

## **Notice regarding the method for tallying shareholder voting forms**

It has come to the attention of Mizuho Trust & Banking Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Kei Umeda; “Mizuho TB”) that there is a need to investigate the way in which a portion of shareholder voting form tallying operations were conducted in the past.

Mizuho TB entrusts stock transfer agency operations, including the tallying of shareholder voting forms, to Japan Stockholders Data Service Company, Limited (“JaSt”). Based on a report from JaSt, previously during busy periods such as March, May, and June, when a large number of companies hold their general meeting of shareholders, in order to process a large volume of vote tallying operations as smoothly as possible, for shareholder voting forms sent via postal mail JaSt collected the forms directly from the post office the day before the standard delivery date (the date marked as the delivery date on the delivery notice issued by the post office) and began to process the forms.

When tallying the shareholder voting forms that JaSt collected from the post office on the day prior to the delivery date, JaSt tallied them based on the delivery date on the delivery notice. As a result, shareholder voting forms for which the delivery date on the delivery notice was past the deadline for the exercise of voting rights were rejected when tallying the shareholder voting forms.

We have determined that a careful review of the appropriateness of the tallying method is required in regard to the handling of shareholder voting forms which were received by postal mail on the day of the tallying deadline under the processing framework for shareholder voting form tallying conducted by Mizuho TB and JaSt. In light of this, for the stock transfer agency operations which have been entrusted to Mizuho TB by our clients, we are currently investigating the handling of shareholder voting forms at the time of tallying in regard to the appropriateness of such handling and other factors. We will announce the results of this investigation as soon as they are available.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this matter to the following contact.

Telephone: 0120-838-600

Operating hours: 9 am - 5 pm

(September 19 - 22 and weekdays thereafter)

Available starting from 9 am on Saturday, September 19

#### Overview of Japan Stockholders Data Service Company, Limited (JaSt)

Trade name	Japan Stockholders Data Service Company, Limited
Headquarters	2-8-4 Izumi, Suginami-ku, Tokyo
Established	April 1, 2008
Capital	¥2 billion
Investors/ownership ratio	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited 50% Mizuho Trust & Banking Co., Ltd. 50%
Business description	Entrusted with stock transfer agency operations (administration of shareholder registries and special accounts) and the development and operation of IT systems for the administration of shareholder registries and special accounts.