

September 7, 2017

Acquisition of SORA GROUP Co., Ltd. by NSSK

Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko ("NSSK"; <http://www.nsskjapan.com/en>) is pleased to announce the acquisition, through Chubu/Hokuriku Region Vitalization Investment L.P. ("Chubu/Hokuriku Investment L.P."), of SORA GROUP Co., Ltd. (<http://www.sora-g.jp>) ("SORA GROUP" or the "Company").

SORA GROUP is a medium-sized, privately held Japanese restaurant operator with more than 30 restaurants, which include Japanese restaurants, pizzerias, Chinese restaurants, ramen (Japanese noodle) restaurants and bakeries, in Nagoya City and its vicinities. Its restaurants are popular among local clientele because of its quality food and attractive ambience.

NSSK will provide NSSK's Value Up Program ("NVP") to SORA GROUP to implement global best practices including accounting, finance, compliance and governance measures, more effective management, profitability enhancement with the acceleration of development of new restaurant formats and opening new restaurants. NSSK is sending directors to the Company and is partnering with SORA GROUP's existing management team, who will continue to manage the Company.

NSSK, through Chubu/Hokuriku Investment L.P., will invest in attractive small and medium sized companies with high growth potential based in Chubu/Hokuriku area (Aichi, Gifu, Mie, Shizuoka, Nagano, Toyama, Ishikawa and Fukui Prefectures). NSSK will provide expansion capital, critical business processes for operational improvement, management talent from its network of domestic and international operating executives, the support for international business expansion and the support for attracting foreign travelers to Japan, to enhance the value of the acquired companies and eventually vitalize the regional economy, increasing the job opportunities in the region.

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Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko

Founded:	December 2014
Headquarters:	Atago Green Hills MORI Tower 17F 2-5-1, Atago, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Representative	Jun Tsusaka
Overview:	NSSK is an independent Japanese alternative investment management company with a focus on Japan. NSSK pursues superior returns by applying global investment discipline, operating expertise and human capital to the attractive SME market in Japan. Chubu/Hokuriku Region Vitalization Investment L.P. is an affiliate of NSSK.

Chubu/Hokuriku Region Vitalization Investment L.P.

(“Chubu/Hokuriku Investment L.P.”)

Founded:	October 2016
Headquarters:	Atago Green Hills MORI Tower 17F 2-5-1, Atago, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Sponsor	Nippon Sangyo Suishin Kiko
Overview:	Chubu/Hokuriku Investment L.P. invests in attractive small and medium sized companies with high growth potential based in Chubu/Hokuriku area (Aichi, Gifu, Mie, Shizuoka, Nagano, Toyama, Ishikawa and Fukui Prefectures).

SORA GROUP Co., Ltd. (“SORA GROUP”)

Founded:	January 2007
Headquarters:	2-13-26 Nishiki, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi Prefecture, Japan
Representative	Yoshiko Yahata
Overview:	SORA GROUP is operating more than 30 restaurants, including Japanese, western, Chinese restaurants, in Nagoya and its vicinities. Its restaurants are popular among local clientele because of its tasty foods and good ambience.