Renesas will guarantee the integrity of Renesas microcontroller units for smart meter manufacturers; Joint solution available to all Renesas customers

**Hod Hasharon, Israel – September 14, 2022 –** <u>NanoLock Security</u>, a leading device-level cybersecurity provider for smart meters and IIoT devices, and <u>Renesas Electronics Corp.</u>, a prominent global semiconductor manufacturer, today announce a partnership to introduce a new platform that will further secure Renesas' customers' smart meters from cyber-attacks. The joint solution from the Israeli cybersecurity company and the Japanese microcontroller unit (MCU) maker will be available to all Renesas customers, including many of the world's leading smart meter manufacturers.

Cyberattacks on energy infrastructure providers and utilities are escalating, with smart meters being a major target for these hacks. A breached smart meter carries the potential for hackers to seize customers' personal data, compromise company revenues, and even impact local area power supply. These attacks can come from outsiders, supply-chain sources, or insiders. Human error is also a major cause of security compromise in IIoT applications. Each of these vectors is made more viable by the continued expansion of smart meter networks to reach ambitious rollout goals.

NanoLock and Renesas have partnered to wholly address these risks with a Zero Trust solution that prevents any and all unauthorized outcomes, regardless of source. This joint solution safeguards consumer privacy, provider revenues, and continuity of energy supply, and complies with recent IIoT security recommendations issued by many national governments. The joint solution will also allow for Renesas to offer cybersecurity monitoring and management capabilities to its customers.

"Smart meters are rolling out to consumers as fast as manufacturers can produce them, and hackers see these devices as high-leverage targets for financial gain," said David Stroud, Head of Europe and APAC, NanoLock Security. "With our partnership, Renesas will now have products with the highest level of protection on the market, providing their smart meter customers protection for their physical and digital infrastructure, customer data, and present and future revenues."



#### **About Renesas Electronics Corporation**

Renesas Electronics Corporation (TSE: 6723) empowers a safer, smarter and more sustainable future where technology helps make our lives easier. A leading global provider of microcontrollers, Renesas combines our expertise in embedded processing, analog, power and connectivity to deliver complete semiconductor solutions. These Winning Combinations accelerate time to market for automotive, industrial, infrastructure and IoT applications, enabling billions of connected, intelligent devices that enhance the way people work and live.

## Japan urges against moves harming Palestinian peace process, including settlements

#### September 28, 2022

Japan's Prime Minister, on Wednesday, urged against any move that would harm the Palestinian peace process, including settlements, *Anadolu News Agency* reports.

Fumio Kishida reaffirmed Japan's support for a two-state solution and "expressed his concern about violence and clashes in various parts of Palestine and Israel" in a meeting in Tokyo with Rami Hamdallah, former Prime Minister of Palestine, a statement by Japan's Foreign Ministry said.

"Emphasising the need to refrain from any unilateral measures that go against the Peace Process, including settlement activities," Kishida said. "Japan will continue to contribute to the realisation of an environment conducive to the advancement of the Middle East Peace."

Hamdallah, on Tuesday, attended the state funeral of former Prime Minister, <u>Shinzo Abe</u>. The two sides also discussed Japan's food assistance amounting to more than \$8 million in response to the deterioration of food security in Palestine due to the situation in Ukraine, as well as Japan's support for Palestine, especially through the Corridor for Peace and Prosperity initiative.



## Japan contributes \$1.5 million in food assistance for Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM, Friday, September 2, 2022 (WAFA) – The Government of Japan Wednesday signed a contribution agreement worth JYP 200,000,000 (approximately US\$ 1.5 million) with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), according to a press statement from the UN agency.

The UN agency said that this important contribution will allow it to continue offering essential inkind food assistance to over one million Palestine refugees in the besieged Gaza Strip, rendered dependent on food aid by repeated cycles of conflict, the continuing blockade and the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I am very happy to share with you that the Government of Japan has decided to contribute JPY 200 million to UNRWA at this critical time. This contribution represents our determined commitment and continued solidarity with Palestine refugees,"Deputy Representative of Japan to Palestine, Takashi Hattori, said.

Welcoming Japan's donation, UNRWA Director of External Relations and Communications, Tamara Alrifai, said: "This generous contribution from the Government of Japan is a proof that solidarity with Palestine refugees comes from near and far. UNRWA thanks Japan for its continued support, which allows for the provision of essential humanitarian support at a time of acute need."

The Japanese donation will allow UNRWA to cover the cost of quarterly in-kind food assistance for 53,940 of the most vulnerable Palestine refugees. Over 68 per cent of households in the besieged Gaza Strip are severely or moderately food-insecure. Some 72 per cent of female adolescents in Gaza suffer from vitamin D deficiency, and 64 per cent suffer from vitamin A deficiency. Any disruption in the delivery of in-kind food assistance would risk further exacerbating these conditions.

The Government of Japan has been a dedicated donor to UNRWA since 1953. In 2021, the Government of Japan was the 5th largest contributor to the Agency. The current contribution is this year's third from Japan to the in-kind food programme in Gaza in 2022, following a US\$ 5 million donation in support of food-dependent Palestine refugees in June. It is thanks to the enduring support of donors like the Government of Japan that the Agency is able to provide vital services to Palestine refugees across the Middle East in the face of continuous challenges.



## Grant signing ceremonies for three GGP projects in Palestine funded by Japan

RAMALLAH, Wednesday, September 7, 2022 (WAFA) - Grant contracts for three Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) were exchanged today by Masayuki Magoshi, Ambassador for the Palestinian Affairs and Representative of Japan to Palestine, and the representatives of SAMED Agricultural Society for Wall Affected, Burin village council, and Yasuf village council, at the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine in Ramallah, for a total amount of \$274,350.

SAMED Agricultural Society for Wall Affected will use a fund of \$89,550 to improve access to electricity by installing solar panel systems in Abu Qatt community and al-Maqathi Bedwin communities in Bethlehem, said a press release issued by the Representative Office of Japan to Palestine.

Burin Village council will use a fund of \$92,500 to improve the medical service in Burin Medical Center by introducing an X-Ray unit and Ultrasound unit.

Yasouf Village Council will use a fund of \$92,300 to ensure the residents' safety by replacing the existing old aerial cables (340m) with new ones, which will prevent power failure. Also, to improve the residents' access to sufficient electricity for using electric appliances by installing an electric adapter, and connecting between the new adapter and the existing main cable with the new underground cable (610m).

Masayuki Magoshi congratulated, the three organizations, and wished them success in their projects. He emphasized Japan's firm commitment to supporting the Palestinian people from a human security perspective as well as the importance of implementing social and economic development projects needed for Palestinian communities.

Since 1993 the Government of Japan has extended its official development assistance amounting to approximately \$2.2 billion, to the Palestinians. GGP projects have been formulated in collaboration with the Palestinian Authority through the Ministry of Finance and Planning since 2010.



## Japan, Jordan confirm strong cooperation during summit talk

ARAB NEWS JAPAN September 28, 202217:51

#### King Abdullah II expressed his heartfelt condolences for the passing of former Prime Minister Abe. The two leaders exchanged views on the regional situation including the Middle East Peace

TOKYO: Japan's Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio, held a summit meeting on September 28 with King Abdullah II of Jordan, who is currently in Japan after attending the state funeral for former Prime Minister ABE Shinzo.

At the outset of the meeting that lasted 10 minutes according to the foreign ministry in Tokyo, Kishida expressed his appreciation for the king's attendance at the state funeral and expressed his hope to hold discussions to further develop the diplomatic legacy inherited from the late former Prime Minister Abe.

King Abdullah II expressed his heartfelt condolences for the passing of former Prime Minister Abe, and stated that late former Prime Minister Abe was a great friend of not only Jordan but also the region and shared the hope to develop the bilateral relationship based on his legacy. Prime Minister Kishida extended his congratulations to Crown Prince Hussein's engagement and expressed his wish for the long-lasting prosperity of the Jordanian Royal Family and further development of friendly relations with Japan's Imperial Family.

The two leaders exchanged views on the regional situation including the Middle East Peace. Prime Minister Kishida expressed his concern about the impact of the price hike of food and fuel on Jordan, which is hosting a large number of Palestinian refugees, and stated that Japan would continue its support for Jordan, including its support to UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees).

