

August 17, 2004

To whom it may concern

Company Name: Sojitz Holdings Corporation
President & CEO: Hidetoshi Nishimura
Securities Code: 2768 TSE/OSE 1st Section
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Notice Regarding Application for Takeover Bid

Sojitz Holdings Corporation ("Sojitz Holdings") announced that Sojitz Corporation ("Sojitz"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sojitz Holdings, had decided to apply to Olympus Corporation ("Olympus") in connection with Olympus' takeover bid for ITX Corporation ("ITX").

1. Rationale

While Sojitz has continued to cooperate with ITX in the development of business activities, ITX's investment and venture business incubation strategy has increasingly differed from the Sojitz Group's focus on securing sustained earnings and its IT business strategies driven primarily by Group company Nissho Electronics Corporation. In addition, the Sojitz Group is currently establishing its New Business Plan and based on its fundamental policies Sojitz group is accelerating business reorganization based on the concept of selection and focus to streamline assets. Against this backdrop, Sojitz has decided to divest a part of its shareholding in ITX as part of the takeover bid by Olympus. Olympus has maintained a strategic alliance with ITX in a number of fields including life sciences and is seeking to include the company within its scope of consolidation.

The Sojitz Group intends to continue its close relationship with ITX despite the dilution in ownership.

2. Number of Shares (planned) in response to the takeover bid

144,364 shares (approximately 29.45% of ITX's outstanding shares)

(Reference: The Sojitz Group's shareholding – 161,451 shares, approximately 32.93% of ITX's outstanding shares)

3. Schedule

August 17, 2004	Announcement of the takeover bid
August 18, 2004	Notification of commencement of the takeover bid
September 7, 2004	Last day of the takeover bid period

4. Profile of ITX Corporation

Company Name: ITX Corporation
Representative: Akinobu Yokoo, President and CEO
Headquarters: 2-5, Kasumigaseki 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Business Commencement: April 1, 2000
Paid-in Capital: ¥20,456 million (as of June 30, 2004)
Main Business: Invest in, develop and promote businesses in the fields of life sciences, network and technology, mobile communications and business innovation

5. Profile of Olympus Corporation

Company Name: Olympus Corporation
Representative: Tsuyoshi Kikukawa, President
Headquarters: 43-2, Hatagaya 2-chome, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo
Establishment: October 12, 1919
Paid-in Capital: ¥40,833 million (as of June 30, 2004)
Main Business: Manufacture and sale of equipment and devices for imaging, medical, life science, and industrial applications

The original and official version of this notice is written in Japanese.

In case of any discrepancies between this notice and the original, the Japanese version shall govern.