

E. Taxation.

Japanese Taxation

The following is a discussion summarizing material Japanese tax consequences to an owner of shares or ADSs who is a non-resident of Japan or a non-Japanese corporation without a permanent establishment in Japan to which the relevant income is attributable. The statements regarding Japanese tax laws set forth below are based on the laws in force and as interpreted by the Japanese taxation authorities as at the date hereof. These statements are subject to changes in the applicable Japanese laws or double taxation conventions occurring after that date. This summary is not exhaustive of all possible tax considerations which may apply to a particular investor. Potential investors should satisfy themselves as to:

- the overall tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of shares or ADSs, including specifically the tax consequences under Japanese law,
- the laws of the jurisdiction of which they are resident, and
- any tax treaty between Japan and their country of residence, by consulting their own tax advisers.

For purposes of the Treaty and Japanese tax law, U.S. holders of ADRs will be treated as the owners of the shares underlying the ADSs evidenced by the ADRs.

Generally, a non-resident of Japan or a non-Japanese corporation is subject to Japanese withholding tax on dividends paid by Japanese corporations. Stock splits, except when treated as dividends in certain conditions, are not subject to Japanese income tax.

In the absence of any applicable tax treaty, convention or agreement reducing the maximum rate of withholding tax, the rate of Japanese withholding tax applicable to dividends paid by Japanese corporations to non-resident holders is 7% for dividends to be paid on or before March 31, 2009, and 15% thereafter, except for dividends paid to any individual shareholder who holds 5% or more of the issued shares of a company.

The Convention between the Government of Japan and the Government of the United States of America for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income (the "Treaty") was newly signed on November 7, 2003 and the Treaty entered into force on March 30, 2004. Upon the Treaty coming into force, the Convention between Japan and the United States of America for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed on March 8, 1971 (the "Prior Treaty") ceased to have effect. The Treaty reduces the maximum rate of Japanese withholding tax which may be imposed on dividends paid to a United States resident or corporation not having a "permanent establishment" in Japan. A "permanent establishment" in Japan is generally a fixed place of business for industrial or commercial activity in Japan. With respect to taxes withheld at source, the Treaty is applicable for amount taxable on or after July 1, 2004. The other provisions of the Treaty are applicable to the fiscal year beginning on or after January 1, 2005.

Under the Treaty, the maximum withholding rate for most shareholders is limited to 10% of the gross amount actually distributed. However, the maximum rate is 5% of the gross amount actually distributed, if the recipient is a corporation that owns directly or indirectly, on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined, at least 10% of the voting shares of the paying corporation. Moreover, withholding tax on dividends is not imposed, if the recipient is

- a corporation that has owned, directly or indirectly through one or more residents of either Japan or the U.S., more than 50% of the voting shares of the paying corporation for the period of twelve months ending on the date on which entitlement to the dividends is determined and which meets additional requirements, or
- a pension fund, provided that such dividends are not derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by such pension fund.

The following table summarizes changes of the maximum withholding rate imposed on dividends by the Treaty:

The Prior Treaty		The Treaty	
10% or more of the voting shares	10%	More than 50% of the voting shares	0%
		10% to 50% of the voting shares	5%
Others	15%	Others	10%

Japanese tax law provides in general that if the Japanese statutory rate is lower than the maximum rate applicable under tax treaties, conventions or agreements, the Japanese statutory rate shall be applicable.

Japan has entered into income tax treaties, conventions or agreements, reducing the above-mentioned withholding tax rate for investors with a number of countries. These countries include, among others, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. The withholding tax rate is further reduced if investors and IIJ have some capital relationship as provided for in an applicable tax treaty.

Non-resident holders who are entitled to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax on payment of dividends by IIJ must submit the required form in advance through IIJ to the relevant tax authority before payment of dividends. The required form is the Application Form for Income Tax Convention regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax on Dividends. A standing proxy for non-resident holders may provide such application service. See "Description of Capital Stock – General". With respect to ADSs, the reduced rate is applicable if The Bank of New York, as depositary, or its agent submits two Application Forms for Income Tax Convention – one form must be submitted before payment of dividends, and the other form must be submitted within eight months after our fiscal year end. To claim the reduced rate, a non-resident holder of ADSs will be required to file proof of taxpayer status, residence and beneficial ownership, as applicable. The non-resident holder will also be required to provide information or documents clarifying its entitlement to the tax reduction as may be required by the depositary.

A non-resident holder of shares or ADSs who does not submit an application in advance will be entitled to claim from the relevant Japanese tax authority a refund of withholding taxes withheld in excess of the rate of an applicable tax treaty.

