

October 4, 2019
Aspirant Group, Inc.

Announcement Regarding Sale of Shares of Maruki Plastic

Aspirant Group (“AG”) is pleased to announce that a fund managed by AG (AG II Investment Limited Partnership) has concluded its sale of the entirety of their shareholding in Maruki Sangyo Co., Ltd. (“Maruki Plastic”), to a SPC, which is wholly owned by CITIC Capital Japan Partners III L.P. (“CITIC Capital Japan Fund”) on October 4, 2019.

CITIC Capital Japan Fund is a Japanese buyout fund under the private equity group of CITIC Capital Holdings Limited. CITIC Capital Japan Fund has in-depth knowledge of manufacturing businesses and management know-how in addition to CITIC Group’s vast overseas network and resources, especially in China and East Asia.

Since making an investment in 2016, AG has supported the growth of Maruki Plastic by assigning on-the-ground management resources on a full-time basis. In particular, AG and the company have worked together to improve the profitability through the plastic recycling business and also implemented growth initiatives from 2018, including strengthening the overseas business. AG believes that Maruki Plastic can expand its recycling business and overseas business, especially in East Asia, while maintaining and developing its relationships with the existing domestic customers by leveraging the CITIC Group’s vast network and resources.