Bitfury Group Appoints Katsuya Konno to Lead Japan Expansion

Tech and Finance Veteran Joins Top Emerging Technologies Firm

TOKYO, Oct. 31, 2019 – The Bitfury Group today announced that veteran technology and finance expert Katsuya Konno will lead its business expansion in the strategically important market of Japan.

Konno's appointment underscores Bitfury's ongoing commitment to develop cutting-edge technology solutions for businesses, governments, organizations and individuals across Japan and the rest of Asia.

"We are pleased that Katsu has joined our team," said Valery Vavilov, CEO and co-founder of Bitfury. "Japan is an innovative society and a crucial area of growth for emerging technologies like blockchain, AI and high-performance computing. We look forward to working with Katsu to build new customer relationships and design the products they need to make their enterprises run more securely and efficiently."

"I am thrilled to lead Bitfury's business expansion across Japan, where people enthusiastically embrace innovative technologies that improve the systems and services they use every day," said Konno. "I am honored to lead Bitfury's efforts in Japan, and I look forward to bringing the company's state-of-the-art products to new customers here."

Prior to joining Bitfury, Konno spent almost eight years at SoftBank Group. In his time at SoftBank, Konno worked on large M&A and venture deals worth more than USD60 billion, including the acquisition of Sprint.

From 2011 to 2013, he led the establishment of SoftBank's venture capital arm in the US and Southeast Asia. He has also driven many financing deals, including financing for the acquisition of ARM Holdings Plc., issuing mandatory exchangeable bonds backed by Alibaba Group Holding Limited, hybrid bonds, and more. Konno joined Quoine, the cryptocurrency fintech firm that created the Liquid platform, in October 2016 and managed Quoine's exchange "Liquid by Quoine" as the Company Representative and Board of Director in Japan.

About the Bitfury Group
The Bitfury Group is the world's leading emerging technologies company. Bitfury™ is building solutions for the future, with the most significant technologies of the millennium. Founded in 2011, our mission is to make the world more transparent and trusted by innovating at every level of technology – hardware and software – to put trust back into the equation. Bitfury's portfolio focuses on solutions for artificial intelligence, blockchain technology and digital currencies. Bitfury is the leading security and infrastructure provider for the Bitcoin Blockchain.

In addition to securing the Bitcoin Blockchain, Bitfury also designs and produces innovative hardware that keeps cryptocurrencies and blockchains secure, including custom semiconductor chips and mobile data centers. Bitfury is also a software provider for the some of the world's most cutting-edge applications through its Exonum™ private blockchain framework, its Crystal Blockchain™ advanced analytics platform, and its specialized engineering team for the open-source Lightning Network, Peach™. To learn more, visit www.bitfury.com.

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