To Our Customers

August 21, 2017

## Patent attorneys Mr. Kakimoto and Mr. Kondo join the firm

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to inform you that two excellent patent attorneys have joined us: Mr. Yasushige Kakimoto assumed the post of Vice President, and Mr. Michikazu Kondo joined us as Senior Patent Engineer, on August 1, 2017. Their brief profiles are outlined below.

Since qualifying as a patent attorney in 1981, <u>Mr. Yasushige Kakimoto</u> has been engaged in intellectual property-related operations at a major electric manufacturer and in the IT industry, mainly in the fields of electronics, communications, semiconductors, mechatronics, and machines. He is a genuine intellectual property expert, having handled over 4,000 applications and provided expert opinions on both domestic and overseas cases. His documents are simple and lively, yet structured properly and meticulously, without exaggeration or omission. He has guided many younger staff, a number of whom have left the nest. He serves as a role model for people like us whose major job is to create documents. I am sure you will be impressed by his skill, including giving guidance to junior staff.

**Dr. Michikazu Kondo** obtained his doctorate in electronic engineering, and has long been engaged in research at a major electric manufacturer. While teaching at a university, he succeeded in qualifying as a patent attorney in 2011. He was trained at a law and patent firm, working on the acquisition of rights at home and abroad on technologies in broad areas including optics, electronics, electric parts, materials, and machines.

Their addition to the team will greatly help us to improve the quality of our service, and create a strong team capable of handling various intellectual property-related services including not only applications and the provision of expert opinions but also the handling of contractual problems and disputes accurately and quickly in any technical field.

Please note that the name of our office, contact details, bank account, etc. remain the same.

I look forward to your continued support.

Kazuyuki Hirayama President, Patent Attorney HIRAYAMA & COMPANY