Gains derived from the sale outside Japan of the shares or ADSs by a non-resident of Japan or a non-Japanese corporation are in general not subject to Japanese income or corporation taxes. In addition, gains derived from the sale of shares or ADSs within Japan by a non-resident of Japan or non-Japanese corporation not having a permanent establishment in Japan are in general not subject to Japanese income or corporation taxes. An individual who has acquired shares or ADSs as a distributee, legatee or donee may have to pay Japanese inheritance and gift taxes at progressive rates.

IIJ has paid or will pay any stamp, registration or similar tax imposed by Japan in connection with the issue of the shares, except that IIJ will not pay any tax payable in connection with the transfer or sale of the shares by a holder thereof.

## United States Taxation

The following discusses United States federal income tax consequences of the ownership of shares or ADSs. It only applies to U.S. holders of shares or ADSs, as defined below, who hold their shares or ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. It does not address special classes of holders, some of whom may be subject to other rules including:

- tax-exempt entities,
- life insurance companies,
- dealers in securities,
- traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings,
- investors liable for alternative minimum tax,
- investors that actually or constructively own 10% or more of the voting stock of IIJ,
- investors that hold shares or ADSs as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction, or
- investors whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar.

This discussion is based on the tax laws of the United States, including the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations, as currently in effect, as well as on the Treaty. These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. In addition, this discussion is based in part upon the representations of the depositary and the assumption that each obligation in the deposit agreement relating to the ADRs and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

For purposes of this discussion, a “U.S. holder” is a beneficial owner of shares or ADSs that is:

- a citizen or resident of the United States,
- a domestic corporation,
- an estate whose income is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source, or
- a trust if a United States court can exercise primary supervision over the trust’s administration and one or more United States persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

This discussion addresses only United States federal income taxation. You should consult your own tax advisor regarding the United States federal, state and local and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of shares and ADSs in your particular circumstances.

In general, and taking into account the earlier assumptions, for United States federal income tax purposes, if you hold ADRs evidencing ADSs, you will be treated as the owner of the shares represented by those ADSs. Exchanges of shares for ADRs, and ADRs for shares, generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

The discussion under the headings “Taxation of Dividends” and “Taxation of Capital Gains” assumes that we will not be treated as a passive foreign investment company (“PFIC”) for U.S. federal income tax purposes. For a discussion of the rules that apply if we are treated as a PFIC, see the discussion under the heading “PFIC Rules” below.

## **Taxation of Dividends**

Under the United States federal income tax laws, if you are a U.S. holder, the gross amount of any dividend we pay out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for United States federal income tax purposes) is subject to United States federal income taxation. If you are a noncorporate U.S. holder, dividends paid to you in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011 that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable to you at a maximum tax rate of 15% provided that you hold the shares or ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meet other holding period requirements.

You must include any Japanese tax withheld from the dividend payment in this gross amount even though you do not in fact receive it. The dividend is taxable to you when you, in the case of shares, or the Depositary, in the case of ADSs, receive the dividend, actually or constructively. The dividend will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to United States corporations in respect of dividends received from other United States corporations. The amount of the dividend distribution that you must include in your income as a U.S. holder will be the U.S. dollar value of the Japanese yen payments made, determined at the spot Japanese yen/U.S. dollar rate on the date the dividend distribution is includible in your income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. Generally, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date you include the dividend payment in income to the date you convert the payment into U.S. dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss and will not be eligible for the special tax rate applicable to qualified dividend income. The gain or loss generally will be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

Distributions in excess of current and accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for United States federal income tax purposes, will be treated as a return of capital to the extent of your basis in the shares or ADSs and thereafter as capital gain.

Subject to certain limitations, the Japanese tax withheld in accordance with the Treaty and paid over to Japan will be creditable or deductible against your United States federal income tax liability. Special rules apply in determining the foreign tax credit limitation with respect to dividends that are subject to the maximum 15% tax rate. To the extent a refund of the tax withheld is available to you under Japanese law or under the Treaty, the amount of tax withheld that is refundable will not be eligible for credit against your United States federal income tax liability.

Dividends constitute income from sources outside the United States, but dividends paid in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2007 generally will be “passive” or “financial services” income, and dividends paid in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006 will, depending on your circumstances, be “passive” or “general” income which, in either case, is treated separately from other types of income for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit allowable to you.

