

November 12, 2021

Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company, Limited

**Underwriting of Capital Increase by Groke Technologies Inc.**  
**through Third-Party Allotment**

Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company, Limited (President: Masaki Tachibana; hereinafter “SMFL”) has underwritten a third-party allotment of shares of Groke Technologies Inc. (President: Juha Rokka; hereinafter “Groke”), which develops autonomous vessel business.

Groke is a Finland-based start-up company launched in 2019 that develops, designs, manufactures and sales technologies related with autonomous vessel. The company is currently focusing on the development of "Awareness System" to monitor the ship's surroundings and warn the crew and captain. Groke aims to commercialize the system in 2021 and start selling it in 2022. At first, Groke will recognize Japanese maritime market, which faces social issues such as aging and a shortage of sailors, as their most important market, and aims to sequentially launch the products. In the future, Groke plans to provide more comprehensive operational solutions, including autonomous solutions that reduce human workload.

Through this investment, SMFL aims to acquire knowledge of autonomous vessel business while providing various financing services, including leasing and sales finance, that meet the needs of domestic coastal shipping companies and fishermen for Groke's products. In addition, SMFL will contribute to the realization of a sustainable society by providing services that resolve social issues such as further improvement of maritime safety, improvement of the working environment on board, and shortage of sailors.

< Groke Technologies Inc. Profile >

Location	Turku City, Finland
Established	October 2019
President	Juha Rokka
URL	<a href="https://www.groke-tech.com">https://www.groke-tech.com</a>
Business description	Technologies related with autonomous vessel: design, development, manufacturing, and sales

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