

October 17, 2018

Dai-ichi Life to Impact Investment in MELTIN MMI

– Mitigating Accidents Caused by Work in Hazardous Environments by MELTIN’s Avatar Robots –

The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited (the “Company”; President and Representative Director: Seiji Inagaki) has made an impact investment¹ of 300 million yen in MELTIN MMI (“MELTIN”; CEO: Masahiro Kasuya), as part of the Company’s ESG investments. MELTIN is a Japanese startup company engaged in research and development into cyborg technologies.

[Key Points]

- Invest 300 million yen in MELTIN as an impact investment which aims to achieve both gaining investment returns and generating social impacts (such as structural changes in society).
- The world's first avatar robot² developed by MELTIN, which is closest to human hands, is expected to have a positive social impact by reducing the risk of accidents and related incidents involving work in hazardous environments.

MELTIN’s strengths lie in its high-precision analytics technologies for interpreting bio-signals transmitted from the brain to the muscles and its robotics technologies for reproducing the complex movements of the human hand in a wire-driven manner. Leveraging these strengths, MELTIN is conducting research and development into avatar robots, medical devices and related innovations.

MELTIN’s Avatar Robot “MELTANT-α”

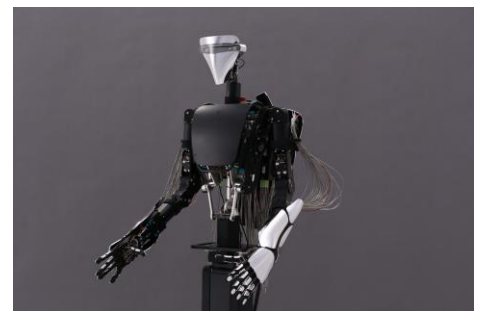


Photo credit: MELTIN

MELTIN’s avatar robot is the world's first practical product capable of delicate movements that combine strength and dexterity, which can be operated in real time from a remote location. It is expected to provide benefits such as mitigating accidents by taking over complex tasks in hazardous working environment such as outer space, high places and plants with hazards.

¹ Impact investment is an investment method where Dai-ichi Life makes investment decisions with the intent to gain investment returns and generate social impacts (e.g., structural change in society).

² Robots that can be operated by humans from a remote location and controlled as if they were an extension of their own bodies.

Through this investment, the Company will support MELTIN’s activities from a financing perspective, as these activities are expected to have a positive social impact by reducing the risk of accidents and related incidents involving work in hazardous environments. At the same time, the Company expects to generate high investment returns from this project. The Company will continuously monitor MELTIN’s progress on its activities.

The Company will continue striving to enhance investment return by refining and diversifying its investment methods. Concurrently, the Company will proactively engage in ESG investing in order to contribute to building a sustainable society as a responsible institutional investor.

Dai-ichi Life’s Fiscal 2018 Key Engagement Themes for ESG Investing



MELTIN MMI CEO Masahiro Kasuya made the following remarks:



“We fundamentally change human lives and lifestyles through our cyborg technologies. We are pleased to be able to develop businesses that are more closely aligned with our daily lives by working with Dai-ichi Life, which has been working on life from the perspective of insurance. We aim to accelerate our business through this partnership and realize a world where all people can live happily without any hindrance as soon as possible.”

【Company Outline of MELTIN】

Trade name	MELTIN MMI
Head Office	1-18 Funamachi Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan
CEO	Masahiro Kasuya
Established	July 19, 2013
Business Description	Cyborg business by using bio-signal and robot technology - R&D · Commercialization of medical and welfare equipment. - R&D · Commercialization of avatar robot. - R&D · Commercialization of empowering robots and devices.

[Dai-ichi Life's Impact Investment History]

Headline	Release date	URL
Dai-ichi Life to Engage in Impact Investment –First Impact Investment in Gojo & Company, Inc. which provides support for micro-finance business–	October 23, 2017	http://www.dai-ichi-life.co.jp/english/news_release/2017/pdf/index_012.pdf
Dai-ichi Life to Investment in Spiber Inc. –Second Impact Investment through Support for Development of New-Generation Bio-Materials–	October 23, 2017	http://www.dai-ichi-life.co.jp/company/news/pdf/2017_044.pdf
Dai-ichi Life to Investment in CureApp, Inc. –Third Impact Investment through Support for Treatment Applications–	February 26, 2018	http://www.dai-ichi-life.co.jp/english/news_release/2017/pdf/index_018.pdf
Dai-ichi Life to Impact Investment in CROWD CREDIT, Inc. –Energize Business Activities in Developing Countries to Alleviate the Global Supply-Demand Gap for Funds–	April 5, 2018	http://www.dai-ichi-life.co.jp/company/news/pdf/2018_002.pdf
Dai-ichi Life to Impact Investment in SUSMED, Inc. –Promote the Widespread Adoption of Non-Drug Therapies through Insomnia Therapy Apps–	June 4, 2018	http://www.dai-ichi-life.co.jp/company/news/pdf/2018_008.pdf