

(English Translation)

Note: This material is an English translation of a Japanese announcement made on January 17, 2005. Although the Companies intended to faithfully translate the Japanese document into English, the accurateness and correctness of this English translation are not guaranteed and thus you are encouraged to refer to the original Japanese document. This translation was made as a matter of record only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the securities in the U.S.

January 17, 2005

To Investors and Customers:

Monex Beans Holdings, Inc.

Announcement of Launch of Chinese Stock Brokerage Business

This announcement is made to inform you that Nikko Beans, Inc. (hereinafter, "Nikko Beans"), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Monex Beans Holdings, Inc., will commence Chinese Stock Brokerage Business and this business is expected to be launched in early April 2005.

As rapid increase of a Chinese Equity Fund volume shows since its introduction, in recent years the demand for investing in Chinese capital markets goes on rising. However, the opportunities to invest in Chinese stocks by individual investors are extremely limited as before. Trading costs, including foreign exchange commission fees, are more expensive than domestic brokerage ones, and qualitatively and quantitatively, the investment information is not sufficient for individual investors.

In order to realize; 1) the fastest "Real Time Stock Trading" from orders to executions by direct connections with the local stock exchanges in China, and 2) the greatest number of accessible Chinese stocks and the lowest standards of commission tables among online brokers, Nikko Beans has been organizing the structure. Beyond merely providing with the trading tool, Nikko Beans will put stress on information supports, provide with real time stock prices, including ticker information, and enormously and promptly offer individual stock information in Chinese markets, which is used to be inaccessible, to individual investors, so that they will invest in Chinese stocks more conveniently and friendly.

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