## Announcing Partnership with StartX

Tokyo, September 1, 2017 --- Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG, President and Group CEO: Takeshi Kunibe) today announced the partnership with StartX (Founder: Cameron Teitelman and Nicolas Kokkalis, CEO: Joseph Huang), based in Palo Alto, California.

StartX is a nonprofit in Silicon Valley that runs one of the world's top startup accelerator programs for Stanford-affiliated entrepreneurs. Founded on campus by Stanford students in 2009, the organization is supported by Stanford University and Stanford Health Care, Kauffman Foundation, and a number of the leading US corporates. StartX takes no equity at supporting entrepreneurs, and the policy is differentiating StartX from the others in openness and diversity.

SMFG, participating to StartX's partnership program, will help accelerate the commercial adoption of cutting-edge technologies from Stanford University, the center of global innovation.

SMFG will continuously expand global networks with leading business incubator and accelerate open-innovation initiatives, driven by "SMFG Silicon Valley Digital Innovation Lab" founded in April 2017.