News Release

INCJ sells its shares in LinkWiz, Inc.

Tokyo, May 21, 2024 — INCJ, Ltd. ("INCJ") announced that it has transferred its entire shareholding in LinkWiz, Inc. ("LinkWiz") to Shijo No.8 Limited Partnership, managed by Shijo Co., Ltd.

About LinkWiz

Established:	March 2015
Headquarters:	Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture
Representative:	CEO Go Fukino
Business outline:	Development and sale of control software solutions for industrial robots (quality control, traceability, DX conversion)

Overview of investment

Announcement date:	January 17, 2017
Authorized investment:	JPY400 million (maximum)
Amount invested:	JPY400 million
Press release:	INCJ to invest in LinkWiz, Inc. https://www.incj.co.jp/english/newsroom/upload/docs/ac1e2e9bd7c259f154e22c366cb4c570070fc794.pdf

1. Background of investment

Using a shape processing engine and proprietary shape recognition algorithm, LinkWiz develops control software for industrial robots. The company's software, with demonstrated strengths in three-dimensional measurement, analysis, and control, is optimized for industrial robots, dramatically improving their usability and intelligence. INCJ decided to invest in the company with the expectation that it would contribute to addressing serious labor shortages and improving productivity at a variety of manufacturing sites, especially small and medium-sized facilities, by facilitating the introduction of industrial robots that make production lines more efficient and increase added value.

2. Business progress

The company has implemented software packages for a variety of production processes, including welding, painting, and inspection, and has been promoting the DX conversion of manufacturing sites. While deepening cooperation with large companies, the company is also expanding its business by developing and selling basic, general-purpose software packages to support and promote the introduction of industrial robots at manufacturing sites of small and medium-sized companies, which traditionally have faced greater challenges than large companies when it comes to introducing this technology.

3. Reason for exit

It has been approximately seven years since INCJ's initial investment, and INCJ held various discussions and deliberations with LinkWiz and its existing shareholders regarding the method of exit. In consideration of the future business development of the company, INCJ decided that the most appropriate method would be to transfer all of its shares in the company to Shijo No.8 Limited Partnership, managed by Shijo Co., Ltd.

About INCJ, Ltd.

INCJ, Ltd. was established in September 2018 via company split from Innovation Network Corporation of Japan (INCJ). INCJ was established in July 2009 with the aim of overcoming boundaries between companies and industries, creating and nurturing key industries via open innovation for the prosperity of future generations. Following revisions to its governing law—the Industrial Competitiveness Enhancement Act—the continuing company changed its name to Japan Investment Corporation (JIC) and began new activities. INCJ, Ltd. is mandated until March 2025 to pursue the activities of the original Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, engaging in "Value Up" initiatives at portfolio companies, making additional and milestone investments, and developing exit strategies from investments in portfolio companies.

URL: http://www.incj.co.jp/english/

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