

September 25, 2024

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## Investment in Sakana AI K.K. - Driving the Development of Next-Generation Foundation Models from Japan -

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The Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company, Limited (“the Company”; President and Representative Director: Toshiaki Sumino) hereby announces its investment in Sakana AI K.K. (“Sakana AI”; CEO: David Ha), a Japanese startup developing next-generation foundation models<sup>1</sup> to advance generative AI technology and its practical applications in society.

- Sakana AI is a Japanese startup developing foundation models for generative AI using a unique approach, different from conventional methods.
- As Japan faces the decline in the working-age population due to an aging society, improving labor productivity has become essential. Generative AI, which possesses the ability to create new contents through advanced learning, is gaining attention as part of the solution. However, challenges such as long development time, high costs, and significant energy consumption are inherent in the development of these foundation models.
- Sakana AI, with world-leading engineers who have been involved in forefront AI research, has achieved a breakthrough in automating the foundation model development process. This proprietary technology allows for highly accurate, yet low-cost, energy-efficient, and flexible model development tailored to customer needs.
- As a company based in Japan, Sakana AI's innovative development approach and the advanced AI technology it generates hold the potential to solve various social challenges in Japan and to make a significant impact globally. It is also expected to secure high profitability.



The company has been actively investing in venture capital and startups as part of our efforts to diversify and enhance asset management techniques aimed at acquiring long-term, stable financial return. Leveraging our long-established expertise and relationships, our specialized team continues to identify promising investments in technologies and services that can address social issues and bring innovation to the world. Through this investment, the company aims to accelerate efforts with Sakana AI to solve societal challenges. In alignment with the government’s initiative to realize “Japan as a Leading Asset Management Center<sup>2</sup>”, the company is committed to achieving both long-term stable returns and the supply of growth capital.

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<sup>1</sup> Foundation model refers to a machine learning model trained on vast amounts of data, capable of performing various tasks. This serves as the core intelligence behind generative AI.

<sup>2</sup> The concept of “Japan as a Leading Asset Management Center” was proposed by the Japanese government in 2023. It refers to a national strategy aimed at creating a virtuous cycle of growth and distribution by shifting domestic cash and deposits towards investment. One of the key reforms outlined in this concept is the transformation of the asset management industry, where institutional investors are expected to further enhance its capabilities and expand the supply of growth capital.

**【Company Profile】**

Company Name	Sakana AI K.K.
Representative	CEO David Ha
Established	July, 2023
Business Description	Development of Foundation Models for Generative AI



Images Generated By Sakana AI