

News Release

NRI and Microsoft Japan to establish Financial Digital Innovation Consortium

Tokyo, October 30, 2017 - NRI, a leading global provider of system solutions and consulting service, and Microsoft Japan, today announced a joint decision between the two companies to establish the Financial Digital Innovation Consortium. The Consortium will be officially established on November 1, 2017, and will initially be composed of 18 organizations that will conduct proof of concept (PoC) studies on key trends in financial technology.

The Consortium's focus will include hot topics such as the financial cloud, advanced data utilization, and the applications of new technologies. Working groups will conduct PoCs on:

1. **Financial Cloud application:** Aims to standardize flexible and convenient cloud infrastructure with initiatives such as complying with FISC guidelines which is planned to be updated in March, 2018.
2. **Advanced data utilization:** Supports financial institutions' digital transformation by increasing productivity, supporting sales activities, establishing sound relationship with customers and complying with regulations.
3. **New technologies related to FinTech:** Explores the possibilities of next-generation financial platforms by applying new technologies such as AI, deep learning and blockchain.

In addition, the consortium aims to improve financial institutions' operation and expand their operation scope through the sharing of information. As a result, the consortium plans to increase financial institutions' profitability by reducing workload, optimizing IT investments and shortening service release.

“NRI is very excited to be at the forefront of what we believe to be an extremely important gathering of the top organizations in Japanese financial services,” says Minoru Yokote, Senior Managing Director of NRI. “Through our work together, the consortium will be able to jumpstart innovation in Japanese financial services, driving companies to higher levels of efficiency and optimization through FinTech.”

NRI will drive the discussion among the consortium, utilizing the company's accumulated knowledge through providing ICT service to financial institutions. Microsoft Japan will facilitate the consortium as an executive office while providing technological support including Microsoft Azure, a public cloud platform the consortium will use at the core of its operations.

Other organizations participating:

- INTEC Inc.
- Infosys
- NS Solutions Corporation
- Information Services Int'l -Dentsu, Ltd.
- Japan System Techniques Co., Ltd.
- Japan Business Systems, Inc.
- Nihon Unisys, Ltd.
- Numerical Technologies Pte. Ltd.
- FIXER

In the future, the Consortium will expand its participants and topics to further promote digital transformation of the financial service industry, diversification of service, and establishment of next-generation of business model.

###

About NRI

Founded in 1965, NRI is a leading global provider of system solutions and consulting services with annual sales above \$3.7 billion. NRI offers clients holistic support of all aspects of operations from back- to front-office, with NRI's research expertise and innovative solutions as well as understanding of operational challenges faced by financial services firms. The clients include broker-dealers, asset managers, banks and insurance providers. NRI has its offices globally including New York, London, Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore, with over 12,000 employees.

For more information, visit <http://fis.nri.co.jp/en>

About Microsoft Japan

Microsoft Japan is Microsoft Corporation's Japanese subsidiary. Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT" @microsoft) is the leading platform and productivity company for the mobile-first, cloud-first world, and its mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. Based on this corporate mission, Microsoft Japan aims to contribute to the transformation of Japanese society by providing innovative and secure intelligent technology.

Media Inquiries

Yukako Seto / Koichi Wakabayashi
Corporate Communications Department
Nomura Research Institute, Ltd.
Tel: +81 3-5877-7100 E-mail: kouhou@nri.co.jp

Sayaka Takeda
Nomura Research Institute America, Inc.
+1 212-636-0539 E-mail: sayaka.takeda@nria.com

Kazunori Ishii
Corporate Communications Department
Microsoft Japan
Tel: +81 3-4535-8055 E-mail: mskkpr@microsoft.com

Inquiries about the Consortium

Financial Digital Innovation Consortium : Administration Office
E-mail: fdicjapanadmin@microsoft.com
Web: <https://fdic.comnpass.com/> (to be opened on November 1, 2017)