In response, King Abdullah II expressed his gratitude for Japan's wide-ranging cooperation for Jordan and UNRWA and stated that he would like to cooperate with Japan in advancing projects involving countries in the region.

The two leaders confirmed that they will continue to work closely together for the long-term stability of the region, according to the ministry.



## Israel – Japan October 2022

### Japan lauds agreement between Israel and Lebanon on maritime boundary

ARAB NEWS JAPAN October 14, 202210:48

## Japan hopes for 'constructive engagement of the parties concerned toward its finalization and implementation'

TOKYO: Japan praised Lebanon and Israel after they reached a consensus on a draft agreement on the maritime boundary between the two countries.

The announcement was welcomed not only for confidence-building between the two countries, but also for the easing of tensions and stability in the region.

The government of Japan said it appreciated the efforts made by the two countries in the lead-up to the announcement, as well as the mediation by the US, according to the foreign ministry.

Japan hopes for "constructive engagement of the parties concerned toward its finalization and implementation," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said, adding that Japan will continue to make efforts for peace and stability in the region



## MUFG Bank to invest another \$250 million in Liquidity Group

Israeli-founded Liquidity signed earlier this year an agreement to set up a massive \$2 billion investment fund in partnership with Japan's MUFG Bank

#### Golan Hazani 21:24, 20.10.22

Japanese banking giant MUFG Bank is investing an additional \$250 million in Israeli-founded Liquidity Group.

Founded in 2018, Tel-Aviv-based Liquidity is a provider of unlimited unsecured, non-recourse, no dilution growth capital. The company was founded by Ron Daniel, who also serves as the CEO. Meitav Dash, MUFG and Spark are all partners in the company.

Liquidity announced in May of this year that it has signed an agreement to set up a massive \$2 billion investment fund in partnership with MUFG Bank and American venture capital firm Spark Capital.

#### MUFG invested \$1.25 billion of the initial sum and has now added another \$250 million.

The new funding is set to be used to provide additional credit lines to tech growth companies. Over September and October, Liquidity provided credit of over \$500 million to unicorns of the likes of **eToro, Eruditus, SumUp, Infra.Market** and others, according to the company.

"Liquidity has set itself the target of allowing deserving companies to continue and grow at an accelerated pace even at a time when global markets are fearful and halting activity, and in periods when funding slows significantly," said Daniel.

Liquidity Group announced in April that it had entered into agreements with respect to approximately \$775 million in capital commitments in the first three months of 2022, led by funds and entities managed by affiliates of Apollo.

Liquidity is a credit-oriented fintech platform that invests, syndicates and automates growth and middle market lending for businesses around the world, providing capital mainly to later-stage technology companies. MUFG's core banking subsidiary, MUFG Bank, is a key strategic capital partner to Liquidity, having invested equity venture capital in the business as well as formed multiple joint lending ventures.



## Marubeni: Invests in Galileo Wheel Ltd., a Company Developing Airless Tires in Israel

#### Oct. 12, 2022 Marubeni Corporation

Marubeni Corporation (hereinafter, "Marubeni") has acquired shares of Galileo Wheel Ltd. (hereinafter, "Galileo"), an Israeli company developing unique structured airless and pneumatic tires.

Galileo's private brand "Cup Wheel" has an airless function and greater ground contact compared to standard tires, leading to better traction\*1 and improved productivity. They also reduce soil compaction\*2 and soil damage in general. Galileo has already started sales of tires used for center pivot irrigation machinery. They also plan to sell tires for skid steer loaders and small construction machinery, and will mainly expand sales for agricultural and construction machinery.

Galileo tires have already been highly evaluated in the market, and demand for airless tires that require less maintenance is expected to increase with the advancement of autonomous driving for the future. Utilizing its global sales and marketing network, Marubeni will support the sales of the airless tires developed by Galileo.

\*1 Traction: The grip of a tire on a surface.

\*2 Compaction: The compression of the ground in contact with the tire.

#### About Galileo

Company Name:	Galileo Wheel Ltd.
Head Office:	Mevasseret Tzion, Israel
Establishment:	2010
Representative:	Alon Hayka (CEO)
Business Description:	Development and sales of airless tires for agriculture and construction machinery
Website:	https://www.galileowheel.com



## Israel's EVR Motors partners with Tsukasa Electric to brink breakthrough electric motors to Japan

EVR's electric motors provide twice the power of similarly sized electric motors, at lower cost. Tsukasa will offer EVR's electric motors to multiple sectors in Japan, such as industrial vehicles, construction equipment, agricultural machinery, large lawn mowers, industrial robots, automatic warehouses, and small boats.

Israeli startup <u>EVR Motors</u> has signed an agreement with Tsukasa Electric for the distribution in Japan of EVR's proprietary Trapezoidal Stator – RFPM electric motors, which measure half the weight and size of competing electric motor, at significantly lower cost

EVR motors has developed a unique, patented motor topology: The Trapezoidal Stator Radial Flux Permanent Magnet (TS-RFPM) Motor, enabling smaller, lighter, lower-cost motors, which can be tailored to user requirements. EVR's first motors are designed for 2-wheelers and 3-wheelers, and are suited for a wide range of additional applications. EVR is now developing a variety of motors for multiple mobility applications. These include Mild Hybrid Electric Vehicles (MHEVs), hybrid vehicles (HEVs), and full Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs). While the company mainly targets the automotive sector, its breakthrough electric motor is attracting interest from other sectors, which would like to leverage the competitive advantages of EVR's TS-RFPM proprietary topology.

As part of the agreement, Tsukasa will offer EVR's electric motors to several markets in Japan, including: industrial vehicles, such as forklifts, Automated Guided Vehicles (AGV) and onboard cranes; construction vehicles; agricultural machinery and large lawn mowers; industrial robots and automated warehouses; and the Japanese small boats sector.

Tsukasa sees the new collaboration with EVR as one of its primary growth engines for the upcoming years, as the Israeli electric motors are expected to be in high demand in the Japanese market.

"The agreement with Tsukasa in Japan is part of the strong business momentum that EVR is experiencing," said Opher Doron, CEO of EVR Motors. "Our entry to Japan follows our strategic commercial agreements with Badve Engineering and Napino Auto & Electronics in India. While EVR focused mainly on the automotive traction market, various players in adjacent market segments are interested in the benefits of our high power-density motors. Having successfully



developed two initial motor families, EVR is now developing additional motors to increase and diversify our motor offerings, expanding our geographical presence and entering additional market segments."

EVR is expected to present its motors at the <u>Automotive World show in Nagoya</u>, Japan, which will take place from October 26th to October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

#### About Tsukasa Electric

Tsukasa Electric co., Ltd., which was established in 1969, is a Japanese motor manufacturer, specializes in industrial motors, factory automation and medical devices.

The company manufactures brushless geared motors, DC geared motors, and motor drivers. Its headquarters is located in Tokyo, and it operates offices in Osaka and Fukuoka, alongside a factory in Miyazaki. Tsukasa's sales network covers Japan, Korea, Europe, and North America.

#### About EVR Motors

Israeli startup <u>EVR Motors</u> designs advanced electric motors to meet customer's specific requirements. The company's electric motors are based on proprietary technology that reduces weight, volume, and cost relative to traditional state of the art motors. EVR Motors partners with OEMs and Tier 1s interested in manufacturing superior e-motors, and supports its partners through all the phases, from motor design through prototyping to manufacturing preparation.

EVR Motors was founded by its current president and COO Eli Rozinsky, together with Victor Kislev and Ruslan Shabinski. The company's CEO is Opher Doron, former General Manager of the Space division at IAI, and EVR's chairman is Ophir Shoham, former Director of the Defense R&D Directorate at the Israeli Ministry of Defense (MAFAT) who manages Marius Nacht's investments in high-tech.



## Fourth Generation CathWorks FFRangio® System Receives Regulatory Approval in Japan

KFAR-SABA, Israel and IRVINE, Calif., Oct. 6, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- CathWorks announced today the approval of the fourth generation CathWorks FFRangio<sup>®</sup> System by the Japanese Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Agency (PMDA). The FFRangio System is also commercially available in the United States and Europe.

"The FFRangio System enables us to quickly perform a comprehensive physiologic assessment of coronary artery disease (CAD) without the need for invasive pressure wires or hyperemic agents, providing significant benefits to clinicians and patients," said Dr. Yutaka Hikichi, Director, Heart Center, Saga-Ken Medical Center Koseikan. "The approval of the fourth-generation application offers significant automation and enhancements, further simplifying the utilization of the platform."

