

July 19, 2022  
Sompo Holdings, Inc.

## Additional Investment of JPY10 Billion in Open-Source Autonomous Driving Startup TIER IV

Sompo Holdings, Inc. (Chairman & Group CEO: Kengo Sakurada, hereinafter the “Company”) announced that it has made an additional investment of JPY10 billion in TIER IV, INC. (Representative Director and President: Kazuya Takeda, hereinafter “TIER IV”), an affiliated company engaged in developing the necessary software for realizing autonomous driving.

### 1. Background

TIER IV has led the development of the world’s first open-source autonomous driving OS, “Autoware\*1” and is advocating the democratization of autonomous driving so that anyone can contribute to the development of the technology. To accelerate and widen the popularization of autonomous driving through the opening up of technology, TIER IV is focusing on developing the software that will form the core of autonomous driving systems.

The Company’s core business operator, Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. (President Giichi Shirakawa), and TIER IV have teamed up to jointly develop “Level IV Discovery\*2,” an insurtech solution for safe and secure social implementation of autonomous driving technology. This technology is expected to resolve societal issues such as ensuring means of transportation in depopulated areas, and alleviating driver shortages caused by population decline, primarily in the logistics industry.

In August 2020, the Company concluded a capital alliance agreement with TIER IV under which it invested approximately JPY9.8 billion, making TIER IV an affiliated company.

### 2. Details of the additional investment

The additional investment was made by way of a third-party allotment “Series B Round” financing conducted by TIER IV. The funds were procured from existing shareholders the Company and Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd. (President: Yoshihiro Hidaka), as well as a new source, Bridgestone Corporation (Global CEO and Representative Executive Officer: Shuichi Ishibashi). TIER IV raised a total of JPY12.1 billion, bringing the cumulative total amount of funds raised since its foundation to JPY29.6 billion.

Furthermore, TIER IV was selected for “Research Topics Related to Level 4 Automated Driving” in the “Green Innovation Fund Projects\*3” arranged by the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO). The business scale of this fund is projected at JPY25.4 billion over nine years from fiscal 2022 through fiscal 2030.

### 3. Outlook

The additional investment will help to accelerate TIER IV’s development of autonomous driving technology and contribute to the early resolution of mobility issues, while also assisting with the realization of carbon neutrality by 2050 through decarbonization enabled by energy saving. These objectives are connected to Sompo’s purpose: “With ‘A Theme Park for Security, Health and Wellbeing,’ create a society in which every person can live a healthy, prosperous and happy life in one’s own way.” Combining their strengths, TIER IV and the Company aim to further develop collaboration between industry, government, and academia, working with multiple co-creation partners to realize a sustainable society through the social implementation of secure, safe autonomous driving.

\*1 “Autoware” is a trademark of the Autoware Foundation.

\*2 [Release] Insurtech Solution “Level IV Discovery”

\*3 Overview of Green Innovation Fund Projects