

Note: This document has been translated from the Japanese original for reference purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this translated document and the Japanese original, the original shall prevail.



February 27, 2026

Company name: The Kita-Nippon Bank, Ltd.
Name of representative: Masamichi Ishizuka, Director and President
(Securities code: 8551; Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market)
Inquiries: Manabu Takahashi, Director, Manager of Corporate Planning Division
(Telephone: +81-19-653-1111)

Notice Concerning Basic Agreement Regarding Capital and Business Alliance: Enhancing Consulting Functions Through Regional Digitalization Support

The Kita-Nippon Bank, Ltd. (the “Bank”; Masamichi Ishizuka, Director and President) hereby announces that it has entered into a basic agreement for a capital and business alliance based on a subscription to a third-party allotment (the Capital and Business Alliance), with IBC Soft Alpha Co., Ltd. (Nobuo Narishima, President and Representative Director) (the “Counterparty”), as described below.

1. Background and purpose of the basic agreement

In order to develop into “a unique bank that designs a future with abundant human power and creative development capabilities,” as stated in its 10-year vision, the Bank has expanded its traditional financial services as the core business while also expanding consulting services and DX support services that contribute to revitalizing the region and solving regional challenges. As part of these initiatives, the Bank had started discussions on the Capital and Business Alliance with the Counterparty as a collaboration partner suited to promoting the digitalization of regional society, and has recently reached the basic agreement. The Counterparty embraces the mission of becoming “a professional group that solves the challenges faced by society and companies in the region through IT technologies and solutions,” and is engaged in supporting the digitalization of regional society, which shares the same concept as the Bank’s approach to providing DX support services.

Taking advantage of this opportunity, the Bank will aim to solve regional challenges, such as the revitalization of the economy, the enhancement of management efficiency, and labor shortages; improve productivity; and create new added value by creating new business models with human and digital power through the enhancement of consulting functions utilizing finance, IT, DX, etc.

2. Overview of the Capital and Business Alliance

The Counterparty will conduct a third-party allotment of shares, which will be subscribed by the Bank. After the capital increase, the Bank will become a shareholder holding one-third of the total number of issued shares. The subscription price for the third-party allotment has not been disclosed in accordance with the agreement between the parties, taking into account confidentiality obligations under the contract and the potential impact on future transactions.

3. Time of the Capital and Business Alliance

Scheduled for Wednesday, July 1, 2026

For the Capital and Business Alliance, the Bank will engage in management on condition that a license as a Non-banking Advanced Banking Service Company (a bank subsidiary as provided in Article 16-2, Paragraph 1, Item 15 of the Banking Act) be obtained.

4. Overview of initiatives

By combining the Bank's consultative sales capabilities for problem structuring and business process analysis, as well as its extensive corporate customer base, with the Counterparty's system development and IT solutions expertise, we will be able to provide consistent support from planning to execution of proposals for addressing challenges faced by companies in the region, such as shortage of digital talent, modernization of legacy systems, and enhancement of security measures. This will broaden the range of digitalization proposals we can offer to companies in the region and is expected to improve project conversion rates and profitability. In addition, the two companies will jointly develop a governance framework and support menu, and will continuously work to enhance them. The main initiatives are as follows:

- Organizing and visualizing DX challenges (current-state analysis, business process review, and prioritization)
- Formulating DX roadmaps and evaluating investment effectiveness
- Supporting the introduction of systems, cloud services, and business applications, as well as digitalizing existing operations
- Providing support for operational design, training, and organizational adoption (promoting utilization and making improvement proposals)
- Providing advice on and supporting the implementation of security and cybersecurity measures

5. Overview of the Counterparty

Name	IBC Soft Alpha Co., Ltd.
Head office	IBC Broadcasting Hall, 6-1, Shikecho, Morioka-shi, Iwate, Japan
Name and job title of representative	Nobuo Narishima, President and Representative Director
Principal business	System development, sale of information equipment, staffing service, advertising, and other business
Number of employees	74
Share capital	50 million yen
Date of establishment	July 23, 1991
Shareholders	The following three parties are expected to each hold one-third of the voting rights: Iwate Broadcasting, Co., Ltd. Tatsuzawa Gakkan Educational Foundation The Kita-Nippon Bank, Ltd.* (planned)

*The Bank will make the Counterparty an affiliated company that serves as a Non-banking Advanced Banking Service Company.

6. Future outlook

The impact of the Capital and Business Alliance on the Bank's consolidated financial results is minimal at present. Should any matter requiring disclosure arise in the future, the Company will promptly make an announcement.