"CAD is a life-threating disease, and it is critical that we can quickly, effectively, and costeffectively diagnose the disease and determine the appropriate treatment plan," said Dr. Mamoru Nanasato, Chief Director, Department of Cardiology, Sakakibara Heart Institute. "We have been able to experience firsthand how FFRangio can transform the diagnosis and treatment of our patients with CAD."

The CathWorks FFRangio<sup>®</sup> System has been the first non-invasive device of its kind to receive Japan PMDA and Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) approval for diagnosis of functional ischemia for patients with ischemic CAD. The fourth-generation application includes significant automation and enhancements, while offering the same exceptional 93% diagnostic accuracy when compared to invasive wire-derived FFR.<sup>1</sup>

"The PMDA approval of the fourth generation CathWorks FFRangio<sup>®</sup> System is another significant milestone for CathWorks, physicians and patients," said Ramin Mousavi, President and CEO of CathWorks. "With this approval, along with our recently announced strategic partnership with Medtronic that includes global co-promotion, we are well positioned to significantly expand our presence in Japan, making the FFRangio technology available to more



physicians and patients. The FFRangio platform enables physicians to optimize the diagnosis and treatment of CAD, while eliminating unnecessary invasive wires and drugs, all while reducing cost."

#### **ABOUT CATHWORKS**

CathWorks is the leader in digital health innovations that can improve the lives of patients globally. The CathWorks FFRangio<sup>®</sup> System combines artificial intelligence and advanced computational science, transforming how cardiovascular disease is diagnosed and treated. The FFRangio System obtains physiologic information from routine angiograms, eliminating the need for drug stimulation and invasive pressure wires. It provides physicians with quick and reliable intraprocedural FFRangio values for the entire coronary tree.

# Nagoya's Toho Technology to expand collaboration with Israel Emerging

October 6, 2022, 8:27 PM [

Industrial equipment manufacturer Toho Technology (Nagoya, Japan) will expand its collaboration with Israeli startups. Recently, we were selected as a target company for the matching support program between startups in Aichi Prefecture and companies in Aichi Prefecture. The company will deepen collaboration with Israeli startups in cutting-edge fields such as CASE (connected cars, autonomous driving, sharing, and electrification) and decarbonization.

Specific collaborators will be decided in the future as the program progresses. In 2019, Toho Technology Co., Ltd. formed a business alliance with an Israeli startup company engaged in industrial wireless business, and was paying attention to the country's thriving startups. At the company's exhibition to be held in Wink Aichi (Nagoya City) from the 11th to the 12th, the company plans to showcase its in-house developed technology as well as the results of its collaboration with Israeli companies.



# Dentsu Ventures makes a follow up investment in OpenWeb.

OpenWeb raises \$170 million Series F at \$1.5 billion valuation. The Israeli startup, which has developed a community engagement platform for a healthier open web, increased its valuation despite the crisis in tech

#### Meir Orbach 17:17, 27.10.22 CTech

OpenWeb, which has developed a community engagement platform for a healthier open web, announced on Thursday that it has raised \$170 million in Series F funding led by Georgian, at a valuation of \$1.5 billion. To date, the company has raised \$393 million in funding.

## Dentsu Ventures first invested in the company in November 2021, and now joined the sixth round as well.

OpenWeb's B2B2C platform is designed to power end-to-end user experiences with user activation and management, first-party data aggregation and management, AI moderation, and social experiences. The company's proprietary technology is used by the world's top publishers, including The New York Times, Hearst, Yahoo!, Penske Media Corporation, and News Corp., to gain independence from traditional social media and cultivate trust, community, and quality conversations.

In June of this year the company reduced its R&D activity in Israel and transferred the company's management entirely to the United States. As part of the process, 14 development workers were fired and at the same time the company hired others in the United States.

The platform incentivizes civil engagement and the creation of high-quality content while leveraging and monetizing first-party data through scalable, brand-safe advertising.

"This investment represents an incredible show of confidence in the mission we have set for ourselves: To combat toxicity and create healthier, open spaces for conversations that move society forward," said Nadav Shoval, co-founder and CEO of OpenWeb. "There is a paradigm shift happening right now in the media, and we have the opportunity to drive major changes in how people communicate with one another in virtual spaces, as well as how publishers and advertisers form and maintain lasting relationships with their audiences. OpenWeb is delivering the building blocks for the future of online networks."

OpenWeb recently announced the \$100 million acquisition of global advertising platform ADYOULIKE. The Series F funding follows last November's Series E round, which raised \$150 million.



OpenWeb works with more than 1,000 publishers, hosting more than 100 million active users each month.

Founded in 2012, OpenWeb has over 265 employees in New York City, Tel Aviv, Kiev, San Diego, Canada, London, and Paris.

# SBI JI INNOVATION FUND Makes a follow up investment in Trigo Vision.

#### Trigo secures \$100m investment for shop-and-go retail tech.

By RICKY BEN-DAVID 26 October 2022 Times of Israel

Israeli computer vision startup Trigo secured a \$100 million investment to scale the deployment of its grab-and-go, checkout-free shopping system and drive growth in new markets, the company announced on Wednesday.

Singapore's Temasek Holdings and London-based VC 83North led the investment, which also saw participation from new strategic investors including SAP SE, as well as existing backers Hetz Ventures, Red Dot Capital Partners, Vertex Ventures, Viola, and German supermarket giant REWE Group. The round brings Trigo's total capital raised to date to over \$200 million.

## SBI JI Innovation Fund invested (together with Vertex) in the first round and now deepened its involvement by adding a follow -up investment.

REWE is one of several grocery retail heavyweights worldwide to have deployed Trigo's technology, which allows shoppers to walk in, select their items and walk out without having to stand in the checkout line or fiddle with self-checkout stands. Payments and receipts are handled digitally.

To do this, Trigo applies its proprietary algorithms to ceiling-mounted cameras that can automatically track shoppers' movements and product choices in the store in real time.

The Tel Aviv-based company has also been working on an inventory management software application suite called StoreOS and said the new funds will help with development. StoreOS can



"track inventory in real-time, minimize out-of-stock and expired items for in-store and online shopping, mitigate fraud, personalize marketing, and manage store and supply chain operations predictively," the company said in a statement Wednesday.

Trigo's checkout-free shopping tech is already operational at a Tesco grocery store in London, REWE shops in Berlin and Cologne, a Netto City store in Munich and an Aldi Nord in the central Dutch city of Utrecht. The company made its first <u>foray into the US</u> earlier this year with a pilot scheme at a Wakefern store in New Jersey. Wakefern Food Corp is the largest retailer-owned cooperative in the US.

Tesco, REWE and Aldi Nord are grocery heavyweights in the UK and across Europe. Aldi Nord, a division of German-owned supermarket chain Aldi, is considered the largest grocery retailer on the continent and also operates Trader Joe's markets in the US.

Last month, Israel's largest supermarket chain, Shufersal, which has been piloting Trigo's tech for several years, <u>opened its first automated supermarket store</u> on Mendele Street in central Tel Aviv, a 1,080 square-foot Shufersal Express Shop&Go store. The shop "packs in more goods per square foot than any other Trigo-powered store," Trigo co-founder and CEO Michael Gabay said at the time.



## Israel – Japan November 2022

## Launching of the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

November 22, 2022 MOFA

- 1. This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Israel, and the economic relations between the two countries have been growing significantly in recent years.
- 2. In light of this development, the Government of Japan and the Government of the State of Israel jointly decided to launch the Joint Study Group on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).
- 3. Japan will coordinate with Israel to hold the first meeting of the Joint Study Group in due course.

### **KEIDANREN STRATEGY AND POLICY PROPOSAL: Launching EPA Negotiations** with Israel

In a statement published on September 21 2022 titled: **Toward the Reconstruction of the Free** 

and Open International Economic Order-- Japan's Role and Strategy in Trade and Investment the Keidanren stated :

(1) Launching EPA Negotiations with Israel

In order to strengthen the strategic partnership with Israel, a democratic country in the Middle East, and to promote cooperation in the development of advanced technologies, a Japan-Israel EPA is needed in addition to the bilateral investment agreement. Since Korea signed a free trade agreement (FTA) with Israel in May 2021, the Japan-Israel EPA is also important from the viewpoint of achieving a level playing field.



