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NEWS RELEASE

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Calsonic Kansei and UNIADDEX Commences First Joint Verification in Japan Using the New Architectural Platform

“Cisco DNA” in Preparation for Next-Generation IT Platform

Using SD-Access to verify the traditionally difficult issue of IT platform automation

Calsonic Kansei Corporation (President & CEO: Hiroshi Moriya; Headquarters: Kita-ku, Saitama City) and UNIADDEX, Ltd. (President & CEO: Tsuneo Toh; Headquarters: Koto-ku, Tokyo) will conduct verification from July on optimizing networks and making IT operations more efficient using Cisco DNA^{*1} from Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO). This is the first verification of Cisco DNA’s SD-Access^{*2} in Japan, in preparation for Calsonic Kansei’s next-generation IT platform.

Currently, data center networks and cloud networks are leading in the field of server virtualization and software defined networks (SDN), allowing for automation and sophisticated use on a daily basis. On the other hand, automation of corporate local area networks (LAN) is extremely difficult given the complex relation between people and things. As such, management methods differ from network to network. Each device also operates autonomously in traditional networks, so when building and operating network environments, there is high dependency on the skills of administrators, as well as high initial costs and high management costs for each communication device.

Cisco DNA, the subject of this verification, jointly manages networks for both people and things, thereby allowing secure network environments to be built. For corporate networks, which are typically fixed, it comes with functions for virtualization and automation. This verification hopes to achieve results such as improved operational efficiency and reduced operating costs through these functions.

Both companies have selected Cisco DNA’s network solution SD-Access to verify the next-generation IT platform. This allows corporate networks that are traditionally designed and configured separately, to be centrally managed as an integrated network. Verification will be conducted to see if IT platform optimization can be continuously maintained.

On top of developing global management and adapting flexibly to the ever changing global economy and society, Calsonic Kansei hopes the results of this joint verification will lead to further enhancement of its IT environment, including at overseas sites.

UNIADDEX will use the knowledge gained from the joint verification to promote next-generation network solutions centered on Cisco DNA. By automating the creation and operation of network environments and thereby reducing operating costs, UNIADDEX will provide IT environment optimization and secure corporate networks to customers.

Moving ahead, both companies are not stopping at this joint verification, and will continue to actively use IT to contribute to society with advanced technologies like AI and multicloud.

Image diagram of implementation of next-generation IT platform

Until now, network devices have been individually designed and managed, but with SD-Access, this becomes policy design. Traditional configuration methods use the CLI^{*3}, but basic operations are now done through controllers (using API^{*4}). As a result, automation and visualization becomes easier, paving the way for optimization, acceleration, and reduction of operating costs.

***1: Cisco DNA**

This is the abbreviation for Cisco Digital Network Architecture proposed by Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO).

It is an architectural platform for the digital age, and comprises several solutions built from software defined network (SDN) technology.

***2: SD-Access**

This is Cisco DNA's latest SDN solution specially for corporate networks. It is a function whereby network administrators carry out policy design in advance, which is then reflected automatically in the configuration and management of target devices.

***3: CLI (Command Line Interface)**

This refers to the operating of devices by entering orders, known as commands, via the keyboard. It can also refer to such an interface.

***4: API (Application Programming Interface)**

This refers to an interface which allows software functions to be used from outside.