



Notice: This document is an English translation of a statement written originally in Japanese.
The Japanese original should be considered as the primary version.

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Dear all,

Company name Smaregi, Inc.
Representative Ryuhei Miyazaki, Representative Director
(Code number: 4431 TSE Growth)
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Smaregi and Asterisk Strengthen Collaboration
to Accelerate RFID Checkout Adoption
Driving Greater Efficiency, Labor Savings, and Automation in Retail
and Apparel Checkout Operations

Smaregi, Inc. (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Osaka; Representative Director: Ryuhei Miyazaki; hereinafter “the Company”), provider of the cloud-based POS system “Smaregi,” which runs on tablets such as iPads, will strengthen its collaboration with Asterisk, Inc. (Head Office: Yodogawa-ku, Osaka; President: Noriyuki Suzuki; hereinafter “Asterisk”) to improve the efficiency of in-store operations through the use of RFID technology.



The Company and Asterisk have already been working together on initiatives including system integration between RFID readers provided by Asterisk and the Smaregi cloud-based POS system. Building on this track record, the two companies will further advance their collaboration to expand the use of RFID checkout systems in physical stores.

This initiative forms part of the Company’s Third Medium-term Management Plan, under which it is pursuing the “promotion of industry-specific POS solutions” and the “enhancement of labor-saving and automation solutions.” Through this collaboration, the Company aims to improve operational efficiency and productivity at retail and apparel stores and other businesses.

Background to the Strengthened Collaboration

The retail and apparel industries face challenges including labor shortages, rising personnel costs, and the need to efficiently manage store operations, including checkout, particularly at stores handling large numbers of products.

In its Third Medium-term Management Plan announced in June 2026, the Company identified the “promotion of industry-specific POS solutions” and the “enhancement of labor-saving and automation solutions” as key initiatives. Through this strengthened collaboration, the Company will expand functions and services that address operational challenges faced by retailers and apparel businesses, including reducing labor requirements and improving checkout efficiency.

From Scanning Items One by One to Identifying Multiple Items at Once

RFID checkout systems use contactless technology to read RFID tags attached to products, enabling multiple items placed in a shopping basket or similar container to be identified at once and linked directly to the checkout process.

By reducing the need to scan products individually, as required with conventional barcode-based checkout, RFID systems can reduce the operational burden on customers using self-checkout and the scanning workload for staff at staffed registers. This is expected to shorten checkout times and improve the efficiency of store operations.

Going forward, the two companies will combine Smaregi's POS and store management platform with Asterisk's RFID technology, with the aim of expanding the adoption of RFID checkout systems in physical stores, particularly in the retail and apparel sectors.

Outlook

The two companies will continue to explore specific applications for expanding the use of RFID checkout systems in physical stores.

In addition, by leveraging RFID's ability to identify individual products at the item level, the companies will also explore potential applications beyond checkout, including store security.

About Asterisk, Inc.

Corporate Website (Japanese only)

<https://www.asx.co.jp/>

AsReader Service Website

<https://asreader.com/>

Smaregi, Inc. – Investor Relations

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