## Foreign Minister Hayashi attends Reception in celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Israel

November 22, 2022 MOFA



On November 22, Mr. HAYASHI Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, attended the reception hosted by H.E. Mr. Gilad Cohen, Ambassador of Israel to Japan, in celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Japan and Israel and delivered a congratulatory address. The overview is as follows.

- Minister Hayashi expressed his congratulations on the 70th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between the two countries and the 74th Independence Day of the State of Israel, and stated that Japan and Israel have maintained a close and cordial relationship despite the geographical distance between the two countries.
- 2. Referring to the potential for further cooperation between the two countries in the economic field, which has been growing significantly in recent years, Minister Hayashi announced the launching of a Joint Study on the possibility of a Japan-Israel Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA). He also reaffirmed his commitment to continue to advance the bilateral relations between the two countries in cooperation with the incoming Israeli government



# Israel's Liquidity Group to establish R&D center in Abu Dhabi

Liquidity will be the first Israeli company to join The Abu Dhabi Investment Office's Innovation Program.

#### **MUFJ-FUNDS ARE A MAJOR PARTNER OF Liquidity Capital**

#### CTech and others 15.11.22

Liquidity Group (also Liquidity Capital) said it is joining ADOI's innovation program with plans to build an R&D center in the UAE capital.

Founded in 2017, Liquidity Group is a fund manager providing growth capital through funds focused on the US, Asia and the Middle East. It also developed a data tool that uses predictive algorithms to assess potential companies for investment, **and is backed by Mitsubishi UFJ Fund Services, Israeli institutional investor Meitav Dash Ltd., Israel's Discount Bank and Israeli insurance giant Harel.** 

Liquidity said its R&D operations in Abu Dhabi will help develop the company's proprietary technology-enabled underwriting algorithm as well as build a team to focus on machine learning for enterprises that will support other startups within Abu Dhabi in applying Liquidity Group's modeling methodologies. In addition, Liquidity will work with Abu Dhabi-based universities to develop educational training programs and machine learning certifications, according to the announcement.

The agreement was signed on Tuesday by AlShamsi and Liquidity CEO Ron Daniel during ADFW 2022.

It came almost two years **after Liquidity** <u>set up a joint \$100 million venture debt investment</u> <u>fund</u> with Dubai-based Vault Investments. Venture debt investment is debt financing that is provided to venture-backed firms to fund working capital or other expenses, like sales and marketing. Debt financing occurs when a firm raises money for working capital or capital expenditures by selling debt instruments to investors.

ADIO's AlShamsi said in a statement that Liquidity will make "a strong addition to Abu Dhabi's financial services ecosystem, bringing its robust expertise in Machine Learning to grow the venture financing landscape."



"With a focus on locally relevant and globally exportable solutions, the technology developed in the emirate will help to support startups in Abu Dhabi and the region. ADIO's partnership with Liquidity Group also serves to deepen the relationship between the UAE and Israel, as the two markets pursue innovation-driven technologies and activities with far-reaching impact," he added.

Daniel, CEO of Liquidity Group, said that "beyond the personal excitement of fulfilling the Abraham Accords in real life and growing networks, friendships and partnerships in the UAE, I have always believed that the UAE and ADGM, in particular, are the best places in the world to scale tech companies. Thanks to our partners at ADIO, our new R&D center in ADGM is growing fast and is swiftly being populated with some of the best global brains."

# Fujitsu: establishes new center in Israel to strengthen data and security technologies

11/27/2022 | Fujitsu

#### Tokyo, Japan & Tel Aviv, Israel, November, 28

Fujitsu Limited today revealed plans to open a new center for research and development in Tel Aviv, accelerating the recruitment of world-class talent to advance innovation in the field of Data and Security, an urgent priority for businesses and society in an era of increasing connectivity and uncertainty.

From April 2023, the newly established location in Tel Aviv will allow Fujitsu to further enhance its presence in Israel with a team composed of experts recruited from Israel alongside researchers from Japan and Europe. This team will be dedicated to strengthening security technology for communications networks as part of Fujitsu's global strategy for Data and Security, one of 5 key technology areas under the company's global R&D strategy.

With the establishment of the "Fujitsu Cybersecurity Center of Excellence in Israel" at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (Ben-Gurion University) in 2021, Fujitsu took its first steps to tapping into the innovative potential of Israeli tech talent to embark on research to make AI technology more secure.



Visiting Israel to oversee the establishment of the new center, Fujitsu Limited CTO Vivek Mahajan commented "As one of the world's most technologically advanced countries, Israel offers Fujitsu a concentration of talent and an environment to sustain innovation like few other places. I look forward to recruiting more local researchers to join our team in Tel Aviv and contribute to our mission of delivering security and trust for network technologies, as well as further deepening collaboration with Ben Gurion University. I anticipate that our newly established teams in Israel will work with our global research network to play a central role in leading the development of Fujitsu's future security and AI technologies."

During his stay in Israel, Fujitsu CTO Vivek Mahajan will be the guest of the Foreign Trade Administration at the Ministry of Economy and the Israel Export Institute, participating as a speaker at the HLS&CYBER conference and exhibition 2022. He is expected to speak in a panel centered on the theme: Shaping the Future: AI & Robotics in Law Enforcement.

#### Overview

- Location : Tel Aviv, Israel
- Staff : Approximately 10 researchers
- General Manager : Dr. Adel Rouz (Fujitsu Research of Europe Ltd. CEO)
- Research Overview :

In a borderless world in which the real and digital increasingly converge with developments like Web 3.0 and the Metaverse, ensuring trust for all connected people, data, and systems represents a key priority for technology companies. Fujitsu is currently developing IDYX technology <sup>(1)</sup>, CDL technology <sup>(2)</sup>, and transparent trust technology <sup>(3)</sup> to help realize this kind of trust on a global scale in the data and security space.

The new research center will initially focus on R&D on the following two themes :

1. As the borderless world evolves, the complexity of society will further increase. To build relationships with new, diverse stakeholders across the globe, it will be important to ensure reliable information that serves as a basis for trust in the digital space. To this end, Fujitsu is working to develop new technologies that can secure trust based on physical information in real space, such as data sources. By combining the expertise of Ben-Gurion University and other institutions in cyber and network security with our company's trust technology and know-how, we will conduct research on realizing trust for



new network security that combines real-world and digital technologies and deploy the results globally.

- 2. Fujitsu will contribute to solving societal issues by globally implementing technologies that are expected to be used in a wide range of situations, including autonomous driving, self-checkout, as well as public safety, including anti-attack technologies for object detection AI, which recognizes information such as the position and type of a specific object from video data, while promoting synergies between local experts and researchers from Europe and Japan.
- [1]

#### IDYX :

IDentitY eXchange: Fujitsu's technology that securely distributes personal identities (such as IDs and attribute information) among companies and individuals.

• [2]

#### CDL :

Chain Data Lineage: <u>Fujitsu's technology that can trace the distribution process and</u> <u>processing of data and goods back to their origin</u>. Ensures end-to-end traceability of data and goods across organizations and improve the reliability of data distribution across industries.

• [3]

#### transparent trust technology :

Technology to prevent falsification in the creation and approval of business data exchanged between companies and government ministries, and to ensure its authenticity.

#### About Fujitsu

Fujitsu's purpose is to make the world more sustainable by building trust in society through innovation. As the digital transformation partner of choice for customers in over 100 countries, our 124,000 employees work to resolve some of the greatest challenges facing humanity. Our range



of services and solutions draw on five key technologies: Computing, Networks, AI, Data & Security, and Converging Technologies, which we bring together to deliver sustainability transformation. Fujitsu Limited (TSE:6702) reported consolidated revenues of 3.6 trillion yen (US\$32 billion) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022 and remains the top digital services company in Japan by market share.

## Sanyo Trading Invest in SOLCOLD Israeli Eco-Energy company

Notice of Investment in and Business Alliance with SOLCOLD LTD)(

We are pleased to announce that we have entered into an agreement to invest in and form a business alliance with SOLCOLD LTD, which conducts research and development of coating films.

Ltd., which conducts research and development of coated films.

.1purpose of investment and business alliance

SOLCOLD LTD is an Israeli start-up company that researches and develops coating films based on the "anti-Stokes fluorescence phenomenon", a cooling effect using sunlight.

