

## PRESS RELEASE

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ALPS ALPINE CO., LTD.

Promoting a digital transformation (DX) through centralized management of the location and utilization of materials and maintenance information

### Use of MonoTra™, a Positioning Solution, is Increasing in the Transportation and Construction Equipment Transportation Industries Streamlining the management of materials and Reducing CO<sub>2</sub>

Positioning solutions such as MonoTra™ that were developed by Alps Alpine Co., Ltd. (TSE: 6770; President & CEO: Hideo Izumi; Head Office: Ota Ward, Tokyo; hereinafter referred to as “Alps Alpine”) are being used by Yamato Home Convenience Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Hideki Terada; Head Office: Chuo Ward, Tokyo; hereinafter referred to as “Yamato Home Convenience”), which is involved in the delivery of large furniture and home appliances, and Hitachi Kenki Logistics Technology Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Kazuyuki Nakamura; Head Office: City of Tsuchiura, Ibaraki Prefecture; hereinafter referred to as “Hitachi Kenki Logistics”), which is involved in the transportation of construction equipment.

Alps Alpine aims to further expand the use of these positioning solutions to the transportation and construction equipment transportation industries. Alps Alpine is also helping to create a carbon-neutral society by improving the efficiency of the management and utilization of goods and materials, extending the service life of goods and materials, and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport vehicles by improving delivery efficiency.

#### Our positioning solutions and our new MonoTra™ Dashboard

Alps Alpine offers positioning solutions such as Logistics Tracker, an inexpensive IoT device that operates for 10 years without recharging<sup>\*1</sup> by consuming little power and that acquires and transmits the position of goods and materials, and MonoTra™, a cloud service that simplifies system construction and operation by enabling the position of goods and materials to be identified indoors or outdoors with an accuracy of 50 m<sup>\*2</sup>. More than 1 million Logistics Trackers have already been delivered to major logistics companies in Japan and overseas. In October 2022, we also added MonoTra™ Dashboard, a visualization service that allows centralized management of the position, backlogging, and utilization of goods and materials, to our services, greatly improving convenience.



## Features of the new MonoTra™ Dashboard

- **Easily introduced**

Companies do not need to set up a server or understand data structures, and the service can be used immediately with a web browser or smartphone.

- **Centralized management of the status of inventory**

In addition to the inventory status of materials at each site, where business partners are located off-site is also clearly visible. Unevenly distributed and excess inventory can also be managed centrally.

- **Enables management, including backlog information, even in areas that are hard to reach**

The service shows where (the location), when (for how long), and the extent (quantity) to which inventory is backlogged.

- **View movement logs on a map**

The map shows movement routes and the time spent at each location. Unexpected movements are easily identified, limiting loss.

- **Easily managed by each good or material**

The status, such as the control number, maintenance information, and utilization of each good or material to which the unit is attached, can also be registered.

### Results of use Yamato Home Convenience

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Yamato Home Convenience is involved in moving single-person households and delivery of large furniture and appliances. Yamato Home Convenience uses reusable TV packaging materials (“TV packing boxes”) to prevent damage to home electronics and to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by reducing packaging materials. The company needed “to streamline the reassignment and management of TV packing boxes in accordance with customers’ transportation plans,” “to ascertain the location of TV packing boxes in order to eliminate backlogs and uneven distribution,” and “to ascertain the utilization of each TV packing box in order to devise appropriate maintenance plans.”

Introduction of the MonoTra™ solution from Alps Alpine has enabled the location of TV packing boxes to be determined inexpensively and accurately. The coordination of inventory data and transportation plans at each site has greatly streamlined reassignment directions. In addition, delivery efficiency has improved through appropriate TV packing box assignment, thereby reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport vehicles. The service life of materials has also been extended by ascertaining the utilization of each individual box and by promoting appropriate maintenance plans.

Yamato Home Convenience will accelerate its efforts to improve delivery quality and operational efficiency and reduce its environmental impact through use of the MonoTra™ solution.

### Results of use Hitachi Kenki Logistics

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Hitachi Kenki Logistics is responsible for all logistics related to the production and sale of construction equipment. Hitachi Kenki Logistics has been working to strengthen its supply chain but has been plagued by a chronic shortage of shipping tools (carts and pallets), which are a key component of logistics. Moreover, there are no tools to monitor, visualize, and quantify the status of shipping tools, hampering the identification of the causes of problems and the initiation of improvement efforts.

Introduction of the MonoTra™ solution from Alps Alpine will enable the visualization and quantification of the locations where shipping tools tend to be detained, how long they are detained, and

use for unintended purposes so that the weak points in the supply chain can be accurately identified and a PDCA cycle can be implemented to remedy those problems. Moreover, inventory accuracy is improved and man-hours are reduced since there is no need to manually search for shipping tools, and preventive maintenance inspections and repairs can be performed by managing the operation of each shipping tools on the MonoTra™ Dashboard.

Hitachi Kenki Logistics will continue its efforts to strengthen its supply chain by utilizing the MonoTra™ solution to ensure consistent, prompt, and efficient production and delivery despite rapidly changing external conditions.

## The future

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This service will contribute to further growth for Alps Alpine's business partners through its use. Logistics Trackers and the MonoTra™ can be used in various ways, including preventing the loss and uneven distribution of goods and materials, analyzing utilization, and use for maintenance. Through the widespread use of Logistics Trackers and the MonoTra™, we are working to eliminate worker shortages and to make work easier by increasing operational efficiency in the transportation industry and to protect the global environment.

\*1 Determined 1.6 times/day

\*2 Not a guaranteed value but an actual value under the best conditions

For more information on Logistics Tracker and MonoTra™, please click below.

<https://tech.alpsalpine.com/j/info/solution/monotra/>

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