



Drone Fund II Raises \$52Mil.

Drone Fund, a worldwide drone and aerial mobility specialized investment fund, has recently closed its second fund with a combined total of \$52Mil raised. Contributors to the fund include 25 companies and 13 individual investors devoted to the advancement of drone technology and the realization of an “air mobile society.”

Drone Fund II, established August 1, 2018, aims to contribute to the realization of a ‘drone-enabled’ and ‘air mobile’ society, and, as a fund, is dedicated to investing in startups who share that same vision.

Drone Fund I, which closed in January 2018, raised \$16Mil. and invested in 22 different Japanese startups. Drone Fund I actively sought out drone startups with original ideas and impressive technology. One of Drone Fund I’s first investments, The Autonomous Control Systems Research Institute (ACSL), was listed on the TSE Mothers in December 2018.

Drone Fund II continues this vision by focusing on drone technology, as well as grows to include worldwide investments, and the addition of new fields in the drone space; including agricultural, industrial, infrastructure and logistics, all under the theme of the “realization of an air mobile society.”

Drone Fund II’s impressive amount is due to the cooperation of 25 large companies across Japan, including Kobashi Kogyo, the largest contributor to Drone Fund II. Kobashi Kogyo, an agricultural manufacturer with a history of over 108 years in operation, is a strong supporter of drone-enabled technology and supports the commercialization and mass production of startup AERONEXT and their “next” series line.



LPs from Drone Fund II

KOBASHI

MIZUHO

大和証券グループ
Daiwa Securities Group

MABUCHI
TAKASHI,REIKO,TAKEHIKO
(マブチモーター創業者一家)

Designing The Future
KDDI

SAIBU GAS

GMO
INTERNET

ORIX

JP 日本郵政キャピタル
CAPITAL

dentsu

SEGASammy

TEPCO Ventures, Inc.
TEPCO

ZENRIN

en エン・ジャパン

avex

SHOCHIKU

本田圭佑氏
KSK ANGEL FUND

Investment Begins

Drone Fund II has already invested in seven (7) companies, which brings the total amount of Drone Fund portfolio companies to 29. Drone Fund will continue to invest in companies operating across the drone space in all areas of technology.

In the industrial sector, Drone Fund has invested in Nileworks, which develops agricultural drones; DroneDeploy, one of the largest DaaS companies; Griff Aviation, which researches and develops UAVs for large payload delivery; Sabrewing, which is developing and testing UAVs for heavy lift, long range transport; and Aerodyne Group, the No. 1 drone solutions provider in Asia.

In the aerial mobility space, Drone Fund has invested in SkyDrive and Tetra Aviation to develop flying vehicles for personal transport. In addition, Drone Fund also invests in peripheral technologies, such as Metroweather, which aims for the safe operation of drones and UAVs by monitoring weather and wind conditions.



Founder and Representative Partner, Kotaro Chiba

“I am very happy that so many companies representing Japan will participate as new LPs.

Since we first established Drone Fund, the market environment for drones is rapidly changing. A lot of innovative demonstrations have been carried out in many fields, such as agriculture, distribution, infrastructure, inspection, and maintenance. From now, this is the phase for drones to really expand into the business space.

Drone Fund actively invests in promising drone companies and technologies and is a leading Drone company and investor.

By becoming a corporate hub, we hope to promote the development of drone business across the world.

Thank you to everyone in our Drone Fund family!”

Co-founder and Representative Partner, Soki Ohmae

“For Drone Fund II, I am very pleased to have the support of such strong and famous companies across Japan, who believe in creating the drone industry together, and at the same time, we feel the weight of this responsibility as well.

Drone Fund is not merely limited to investing in drone startups, but also advocating for the establishment of laws and regulations for the societal implementation of drones and informing the public on information relating to drone technology and use.

As an organization involved in business development, we will continue to be committed to creating a better business environment for the growth of our investee companies.

Moving forward, we will strive to actively invest in new investment destinations and create additional opportunities for existing investment destinations globally as well as in Japan.”