



Press Release

Longreach announces agreement to purchase Kohikan from UCC Foodservice Systems

[Tokyo / Hong Kong, 7 March 2018] The Longreach Group (“Longreach”) today announced that it has reached an agreement with UCC Foodservice Systems Inc. (“UFS”) to purchase 100% of its subsidiary, Kohikan Corporation (“Kohikan”). The scheduled financial closing date for the transaction is 1 May 2018.

Kohikan is a full service coffee shop chain established in 1970. Kohikan is a well known and positioned brand, operating 277 stores all over Japan under the brand of “Kohikan”, “Café di Espresso Kohikan”, “Karakuan” and “Kakura” and is the second largest full-service coffee shop chain in Japan.

Longreach considers this to be an exciting investment opportunity with a clear business growth path in the premium coffee business in Japan, with the potential to expand into high growth Asian markets. Longreach also will accelerate Kohikan’s growth through enhancement of the stores’ format and via new store expansion. Longreach has extensive experience in restaurant chain business, including through its ownership of Wendy’s First Kitchen.

The investment reflects a Longreach core investment focus on acquiring and adding value to high potential companies in the specialty consumer business sector.

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Background on The Longreach Group (URL: <http://www.longreachgroup.com/>)

The Longreach Group is an established independent private equity firm with offices in Hong Kong and Tokyo. The firm focuses on Japan related control buyouts in the mature industrial and technology, consumer, business services and financial services sectors. The firm manages three Funds which have accumulated approximately US\$1.8 billion of committed limited partner and co-investment capital, and has a strong track record of portfolio company value creation and realizations.

The Longreach Group Companies include the funds that serve as the investment companies, The Longreach Group Limited, which is based in Hong Kong, and The Longreach Group, Inc. which is based in Tokyo, Japan. The Longreach Group, Inc. collects and analyses data and information concerning the Japanese and Asian markets and assists The Longreach Group Limited in identifying potential investment opportunities.