

October 9, 2019

Drone Fund

Investment in ARPAC, a Brazilian agricultural drone startup

Drone Fund II (Official name; Chiba Dojo Drone Fund II Investment Limited Partnership), managed by Kotaro Chiba and Soki Ohmae in Tokyo, Japan, has invested in the agricultural drone solutions company, ARPAC, managed by Eduardo da Costa Goerl in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

Points of this investment

1. Drone Fund invests in a drone startup specializing in the agricultural market of Brazil, the 3rd largest agricultural exporter in the world.
2. This is the first investment in Latin America for Drone Fund.



Photo provided by ARPAC

1. ABOUT THIS INVESTMENT

Brazil is the third largest agricultural exporter in the world (after the EU and the United States) and is the world's number one producer of sugarcane and coffee (*1). Specifically, the advantages of labor saving and efficiency improvement by introducing precision farming is invaluable in farmland where manpower is indispensable; such as large sugarcane and coffee plantations located on sloping land.

ARPAC, established in Brazil in 2014, has been developing drone spraying solutions of pesticide and insects for sugarcane fields and coffee plantations since 2018. ARPAC is one of the leading companies of Brazil's agribusiness acceleration. Its solution is about 80 times faster than manual work at the same cost.

This is the first investment in Latin America through the Drone Fund I and II. In Japan, the use of commercial drones in agriculture has long been expected. A forecast says that it will account for 20% of the commercial drone service market of Japan by 2024 (*2). With this investment in a drone startup from a major agricultural country, we will continue to work on the realization of a drone-based society on a global scale.



Photo provided by ARPAC

2. ARPAC'S PROFILE

ARPAC is a drone solutions company established in 2014 in San Leopold, Brazil. Its service enables more efficient agricultural production through chemical and biological solutions by spraying pesticide and insects, and high precision aerial surveillance.

- Official Name : ARPAC
- Representative : Eduardo da Costa Goerl (Co-founder, CEO)
- Address : Rua Riveira, 270. Petrópolis. Porto Alegre. Rio Grande do Sul. Brazil.
- URL : <http://www.arpacbrasil.com.br/>

3. DRONE FUND II'S PROFILE

Drone Fund I was established by Kotaro Chiba and Soki Ohmae in June 2017 as a venture capital specializing in drone-related startups. Today, Drone Fund I and II invests in more than 30 startups around the world to further realize a "Drone-based Society" and "Air Mobility Society" and will continue to invest globally.

- Official Name : Chiba Dojo Drone Fund II Investment Limited Partnership
- Managing Company : Kamakura Investment Co., Ltd.
- Established : August 2018
- Co-representative : Kotaro Chiba, Soki Ohmae
- Address : Shiba-koen Annex 6F, 3-1-8, Shiba-koen, Minato-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN
- Business : Investment in drone and air mobility-related startups
- URL : <https://dronefund.vc/>

*1 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, *ブラジルの農林水産業概況*, 2017

*2 Impress Corporation, *ドローンビジネス調査報告書 2019*, 2019

4. INFORMATION

Drone Fund public relations : pr@dronefund.vc

Cloud folder for this release :

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/y9ejexg9ffr6fpy/AADkzB6allEGcEOmTqlbeCPSa?dl=0>