

March 31, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Notice on Establishment of Gifu SME Support Fund Investment Limited Partnership**

RISA Partners, Inc. announces that together with the Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan (SMRJ) and thirteen financial institutions in Gifu Prefecture, it has formed “Gifu SME Support Fund Investment Limited Partnership” (total fund amount: 2 billion yen; hereafter, the “Fund”). The Fund will be a joint public and private sector initiative for supporting the corporate restructuring of regional SMEs. The business affairs of the Fund will be conducted by Gifu Revital K.K., a wholly-owned subsidiary of RISA Partners.

Following Ehime, Saitama, Okinawa and Chiba Prefectures, this is the fifth regional SME corporate restructuring fund invested by the SMRJ for which RISA Partners is taking part in the fund management. This brings the amount of all the funds combined to 13 billion yen.

In view of supporting the restructuring of SMEs in Gifu Prefecture, which is indispensable to attaining genuine recovery of the local economy, the Fund will primarily hold the monetary claims, equities, etc. of SMEs in Gifu Prefecture over the medium to long term as well as provide ongoing, meticulous corporate management support and other hands-on support. Utmost efforts will be made towards the success of the Fund by orchestrating the know-how possessed by the public and private sectors as well as increasingly developing RISA Partners' corporate restructuring know-how.

## 1. Details of the Fund

### (1) Overview of the Fund

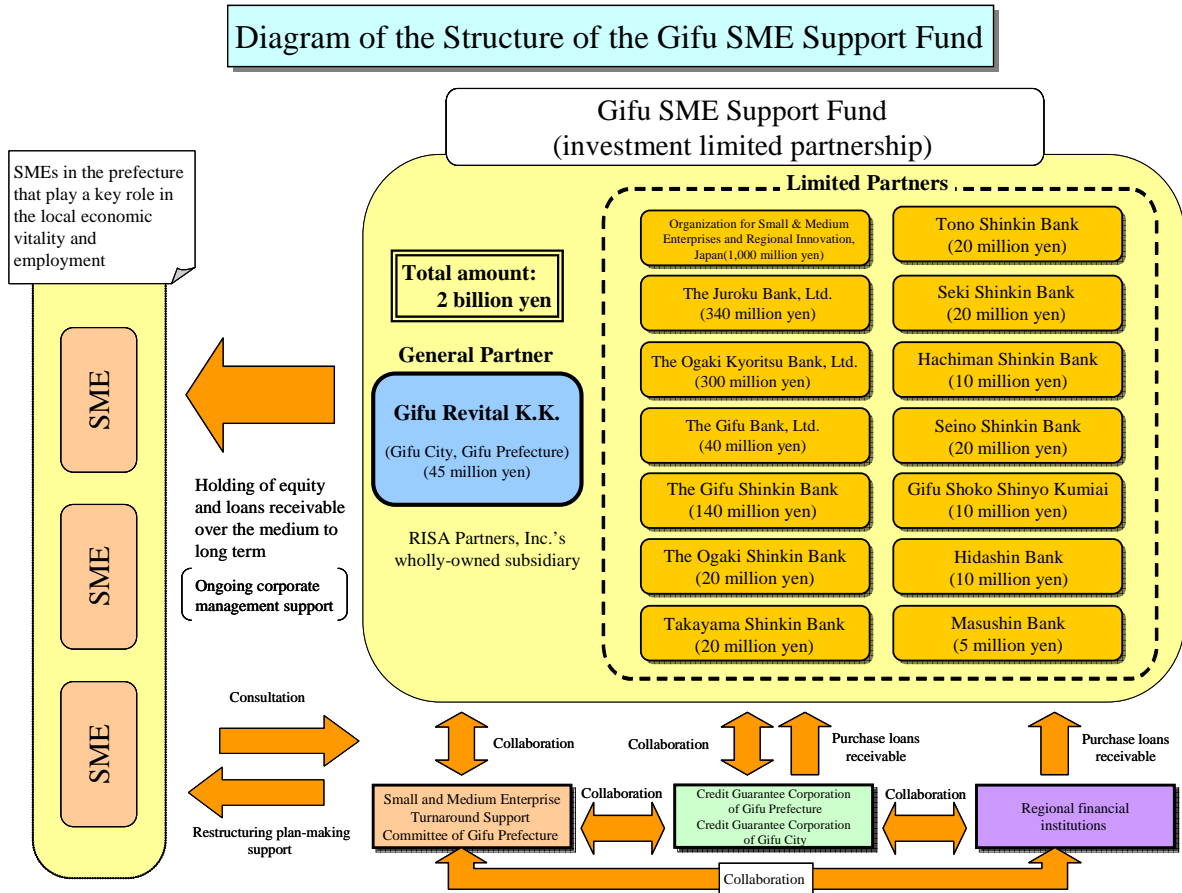
- Name: Gifu SME Support Fund Investment Limited Partnership
- Establishment: March 31, 2008
- Fund Configuration: Investment limited partnership
- Total Fund Amount: 2,000 million yen
- Fund Partners:

