

*(English Translation)*

**Note:** *This material is an English translation of a Japanese announcement made on September 21, 2005. Although the Company 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.*

September 21, 2005

To Investors and Customers:

Monex Beans Holdings, Inc.

**Announcement of Establishment of an "OpenIPO®" Preparatory Company**

This announcement is to inform that Monex Beans Holdings, Inc. has established a preparatory company together with WR Hambrecht + Co ("WRH+Co") and ZenShin Capital Partners to consider the implementation of OpenIPO®\* in Japan.

WRH+Co pioneered the use of IPO auctions in the U.S. with the introduction of OpenIPO®, an internet-based Dutch auction system, which was used to manage the Morningstar IPO in May 2005. Prior to that, the global search giant Google used an auction process for its IPO in August 2004, which WRH + Co co-managed. The Dutch auction system is an auction system in which the shares are accumulated in a running total from the top down aggregated by bid price. The clearing price is reached when the aggregated shares equal the total shares offered. All successful bidders at or above the clearing price pay the same price. This system is different from the traditional IPO process in which the price is decided between the lead manager and the issuing company. In the Dutch auction system, the price of the IPO will be decided by an online auction.

The allocation of IPO shares to individual investors in Japan is approximately 85% by value whereas approximately 80% is allocated to institutional investors in the United States. In addition, approximately 84% of the total amount of stock brokerage transactions done by individual investors in Japan are through the internet. This indicates that most IPO investors (i.e., individual investors) are well accustomed to online trading.

Due to these backgrounds, our preparatory company will seek ways to increase the transparency of the IPO pricing and allocation process by introducing this OpenIPO® Dutch auction system for IPOs held in Japan.

\* OpenIPO® is a trademark of W.R. Hambrecht+Co., LLC

**General Description the Company**

(1) Company Name : WR Hambrecht & Co Japan, Inc.

(2) Representative : Representative Director, Satoshi Hasuo

(Monex Beans, Inc., Business Development)

*(English Translation)*

- (3)Address : 1-11-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan
- (4)Shareholders : Monex Beans Holdings, Inc. 33.3%
- : WR Hambrecht + Co 33.3%
- : ZenShin Capital Partners 33.3%
- (5)Capital : 16.5 million yen
- (6)Business Description : Research and Investigation of OpenIPO® Business

**WR Hambrecht + Co.**

WRH+Co ([www.wrhambrecht.com](http://www.wrhambrecht.com)) is an investment bank committed to using technology and auction processes to provide open and fair access to financial markets for all its clients. The firm's impartial Internet-based auctions, which allow the market to determine pricing and allocation, have dramatically changed the financial services landscape. WRH+Co provides underwriting and advisory services for technology and emerging growth companies. For institutional and individual investors, they provide equity research, sales and trading, full-service and online brokerage and private equity offerings. WRH+Co is headquartered in San Francisco with offices in Boston, Chicago, London, New York and Philadelphia.

**ZenShin Capital Partners**

ZenShin Capital Partners is a Venture Capital company located in California that provides capital and hands-on-support to companies active in global businesses. Chairman, Richard Gitlin is very knowledgeable in businesses between Japan and the United States. He has served as advisor to US State and Treasury departments, and the IMF. In the corporate restructuring area, he has experienced advisors for Canada, Korea, Indonesia and Mexico.

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>【 Contact 】</b> Monex Beans Holdings, Inc. CEO Office Corporate Communications Mina Kanai Tel : 03-6212-3750</p>
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