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For Immediate Release

Commencement of Operations of 6th Generation Zengin System

The 6th Generation Zengin Data Telecommunications System (Zengin System) commenced operations today.

Operated by the Japanese Banks' Payment Clearing Network (Zengin-Net) (Chairman: Koshi Wada), the Zengin System is a network system connecting financial institutions in Japan online and clearing bank transfers, salary transfers and other credit transactions.

Since commencing operations in 1973, the Zengin System has undergone multiple generations of system upgrades from such aspects as increasing transaction volume and participants and responding to technological innovations. The system this time marks the 6th generation.

The 6th Generation Zengin System newly settles 100 million yen or larger fund transfers through BOJ-NET's Next-Generation Real-Time Gross Settlement System to meet international standards on payment and settlement systems at a higher level. In addition, measures have been taken to enhance system flexibility in anticipation of future business expansion, such as enhancing processing performance and enabling XML format conversion.

Conscious of its responsibilities as a social infrastructure handling customers' transfers, Zengin-Net will continue to make such efforts as increasing the efficiency of settlement systems and strengthening the business continuity framework based on customer and financial institution needs while placing priority on stable system operations.

Comparison of Zengin Systems

| | | 6th generation system (new) | 5th generation system |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Location | | Tokyo and Osaka | (same as on the left) |
| 2. Communication network | | IP-VPN network | Frame relay network |
| 3.Capacity | Telegraphic transfer (single) | 20 million transactions per day | 18 million transactions per day |
| | MT data transfer (bulk) | 4 million transactions per day | (same as on the left) |
| | New file transfer (bulk) | 26 million transactions per day | |
| 4.New features | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RTGS settlement for high value payments. - New file transfer. - XML data format (optional for each participant) - Expansion of information system. - New item (payment order for Electronically Recorded Monetary Claims.) | |

Zengin System - numbers

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|---|--|
| Number of participants (end of October 2011) | 1,371 financial institutions |
| Number / Value of transactions (2010 fiscal year) | 1.3 billion transactions (5.6 million per day) 2,608 trillion JPY (10 trillion per day) |