January 30, 2025

For Immediate Release

INTLOOP Inc.
Hirofumi Hayashi, Representative Director
(Stock code: 9556; TSE Growth Market)
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Notice Concerning the Establishment of a Joint Venture Company

We are pleased to announce that our Board of Directors has resolved at a meeting held today to establish a joint venture company through joint investment with Asahi Shokuhin Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Nankoku City, Kochi Prefecture; President and CEO: Takahisa Takeuchi; hereinafter, "Asahi Shokuhin").

1. Background to the establishment of the joint venture company, etc.

The Japanese "food industry" has seen an increase in bankruptcies for two consecutive years since 2021 against a backdrop of unstoppable raw material price hikes, rising labor costs, and delayed recovery of business performance after the COVID-19 pandemic. A number of companies are facing the crisis of going out of business. *1

In contrast, INTLOOP has long held the desire to "support Japanese food culture" as a company. INTLOOP also see "regional revitalization" as one of the issues facing the Japanese economy, and INTLOOP has been working to support local companies by providing consulting services to alleviate the shortage of labor in regional areas through matching highly skilled personnel with companies.

Asahi Shokuhin, which has its headquarters in Kochi, has long also supported the local economy through food by leveraging its strengths as a regional wholesaler and participating in "regional revitalization." In addition, Asahi Shokuhin has been working on its food wholesaling business with a global perspective and an eye on the market, with the key phrase: "Connect with the world, connecting the region" in its most recent management policy.

The common passion of both companies for "regional revitalization" and "the inheritance of Japanese food culture" resonated with each other, and this time, INTLOOP and Asahi Shokuhin have decided to proceed with the establishment of the joint venture company as joint partners.

After the establishment of this joint venture, the joint venture will aim to create an industry-specific buyout fund*2 that provides strategic support to food-related companies facing management issues by combining the expertise of INTLOOP's management consulting services and the knowledge of Asahi Shokuhin, which has a strong presence in the food industry as a "regional wholesaler".

Specifically, INTLOOP will provide consulting services related to overall management and business operations, while Asahi Shokuhin will provide support in terms of food industry know-how, sales network utilization, and logistics functions. Through the above solutions provided by INTLOOP and Asahi Shokuhin, the joint venture aims to solve the issues of the companies we support and to fully demonstrate and bring out the individuality and appeal of these companies.

INTLOOP and Asahi Shokuhin will continue to work together to find solutions to the problem of revitalizing the food industry in Japan, especially in regional areas. We also believe that through the efforts of both companies, we can contribute to the sustainable economic development of Japanese society and the revitalization of local communities.

We also believe that the establishment of this joint venture will enable us to create a role model for new management strategies in the Japanese food industry. By expanding this model, which INTLOOP has developed with Asahi Shokuhin, to not only the food industry but also to a variety of other traditional industries, INTLOOP will support the continuation of Japanese culture.

*1 (Reference) "Bankruptcies in 'the food industry' increased for the second consecutive year, reaching 653 cases. The rising cost of raw materials, energy and labor is a burden."
Tokyo Shoko Research Ltd. (https://www.tsr-net.co.jp/data/detail/1198511_1527.html Japanese only)

*2 Buyout funds
An investment fund that seeks to restructure businesses and improve management through acquisitions of companies. It aims to improve corporate value by investing management resources, especially in companies that are facing management issues.

2. Outline of the Joint Venture

(1)	Name	Food Co-creation Partners Inc
(2)	Location	4-6, Akasaka 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo
(3)	Position and Name of Representative	Hirofumi Hayashi, Representative Director Shin Takeuchi, Representative Director
(4)	Overview of Business	Food industry management business and related businesses, etc.
(5)	Capital	490,000,000 yen
(6)	Establishment Date	January 30, 2025 (planned)
(7)	Fiscal Year-end	March 31
(8)	Net Assets	980,000,000 yen
(9)	Total Assets	980,000,000 yen
(10)	Investment Ratio	INTLOOP 50% Asahi Shokuhin 50%

Note: There are no decisions regarding the performance outlook for the joint venture company.

3. Outline of the Joint Venture Partner

(1)	Name	Asahi Shokuhin Co., Ltd.
(2)	Location	246 Ryoseki, Nankoku City, Kochi Prefecture
(3)	Position and Name of Representative	Takahisa Takeuchi, President and CEO
(4)	Overview of Business	Wholesale of general processed foods, frozen foods, chilled foods, alcoholic beverages, confectionery, and household goods
(5)	Establishment Date	December 3, 2012

(6)	Fiscal Year-end	March 31	
(7)	Relationship between INTLOOP Inc. and Asahi Shokuhin Co., Ltd.	Capital relationship	Not applicable.
		Personnel relationship	Not applicable.
		Business relationship	Not applicable.
		Status as a related party	Not applicable.

4. Schedule

January 30, 2025: Signing of the joint venture agreement

January 30, 2025: Establishment of the joint venture (planned)

January 30, 2025: Start of business (planned)

5. Business Outlook

We recognize that the impact of this matter on our business performance and consolidated financial results for the fiscal year ending July 2025 is expected to be minimal at this time.

If any matter arises that should be announced in the future, such as a revision of the earnings forecast, we will disclose it promptly.