SOLCOLD LTD is an Israeli start-up company that conducts research and development of coating films based on the "Anti-Stokes fluorescence phenomenon", a cooling effect using sunlight.

The company's breakthrough technology will be applied to various applications to help solve the global issue of global warming and decarbonization.

We believe that the application of the company's breakthrough technology in various applications will lead to solutions to global warming and the promotion of decarbonization.

Through this investment and business alliance, we will work with the company to promote R&D, commercialization, and sales expansion in Japan and the ASEAN region.

Through this investment and business alliance, MCC will work with the company to promote R&D and commercialization, expand sales in Japan and the ASEAN region, and contribute to a sustainable society.

This investment was made under the terms of an investment agreement, "Future Share Acquisition Agreement," which stipulates that the investment will be converted into shares when the company raises funds through equity transactions in the future.

The investment will be made under a short-form agreement for the acquisition of future shares, which stipulates that the investment will be converted into shares when the company raises funds in the future. Our total investment will be US\$5,000,000.



Our total investment will be US\$5,000,000 and will be made in two installments .3Schedule (1)Date of contract execution October 27, 2022 (2)Investment date and amount 1st investment: October 2022 US\$3,000,000 Second round: USD 2,000,000 until June 2023 4..

Translated from Japanese announcement with www.DeepL.com/Translator)

## NTT DATA Selects Atidot to Provide Advanced Al/ML and Predictive Analytics Solutions to Life and Annuity Insurance Carriers

Atidot's platform will provide carriers with real-time, efficient and actionable insights to grow policyholder lifetime value

PALO ALTO, California--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--<u>Atidot</u>, a provider of machine learning and predictive analytics solutions for life insurers, has entered into an agreement with <u>NTT DATA</u>, a digital business and IT services leader. Atidot's AI and predictive analytics solutions will combine with NTT DATA's Global Insurance Digital Platform (GIDP)<sup>TM</sup> ecosystem. The collaboration will also allow NTT DATA to leverage Atidot's solutions in NTT DATA's <u>Innovation Studio</u> as value-added services.

"Adding the power of Atidot's AI models to our GIDP <sup>™</sup> ecosystem can further enable our clients to enhance the customer experience capabilities to develop mature conservation programs, mitigate unintended risks, and gives them the intelligence to drive growth objectives by optimizing ROI and increasing efficiencies for growth," said Mercedes Concepcion-Gray, Chief Strategy and Growth Leader, Insurance, NTT DATA Services.

Atidot's platform produces actionable insights that may help grow policyholder lifetime value and enables efficient operationalization of these insights. Atidot's models have shown potential in significantly impacting policyholder experiences and financial return to the carrier. As a result,



carriers will be able to more accurately predict policyholder behavior to optimize premium persistency, utilize AI models to improve life block valuation accuracy when purchasing or selling a life block, and more accurately predict market activity in the distribution channel. Additionally, they will be able to use analytics to reduce underwriting cycle time and to use in-force block data to improve new client acquisition and understanding annuity market behavior.

"NTT DATA is an excellent partner to leverage Atidot's AI and predictive capabilities," **said Dror Katzav, Founder and CEO, Atidot.** "This partnership will present carriers with access to our real-time models to help them quickly assess the value of each book and really leverage predictive abilities to optimize their services. We are very excited to partner with NTT DATA to continue providing a best-in-class customer experience as they lead the market in innovative technology services."

###

#### About Atidot

Atidot offers AI, machine learning, and predictive analytics solutions that provide data-driven actionable insights for life insurers. Founded by a team of data scientists and veteran actuaries, Atidot offers life and annuity insurers a cloud-based platform to inform decision-making, drive new business strategies, and create new revenue streams from an existing book of business. Atidot's solutions enable risk modeling and policyholder behavior predictions that generate revenues, improve sales and retention, and help with in-force management. Atidot works with industry leaders in Europe and North America, such as Pacific Life and Guardian, and was selected by Gartner to be 'Cool Vendor 2019 in Insurance'. The company has offices in California, UK, Spain, and Israel.

#### About NTT DATA

NTT DATA – part of the NTT Group – is a trusted global innovator of IT and business services, headquartered in Tokyo. We help clients transform through consulting, industry solutions, IT modernization and managed services. NTT DATA enables clients to move confidently into the digital future. We are committed to our clients' long-term success and combine global reach with local expertise to operate in over 50 countries.



## **KUBOTA INVESTS IN CLARIFRUIT**

#### Israeli startups want to help identify whether fruit is ripe or not. Clarifruit created a system to perform QA of produce with smartphones and computer vision

#### Oshry Alkeslasi / 16 Nov 2022

When you buy your fruits and vegetables, you expect to receive quality produce. But for that to happen, quality control must be done on said produce. Since there are vast amounts of produce in need of review, doing that quality control can take forever. for a huge amount of this produce around the world, which can take forever. Moreover, if you think about it, the parties involved in the process all have their own standards of quality which often complicates the process and even leads to cancellation. Luckily, an Israeli startup has developed a system that can do these tests relatively quickly and easily.

#### Preventing cancelled fruit and vegetable sales

The Israeli startup Clarifruit has developed a platform that uses iPhone and Android apps and enables the collection of information for quality control of fruits and vegetables; it provides a realtime indication of the identification of the fruits, and the uploading of the information to the cloud. The images of the produce are processed in the cloud by computer vision algorithms, which analyze them based on external features such as size, colour, and more. The information collected allows the algorithm to learn after each test and improve for future identifications.

According to the company, its application for iPhones gives its customers – including farmers, marketing chains, and importers – improved capabilities, by using the built-in LiDAR sensors to perform a more extensive and accurate diagnosis of the produce's characteristics.

"Every transaction between a buyer and supplier is based on quality, but in the world today there is no uniform standard for the quality of fresh produce, and therefore most of the largest organizations in the world have created their own standard, which has resulted in a situation where at least two quality control checks are performed before each transaction. The transaction will only go through if there is an agreement between the two parties on the result of the tests. Because of the complex nature of the tests, 25% of the transactions are cancelled, or carried out under special conditions— a situation that creates a loss for both parties," said Avi Schwartzer, one of the company's founders and COO



He says that the company's customers report that they were able to cut the time of their quality control tests in half with the help of the platform, along with using the reports that the platform produces for them, which helps them improve the delivery time of the fruits and vegetables.

#### **Raising capital**

Clarifruit was founded in 2017 by Avi Schwartzer (COO), Elad Mardix (CEO) and Ruby Boyarski (CTO). Today (Wednesday) the company reports raising a Series A round of \$12 million. The round was led by **Firstime and Champel Capital**, with participation from **Kubota**, **a manufacturer of mechanized equipment and agricultural technologies from Japan;** the venture capital fund NevaTeam Partners; private investors who participated in the Seed round.

The company currently employs 25 people, 21 of them in Israel

### Japan's ORIX sells Ormat stake for \$337m

#### 17 Nov, 2022 Globes correspondent

The share price of Israeli renewable geothermal energy company <u>Ormat Technologies</u> <u>Inc.</u> (NYSE: ORA; TASE: ORA) is down 8.19% in premarket trading on Wall Street at \$92 per share. The fall comes after Japanese company ORIX sold one third of its controlling stake.

ORIX sold 3.75 million shares to institutional investors for \$90 per share for an overall \$337 million.

ORIX Corp. (TSE: 8591) acquired a 22% stake in Ormat in 2017 from the FIMI Opportunity Fund and Bronicki family for \$57 per share for a total investment of \$630 million.

Ormat builds geothermal power station both for its customers and which it owns itself. The company's share price closed 1.23% higher on Wall Street yesterday at \$100.21, giving a market cap of \$5.617 billion.



### DIC Launches Domestic Sales of UltraNanno<sup>™</sup> Microalgae Feed for the Aquaculture Industry of Vaxa, Israel - Contributing to the stable production of juvenile fish by supplying high-quality and sustainable raw algal feed for aquaculture – DIC invested in VAXA back in 4/2021 to assure

## distribution rights

#### **DIC Corporation** November 16, 2022

DIC Lifetech Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Kaoru Ino), a wholly owned subsidiary of DIC Corporation (Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Takahiro Takemi) We are pleased to inform you that the microalgae feed "UltraNanno™" will be on sale in Japan from November 16, 2022.

