



February 25, 2022

Investment in KANTEC Co., Ltd. and Kantec Co., Ltd. by NSSK

Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko (“NSSK”; www.nsskjapan.com) is pleased to announce that investment partnerships managed or provided with services by NSSK's Regional Impact Fund completed a majority investment in KANTEC Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Osaka) and Kantec Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo) (collectively the “KANTEC Group”; www.kantec.net).

The KANTEC Group is a group of companies established in November 2009. The KANTEC Group primarily engages in the business of repairing, installing, and selling natural refrigerant heat pump water heaters (Eco-Cute). It holds a significant market share in each region of Japan with its unique brand and marketing capabilities with a special focus on the Kinki, Hokuriku, and Kanto regions as its main bases.

Building on the business foundation that the KANTEC Group has established, NSSK will provide its unique NSSK Value-up Program (“NVP”), its business expertise, and domestic and international networks, working with the current management team so that the KANTEC Group can achieve more robust growth in its next stage of development. NSSK will support the planning and implementation of business improvement measures such as expanding the number of clients with the aim of achieving further sales growth, and assist in the introduction of business management methods, which includes the establishment of KPIs, strengthening of governance and compliance systems, enhancing labor management systems, disseminating corporate philosophy, and promoting ESG activities. NSSK is partnering with the current management team, who will continue to manage the KANTEC Group.

Through its Regional Impact Funds, NSSK will continue to invest in attractive Japanese companies with high growth potential. By providing the necessary growth capital, domestic and international networks, and processes and human resources for the improvement of operations in a timely and practical manner, NSSK will work together with its portfolio companies to increase corporate and shareholder value while contributing to the environment, society, and corporate governance in Japan and around the world.

Furthermore, we will continue to invest in and support the management of small and medium-sized companies with growth potential in regional areas, contributing to the economic development and revitalization of local communities through the creation of employment opportunities.

For more information, please contact:
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Investor name:	Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko (www.nssk-japan.com)
Founded:	December 2014
Headquarters:	Atago Green Hills MORI Tower 17F 2-5-1, Atago, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Representative:	Jun Tsusaka
Overview:	NSSK is a group established by professionals who have more than 30 years of experience in investing in major global companies and supporting their portfolio companies in Japan and overseas, with the aim of supporting Japanese companies. As a partner in the promotion of region-based finance for attractive Japanese companies with high potential, it aims to enhance corporate value and contribute to the environment, society, and corporate governance in Japan and beyond by utilizing its investment and management support know-how cultivated on a global stage.

Investment Entity:	Regional Impact Funds (Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko group)
Founded:	June 2019
Headquarters:	Atago Green Hills MORI Tower 17F 2-5-1, Atago, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Overview:	<p>Regional Impact Funds consist of four funds; Region Vitalization/Business Succession Advancement Investment L.P., Kanto/Higashi-Nihon Region Vitalization/Business Succession Advancement Investment L.P., Chubu/Hokuriku Region Vitalization/Business Succession Advancement Investment L.P., and Kinki/Nishi-Nihon Vitalization/Business Succession Advancement Investment L.P.</p> <p>By comprehensively utilizing NSSK's management resources and regional financial institutions in each region of Japan, NSSK aims to revitalize regional economies by investing in and providing management support to local small and medium-sized enterprises.</p>

Company name:	KANTEC Co., Ltd./Kantec Co., Ltd. (KANTEC Group) (www.kantec.net)
Founded:	November 2009
Headquarters:	KANTEC Co., Ltd.: 1-11-2 Higashitenma, Kita-ku, Osaka City, Osaka, Japan Kantec Co., Ltd.: 2F Gotanda Sun Heights Bldg., 1-26-2 Nishi-Gotanda, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Overview:	The KANTEC Group primarily engages in the business of repairing, installing, and selling natural refrigerant heat pump water heaters (Eco-Cute). It holds a significant market share in each region of Japan with its unique brand and marketing capabilities with a special focus on the Kinki, Hokuriku, and Kanto regions as its main bases.