Internet Initiative Japan

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For Immediate Release

IIJ Launches "Partner Connect" for System Integrators

—A new connection model that massively reduces the installation lead time of closed networks for Microsoft 365 and other cloud services—

TOKYO—November 30, 2020—Internet Initiative Japan Inc. (TSE1: 3774), one of Japan's leading Internet access and comprehensive network solutions providers, today announced the launch of Partner Connect, a new multicarrier-compatible connection model for system integrators (SIers) which offer data center services and IT solutions. Partner Connect is to connect IIJ's Private Backbone (*1) -a dedicated closed network to interconnect IIJ's cloud-based services- to SIers' datacenters so that SIers can more rapidly create closed networks with Microsoft Azure and other infrastructure cloud services, as well as other SaaS platforms, including the productivity cloud service Microsoft 365 through IIJ's platform.

Telecommuting has quickly become the norm during the coronavirus crisis, while corporations utilize SaaS platforms like Microsoft 365 and other public cloud services. However, as traffic increases, existing networking devices take performance hits, and there are not enough networking engineers with the expertise needed to respond.
IIJ aims to help SIers resolve those issues by offering cloud-based services related to the digital workplace (DWP) (*2) through Partner Connect. The solution's functions include remote access, security, and authentication, which IIJ network engineers were previously offering as individual solutions. SIers can use Partner Connect to more rapidly develop peripheral services in combination with network connections to various cloud services for their customers. Furthermore, since Partner Connect works with multiple carriers and does not depend on a specific carrier, SIers can expand their solution lineups while ensuring synergies with existing businesses.

IIJ will continue to support the business efforts of its customers by providing high-quality, diverse networking services.

(*1) IIJ Private Backbone: A closed networking service that builds client networks on IIJ's backbone and allows clients to connect between all of IIJ's networking and cloud services.
(*2) Digital workplace (DWP): A corporate strategy that leverages individual and organizational strengths by providing a work environment that maximizes digital technology.

About IIJ

Founded in 1992, IIJ is one of Japan's leading Internet-access and comprehensive network solutions providers. IIJ and its group companies provide total network solutions that mainly cater to high-end corporate customers. IIJ's services include high-quality Internet connectivity services, systems integration, cloud computing services, security services and mobile services. Moreover, IIJ has built one of the largest Internet backbone networks in Japan that is connected to the United States, the United Kingdom and Asia. IIJ was listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange in 2006. For more information about IIJ, visit the IIJ Web site at https://www.iij.ad.jp/en/.

The statements within this release contain forward-looking statements about our future plans that involve risk and uncertainty. These statements may differ materially from actual future events or results.

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