"Ultra *Nanno*™ " is a high-quality and sustainable feed for rotifers\* developed by the Israeli bio-ve nture company "Vaxa Technologies Ltd." (hereinafter "Vaxa") in which our company has invested

Amid concerns about future protein shortages due to global population growth, we believe that aquaculture is one of the solutions. For the stable production of aquaculture, stable feed quality is important, so we are working to supply high-quality and stable algae feed.

Nannochloropsis, a marine microalgae, has long been used in the aquaculture industry as a food source for rotifers, which feed juvenile fish. On the other hand, Nannochloropsis produced in outdoor ponds is facing the problem of declining quality during the hot summer months, especially in recent years due to the effects of global warming. In order to solve this problem, Vaxa has developed and mass-produced "Ultra *Nanno*™ ", a high-quality Nannochloropsis that is uniform throughout the year by using its own closed system culture technology at its production base in Iceland. It has been successful and already has a lot of experience in Europe.

DIC Lifetech has started domestic sales of the company's Ultra *Nanno*<sup>™</sup>, and by increasing the vitality of rotifers, which feed on farmed fish juveniles throughout the year, the growth of juvenile fish improves and the survival rate improves. is expected to As a result, we aim to improve the profitability of aquaculture operators.



Nannochloropsis produced in Vaxa's unique LED closed system culture equipment has a content of about 6% of the essential fatty acid eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) compared to general outdoor products, which is the highest in the industry. We are proud of the highest standards. In addition, compared to other competitors, Nannochloropsis, it exhibits a higher rate of rotifer multiplication.

#### Sustainable production process A sustainable

production process that is friendly to the global environment is used, using cheap and clean electricity and carbon dioxide supplied from a geothermal power plant in Iceland adjacent to the factory as energy and carbon sources, respectively. increase.

We have designated this as a priority business area and are working to strengthen our business by incorporating various healthcare materials. Going forward, we will continue to contribute to the development of the fishery industry and, by extension, to solving the problem of protein shortages for human beings, by further deepening our cooperation with related partners such as Vaxa, while using our group's algae-related technology and network. Together, we will create new social value.

#### **About DIC Corporation**

DIC is one of Japan's leading fine chemical manufacturers and a core company of the DIC Group . The DIC Group consists of approximately 190 subsidiaries worldwide, including Sun Chemical C orporation, and operates in more than 60 countries and regions. The group as a whole is recogniz ed as a global leading company that provides packaging materials that are essential to people's li ves, display materials typified by displays such as TVs and PCs, and high-performance materials used in digital devices such as smartphones and automobiles. I'm here. Through these products, we provide society with safety, security, color, and comfort. In order to realize a sustainable societ y, the DIC Group is making concerted efforts to develop products that respond to social changes and contribute to solving social issues. With consolidated net sales exceeding 800 billion yen and more than 22,000 employees worldwide, the DIC Group will continue to stand by its customers o n a global scale.



## Sports Broadcast Specialist Nexion Selects LiveU for Dynamic Sports Video Delivery

2022.11.11 New media, broadcasting, communication

Nexion Japan Co., Ltd., a global video transmission pioneer headquartered in Tokyo (Nexion has introduced LiveU's multicam field unit "LU800" to increase coverage in Japan.

Nexion provides high-quality live streaming services for various events such as sports, music concerts, and conferences to broadcasters and media. The company's domestic and international backbone fiber networks connect dozens of broadcasters, production companies, media and major event venues.

Fiber optic network coverage at major stadiums is good, but Nexion needed a cost-effective solution. LiveU's LU610, a 1U rack-mountable contribution encoder, will be used for this season's women's sports coverage, and the portable multi-camera LU800 technology will be used for upcoming men's sports matches.

Mr. Nakajima, deputy general manager of Nexion's sales division, said, "I have been paying attention to IP bonding technology for some time, and I have been thinking about what kind of added value it can add to our portfolio." I will explain. I used to have concerns about stability, but after taking a closer look at LiveU's technical performance, those concerns disappeared. With LiveU, Nexion adds new flexibility and agility to its cost-effectiveness. Of course, quality is also important, and LiveU is highly rated in this regard as well. "

In addition, Mr. Hamada of the Nexion Sales Headquarters Technical Support Group emphasized the ease of use of LiveU. "Once you set it up, you can control it on the MCR side just by turning on the power at the site, so the person shooting the video can concentrate on shooting the best content without worrying about LiveU operation." said.

LiveU Asia General Manager Yaal Eshel said, "We appreciate that industry leaders like Nexion recognize our technology for its capabilities, our expertise and the quality of our service. All in all, LiveU's solutions will open up new possibilities in areas such as news and entertainment."

#### About LiveU



Founded in 2006, liveu is a provider of live video streaming for television, mobile, online and social media. The company specializes in portable live video acquisition, contribution and management services, creating a consistent bandwidth and a reliable connection, so that users can acquire, manage and distribute remote live broadcasts, enabling broadcasters of all sizes to acquire and share live video reliably on any viewing platform.

## Murata integrates Autotalks' V2X technology into its own modules

<u>Autotalks</u>, a world leader in V2X (Vehicle-to-Everything) communication solutions, partnered with Japanese electronics giant Murata Manufacturing to save lives on the roads through cutting-edge technology. With over a half decade of joint development, validation, extensive testing, and design optimization, Autotalks and Murata are presenting today's most mature mass-market ready V2X module. Sampling of the new modules has now begun, with volume production starting in 2023.

Murata's module powered by Autotalks' chipset was recently selected for mass production by top Chinese OEM which has a large European presence. Cars equipped with this V2X module will be on the roads in both China and Europe starting early 2024.

In addition to their top performance, Murata's Autotalks-powered V2X modules are highly robust – thereby ensuring long-term reliability, even in the most challenging of operating conditions. The Murata modules support V2X software stacks from numerous different vendors.

Use cases for V2X technology include scenarios such as:

- V2V early detection of unseen hazards An Electronic Emergency Brake Light alert can notify the driver that an obstructed vehicle ahead is strongly applying its brakes.
- V2I traffic prioritization and speed control Roadside infrastructure can communicate traffic light status to enable vehicles to optimize their speed. Drivers will not needlessly accelerate just to be stopped by the traffic light. This is ideal for battery optimization and improved fuel consumption.



Other potential use cases include intersection accident avoidance, two-wheelers protection, accident response, updates on road conditions, and more.

"We are proud to cooperate with Murata on bringing mature top performing V2X solutions to the market," said Ram Shallom, VP Business Development and Marketing for APAC (Asia-Pacific) at Autotalks. "This is a major milestone that draws on over half a decade of joint development, validation, extensive testing, and design optimization."

Autotalks' V2X technology supports both DSRC and C-V2X communication standards. Consequently, customers can directly address different geographic regions (Europe, China, North America, etc.) with the same module, through simple software configuration. As a result, systems' designs can remain the same in a way that significantly reduces the associated engineering costs.

"The versatile V2X module portfolio of Murata will help automotive customers all over the world accelerate the commercialization of their V2X products," added Shallom. "We expect this cooperation to yield more mass production awards."

#### 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



## Sony Semiconductor Israel Redefines IoT Connectivity Platform with New Ultra Low Power 5G LPWA ALT1350 Chipset

#### Bruce Yeon 2022.11.25 02:55

The new innovative chip offers multiple ultra-low power connectivity options and low-power processing on the edge for the rapidly expanding IoT market. "This is the game changer we've been waiting for," says Nohik Semel, CEO at Sony Semiconductor Israel.

[Tokyo, Japan and Hod Hasharon, Israel] Sony Semiconductor Israel (Sony), a leading provider of cellular IoT chipsets, announced the launch of the ALT1350 for the global market. The ALT1350 is the world's first cellular LTE-M/NB-IoT solution to enable additional LPWA communication protocols, as well as satellite connectivity (NTN), in a single chipset, opening the door to further innovation in the connected world.

The ALT1350 by Sony is the most advanced cellular IoT solution on the market, with an architecture that resolves IoT service providers' power consumption concerns. Its optimized standby mode (eDRX) reduces power consumption by 80% when compared to the current generation and by 85% when using it to send short messages. Overall improvements in the system's power consumption will enable 4 times longer battery life for a typical device, enabling additional functionalities and use cases with smaller batteries.

