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For Immediate Release

New Horizon Capital Co., Ltd

## **NHC Invests in SOLTEC**

New Horizon Capital Co., Ltd (Head Office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Chairman: Yasushi Ando; hereinafter NHC), a leading independent private equity fund, announced that NHC's fourth fund (hereinafter NH-4) has invested in SOLTEC CO., LTD. (Head office: Suita City, Osaka; President: Akira Shiota; hereinafter "SOLTEC") as of today.

Since its establishment in 2003, SOLTEC has engaged in slope stabilization work, helping to create safe and secure communities, and maintain functional socioeconomic systems. In addition, using highly skilled staff and abundant construction equipment, SOLTEC has built a system that provides high-quality services with short delivery times at reasonable prices. As a result, the company has earned customers' trust and gained a large share of the primary contracting work in the Kinki area. In recent years, SOLTEC has received growing number of large-scale projects orders, as well as inquiries from other regions. Its reputation has also earned it diverse growth opportunities, such as infrastructure development and technology transfer projects in developing countries and the company is expected to continue to expand its business.

In these times, intense and frequent weather disasters due to climate change, the imminent occurrence of large-scale earthquakes like the Nankai Trough Earthquake, and the aging of infrastructure demand that we accelerate and deepen our disaster prevention and national land resilience efforts to protect the lives and property of citizens as well as to maintain important social functions. Since the Cabinet decision on the Fundamental Plan for National Resilience, the country has been promoting resilience in all regions in preparation for large-scale natural disasters. However, progress has been slow in areas related to slope works, such as landslide prevention measures on sloping roads and embankments, and forest improvement and disaster prevention in at-risk mountain areas. NHC is making this investment because of its confidence that the need and investment for disaster prevention, mitigation and national land resilience will continue. As it does, SOLTEC, with its abundant experience and resources in slope construction, will grow as well.

NHC is committed to working with all executives and employees at SOLTEC to enhance SOLTEC's corporate value by improving its organization and strengthening its management and administrative functions.

Akira Shiota will remain as representative director of SOLTEC. NHC will send new directors and a

corporate auditor after the acquisition.

About NHC:

New Horizon Capital (NHC) is a top-tier Japanese PE fund targeting small- to mid-cap buyout deals, with more than 20 years of experience and a cumulative AUM of 270 billion yen. NHC was spun off from Phoenix Capital, which was founded by Yasushi Ando. NHC has been managing six funds since its foundation, and ten funds in total as Phoenix Capital and NHC. The NHC team has an excellent equity investment track record that includes Mitsubishi Motors Corporation, Teac Corporation, Tokyu Construction, Fudo Construction, Seikitokyu Kogyo, Ichida, Tsumura, Hitachi Housotec, Marumo Industry, Mag2, iae Holdings, Tachikichi, Takeda Industry, Generosity, Shibaura Fire Pump Corporation, Kawasaki Holdings, Showa Corporation, LocalFolio, Willumina, Wood TEC, NITTO, Japan System Care, Iwata Industry, SAT Corporation, LeadPlus, Heisei biso, BIQREA Holdings, Torque System, Ideal, Kurohime Group, AC Works, and TAKAFUJI. NHC has the longest track record of investment in Japan, including more than 100 firms, 50 of which are equity investments.

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