

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 3598

Customer Inquiries

Media Inquiries

Business Innovation & DX Strategy Div.
Mitsubishi Electric Corporation
Tel: +81-3-3218-4885

Public Relations Division
Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

www.MitsubishiElectric.com/

prd.gnews@nk.MitsubishiElectric.co.jp
www.MitsubishiElectric.com/news/

Mitsubishi Electric, ME Innovation Fund invests in Elephantech Inc.

*Changing the future of the manufacturing industry with additive manufacturing**

TOKYO, May 9, 2023 – [Mitsubishi Electric Corporation](https://www.mitsubishielectric.com) (TOKYO: 6503) announced today that its ME Innovation Fund**, has invested in Elephantech Inc. The startup is the first company in the world to successfully mass-produce printed circuit boards using metal inkjet printing. This is the fund's fourth investment in a target company.

Under its mission of Making the world sustainable with new manufacturing technologies, Elephantech uses its metal inkjet printing and copper plating technologies to manufacture and sell P-Flex® flexible printed circuit boards (PCB). The company has established a unique manufacturing method called Pure Additive™ which has a lower environmental impact than conventional manufacturing methods. With this technology, the company is working toward eco-friendly and sustainable manufacturing.

PCBs are indispensable to manufacturing, but the conventional method of producing PCBs generates considerable waste. The conventional method is a subtractive method in which copper foil is first laminated entirely on the substrate and then removed where unnecessary to form a circuit. This method however requires a large amount of water. In contrast, Elephantech's metal inkjet printing technology allows metal to be printed on a substrate only where necessary. This not only minimizes the consumption of natural resources and water but also reduces any waste that is generated in the production process.

Mitsubishi Electric and Elephantech will together promote metal inkjet printing technology and explore the ideal form of manufacturing that matches the current era, which requires that consideration be given to the global environment. We will work toward the social implementation of additive manufacturing to bring innovative change to the manufacturing industry.

Shinya Shimizu, CEO & CTO of Elephantech Inc., said:

“Going forward, the ability to minimize the impact on the global environment will be the key to improving manufacturing competitiveness. To widely spread our metal inkjet printing technology, fine printing supported by high accuracy control is indispensable. By working with Mitsubishi Electric, who has strengths in control technology, we will further accelerate the introduction of additive manufacturing into society.”

* A processing method for creating various shapes by laminating or adding materials layer by layer

** Mitsubishi Electric, Global Brain Launch “ME Innovation Fund” (released Jan. 13, 2022)

<https://www.MitsubishiElectric.com/news/2022/pdf/0113.pdf>

Hiroshi Sakakibara, Executive Officer, CDO, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, said:

“By combining Elephantech’s eco-friendly metal inkjet printing technology and our leading-edge control technology, we will further evolve additive manufacturing and enhance the level of manufacturing. We will solve societal problems through manufacturing, provide new customer and societal value, and create a sustainable society.”

About Elephantech

Company Name	Elephantech Inc.
CEO	Shinya Shimizu
Location	4-3-8 Hatchobori, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Foundation	January 2014
Business	Development of metal inkjet printing technology, and manufacturing and selling of PCBs
Website	https://www.elephantech.co.jp/

###

About Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

With more than 100 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO: 6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric enriches society with technology in the spirit of its “Changes for the Better.” The company recorded a revenue of 5,003.6 billion yen (U.S.\$ 37.3 billion*) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023. For more information, please visit www.MitsubishiElectric.com

*U.S. dollar amounts are translated from yen at the rate of ¥134=U.S.\$1, the approximate rate on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market on March 31, 2023