

September 10, 2024

For Immediate Release

New Horizon Capital Co., Ltd.

Announcement of Investment in Kantobi Co., Ltd.

New Horizon No. 4 Investment Limited Partnership (hereinafter collectively referred to as "our company") managed by New Horizon Capital Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; CEO: Yasushi Ando) is pleased to announce that it has invested in Kantobi Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Shimizu-ku, Shizuoka City, Shizuoka Prefecture; CEO: Hiroyasu Sato; hereinafter "Kantobi") on August 9th.

Since its founding in 1970, Kantobi has been constructing temporary scaffolding and leasing temporary materials for construction and civil engineering works. Since current president Hiroyasu Sato took over as representative director in 2002, the company has focused on several priorities. It recruits and trains young employees as well as introduces the latest suspended scaffolding technology. It also expanded its business scope, establishing a solid position in the industry by performing advanced scaffolding work for infrastructure such as bridges safely and skillfully.

The labor shortage in the construction industry is becoming more serious every year, and improving efficiency and safety measures to create better work conditions is becoming more important. The temporary scaffolding work that Kantobi handles is essential for various construction work. It ensures space and safety for high-altitude work at construction sites and Kantobi is a company that truly supports the safety of construction sites from the ground up. Kantobi handles not only regular scaffolding, but also higher unit priced-higher added value scaffolding work, such as "Quick Deck," a suspended scaffolding used in bridge and elevated construction. In response to the labor shortage, which is an issue for the entire construction industry, Kantobi has strengthened in-house recruitment, achieving a hiring and retention rate that far exceeds the industry standard. In addition, its performance has helped it maintain a high profitability structure. Kantobi has recently selected us as its partner to help grow the company in the medium to long term. We decided to make this investment because we felt it was in line with our company's philosophy of "meaningful investment" to act as an intermediary in a high-quality business's succession plan, passing it on to the next generation.

Hiroyasu Sato will continue in his role as representative director for the time being and will proceed with the handover of operations to a candidate for the next President. In addition, we have dispatched

several new directors and auditors from our company.

About NHC:

Since its predecessor Phoenix Capital was founded in February 2002, and after its separation in October 2006, NHC has a track record of over 20 years (the largest of any independent fund, with a total of over 270 billion yen in accumulated assets under management). Currently, NHC is managing its sixth fund and its tenth since its founding. Since 2002, NHC's team members, including Yasushi Ando, who has been the key person (principal manager) at the time of the founding of all funds, have made numerous investments at Phoenix Capital, including Mitsubishi Motors, Teac, Tokyu Construction, Fudo Construction, SeikiTokyu Kogyo, Ichida, Tsumura, etc., and the team has also executed many investments through New Horizon Funds 1 to 4 including Housetec, Shibaura Bosai Seisakusho, Showa Corporation, and NITTO/Heisei Bisio, NHC has the longest track record of investment in Japan, including in more than 100 firms, 50 of which are equity investments.

For inquiries and further information, please contact:

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