The ALT1350's sub-GHz and 2.4GHz integrated transceiver enables hybrid connectivity for smart meters, smart cities, trackers, and other devices. This enhances coverage, reduces costs, and further decreases power consumption utilizing IEEE 802.15.4-based protocols, such as Wi-Sun, U-Bus Air, and wM-Bus, in additional point-to-point and mesh technologies.

The chipset is designed to support the wide-ranging market needs of utilities, vehicles, tracking devices, smart cities, connected health, and other verticals. Device manufacturers across all verticals will take advantage of its low power consumption, long-lasting battery life, mature Release 15 LTE-M/NB-IoT software stack, and future compatibility with 3GPP release 17 All these guarantee longevity and ensure the ALT1350 will operate with 5G networks. It contains an additional LPWA radio transceiver with targeting operation in <1GHz and 2.4 ISM bands for universal connectivity options.



## NanoLock Brings Built-in Meter-Level Cybersecurity to Renesas Customers, Enabling Faster Build of Protected Meters

HOD HASHARON, Israel, Nov. 28, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- NanoLock Security, a leading cybersecurity provider for IIoT and OT devices and machines, today announces built-in, zero-trust meter-level cyber security protection for <u>Renesas Electronics Corp.</u> customers' smart meter products.

As the global energy economy worsens and cyberthreats like energy fraud and theft grow more frequent, Renesas' customers in meter manufacturing will now have <u>NanoLock Security's</u> DLMS compatible, zero-trust cyber protection built-in to their meters with no impact on performance, functionality, or deployment speed, giving them a significant competitive advantage.

This new solution gives Renesas' customers, renowned smart meter manufacturers, the ability to quickly build a product that is secure from all attack vectors, including insider manipulation and human error, without any disruptions to meter operations or product time to market.

"Edge devices like advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) are vulnerable targets for cyber attackers and can compromise service integrity, revenue, and safety," said David Stroud, Chief Revenue Officer, NanoLock Security. "With our meter-level protection built into Renesas metering solutions, Renesas customers can now bring secure and tamper-proof smart meters to the market faster, a critical edge in a hotly competitive industry."

#### About NanoLock Security

NanoLock Security protects the operational integrity of connected devices, smart meters, and machines against cyber events and human error to maintain business continuity, improve safety and safeguard revenues.

Trusted by critical infrastructure customers, such as utilities, industrial and manufacturing companies, NanoLock Security protects power generation and energy management, industrial, water and wastewater plants, as well as food & beverage manufacturing, while ensuring



compliance with international security standards and guidelines. NanoLock is headquartered in Israel with offices in the US, Europe, and Japan



## Israel – Japan December 2022

## Third Joint Foreign Affairs and Security Consultation (Pol-Mil Dialogue) between Japan and Israel

December 7, 2022 https://www.mofa.go.jp/me\_a

- 1. On December 7, 2022, the third politico-military dialogue (Pol-Mil Dialogue) was held between Japan and Israel in Tokyo.
- 2. On the Japanese side, the dialogue was attended by Mr. NAGAOKA Kansuke, Director General of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. MIURA Jun, Director General for International Affairs of the Bureau of Defense Policy in the Ministry of Defense, and officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defense and the National Security Secretariat. On the Israeli side, the dialogue was attended by Mrs. Avivit Bar-Ilan, Deputy Head of the National Security Council, Mr. Rafael Harpaz, Deputy Director General for Asia and the Pacific Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Dror Shalom, Director of the Political Military Bureau, Ministry of Defense, and officials from the Ministry of Defense and NSC.
- 3. The meeting dealt with a wide range of issues, including security and defense matters and regional situations



## Medcase & NTT DATA Sign a Definitive Agreement to Enable Healthcare Al Developers a Holistic Solution to Access, Annotate, and Label Critical Imaging Data

#### November 28, 2022

BOSTON--(<u>BUSINESS WIRE</u>)--<u>Medcase</u>, a leading solution provider for healthcare AI, and <u>NTT</u> <u>DATA</u>, a digital business and IT services leader, have signed a definitive agreement to enable data discovery and enrichment solutions for healthcare imaging.

Al in healthcare is beginning to demonstrate an ability to improve productivity and outcomes in a competitive market space. Fulfilling data needs and enriching image data sets with annotation and labeling confronts an industry focused on critical development and release timelines. The new partnership between Medcase and NTT DATA addresses that inefficiency allowing Al developers and life sciences to focus on their training and data science.

"Enabling access to rich medical datasets has become paramount to our customers focused on reducing the time from concept to algorithm production," **said <u>Kyle Giddens</u>, CEO and Co-Founder of Medcase**. "Partnering with NTT DATA is exciting for us as we can now assist innovators with access to curated data, coupled with our enrichment solutions powered by Medcase's global network of health care professionals and annotators from radiologists to gastroenterologists working side by side with AI developers."

The collaboration will enable innovators working with Medcase to access enriched patient studies, including medical imaging, through NTT DATA's Advocate AI data cooperative network. Medcase's curation services and AI annotation solutions leverage a global network of healthcare experts to identify, diagnose, and audit medical data according to annotation and labeling guidelines from research, all the way to FDA reader studies.

"Data diversity across technology and patient populations is fundamental to ensuring strong analytics' training and high conformance," said <u>Mitchell Goldburgh</u>, Senior Director, Enterprise Imaging and Analytics, NTT DATA Services. "Confidence in AI grows by having a dynamic and broadly trained team of annotators complementing the data with their diversity in the art of annotation. We are pleased to have been chosen by Medcase as a go-to-market partner in advocating the adoption of AI."



T:+972-9-955-0560 ; www.harel-hertz.com ; info@harel-hertz.com © 2018-2019 Harel - Hertz Investment House All Rights Reserved Back To Top "Advancing technology innovation in the digital and medical space is the best way to improve patient outcomes quickly," **said Giddens**. "This is why we are excited to partner with NTT DATA to accelerate AI to the market with essential data annotation, labeling, and enablement that they need to innovate. Access to health care professionals should be as easy as spinning up a new cloud instance on Amazon, we make that easy with our platform and API's."

#### About NTT DATA

NTT DATA is a \$30 billion trusted global innovator of IT and business services. We help clients transform through business and technology consulting, industry and digital solutions, applications development, and managed edge-to-cloud infrastructure services, BPO, systems integration, and global data centers. We are committed to our client's long-term success and combine global reach with local client service in over 80 countries.

#### About Medcase

Medcase is changing how businesses access medical expertise, knowledge, and data by building the largest global network of on-demand healthcare professionals working remotely to assist healthcare innovators and AI developers.

By empowering leading industry leaders in medical devices, AI, and technology companies to pharmaceuticals and telemedicine, Medcase helps accelerate healthcare innovation and bring new medical technologies to market by connecting them to experts to enrich medical data, surveys, or interviews to assess go-to-market and regulation and even providing staffing for valuable telehealth or remote patient monitoring services.



## Al-powered pharmaceutical drug testing startup Quris Technologies raises \$9M in funding

#### BY MIKE WHEATLEY DECEMBER 20TH 2022 HTTPS://SILICONANGLE.COM/

Israeli pharmaceutical artificial intelligence startup <u>Quris Technologies Ltd.</u> said today it has secured an additional \$9 million in seed funding, bringing its total amount raised to \$37 million.

The latest investment was led by **SoftBank Vision Fund 2**, and included participation from existing investors such as GlenRock Capital, iAngels, Welltech Ventures and Richter Group.

Quris is a promising startup that has developed <u>AI-powered "patient-on-a-chip" system</u> that provides an alternative to human clinical trials and animal testing in drug development. According to the company, its platform has the potential to revolutionize drug development by simulating clinical trials. Instead of testing new drugs on humans or animals, it uses a combination of stemcell-derived tissue and AI to simulate the human body's reaction to new drugs accurately.

The startup says its platform is advantageous because human clinical trials are both expensive and time-intensive — and not without risk. Meanwhile, animal testing is very often inaccurate and carries a lot of stigma given ethical concerns. By simulating the reaction of humans to new drugs, Quris says it can reduce both the duration and cost of drug development.

Quris's patient-on-chip platform is at the cutting edge of biotechnology, using disposable "miniaturized biology" chips that incorporate real-time nanosensor and nanocirculation technologies.

