

May 9, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

*Global Communications Department
(Tel: +81-3-3574-5664)
(Japan)*

Investor Relations Contact:

*Yoshinori Nakashima
Corporate Finance & IR Department
(Tel: +81-6-6908-1121)
(Japan)*

Panasonic Announces Joint Collaboration of Photovoltaic Business through a Company Split (Simplified Absorption-type)

Osaka, Japan, May 9, 2019 – Panasonic Corporation ([TSE:6752] “Panasonic”) today announced that its Board of Directors has resolved to conduct an absorption-type company split (the “Company Split”), in order to transfer the research and development (“R&D”) function of Panasonic related to its photovoltaic business to a newly established company (the “New Company”) . Details are outlined below.

Some of the matters and details for disclosure relating to the Company Split have been omitted because the Company Split will be conducted between Panasonic and its wholly-owned subsidiary which is newly established.

For further details on the joint collaboration of the photovoltaic business, please see attached press release “Panasonic to Collaborate with China’s GS-Solar in Photovoltaic Business”.

1. Purpose of the Company Split

The cells Panasonic manufactures for its photovoltaic module HIT™ are characterized by the Panasonic’s proprietary heterojunction structure combining amorphous and monocrystalline silicon photovoltaic cell layers, offering features such as high conversion efficiency, outstanding temperature coefficient - which means low performance degradation at higher temperatures - and bifacial power generation. Panasonic and GS-Solar(based in Fujian,China) have come to this agreement as they aim to develop high value-added products and drive further development of heterojunction photovoltaic technologies through the sharing and utilization of their respective technologies and production know-how.

- more -

Specifically, in order to establish the R&D New Company, Panasonic and SANYO Electric Co., Ltd. (“SANYO”), a wholly-owned consolidated subsidiary of Panasonic, will transfer R&D function and division of each company related to photovoltaic business to the New Company which is to be established in Japan by the Company Split. Panasonic will transfer 90% of the total number of issued shares of the New Company to GS-Solar on November 1, 2019 (scheduled) as effective date. The execution date of the Company Split is not yet determined and will be decided after agreement.

In addition, Panasonic will transfer all issued shares of Panasonic Energy Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., a wholly-owned consolidated sub-subsubsidiary of Panasonic, to GS-Solar, effective on 1st November, 2019 (scheduled).

2. Summary of the Company Split

(1) Schedule of the Company Split

Resolution of the Board of Directors on the Company Split	May 9, 2019
Execution of the Company Split agreement	To be determined
Effective date of the Company Split	To be determined

(Note: Since, for Panasonic, the Company Split corresponds to a simplified absorption-type company split, as set forth in Article 784, Paragraph 2 of the Companies Act, general meeting of shareholders will not be held concerning approval of the absorption-type company split.)

The execution date, as well as the effective date, of the Company Split agreement will be disclosed once determined.

(2) Method of the Company Split

The Company Split is an absorption-type company split in which Panasonic is the splitting company and the New Company is the succeeding company (simplified absorption-type company split).

(3) Allotment of shares in relation to the Company Split

Through the Company Split, the New Company will issue shares, allotted to Panasonic.

(4) Treatment of stock acquisition rights and bonds with stock acquisition rights upon the Company Split

There will be no change in the stock acquisition rights issued by Panasonic upon the Company Split.

- (5) Increase or decrease in stated capital as a result of the Company Split
There shall be no increase or decrease in the stated capital of Panasonic as a result of the Company Split.
- (6) Rights and obligations to be transferred to the succeeding company
The New Company will succeed assets, liabilities, contractual status and the incidental rights and obligations which are necessary to perform photovoltaic R&D business from Panasonic and SANYO.
- (7) Prospects for performance of liabilities
Panasonic considers there will be no issues concerning prospects of performance of the liabilities owed by the New Company after the Company Split.

3. Outline of Companies that are Parties to the Company Split

	Splitting Company (As of September 30, 2018)	New Company (scheduled)
(1) Corporate name	Panasonic Corporation	To be determined
(2) Head office	1006, Oaza Kadoma, Kadoma City, Osaka, Japan	15-2, Nishikiminami-machi Kaizuka City, Osaka, Japan
(3) Name and title of representative	President, Kazuhiro Tsuga	To be determined
(4) Principal lines of business	Manufacture and sale of electronic and electric equipment, etc.	R&D of heterojunction photovoltaic technologies
(5) Stated capital	258,740 million yen	To be determined
(6) Date established	December 15, 1935	To be determined
(7) Total number of outstanding shares	2,453,053,497 shares	To be determined
(8) Fiscal year end	March 31	To be determined

(9) Major shareholders and shareholding ratios	Japan Trustee Services Bank, Ltd. (trust account)	7.38%	Panasonic Corporation 100%
	The Master Trust Bank of Japan, Ltd. (trust account)	6.39%	
	Nippon Life Insurance Company	2.96%	
	Japan Trustee Services Bank, Ltd. (trust account 5)	1.90%	
	Panasonic Corporation Employee Shareholding Association	1.75%	

(Note) The Amendment to the Report of Possession of Large Volume dated March 22, 2017 was submitted by BlackRock Japan Co., Ltd. and its five joint holders. According to the report, in relation to Panasonic, the total number of share certificates (and other equivalents) they hold was 122,710 thousands and their holding ratio of share certificates (and other equivalents) was 5.00% as of March 15, 2017. Since Panasonic cannot confirm the actual status of the shareholdings as of the end of September 2018, the “Major shareholders and shareholding ratios” for the splitting company described above is based on Panasonic’s shareholder registry.