Partners	Investment Amount (million yen)
The Juroku Bank, Ltd.	340
The Ogaki Kyoritsu Bank, Ltd.	300
The Gifu Bank, Ltd.	40
The Gifu Shinkin Bank	140
The Ogaki Shinkin Bank	20
Takayama Shinkin Bank	20
Tono Shinkin Bank	20
Seki Shinkin Bank	20
Hachiman Shinkin Bank	10
Seino Shinkin Bank	20
Gifu Shoko Shinyo Kumiai	10
Hidashin Bank	10
Masushin Bank	5
Gifu Revital K.K.	45
Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan	1,000

### (2) Overview of the Fund Manager

- Name: Gifu Revital K.K.
- Establishment: January 2008
- Paid-In Capital: 45 million yen
- Representative: Toshiaki Tanaka  
(Executive Director at RISA Partners, Inc.)
- No. of Board Members and Employees: 5 board members and employees
- Shareholder: RISA Partners, Inc.  
(wholly-owned consolidated subsidiary)

(3) Diagram of Fund Structure



**2. Characteristics of the Fund**

The Fund will be a pool of the investments by RISA Partners Group, thirteen financial institutions headquartered in Gifu Prefecture and the SMRJ. The objective of the Fund is to target corporate restructuring through the unified efforts of the public sector, private sector and communities. The Fund will promote the appropriate and prompt addressing of corporate restructuring affairs by working closely with the Small and Medium Enterprise Turnaround Support Committee of Gifu Prefecture with the support of the Credit Guarantee Corporation of Gifu Prefecture and Credit Guarantee Corporation of Gifu City.

**3. Investment Target of the Fund**

The Fund will target investment in primarily SMEs in Gifu Prefecture that, although suffering from a slump due to excess liabilities, have outstanding management resources and have other turnaround potential. Managing the Fund will involve support for the drafting and implementation of restructuring plans in collaboration with local relevant parties such as the Small and Medium Enterprise Turnaround Support Committee of Gifu Prefecture. Support will also be provided in the financial aspect, such as purchasing loans receivable, capital investment, financing and

underwriting corporate bonds. Furthermore, hands-on corporate management support will also be provided. In this manner, the Fund will steadily advance the restructuring of firms in which it invests.

#### **4. Structure of the Fund**

The Fund will adopt a structure based on the Investment Limited Partnership Law. Gifu Revital K.K., a wholly-owned subsidiary of RISA Partners, will manage the Fund as the partner responsible for execution of the business affairs of the Fund. Furthermore, in addition to private funding from thirteen financial institutions in Gifu Prefecture and the RISA Partners Group, public funding of 1 billion yen (50% of the total fund amount of 2 billion yen) will be made by SMRJ.

In managing the Fund, local management resources and know-how will be orchestrated, centering on those of the Small and Medium Enterprise Turnaround Support Committee of Gifu Prefecture and financial institutions in Gifu Prefecture. Moreover, the RISA Partners Group, which plays a central role in managing the Fund, will comprehensively provide business restructuring skills and know-how on the private sector level. In this manner, the restructuring of regional SMEs will be supported through joint public and private sector collaboration.

#### **5. Impact on Business Performance in the Current Fiscal Year**

RISA Partners' wholly-owned consolidated subsidiary, Gifu Revital K.K., is expected to record fund management fees, etc. RISA Partners and RISA Partners Group companies are expected to earn business entrustment fees for fund management, dividend income from fund investments, etc. Moreover, an increase in various business opportunities is anticipated from the stronger relations with regional financial institutions, etc.

About 50 million yen in revenue, centering on fund management fees, is expected in the current fiscal year. This has already been incorporated into the performance forecasts disclosed on February 8, 2008.