## **Taxation of Capital Gains**

If you sell or otherwise dispose of your shares or ADSs, you will recognize capital gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the amount that you realize and your tax basis, determined in U.S. dollars, in your shares or ADSs. Capital gain of a noncorporate U.S. holder that is recognized in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011 is generally taxed at a maximum rate of 15% where the holder has a holding period greater than one year. Additionally, gain or loss will generally be from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

## **PFIC Rules**

We do not believe that we will be treated as a PFIC for United States federal income tax purposes for our most recent taxable year. However, this conclusion is a factual determination made annually and thus may be subject to change. Because of the nature of our income and assets, we could be determined to be a PFIC for our current and subsequent taxable years.

In general, we will be a PFIC with respect to you if for any of our taxable years in which you held our ADSs or shares:

- at least 75% of our gross income for the taxable year is passive income, or
- at least 50% of the value, determined on the basis of a quarterly average, of our assets is attributable to assets that produce or are held for the production of passive income.

Passive income generally includes dividends, interest, royalties, rents (other than certain rents and royalties derived in the active conduct of a trade or business), annuities and gains from assets that produce passive income. If a foreign corporation owns at least 25% by value of the stock of another corporation, the foreign corporation is treated for purposes of the PFIC tests as owning its proportionate share of the assets of the other corporation, and as receiving directly its proportionate share of the other corporation's income.

We believe that more than 25% of our gross income is not passive income and that, based upon our earnings history and projected market capitalization, we possess sufficient active assets, including intangible assets, such that more than 50% of the value of our assets is attributable to assets that produce or are held for the production of active income.

If we are treated as a PFIC and you did not make a mark-to-market election, as described below, you will be subject to special rules with respect to:

- any gain you realize on the sale or other disposition of your shares or ADSs, and
- any “excess distribution” that we make to you (generally, any distributions to you during a single taxable year that are greater than 125% of the average annual distributions received by you in respect of the shares or ADSs during the three preceding taxable years or, if shorter, your holding period for the shares or ADSs).

Under these rules:

- the gain or excess distribution will be allocated ratably over your holding period for the shares or ADSs,
- the amount allocated to the taxable year in which you realized the gain or excess distribution will be taxed as ordinary income,
- the amount allocated to each prior year, with certain exceptions, will be taxed at the highest tax rate in effect for that year, and
- the interest charge generally applicable to underpayments of tax will be imposed in respect of the tax attributable to each such year.

Special rules apply for calculating the amount of the foreign tax credit with respect to excess distributions by a PFIC.

If your shares or ADSs are treated as stock of a PFIC, you may make a mark-to-market election. If you make this election, you will not be subject to the PFIC rules described above. Instead, in general, you will include as ordinary income each year the excess, if any, of the fair market value of your shares or ADSs at the end of the taxable year over your adjusted basis in your shares or ADSs. These amounts of ordinary income will not be eligible for the favorable tax rates applicable to qualified dividend income or long-term capital gains. You will also be allowed to take an ordinary loss in respect of the excess, if any, of the adjusted basis of your shares or ADSs over their fair market value at the end of the taxable year or over their final sale or disposition prices, but only to the extent of the net amount of previously included income as a result of the mark-to-market election. Your basis in the shares or ADSs will be adjusted to reflect any such income or loss amounts.

In addition, notwithstanding any election you make with regard to the shares or ADSs, dividends that you receive from us will not constitute qualified dividend income to you if we are a PFIC either in the taxable year of the distribution or the preceding taxable year. Moreover, your shares or ADSs will be treated as stock in a PFIC if we were a PFIC at any time during your holding period in your shares or ADSs, even if we are not currently a PFIC. For purposes of this rule, if you make a mark-to-market election with respect to your shares or ADSs, you will be treated as having a new holding period in your shares or ADSs beginning on the first day of the first taxable year beginning after the last taxable year for which the mark-to-market election applies. Dividends that you receive that do not constitute qualified dividend income are not eligible for taxation at the 15% maximum rate applicable to qualified dividend income. Instead, you must include the gross amount of any such dividend paid by us out of our accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for United States federal income tax purposes) in your gross income, and it will be subject to tax at rates applicable to ordinary income.

If you own shares or ADSs during any year that we are a PFIC with respect to you, you must file Internal Revenue Service Form 8621.

#### **F. Dividends and Paying Agents.**

Not required.

#### **G. Statement by Experts.**

Not applicable.

#### **H. Documents on Display.**

We file periodic reports and other information with the SEC. The SEC maintains a web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov) that contains reports and other information regarding us and other registrants that file electronically with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC’s public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of its public reference room. In addition, you may also inspect reports filed with the SEC and other information at our Tokyo headquarters, located at Jinbocho Mitsui