

Nikkei tie-up with Singaporean tech start-up DC Frontiers to enhance Nikkei-FT joint information service scoutAsia

October 7, 2019 -- Nikkei Inc. (“Nikkei”) has entered into a business and capital tie-up with DC Frontiers Pte Ltd (“DCF”), an AI tech start-up headquartered in Singapore. Nikkei has acquired 14.79% of outstanding shares in DCF, which will support the product development of scoutAsia, a data and news service launched by Nikkei and the Financial Times (“FT”) last year. DCF will use its sophisticated AI technology to enhance scoutAsia’s news monitoring and corporate information search functions.

Since its foundation in 2011, DCF has provided services to financial and non-financial corporations and Asian government institutions under the brand name Handshakes. DCF specializes in the use of AI for applications such as article tagging and the creation of connection maps that visually represent relationships between companies, individuals and capital investment. DCF is also licensed to sell the corporate data of more than 90 million registered companies in China, Singapore, Malaysia and Vietnam.

DCF will work with Nikkei and the FT to jointly develop various features of scoutAsia utilizing its technologies and data. scoutAsia is a service that provides users with a comprehensive English-language database of Asian companies alongside reliable Asian business news. It is envisaged that DCF’s AI and machine learning technologies will dramatically improve accuracy and efficiency in the area of news and corporate data search. scoutAsia’s new co-developed features will be available from October.

Joint projects such as scoutAsia and Excedo (a business English education programme) are part of the Nikkei Group’s strategic diversification of its business lines. The FT joined the Group in 2015. Nikkei is also increasing its focus on Asian technology news, and to this end entered into business and capital tie-ups with start-up media companies in China and India earlier this year.

About Nikkei

Nikkei Inc. is a world-renowned media brand for Asian news, respected for quality journalism and for being a trusted provider of business news and information. Founded as a market news media in Japan in 1876, Nikkei has grown into one of the world’s largest media corporations, with 37 foreign editorial bureaus and approximately 1500 journalists worldwide. Nikkei acquired the U. K.-based Financial Times in 2015. Our combined digital and print

circulation totals over 3 million, and we are continually deploying new technologies to increase our readership.

About DC Frontiers

DC Frontiers (Handshakes) is a corporate intelligence company specializing in AI technology. Founded in Singapore in 2011, it has grown from a start-up into an award-winning data analytics and AI provider.

Handshakes' AI solutions make it possible to efficiently automate information gathering through, amongst others, news monitoring, thereby helping regulators and financial institutions to stay on top of material developments and corporate risks they face.

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