



30 March 2023

To whom it may concern

Wedge Holdings Co., Ltd.
Tatsuya Konoshita,
Representative Managing Director and CEO
(Code 2388 Growth Market Tokyo Stock Exchange
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Lucent Co., Ltd., our affiliated company, has signed a sponsorship agreement with Ms. Kaori Niwa, a top Japanese female trail runner. We will cooperate in product sales which Lucent Co., Ltd., are providing promotional supports, and its related travel business.

Lucent Co., Ltd., our affiliated company (Head office: Kashiwa City, Chiba; Representative Managing Director: Yoshihiro Nakano, hereinafter referred to as "Lucent"), announces that the Lucent has signed a sponsorship agreement with Ms. Kaori Niwa, a top female trail runner in Japan.

As we have already announced, we will cooperate with Lucent in domestic sales of high-performance trail running poles made in Italy and operation of tours for overseas trail running races (tours to participate in races around the world to obtain entry into the UTMB, the world's top trail running event) through this agreement.

For the tour to the world's top trail running race, UTMB, we have already received tour applications from over 100 Japanese participants. We believe that the signing of Japanese female athlete Ms. Kaori Niwa, who has achieved the 4th highest finish in the past, to Lucent will be a strong tailwind for our tour promotion and sales of trail running poles.

We will continue to support the expansion of Lucent's sports business.

Please see below, the press release from Lucent for your reference.
(Here is the press release from Lucent.)

On March 24, 2023, Lucent Co., Ltd. (Head office: Kashiwa City, Chiba; Representative Managing Director: Yoshihiro Nakano), which operates sports businesses mainly in running and tennis, along with Asuka Foods Co., Ltd., a group company engaging in food business, signed a sponsorship agreement with Ms. Kaori

Niwa, one of the top female mountain athletes and ultra-trail runners in Japan.

Ms. Kaori Niwa is a top female runner in Japan who has accomplished a great deal of achievements in mountain races in Europe and all over Japan. She has successfully completed difficult high mountain races because she is specialized in long- distance race with tough climbs and descents. She was awarded 4th place overall (highest ranking for a Japanese woman) at the UTMB, the world's highest ultra-trail race, in 2017. While participating in races in Europe, she came across the N&W Curve, a high-performance trekking pole made in Italy, and still uses a custom-made version of the product.



Ms. Kaori Niwa, athlete and ultra-trail runner

As a result of obtaining the exclusive distribution rights of N&W Curve trekking pole products in Japan, Lucent has signed a sponsorship agreement with Ms. Kaori Niwa this time. And she will cooperate in promoting awareness of the products in Japan.

In 2023, Ms. Kaori Niwa is preparing for new challenges including Swiss Peaks 360km, which will be her longest mountain running race yet. To raise funds for her 2023 activities, a crowdfunding campaign is on-going, and as one of the thank-you gifts, N&W Curve is also being offered from Lucent. Lucent supports the success of her crowdfunding campaign. As of March 27 2023, it has already surpassed 90% of its goal with support from over 170 people. (Note: as of March 30th, the campaign has achieved 105% of its goal with support from 202 people.)

<https://kibidango.com/2347>

In addition, Ms. Kaori Niwa will also cooperate with operation of the overseas trail running tour support business "LUC+Adventures". Lucent has newly started this year to support people who want to participate in overseas trail running races.

Together with Asuka Food, which has been a sponsor before, Lucent will continue to support Ms. Niwa's challenges.

< **LUC+Adventures** >

Website: <https://tabirun.run/tour/>

Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/luctus.adventures/>

Facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/luctus.adventures/>

Operating company: Lucent Co., Ltd.

Company address: 348. Toyofuta, Kashiwa-city, Chiba, 277-8556 JAPAN

Representative: Yoshihiro Nakano, Managing Director

For 130 years since the startup phase of soft tennis, we have been providing various sports goods, including "AKAEMU," the No.1 soft tennis ball in the domestic market. We also manufacture and sell sports clothes under the brand names of "LUCENT" and "LUC+", as well as operate sports facilities such as tennis clubs and running stations nationwide. Since 2022, we have expanded our business to support running race tour called "LUC+ Adventures" around the world. With the slogan, "Cheer up healthy lives of all throughout Japan through sports communities," we support athletes including Mr. Wataru Iino and various sports scenes.

URL : <https://lucent-sports.com/>

Business overview: Manufacture and selling products under original brand names of "LUCENT" and "AKAEMU," as well as selling related sports equipment and goods, Sports facility construction, Operation of tennis clubs, and Support for overseas tours.

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