## 29th May 2025

# MACP Announces Business Alliance with Nishinippon Shimbun

### - Launch of "Regional Co-creation Project" in Fukuoka Prefecture, a First for the Kyushu Region

M&A Capital Partners Co., Ltd. (Chuo-Ku, Tokyo, President & CEO: Satoru Nakamura, hereinafter referred to as "MACP") is pleased to announce that on May 29, 2025, as the tenth initiative of its "Regional Co-creation Project," it has entered into a business alliance agreement with Nishinippon Shimbun Co., Ltd. (Fukuoka City, Fukuoka Prefecture, President & CEO: Daisuke Tagawa, hereinafter referred to as "Nishinippon Shimbun") and launched the "Regional Co-creation Project" in Fukuoka Prefecture. This initiative aims to expand "options for business succession and growth" in collaboration with newspaper companies across Japan. This marks the first business alliance in the Kyushu region.



#### ■Background of the alliance

Fukuoka Prefecture has thriving manufacturing industries, including automotive-related sectors, electronic components, food processing, and chemical industries. Particularly centered around Kitakyushu, there is a concentration of diverse sectors, including steel, automotive, environmental, and energy. The prefecture's small and medium-sized enterprises support the regional industrial foundation with advanced technological capabilities. Furthermore, the prefecture focuses on startup support and fostering the IT industry, with Fukuoka City at the forefront of creating new businesses.

On the other hand, 54.1% of companies in Fukuoka Prefecture lack successors, indicating that approximately half of the businesses have no clear succession plans in place.

Companies may be forced to close without a proper business succession plan, resulting in the loss of employees, business partners, and years of accumulated technology and expertise. The disappearance of such small and medium-sized enterprises could significantly damage Fukuoka Prefecture's economy. In this context, business owners must become aware of succession planning early on and proceed with nurturing successors and preparing for a smooth handover. Business succession not only safeguards the future of individual companies but also serves as a key to passing on the industrial foundation of Fukuoka Prefecture to the next generation.

MACP and Nishinippon Shimbun have been conducting awareness activities on business succession and growth for business owners in Fukuoka Prefecture through information dissemination via seminars and other events. The "Kyushu Business Leaders Forum in Fukuoka," co-hosted in 2024, received applications and attendance far exceeding capacity, demonstrating the high interest among local business owners in business succession and growth through mergers and acquisitions (M&A).

This time, we have concluded a business alliance to accelerate the efforts of both companies further and promote awareness of business succession and growth options, including M&A, among local business owners who drive the regional economy of Fukuoka Prefecture. This partnership combines MACP's extensive M&A advisory experience with Nishinippon Shimbun's communication power and credibility, maximizing the strengths of both companies, which we believe is crucial for further economic revitalization.

#### **Overview of the Partnership**

As the tenth installment of the "Regional Co-creation Project" with national newspapers announced on October 4, 2023, we have entered into a business alliance agreement with Nishinippon Shimbun, the most influential media outlet in Fukuoka Prefecture, to promote "options for business succession and growth."

We will strengthen our information dissemination efforts to raise awareness about 'options for business succession and growth' in Fukuoka Prefecture. We will also implement initiatives to receive referrals from companies facing business succession challenges, growth strategies, and corporate revitalization. \*<sup>1</sup> \*<sup>1</sup> Corporate restructuring is handled by MACP Group's Mirai Financial Planning Co., Ltd.

First Initiative Following Business Alliance - Hosting Free Online Seminar to Commemorate Partnership

In conjunction with this business partnership, Nishinippon Shimbun and MACP will co-host a free online seminar commemorating the alliance on Wednesday, June 26, 2025, from 14:00 to 15:00. The seminar, aimed at business owners in Fukuoka Prefecture, will provide in-depth insights into 'M&A as Merely One Option for Business Succession.'

▼ Details of the Free Online Seminar Commemorating the Business Alliance https://www.ma-cp.com/seminar/20250626/



#### ■Company overview

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