(10) Financial condition and business performance of splitting company for immediately preceding fiscal year (consolidated)

Fiscal year end	March 31, 2018
Panasonic Corporation stockholders’ equity	1,707,551 million yen
Total assets	6,291,148 million yen
Panasonic Corporation stockholders’ equity per share	732.12 yen
Net sales	7,982,164 million yen
Operating profit	380,539 million yen
Net profit attributable to Panasonic Corporation stockholders	236,040 million yen
Basic earnings per share attributable to Panasonic Corporation stockholders	101.20 yen

- Notes: 1. Amounts less than 1 million yen have been rounded to the nearest whole 1 million yen amount.
2. The figures are presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
3. Panasonic holds 120,681 thousand shares of its treasury stock as of September 30, 2018

4. Outline of Business subject to Company Split

(1) Outline of business subject to Company Split

Due to the Company Split, a part of Panasonic's employees involved in the R&D of photovoltaic technology as well as the status of related contracts and the incidental rights and obligations will be transferred to the New Company. The business division will not be transferred.

(2) Operating results of the business to be split

There is no statement regarding the operating results of the business to be split.

(3) Assets and liabilities of the business to be split

There is a possibility that some assets and liabilities will be transferred through the Company Split, but the details are not yet determined.

5. Status of Panasonic after the Company Split

Panasonic's corporate name, head office, name and title of representative, principal lines of business, stated capital and fiscal year end of Panasonic will not change as a result of the Company Split.

6. Financial Outlook

The impact of this collaboration is reflected in the consolidated financial results for the fiscal year ended March 2019, which will be disclosed today. Also, there is no material impact on the consolidated financial outlook for the fiscal year ending March 2020.

<Reference>

"Panasonic to Collaborate with China's GS-Solar in Photovoltaic Business"

Disclaimer Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release includes forward-looking statements (that include those within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended) about Panasonic and its Group companies (the Panasonic Group). To the extent that statements in this press release do not relate to historical or current facts, they constitute forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on the current assumptions and beliefs of the Panasonic Group in light of the information currently available to it, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors. Such risks, uncertainties and other factors may cause the Panasonic Group's actual results, performance, achievements or financial position to be materially different from any future results, performance, achievements or financial position expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Panasonic undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements after the date of this press release. Investors are advised to consult any further disclosures by Panasonic in its subsequent filings under the Financial Instrument and Exchange Act of Japan (the FIEA) and other publicly disclosed documents.

The risks, uncertainties and other factors referred to above include, but are not limited to, economic conditions, particularly consumer spending and corporate capital expenditures in the Americas, Europe, Japan, China and other Asian countries; volatility in demand for electronic equipment and components from business and industrial customers, as well as consumers in many product and geographical markets; the possibility that excessive currency rate fluctuations of the U.S. dollar, the euro, the Chinese yuan and other currencies against the yen may adversely affect costs and prices of Panasonic's products and services and certain other transactions that are denominated in these foreign currencies; the possibility of the Panasonic Group incurring additional costs of raising funds, because of changes in the fund raising environment; the possibility of the Panasonic Group not being able to respond to rapid technological changes and changing consumer preferences with timely and cost-effective introductions of new products in markets that are highly competitive in terms of both price and technology; the possibility of not achieving expected results or incurring unexpected losses in connection with the alliances or mergers and acquisitions; the possibility of not being able to achieve its business objectives through joint ventures and other collaborative agreements with other companies, including due to the pressure of price reduction exceeding that which can be achieved by its effort and decrease in demand for products from business partners which Panasonic highly depends on in BtoB business areas; the possibility of the Panasonic Group not being able to maintain competitive strength in many product and geographical areas; the possibility of incurring expenses resulting from any defects in products or services of the Panasonic Group; the possibility that the Panasonic Group may face intellectual property infringement claims by third parties; current and potential, direct and indirect restrictions imposed by other countries over trade, manufacturing, labor and operations; fluctuations in market prices of securities and other financial assets in which the Panasonic Group has holdings or changes in valuation of non-financial assets, including property, plant and equipment, goodwill and deferred tax assets; future changes or revisions to accounting policies or accounting rules; the possibility of incurring expenses resulting from a leakage of customers' or confidential information from Panasonic Group systems due to unauthorized access or a detection of vulnerability of network-connected products of the Panasonic Group; as well as natural disasters including earthquakes, prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the world, disruption of supply chain and other events that may negatively impact business activities of the Panasonic Group. The factors listed above are not all-inclusive and further information is contained in the most recent English translated version of Panasonic's securities reports under the FIEA and any other documents which are disclosed on its website.

