

March 5, 2015

KKE Invests in Kansai Science City ATR-Venture NVCC Investment Limited Partnership

Kozo Keikaku Engineering Inc. (Head Office: Nakano-ku, Tokyo, President: Shota Hattori, “KKE” hereinafter) announced today that it would invest (committed capital: 200 million yen) in the “Kansai Science City ATR-Venture NVCC Investment Limited Partnership (“Keihanna ATR Fund” hereinafter), an investment fund established on February 10, 2015.

The Keihanna ATR Fund is run by Nippon Venture Capital Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President: Shuichi Okuhara, “NVCC” hereinafter), together with Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (Head Office: Soraku-gun, Kyoto Prefecture, President: Yasuo Hirata, “ATR” hereinafter) with the aim of creating new industries based on ATR’s leading research.

As one of the core research institutes in Kansai Science City, ATR has been promoting original and pioneering research in the information communication field in collaboration with Japanese and overseas governments, industry and academia. It has contributed to technology that has spread throughout society, such as speech-to-speech translation and speech recognition, as well as to wireless communication. ATR has also undertaken research in other fields, such as neuro-knowledge science and life-support robots, which are expected to significantly contribute to the future of society, and has been actively trying to build new businesses based on its R&D outcomes.

Established by NVCC, a company with rich experience in operating university venture funds, Keihanna ATR Fund will invest in venture companies using ATR’s technologies in order to create a new research institute-centered business model.

KKE strives to solve the various issues and challenges that society faces, utilizing its engineering expertise acquired through knowledge exchanges in diverse fields based on its company philosophy, in order to become a professional design and engineering company that can bridge the academic and industrial worlds.

The purpose of the Keihanna ATR Fund and KKE’s company philosophy have a high degree of compatibility, thus KKE will work to pursue high-quality services and solutions by combining the technologies that ATR and KKE possess.

■ About the Keihanna ATR Fund

Name: Kansai Science City ATR-Venture NVCC Investment Limited Partnership

Investment Target: Venture companies and other businesses that are acknowledged by ATR to be using or have the intention to use the intellectual property owned by ATR.

General Partner: Nippon Venture Capital Co., Ltd.

Establishment: February 10, 2015

Capital Commitment: Up to 5 billion yen

Establishment Period: Until June 30, 2024

■ About KKE (<http://www.kke.co.jp/en/>)

Founded as a structural design firm in 1956, KKE has expanded its objects of analysis from buildings to the surrounding natural environment (i.e. earthquakes, tsunami, wind, etc.), society, businesses, and communities. As a professional design and engineering company that bridges the academic and industrial worlds, KKE strives to solve the various issues and challenges that society faces, utilizing its engineering expertise acquired through knowledge exchanges in diverse fields. KKE will thus contribute to creating a better society and systems for the next generation.

■ For More Information

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