

JICT Decides to Support ICT Service Businesses Related to Multilingual Communications in US, Other Countries

Fund Corporation for the Overseas Development of Japan's ICT and Postal Services Inc. ("JICT") (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Amane Oshima) announced today that it has decided to invest in Pocketalk Corporation ("Pocketalk") (Minato-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Noriyuki Matsuda), an ICT service provider related to multilingual communications and subsidiary of Sourcnext Corporation ("Sourcnext") (Minato-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Noriyuki Matsuda) to support its business expansion in the United States and other overseas markets. JICT has today received approval from the Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications to invest up to 200 million yen in Pocketalk.

Pocketalk provides cloud- and AI-based translation services through devices developed in-house, smartphone apps, and PC software based on a two-way voice translation technology* developed by Pocketalk. This technology offers voice/text data transmission between devices and the cloud platform, executing a process of voice recognition, translation and voice synthesis on the cloud platform. Pocketalk provides its AI-powered translation service to support not only tourists around the world but also non-English-speakers, other linguistic minorities, and multilingual communications in North America and Europe, to achieve Pocketalk's mission of "Breaking Down Language Barriers." The AI-powered translation device POCKETALK®, which is Pocketalk's main product, offers consistently accurate translation for conversations and visuals across 83 languages and comes with a built-in global SIM that provides coverage in over 130 countries/regions (141 countries/regions for the "POCKETALK S" and 139 countries/regions for the "POCKETALK W"). Worldwide cumulative sales totaled approximately 900,000 units as of September 14, 2021.

* Pocketalk achieves highly accurate translation based on appropriate combinations of voice recognition engine, translation engine and voice synthesis engine from multiple engines on the cloud platform. One of the engines is provided by the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology ("NICT").

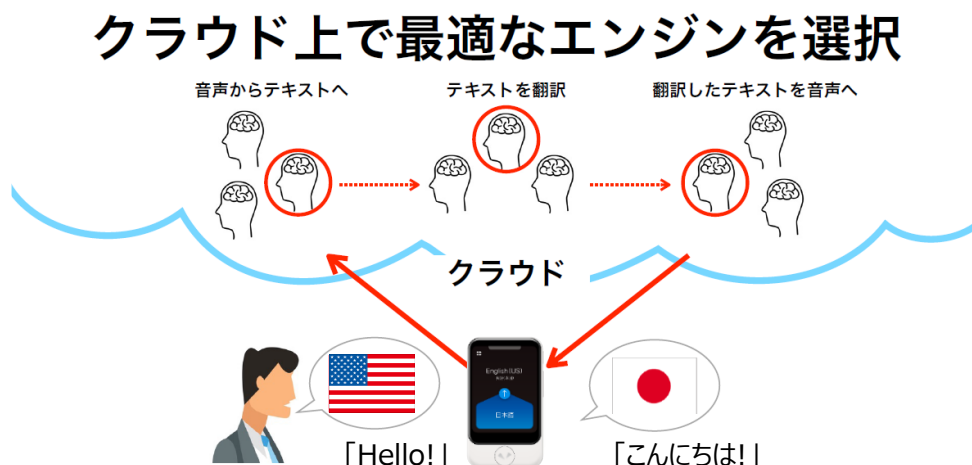
A number of business partners are investing in this funding round, including Koei Tecmo Capital Co., Ltd. ("Koei Tecmo Capital"), a subsidiary of Koei Tecmo Holdings Co., Ltd. ("Koei Tecmo") (Kohoku-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa; President & CEO: Yoichi Erikawa). With this additional capital participation, JICT expects Pocketalk to achieve further business development and global expansion.

Pocketalk's mission "Breaking Down Language Barriers" is a good fit for, and profoundly resonates with, JICT's vision of contributing to the effort "to build a better future." JICT will support Pocketalk as it deploys operations in global markets by leveraging the national and international network of the JICT ecosystem and cultivating further Pocketalk's reliability and social value. Through a wide array of projects, JICT will support the deployment of overseas business by Japanese enterprises in the fields of communication, broadcasting and postal services.

Outline of JICT's Financing Support

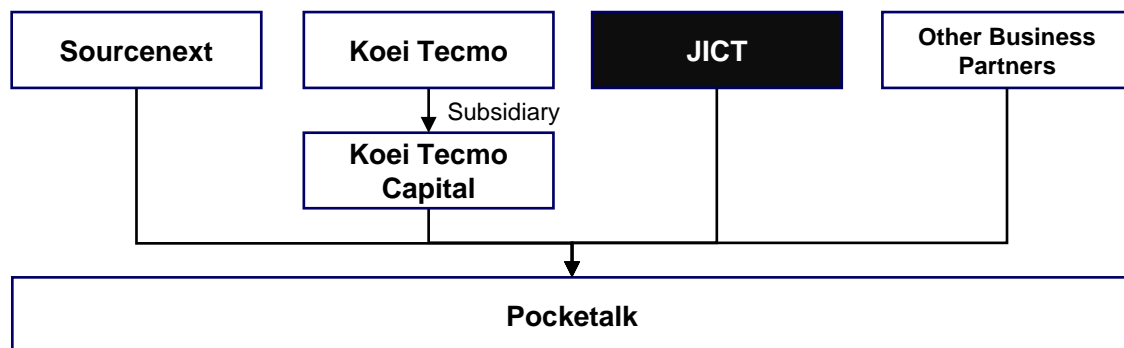
1. Target projects: ICT service businesses related to multilingual communication
2. Target countries: United States, etc.
3. Approved amount of funds to be supplied by JICT: 200 million yen maximum
4. Supported enterprise: Pocketalk
5. Investment partners: Koei Tecmo Capital (This company provided advance investment in November 2022.)
6. Estimated timing of execution: December 2022 (planned)

Schematic View of Project



Note: The above illustration is in Japanese only.

Investment Scheme



Note: The diagram above is a simplified illustration of the investment scheme.

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