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Hokkoku Financial Holdings, Inc.
Infcurion, Inc.

March 15, 2024

Next Gen Regional Digital Platform Development Project Launch of New Business for Card Domain

Kanazawa/Tokyo, Japan, March 15, 2024—Hokkoku Financial Holdings, Inc. (President: Shuji Tsuemura, Head Office: Kanazawa, Ishikawa-ken, hereafter “Hokkoku FHD”) announces that in the card domain of its next generation regional digital platform development project, the company has started the development of a new acquiring system and issuing system based on the cloud.

[Background]

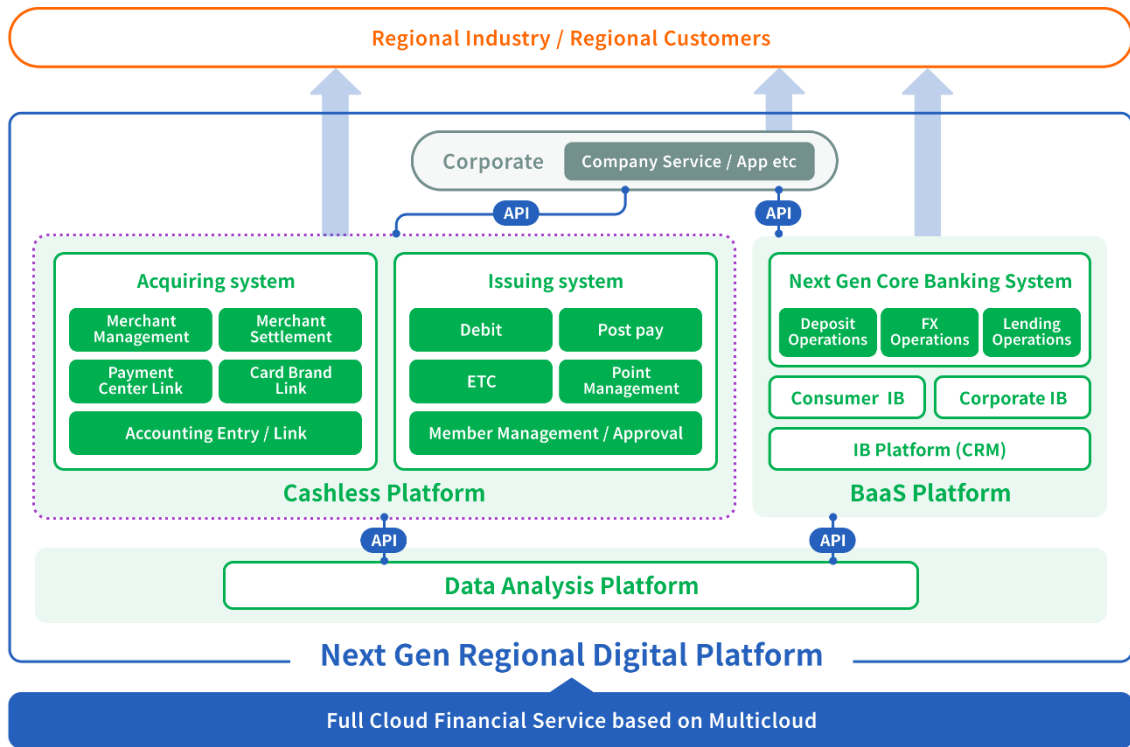
To realize better financial services and promote increased productivity in banking management, Hokkoku FHD began reviewing a project in January 2023 to develop a next generation digital platform that provides financial services fully on the cloud, built on a multi-cloud basis.

As part of the project, in the card domain, Hokkoku FHD and Infcurion Inc. (CEO: Hiroki Maruyama, Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, hereafter “Infcurion”) conducted a joint review together, and decided to start development of a debit card issuance and operations system to increase convenience for the company’s account holders and a merchant management and operations system that can be used not only by the company but also by external companies.

<Planned release dates>

Acquiring system: October 2024

Issuing system: March 2025



[Features of the Acquiring System]

The system includes the required functionality for acquiring operations including merchant settlement and merchant management, along with connection to international payment networks etc, and the company believes that more companies will be able to handle cashless payments through new merchant services utilizing the system. In addition, through the usage of this system, the company will be able to support other companies in launching new acquiring businesses.

[Features of the Issuing System]

The system allows virtual debit card issuance, management, and settlement through the bank app. For customers that hold a Hokkoku Bank account, the company can issue virtual debit cards by international payment networks on a fully digital basis, without any in-person or paper-based application. As transactions can be conducted on a cashless and cardless basis, it can provide a high level of convenience.

[Representative Comments]

Shuji Tsuemura, Representative Director & President of Hokkoku FHD

Through the promotion of cashless & digital, Hokkoku FHD has worked towards innovations to increase the productivity of the entire Hokuriku region. Through the launch this new business with Infcurion, I am confident that we will be able to strongly expand the cashless and digital society.

Hiroki Maruyama, Representative Director & CEO of Infcurion

Through the digitization of payments and financial services, our company has expanded our business by focusing on make society more convenient. Through the launch of this new business with Hokkoku FHD, I am confident we will be able to support the cashless-nization of the entire Hokuriku region.

[About Hokkoku FHD]

Hokkoku FHD is a financial holding company that provides a wide range of services as a next generation integrated regional company. The company's slogan is "Quality Company, Good Company.", and it conducts activities to make people's lives better and improve society, not only by providing banking functionality but also high quality consulting and investment services, etc. Through innovation through collaboration with various partners, the company contributes to the growth of the regional economy, and while pursuing sustainable growth, it continues to challenge itself towards making a brighter future.

URL: <https://www.hfhd.co.jp/>

[About Infcurion]

Infcurion provides Fintech solutions that combine financial services and technology, starting from payments, including the provision of platform services, consulting towards companies and payment solutions for retailers and companies. Through its platforms that provide a variety of financial services on a functional basis, the company embeds Fintech into any service, creating new value for society.

URL: <https://infcurion.com/>

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