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(Stock code: 2120 TSE First Section)

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## **NEXT Invests in Jimoty, Inc.,** **Operator of Japan's One of the Largest Classified Advertising Sites Jimoty**

NEXT Co., Ltd., at the Board of Directors' Meeting today resolved to invest in Jimoty, Inc., which plans, develops, and operates "Jimoty," one of the largest classified advertising sites in Japan.

### **Purpose and background of the investment**

NEXT offers a range of information services closely related to people's lives, centered on the operation of "HOME'S" (<http://www.homes.co.jp/>), a real estate and housing information site with the largest property listings\*<sup>1</sup> and the largest number of unique users in Japan, based on its corporate philosophy of "Create a society where everyone can attain 'comfort' and 'happiness' through continuing social innovations".

Jimoty, Inc. operates the community information bulletin board Jimoty ([www.jmty.jp](http://www.jmty.jp)), where people can post items that they wish to sell or give away to people in the same community. The site is used by people of all ages, with the number of users steadily increasing since the launch of the service and expected to see further growth in the future.

The latest decision to invest\*<sup>2</sup> was taken in order to develop the business by harnessing the high affinity between the "residence services" provided by NEXT and the "community information services" provided by Jimoty.

With this investment, it is planned to link the Jimoty and HOME'S websites, which is expected to increase NEXT's capacity to draw visitors. In addition, we will continue to investigate ways of creating new social value by integrating the strengths built up by the two companies.

\*1 Sankei Medix Survey (as of January 23, 2016).

\*2 Amount of capital is not disclosed.

### **Future outlook and effects on NEXT business performance**

This investment is expected to have no material impact on the financial performance of NEXT. However, in the event that material impact arises, we will make an announcement promptly.