

The following is a translation summary of the official announcement given to the JASDAQ and the media in Tokyo, Japan.



December 16, 2005

Company: SPARX Asset Management Co., Ltd
(JASDAQ Code: 8739)

Notice Regarding Equity Acquisition More Than 20% of Pentax Corporation Shares

SPARX Asset Management Co., Ltd. ("SPARX") has acquired the 20.86 % shares of Pentax Corporation (hereafter "Pentax", security code: 7750), as of December 13, acting in the capacity of investment adviser of assets under management for our clients, (such information was submitted to the Kanto Local Financial Bureau in the normal course on December 16).

SPARX highly appreciates the business, technology, brand, and management of Pentax. SPARX has allocated the assets of certain discretionary managed accounts and investment trust accounts toward Pentax, since SPARX expects that Pentax can enhance their business in long term through focusing its business resources. This investment is therefore purely aiming for portfolio investment regarding the management of our clients' assets.

It is SPARX's understanding based on the regular and continuous communications with the management of Pentax that the management of Pentax appreciates our investment approach.

SPARX will continue to monitor its investments and make investment decisions while to the extent proper and appropriate maintaining good relationship with the management of Pentax.

This investment has made based on client's assets and no equity interest method applies to SPARX.

End of press release