

Investment pioneer strengthens Kenzo team

Tokyo, September 3rd, 2018

Kenzo Capital Corporation is adding a Chief Investment Officer to its management team. Mr. Takehiko Uehara, an experienced finance specialist, will take over the newly created position on 1 September.

“I am very pleased that with Mr. Uehara we have been able to win a real pioneer in the Japanese real estate sector for us,” said Dr. Leonard Meyer zu Brickwedde, President and CEO of Kenzo Capital Corporation.

As Chief Investment Officer, Mr. Uehara will be responsible for investment, underwriting, asset and portfolio management as well as - in conjunction with the President and CEO - developing and implementing the Kenzo investment strategy for Japan’s complex but lucrative real estate market. Dr. Meyer zu Brickwedde will concentrate more on servicing investors.

Most recently, Mr. Uehara was Deputy President & COO of Genkei Capital Management, a renowned real estate asset management company. From 2008 to 2016, Uehara headed the Japanese subsidiary of German Hypo Real Estate (later Deutsche Pfandbriefbank). In 2004, he was appointed Head of Real Estate Structured Finance and served as Deputy to then President Dr. Meyer zu Brickwedde.

“Together, we have built Hypo Real Estate Japan into the largest non-Japanese real estate balance sheet financier and achieved an annual lending volume of 250 billion yen (2 billion euros) in 2006 and 2007,” recounted Meyer zu Brickwedde.

During that period, Uehara has achieved many breakthroughs and accomplishments. These included:

- the largest ever mezzanine real estate loan issued in Japan;
- one of the very first non-recourse real estate loan financing in Japan at a time when Japanese banks were not yet available for this purpose;
- the only refinancing of a Japanese real estate loan portfolio to date via a German Pfandbrief - for which Mr. Uehara developed a structure for the admission of Japanese credit claims into a Pfandbrief cover pool;
- one of the two first and for many years only invitation of a foreign bank to finance a real estate deal in Japan by one of the largest Japanese developers.

“I am therefore convinced that with Mr. Uehara as Chief Investment Officer, we can increase our services for investors and serve our clients even more,” Meyer zu Brickwedde said.

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