SMFL | Think beyond, Act now

February 20, 2026

Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company, Limited
SMFL MIRAI Partners Company, Limited

Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Astroscale to Create a Market for the Secondary Use of Satellites

Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company, Limited (President: Tetsuro Imaeda; hereinafter "SMFL") and SMFL MIRAI Partners Company, Limited (President: Akira Ueda; hereinafter "SMFL MIRAI Partners"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of SMFL, have announced that they have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter "MoU") with Astroscale Japan Inc. ("ASJP") to create a secondary use market for satellites, including the development of an operating leasing business for satellites using ASJP's on-orbit services under development.

Astroscale is committed to advancing a circular economy in space through on-orbit servicing, such as debris removal, inspection of objects, satellite life extension and refueling. The company aim to move away from the conventional approach of developing disposable satellites and rockets, and instead enhance the sustainability of satellite operations by building a circular economy in space—one that enables reduction, reuse, repair, refueling, and removal.

In December 2023, the SMFL Group signed a memorandum of understanding with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to co-create a business concept for the "satellite leasing business and secondary use business," and is working to create a system to support new players entering the space industry.
Through the signing of this MoU, we will combine the strengths of the SMFL Group and ASJP to explore the possibility of developing and co-creating services that combine on-orbit services and leasing.

【Astroscale Japan Inc. : https://www.astroscale.com/ja】
Astroscale is the global leader in on-orbit servicing, dedicated to the safe and sustainable development of space. The company delivers a variety of innovative and scalable on-orbit servicing solutions, including in-situ space situational awareness, life extension, refurbishment, upgrades, end-of-life, and active debris removal. Since its first successful launch in March 2021, Astroscale has proven rendezvous and proximity operations technologies in orbit during the ELSA-d and ADRAS-J missions. As more satellite operators adopt on-orbit servicing to routinely inspect, relocate, remove, and extend the life of spacecraft, the potential of a circular space economy — and a future of no waste in space — is being unlocked.

【For business Inquiries】

SMFL	Next Business Development Dept.	Ueda	TEL +81-3-6695-6095
SMFL MIRAI Partners	Next Business Development Dept.	Sato	TEL +81-3-6695-5870

【For press Inquiries】

SMFL	Corporate Communications Dept.	Watanabe Shimizu	TEL +81-3-5219-6334