# **News Release**



# INCJ to invest in ASTROSCALE PTE. LTD.,

a company that develops space debris removal technologies and offers other space-related services

**Tokyo, March 1, 2016 -** Innovation Network Corporation of Japan ("INCJ") announced today its decision to invest up to US\$30 million in ASTROSCALE PTE. LTD. ("ASTROSCALE"), a company engaged in the development of space debris\* removal technologies and other space-related services.

\*Space debris includes decommissioned satellites, spent rocket stages and other orbiting inoperative manmade objects or fragments of such objects produced through collisions.

ASTROSCALE has also secured funding from JAFCO Co. Ltd., and plans to offer new shares to other third party investors.

ASTROSCALE will use the funds raised to spearhead key technology development, manufacturing and testing for space debris removal, an issue that is increasingly becoming a global concern. Currently, an overwhelming amount of space debris is in orbit around the Earth, and is rapidly increasing. Space debris collisions with satellites can interfere with processes critical to everyday life and pose major threats to the use and sustainability of the space environment. In recognition of the need to address this critical issue, research institutions around the world have begun to explore and develop different methods for space debris removal. ASTROSCALE plans to lead and become a forerunner in technological developments and demonstrations in space debris removal with its unique approach.

ASTROSCALE aims not only to develop key technologies but to offer highly practical global business solutions for space debris removal, through incorporating low-cost removal technologies that can be made applicable to various sized space debris. One key aspect for this is ASTROSCALE working closely with SMEs and universities throughout Japan in technological development and manufacturing.

In addition to providing ASTROSCALE with the capital needed to develop its technologies and services, INCJ will also provide management support through the appointment of outside directors and other activities. The global issue of space debris is increasingly threatening the development of the space industry, and INCJ's investment will contribute to the resolution of that issue by supporting ASTROSCALE to develop new technology, demonstrate its effectiveness, and structure a robust business model. Furthermore, INCJ aims to contribute to satellite technology development and value creation in space-related industries.

#### About ASTROSCALE PTE. LTD.

Established	May 2013
<b>Business Outline</b>	Space debris removal, on-orbit servicing, and other space-related
	services
Headquarters	6 Battery Road, #38-04, Singapore, 049909
Japan R&D Facility	1-17-2 Kinshi, Sumida-ku, Tokyo 130-0013, Japan
	(small satellite development, manufacturing, and space environment testing)
Founder & CEO	Nobu Okada
URL	http://astroscale.com/

### About Innovative Network Corporation of Japan (INCJ)

INCJ was established in July 2009 as a public-private partnership that provides financial, technological and management support for next-generation businesses. INCJ specifically supports those projects that combine technologies and varied expertise across industries and materialize open innovation. INCJ has the capacity to invest up to ¥2 trillion (approx. US\$20 billion).

INCJ's management team is drawn from the private sector with diverse experience in investment, technologies and management. Through its Innovation Network Committee, INCJ assesses investment opportunities that contribute to industrial innovation in Japan in line with criteria set by the government.

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## Appendix ASTROSCALE PTE. LTD.



Target: Outline: Investment: ASTROSCALE PTE. LTD. Development of space debris" removal technologies and other space-related services US\$30 million (maximum)

"Space debris includes decommissioned satellites, spentrocket alages and other orbiting inoperative manmade objects or fragments of such objects produced through collisions.



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