

## **IRCJ reaches agreement on purchase of Hattori Gangu K.K. debt**

**Tokyo, November 30, 2004** – Following its approval on August 31, 2004 of an application for assistance by Hattori Gangu K.K. (“Hattori Gangu”) under Article 22, Clause 3 of the Industrial Revitalization Corporation Act of 2003, the Industrial Revitalization Corporation of Japan (“the IRCJ”) today, under Article 25, Clause 1 of the same act, reached agreement with financial institutions on the purchase of debt owed by Hattori Gangu.

Note: This agreement on the purchase of debt means that agreement has been reached between the necessary financial institutions and the IRCJ in respect of either a) sale of debt by the financial institutions concerned to the IRCJ at market price or b) financial support by the financial institutions concerned (for example debt forgiveness while continuing to hold the balance of debt, debt equity swaps, etc.). Any decision by the IRCJ to purchase the debt of companies it has approved for assistance is only made at a point when it is evident that the revitalization plan of the business concerned can be progressed as planned.

### **1. Name(s) of company concerned**

Hattori Gangu K.K.

### **2. Amount of debt to be purchased**

	(Million yen)	
Principal value of total debt	10,136	(A)
Principal value of debt to be purchased as per note a) above	2,254	(B)
Principal value of debt for which financial support to be provided by financial institutions as per note b) above	7,882	(A-B)

#### **Notes:**

1. The actual amount of debt purchased may change between this announcement and completion of the purchase.

### **3. Amount of financial assistance**

Debt forgiveness: 5,200 million yen (unchanged from time of decision to support)

### **4. Schedule**

Business is scheduled to continue from February 2005 following a corporate separation of Hattori Gangu’s operations into a company under the control of sponsor Takara Co., Ltd.

### **5. Comment from the state ministers in charge of the Industrial Revitalization Corporation of Japan**

None expressed.

Note on comments from ministers: The IRCJ is a quasi-governmental organization. As such the IRCJ is required to obtain comments from the government ministers in charge of the IRCJ about decisions to assist or engage in other initiatives relating to private sector companies.

### **6. Treatment of trade and other creditors**

The agreement on the purchase of debt as outlined above is an agreement between relevant financial institutions and the IRCJ; there will continue to be no effect on the claims of trade and other creditors.

**For more information, please contact**

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**About the IRCJ**

The IRCJ was established jointly by the public and private sector on April 16, 2003, with the aim of providing revitalization assistance beneficial to both the industrial and the financial sectors in Japan. It targets assistance at companies that have sound business fundamentals but are unable to thrive because of excessive debt levels or other factors. The IRCJ has approximately 200 employees and is based in Tokyo. For more information please visit [www.ircj.co.jp](http://www.ircj.co.jp)