The startup has already aided in the development of one new pharmaceutical product that's aimed at treating Fragile X syndrome, the most common inherited cause of autism and intellectual disabilities worldwide. In addition, Quris has <u>forged a partnership</u> with the New York Stem Cell Foundation Research Institute that has led to the development of a fully automated, self-training AI platform to predict the clinical safety and efficacy of new drug candidates. The platform is being trained on a combination of known safe and toxic drugs and is designed to rapidly screen thousands of potential drug formulations on hundreds of genetically diverse, miniaturized patients-on-a-chip.

Quris founder and Chief Executive Dr. Isaac Bentwich said his company has much to gain from partnering with SoftBank. "SoftBank's ecosystem comprises an impressive cluster of companies



leading the field of artificial intelligence for pharma," he said. "As an investment partner, it gives them a unique perspective on this young and promising field that has already begun to produce significant unicorns."

Looking ahead, Quris said the capital raised today will help it to advance its Bio-AI platform and speed up novel drug research, while growing its team and strengthening its industry collaborations.

Yossi Cohen, director of Israel operations for SoftBank Investment Advisers, said Quris's early forecasting capabilities brings "real potential impact" to the global pharmaceutical industry. "Harnessing the novel application of AI, Dr. Bentwich and his team could save the enormous costs of drugs failing in clinical trials, and in doing so create a business in Israel of significant economic value," he said

### Marubeni: Investing in the Cyber Security Business for Operational Technology of Critical Infrastructure and Manufacturing. Investment and Collaboration with CyberGym, Israel

#### Dec. 21, 2022 Marubeni Corporation

Marubeni Corporation (hereinafter, "Marubeni") has signed an investment agreement with CyberGym, an Israeli company that develops cyber security solutions for OT\* systems. Marubeni has also agreed to collaborate with CyberGym and CYBERGYM Japan which have been covering Japan and Asia in the field of OT security for critical infrastructure and manufacturing in Asian countries.

In various fields of business activities, information systems and the Internet are essential to the operation of companies, and at the same time, the need for cyber security measures has been increasing. Particularly, in critical infrastructure, such as power plants and the manufacturing industry, rapid automation and the spread of IoT have made it essential for plant facilities and factories to be connected to the Internet, increasingly exposing them to cyberattacks from outside the OT environment. As a result, the need for cyber security measures, including human resources capable of dealing with such cyberattacks, has become an urgent issue.



CyberGym was established in 2013 as an independent security division of Israel Electric Corporation (hereinafter, "IEC"), which is responsible for the generation and transmission of electricity throughout Israel. Since then, CyberGym has leveraged its experienced human resources and know-how to establish itself as a leading company in the field of cybersecurity with a particular strength in analyzing the latest cyberattacks and providing training services that teach participants how to deal with them in practice. CyberGym's clients include government agencies, critical infrastructure providers and operators-including its strategic partner, the IEC-financial institutions, and other companies.

Marubeni will develop the OT security sector in Asian countries, helping customers solve their cybersecurity challenges and achieve stable operation of critical infrastructure and manufacturing, and economic growth by leveraging the Marubeni Group's network of critical infrastructure and manufacturing companies, together with the services of CyberGym.

#### About CyberGym:

Company:	CyberGym	
Location:	Hadera, Israel	
Founded:	2013	
CEO:	Ofir Hason	
Business:	Cyber security training, assessment, security solutions, etc.	
Website:	https://www.cybergym.com/	

#### About CyberGym Japan:

Company:	CyberGym Japan Co., Ltd.
Location:	Tokyo, Japan
Founded:	2020
CEO:	Nobuhiko Ishihara
Business:	Cyber security training, assessment, security solutions, etc.



## MediWound's partner Kaken Pharma gets Japanese approval to market NexoBrid

#### Yavne, Israel

Tuesday, December 27, 2022,

MediWound Ltd., a fully integrated biopharmaceutical company focused on next-generation biotherapeutic solutions for tissue repair and regeneration, announced that its partner, Kaken Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. has gained marketing approval of NexoBrid in Japan. Kaken Pharmaceutical, a top ranked Japanese pharmaceutical company, has the exclusive right to market and distribute NexoBrid in Japan. Kaken Pharmaceutical expects to launch NexoBrid in the summer of 2023.

The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor, and Welfare (MHLW) has granted NexoBrid marketing authorization for non-surgical eschar removal of deep-partial and full-thickness thermal burns for the adult and paediatric population. NexoBrid is approved under the orphan drug designation granted by the MHLW as a priority review for unmet medical needs.

"We look forward to partnering with Kaken Pharmaceutical and are confident that their proven track record of achieving market penetration will maximize the medical and commercial potential of NexoBrid in Japan," stated Ofer Gonen, chief executive officer of MediWound. "This approval further supports our global commercialization strategy to expand the use of NexoBrid to international markets via collaborations with local partners and through additional marketing approvals."

Hiroyuki Horiuchi, president and representative director of Kaken Pharmaceutical said, "We are very excited to partner with MediWound and bring NexoBrid to patients in Japan. Broad evidencebased clinical studies and firsthand experience of leading experts worldwide show that NexoBrid will play a major role in the future of burn care. We look forward to making it the standard of care in Japan."

NexoBrid (concentrate of proteolytic enzymes enriched in bromelain) is a topically administered biological product that enzymatically removes nonviable burn tissue, or eschar, in patients with deep partial and full-thickness thermal burns within four hours of application without harming viable tissue.



NexoBrid is approved in 43 countries, in the European Union and other international markets, and is at registration-stage with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with a PDUFA target date set.

Kaken Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. is a specialty pharmaceutical company in Japan with strong experience in developing and commercializing novel pharmaceuticals in the fields of orthopaedics and dermatology.

MediWound is a biopharmaceutical company that develops, manufactures, and commercializes novel, cost effective, bio-therapeutic solutions for tissue repair and regeneration.

#### Inspira<sup>™</sup> Technologies Signs Strategic OEM Agreement with Terumo Cardiovascular

RA'ANANA, Israel, Dec. 28, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Inspira Technologies OXY B.H.N. Ltd. (Nasdaq: IINN) (Nasdaq: IINNW) (the "Company" or "Inspira Technologies"), a groundbreaking respiratory support technology company, announced today that it has signed an exclusive OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturing) agreement with Terumo Cardiovascular, a division of Terumo Corporation, a leading global medical device company. Terumo Corporation operates in over 160 countries and regions around the world, providing patients in a variety of medical settings with over 50,000 products and services.

Terumo Cardiovascular are experts in the field of oxygenation systems, heart-lung machines and monitoring systems. The agreement provides for the manufacture of a flow mechanism that is intended to be integrated into Inspira Technologies' products for use in the extracorporeal circulation of the blood during the oxygenation process. This may also include integration into the INSPIRA<sup>™</sup> ART system, designed to introduce a new mode of acute respiratory care by boosting oxygen saturation levels in minutes using small volumes of blood. The INSPIRA ART system is designed to treat patients while they are awake and breathing spontaneously, reducing the need for invasive mechanical ventilation.

Joe Hayon, Inspira Technologies' Co-Founder and President stated: "This is a very important agreement for the Company, and we believe that it is in line with our strategy towards developing collaborations with the largest medical device companies to join in on our journey to market."

#### Inspira Technologies OXY B.H.N. Ltd.

Inspira Technologies is an innovative medical technology company in the respiratory treatment arena. The Company has developed a breakthrough Augmented Respiration Technology (INSPIRA ART), designed to rebalance patient oxygen saturation levels. This technology



potentially allows patients to remain awake during treatment while reducing the need for highly invasive, risky, and costly mechanical ventilation systems that require intubation and medically induced coma. The Company's products have not yet been tested or used in humans and has not been approved by any regulatory entity.

# GITV joins the Dock Ventures to Invest in Gigaton Carbon Ltd seed round

29 December 2022

GITV the Japanese VC part of the Internet Research Institute Holding (IRI) invested in the seed round of Gigaton Carbon Ltd.

The Investment round was lead by <u>the DOCK Navigator II\*</u> and joined by At One Ventured. Foxglove Capital, Fresh Fund II and private investors.

Gigaton Carbon was founded by Ms. Sapir Markus Alford and by Mr, Dotan Levy, a year ago,

Gigaton's technology is reducing the greenhouse gases from the atmosphere by nature-based ocean CDR (Carbon Dioxide Removal) and storage.



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