



April 25, 2001

Electric Power Development Co., Ltd.

**Joint Development of Structural Quality Assurance Service
Operated by Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. and Venture
Business
(Structural Quality Assurance, Inc.)**

On April 18, 2001, Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. (EPDC) and Structural Quality Assurance, Inc.

(Head office: Kudan, Chiyoda Ward, Tokyo; President: Shunichi Igarashi) agreed to jointly develop a new business model, "Structural Quality Assurance Service" for building and public infrastructure.

EPDC has already made an investment (8% of the shares) to Structural Quality Assurance, Inc. through Kaihatsu Design Consultant Co., Ltd. (Head office: Yayoi, Nakano Ward, Tokyo; President Masakatsu Mizue), while dispatching its employee to this company since April.

The new business model in joint development is a comprehensive service stream including an "assessment," "improvement," and "assurance" if necessary, with an antiseismic diagnosis technology as well as rehabilitation technology, aiming at existing buildings and public infrastructures mainly constructed with reinforced concrete.

Needs for constructing long-life structures with controlled investment or for the asset value assessment, which is indispensable to building and real estate investment trust, are rapidly increasing among mainly office buildings. Expecting its robust growth in the future, both companies have decided to develop jointly a model of "Structural Quality Assurance Service", which can meet these needs.

After examination toward the establishment of the business model, experimental sales activities will begin from July 2001, aiming at the start of full-scale business as soon as possible.

Structural Quality Assurance, Inc. is a two-year-old venture business with high-grade construction technologies and with a network of specialists having abundant experience.

In addition, it has developed unique technologies including antiseismic technology diagnosis with an application of continuous jogging measurement and the collapse prevention technology called "SRF reinforcement (patent pending)" with synthetic fiber sheet winding around columns.

Furthermore, EPDC has accumulated variety of technology and possessed a large quantity of talented personnel in antiseismic field, through a lot of experiences in large-scale structures made with reinforced concrete. Incorporation of both companies will produce synergy effect of technology, reliance and credibility in EPDC and the networks of Structural Quality Assurance, Inc., enabling development of Structural Quality Assurance Service in efficiency and high quality.

*SRF: Soft Retrofitting Failure

<Reference>

(Company Profile)

1. Structural Quality Assurance, Inc.

- (1) Company name: Structural Quality Assurance, Inc.
- (2) Address: 1-11-5, Kudan-kita, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
- (3) Date of foundation: July 30, 1999.
- (4) Major business: Survey, analysis, and assessment of a structural quality of the ground, constructed facilities, structures, and infrastructures
- (5) Capital: 61,400,000 yen
- (6) Share holders: Shunichi Igarashi (19.5%), Shutaro Igarashi (8%), Kiso-jiban Consultants Co., Ltd. (8%), Kaihatsu Design Consultant Co.,Ltd. (8%), and others
- (7) Directors: Shunichi Igarashi, President; Motohiko Hakuno, Director; Norihiko Dan, Director
- (8) Number of employees: 5

2. Kaihatsu Design Consultant Co.,Ltd.

- (1) Company name: Kaihatsu Doboku Consultant Co., Ltd.
- (2) Address: 1-58-4, Yayoi Nakano-ku, Tokyo
- (3) Date of foundation: October 16, 1978
- (4) Major business: Civil engineering works, general construction, design, and construction management of power generation facilities
- (5) Paid-in capital: 20,000,000 yen
- (6) Share holders: EPDC Holding Co., Ltd. (100%)

(7) Directors: Masakatsu Mizue, President

(8) Number of employees: 247

End of announcement