(Reference)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2019

Media Contact:

Global Communications Department

Panasonic Corporation

Tel: +81-(0)3-3574-5664 Fax: +81-(0)3-3574-5699

**Panasonic to Collaborate with China's GS-Solar
in Photovoltaic Business**

Osaka, Japan - Panasonic Corporation today announced it has reached an agreement with GS-Solar (China) Company Ltd. to collaborate in the photovoltaic business. Under the agreement, Panasonic will transfer its solar manufacturing subsidiary, Panasonic Energy Malaysia, to GS-Solar, while separating its photovoltaic research and development function in order to establish a new company with the Chinese partner. Panasonic and GS-Solar will jointly operate and invest in this new company in Japan.

The cells Panasonic manufactures for its photovoltaic module HIT™ are characterized by the company's proprietary heterojunction structure combining amorphous and monocrystalline silicon photovoltaic cell layers, offering features such as high conversion efficiency, outstanding temperature coefficient - which means low performance degradation at higher temperatures - and bifacial power generation.

GS-Solar, based in Quanzhou, Fujian, is a photovoltaic module manufacturer engaging in research, development and manufacture of heterojunction photovoltaic modules and is recognized for its exceptional technological achievements.

The companies have come to this agreement as they aim to drive further development of heterojunction photovoltaic technologies through the sharing and utilization of their respective technologies and production know-how. This collaboration will allow the introduction of high added-value photovoltaic modules to a market, which is expected to grow on a global scale.

Through this agreement, Panasonic will be able to optimize the development and production capability of its photovoltaic business while continuing to procure and sell photovoltaic modules produced at the Malaysian factory. Capitalizing on resources created through these activities, Panasonic will integrate its solar business into the energy solutions business, which offers a combination of HEMS⁽¹⁾, photovoltaic modules, storage batteries, Eco Cute heat pump systems, EV chargers, among others. Additionally, Panasonic will be contributing to the proliferation of net Zero Energy House (ZEH)⁽²⁾, new energy management systems for the post FIT⁽³⁾ era, and emergency storage power systems for natural disasters. Most importantly, the newly established company will be committed to driving the competitiveness of its PV business through further innovation of heterojunction technologies.

After the transfer, the balance of Panasonic's solar manufacturing operations remain unaffected by the agreement with GS-Solar. This includes operations in Japan and the United States.⁽⁴⁾

Panasonic will continue to contribute to the realization of comfortable and prosperous lifestyles through the development and expansion of new energy management systems and solutions.

Notes:

- (1) Abbreviation for Home Energy Management System. HEMS can visualize energy generation and consumption at the residential home level, while optimizing and controlling energy management as a whole.
- (2) The net Zero Energy House (ZEH) is characterized by enhanced thermal insulation performance with the use of reinforced exterior wall material as well as higher efficiency energy systems. ZEH enables large-scale energy conservation while maintaining indoor air quality and aims to achieve net zero annual primary energy consumption through the implementation of renewable energy.
- (3) Abbreviation for Feed-In Tariff. This tariff system for renewable energy guarantees that the power generated by renewable energy systems will be purchased by utility companies at a fixed price per kWh for a determined period.
- (4) Panasonic also operates a factory in Fukushima Prefecture, which manufactures photovoltaic cells for watches and electric calculators. The Nishikinohama factory produces modules for automotive applications. The Shimane factory produces cells and other system products, while the Buffalo factory produces cells and modules.

■New Company Overview (planned)

Company name : TBD

Company address : 15-2 Nishikiminami-machi, Kaizuka-City, Osaka 597-0094, Japan

Date of establishment : TBD

Business overview : Research and development of heterojunction photovoltaic cells and modules

Investment amount : N/A

Equity ratio : 90% from GS-Solar, 10% from Panasonic

■GS-Solar Overview

Company name : GS-Solar (China) Company Ltd.

Company address : Quanzhou, Fujian Province, China

Business overview : Research and development, manufacturing, and sales of heterojunction photovoltaic cells, modules, and related products

■Malaysia factory Overview

Company name : Panasonic Energy Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Company address : Kulim Hi-Tech Park industrial estate, Kedah, Malaysia

Establishment : December, 2011

Business overview : Production of photovoltaic module HIT™ (integrated production of wafers, cells and modules)

About Panasonic

Panasonic Corporation is a worldwide leader in the development of diverse electronics technologies and solutions for customers in the consumer electronics, housing, automotive, and B2B businesses. The company, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2018, has expanded globally and now operates 591 subsidiaries and 88 associated companies worldwide, recording consolidated net sales of 7.982 trillion yen for the year ended March 31, 2018. Committed to pursuing new value through innovation across divisional lines, the company uses its technologies to create a better life and a better world for its customers. To learn more about Panasonic, visit <http://www.panasonic.com/global>.

###