



## **The First Investment by a Credit Guarantee Corporation in an SME Revitalization Fund in Japan**

TOKYO, December 22, 2008 – RISA Partners, Inc. (“RISA Partners”) announced that Gifu Credit Guarantee Corporation (hereinafter “the Corporation”) has today joined as a fund partner the Gifu SME Support Fund (hereinafter “the Fund”), which is managed and operated by Gifu Revital K.K., a consolidated subsidiary of RISA Partners. This is the first participation ever by a credit guarantee corporation in a fund for the revitalization of small to medium enterprises (hereinafter “SMEs”) in Japan. Details are as follows.

### 1. Background to participation in the investment

As the Act on Partial Amendment of the Credit Guarantee Corporation Act (hereinafter “the Amendment Act”) came into effect in September 2008, credit guarantee corporations are now authorized to invest in funds for SME revitalization.

The Corporation has made the decision to invest in the Fund with a view to continuously stepping up revitalization support for SMEs in Gifu Prefecture, based on a recognition of the RISA Partners Group’s impressive track record in the revitalization business. This is the first instance of investment made by a credit guarantee corporation in Japan.

The Fund was set up in March 2008 with a total amount of 2 billion yen by 13 regional financial institutions in Gifu Prefecture, the Organization for Small to Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan (SMRJ) and Gifu Revital K.K. The Fund invests in a number of revitalization projects to provide corporate management and hands-on support in a medium-to long-term perspective.

As the Corporation has invested 10 million yen in the Fund, the total fund amount after the participation of the Corporation now stands at 2,010 million yen.

### 2. Overview of the Fund

1. Name: Gifu SME Support Fund Investment Limited Partnership
2. Date of Establishment: March 31, 2008
3. Total Fund Amount: 2,010 million yen
4. 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
The Hidashin Bank	10
Mashita Shinyou Kumiai	5
Gifu Credit Guarantee Corporation	10
Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan	1,000
Gifu Revital K.K.	45
Total	2,010

3. Objective of Establishment: The Fund has a principal objective of providing managerial, technical and other support in collaboration with the Gifu SME Revitalization Support Council, to facilitate the revitalization of SMEs, which play a significant role in economic vitality and employment in the region, and thus to collect its investment.

#### 4. Fund Manager

Name: Gifu Revital K.K.  
Location: 8-1 Kogane-machi, Gifu, Gifu Prefecture  
Paid-In Capital: 45 million yen  
Representative: Toshiaki Tanaka, executive director at RISA Partners, Inc.  
Shareholder: RISA Partners, Inc.  
(Gifu Revital K.K. is a wholly owned consolidated subsidiary of RISA Partners, Inc.)

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

Following this event, revenues from investment are expected, associated with an increase in projects handled in the future. However, this development is currently expected to have a minor impact on business performance.

#### **For further information please contact:**

Koji Ishidate  
Corporate Planning Department  
Tel.: 03 5573-8011  
kishidate@risa-p.com  
[www.risa-p.com](http://www.risa-p.com)