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Start of Demonstration Trial of Table Service Robot with KatsuandKatsu

Japan System Techniques Co., Ltd. (“JAST”) and KatsuandKatsu inc. (Head office: Suita City, Osaka; President: Yoshiki Morimoto) have started a demonstration trial of restaurant table service provided by a robot as a new venture for both companies. Katsu &Katsu, a wholly owned subsidiary of Duskin Co., Ltd., operates tonkatsu (breaded, deep-fried pork cutlet) restaurants. The details are as per attached.

This matter will have only a negligible effect on JAST’s results of operations. An announcement will be made in a timely manner if there is any additional information that should be disclosed.

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The aim of the trial is to show that the robot can improve the quality of services by lowering the amount of work performed by people and solve Japan’s labor shortage.

■ Summary of the Demonstration Trial

For this trial, table service robots will be used at the Hirano store in Osaka and the Kobe Kozukayama store in Kobe. KatsuanKatsu will use the robots to bring food that customers ordered to their tables and collect dishes and other items after meals are finished. During the trial, JAST will provide support for the operation of the robots to perform table service currently performed by employees, and the benefits will be measured and assessed. The plan is to start using the robot in early September at the Hirano store and then at the Kobe Kozukayama store for about one month. Information about the locations and trial period are in the following table.

Store	Location	Period*
Hirano Store	1-1-2 Hirano-Nishi, Hirano-ku, Osaka City	Monday, September 9 - Saturday, October 5, 2024
Kobe Kozukayama Store	868-28 Kozukayama, Tamon-cho Aza, Tarumi-ku, Kobe City	Tuesday, September 17 - Saturday, October 19, 2024

*The period of these trials may be changed without prior notice.

■ Table Service Robot Functions and Expected Benefits

The table service robot uses several cameras and sensors to move accurately to its destination while avoiding obstacles. Furthermore, the robot can determine the best route to each destination and allows designating a no-entry zone because the layout of the restaurant is set in its memory in advance. Operating the robot is easy because restaurant employees use a touch screen for directly entering instructions to tell the robot which table to serve. A table service robot is expected to allow restaurants to raise the customer table turnover rate while improving the quality of services by reducing the amount of work performed by people, which will contribute to solve Japan’s labor shortage.

■ Future Developments

This demonstration trial will use a general-purpose robot. Feedback from employees and customers will be used to make improvements and upgrades as needed with the goal of an official launch of customized versions of this robot.

This table service robot is one way in which JAST is working on helping businesses operate during Japan’s labor shortage and improve efficiency. JAST is dedicated to playing a role in solving social issues by providing robot solutions for the digital transformation of related processes and by using robots for an even broader range of services.

■ Inquiries

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