

December 18, 2001

NOTICE REGARDING PURCHASE OF THE COMPANY'S OWN SHARES IN THE MARKET

You are hereby notified that the Company has implemented the acquisition of its own shares through purchases in the market, in accordance with Section 4, Article 3 of the supplementary provision of the Law regarding the Partial Amendments to the Commercial Code, etc. of Japan (Law No. 79, 2001).

Particulars

1. Purchase period: From November 9, 2001 to December 14, 2001
2. Number of shares purchased: 6,000,000 shares
3. Aggregate amount of the purchase: ¥20,919,270,000
4. Method of the purchases: Purchases on the Tokyo Stock Exchange

(Reference 1) Authorization of the acquisition of the Company's shares at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on November 8, 2001

- Class of shares to be acquired: Common stock of the Company
- Total number of shares to be acquired: 20,000,000 shares (Maximum)
- Aggregate amount of acquisition cost: ¥75,000,000,000 (Maximum)

(Reference 2) Aggregate number of the Company's shares purchased on or before December 14, 2001

- Total number of shares purchased: 6,000,000 shares
- Aggregate amount of purchase cost: ¥20,919,270,000

(Reference 3)

- Total number of shares to be purchased as prescribed in the Articles of Incorporation of the Company: 33,000,000 shares
- Total number of shares acquired on or after the date as prescribed in the Articles of Incorporation of the Company (June 26, 1998): 6,000,000 shares

- End -