

201th Business Plan Presentations Held on October 9, 2018 at Iwasaki Gakuen, Shin-Yokohama, Japan

1. Bi2-Vision Co.,Ltd. President Dr. Xiaolin ZHANG

Presentator Mr.Ryuichi Murakami, Assistant President http://bi2vision.com/

Established in August 2009 Capital stock: USD \$ 854,000

Bi2-Vision Co., Ltd. is a venture that was launched at the Tokyo Institute of Technology by Dr. Xiaolin Zhang, a former professor there. Dr. Zhang researched robots at Yokohama National University, the biological vision at Tokyo Medical and Dental University, and robot vision at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. He continues to research vision at the Chinese Academy of Sciences and also launched the venture Eyevolution there. Eyes have vision because of their linkage with the brain. It is the brain which perceives the images from the eyes and links them to action. Artificial intelligence is engineered to do this. Bi2-Vision intends to supply the robot vision of Eyevolution to Japan and contribute to significant advances in Japanese-made intelligent robots.

(1) Sales of LeadSense, a stereo camera

The stereo camera LeadSense reconstructs three-dimensional space from binocular (left and right) images. It calculates high-definition depth maps with a high frame rate and in real time. Because it adopts the global shutter approach, it can produce frame images without distortion, even at a high frame rate. It is an intelligent stereo visual sensor with a wide range of application including robots, AR/VR devices, drones, and 3D tracking, both indoors and outdoors.

(2) Joint robot development

The company provides a service in joint development of intelligent robots, by outfitting Japanese-made robots with the vision of Eyevolution robots. The aim is to compensate for the shortage of AI engineers in Japan and accelerate the development of intelligent robots to cope with population aging and falling birthrates in Japanese society. For example, with the addition, through the company's SI service, of visual navigation based on LeadSense and a graphics processing unit (GPU), the existing automated guided vehicles (AGVs) can be transformed into vision-guided vehicles (VGVs).

[Re-Cap] Dr. Zhang has been engaged in robot-related research and development in universities and research institutes in Japan and China for many years. As avenues for making full use of the culmination of his R&D efforts so far, he is seeking referrals to companies that are developing robots which will be of genuine use in today's aged society.



2. NiigataKoi Global Co.,Ltd. President Mr. Mamoru Kodama Presentator Mr. Jiro Kodama, Director http://koimall.com/(Japanese)

Established in June 1972 Capital stock: USD \$ 2,529,000

NiigataKoi Global Co., Ltd. sells premium Niigata-born varicolored carp, mainly to customers in North America. In Hawaii, it operates what is the biggest carp farm in all of the United States. There, it promotes the rapid growth of carp fry born in Niigata, and ships the grown carp nationwide. There is a demand for carp as pets among the wealthy in the United States, and the company has built a business model based on swiftly raising big carp bearing the Niigata brand in Hawaii for shipment to such customers. It has real stores in New York, New Jersey, and Florida (one each). It plans to open stores in many more locations, and is targeting a total of 50 stores 15 years from now.

[Re-Cap] Varicolored carp are swimming jewels (works of art) embodying Japanese culture. Today, they also make cute pets. There are many lovers of such carp among people of wealth in the United States. Formerly, Americans had to buy them directly from Japan, and there were reportedly almost no cases in which Japanese sellers brought carp to the States and sold them. Mr. Kodama said that, for this reason, the company has no competition and boasts the highest sales and assortment in the United States.



3. AME Co., Ltd. President Mr. Shinichi Takahashi

Co-Presentator Mr. Hiroaki Yamoto http://actmedical.co.jp/(Japanese)

Established in July 2013 Capital stock: USD \$ 10,000

Development of medical and healthcare equipment

AME Co., Ltd. is promoting the development of simple sleep monitors that can detect apnea during sleep and analyze the state of sleep (i.e., assess the quality of sleep). The monitors utilize reflective optical sensors mounted on the body surface for measurement of peripheral pulse wave fluctuation (including respiratory fluctuation) and pulse wave analysis.

The company is directing this equipment to medical facilities for use in screening prior to polysomnography (PSG) testing. It also offers a domiciliary sleep monitor enabling data linkage with diagnosis and treatment services at medical facilities. In addition, it is developing a cloud-based data service for mobile personal use of sleep data.

[Re-Cap] AME is creating products premised on use at home as well as for medical institutions. It is wonderful that these products will make possible to take stress-free measurements for all people, regardless of age. Mr. Yamoto said the company is ultimately aiming for development of mobile versions of its simple sleep monitors and their application as healthcare devices. This will pave the way for sales to medical facilities, nursing care facilities, and homes, and facilitate mutual coordination among them.



(Impressions) At this last meeting, too, there were presentations by companies in diverse fields. Each was cultivating new markets, and it will be interesting to see how their business develops from now on. If your company would like to make a presentation at the meeting, please contact us at an early date, because the schedule is filled up for a few months in advance.

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