November 13, 2026

MACP Announces Strategic Business Alliance with The Kobe Shimbun Co., Ltd.

"Regional Co-Creation Project" Launches in Hyogo Prefecture to Support Business Succession and Growth of Local Companies in One of Japan's Leading Industrial Hubs

M&A Capital Partners Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President and Representative Director: Satoru Nakamura; hereinafter "MACP") is pleased to announce that on November 13, 2026, as the twenty-fourth initiative of the "Regional Co-Creation Project," a program conducted in collaboration with newspaper companies nationwide to promote "business succession and business growth options," MACP entered into a business alliance agreement with The Kobe Shimbun Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture; President: Shuichi Kajioka; hereinafter "The Kobe Shimbun").

Through this agreement, MACP has officially launched the "Regional Co-Creation Project" in Hyogo Prefecture.



■ **Background of the Business Alliance**

Hyogo Prefecture is one of Japan's leading economic regions, encompassing a diverse range of communities and industries across Kobe and Hanshin, as well as Harima, Tajima, Tamba, and Awaji. The prefecture's gross prefectural product is approximately JPY 24 trillion, and a wide range of industries, including manufacturing, logistics, tourism, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, play a vital role in supporting the regional economy. (Source: Hyogo Prefecture, "Hyogo Prefectural Economic Accounts for FY2023") Meanwhile, amid a declining population and an aging population of business owners, business succession has become an important management issue for regional companies. According to Teikoku Databank, the rate of companies without successors in Hyogo Prefecture was 47.2% in 2025. Although the situation has shown signs of improvement, nearly half of companies still do not have a designated successor or have yet to determine one.

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Under these circumstances, to ensure the successful transfer of the technologies, employees, business relationships, and other management resources that companies have cultivated over the years to the next generation, and to support the sustainable growth of regional businesses, it is important to consider a wide range of business succession options at an early stage, including succession within the family, succession by employees, and M&A transactions as a form of third-party succession.

Through this partnership, The Kobe Shimbun and MACP will provide accurate information on business succession and M&A, thereby contributing to the sustainable growth of companies in Hyogo Prefecture and the further development of the regional economy.

■ **Overview of the Business Alliance**

As the twenty-fourth initiative of the "Regional Co-Creation Project," announced on October 4, 2023, MACP entered into a business alliance agreement with The Kobe Shimbun, a leading regional media company in Hyogo Prefecture, with the aim of promoting "business succession and business growth options."

Going forward, the parties will strengthen information dissemination efforts to raise awareness of "business succession and business growth options" in Hyogo Prefecture, and The Kobe Shimbun will introduce to MACP companies facing challenges in business succession, growth strategies, and business revitalization*1.

*1 Business revitalization will be handled by Mirai Financial Advisory Service Co., Ltd. (abbreviated as "MFAS"), a member of the MACP Group.

■ **First Initiative Following the Alliance – Hosting an "M&A Seminar" for Business Leaders in Hyogo Prefecture**

In conjunction with this business alliance, The Kobe Shimbun and MACP will jointly host a commemorative "M&A Seminar" on Tuesday, December 8, 2026, from 11:00 to 13:00. The seminar is designed for business leaders in Hyogo Prefecture and will provide insights to deepen understanding of "M&A as one of the options for business succession."

For more information:

Consultation Desk for Business Succession and Growth Support | M&A Capital Partners × The Kobe Shimbun

https://info.ma-cp.com/go/kobe-np-rdpj2026

■ **Company Information**

Company Name: M&A Capital Partners Co., Ltd. (Listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market, Securities Code: 6080)

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Representative: President and Representative Director Satoru Nakamura

Established: October 2005

Business Description: M&A-related services

Website: https://www.ma-cp.com

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