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August 31, 2016 AEON CO., LTD.

Launch of Japan's third-party certification system for business continuity management (BCM)

Aeon Acquires First Resilience Certification

Aeon Co., Ltd. is only retail-oriented corporation group to be certified among 44 organizations

Aeon Co., Ltd. (President and Representative Executive Officer: Motoya Okada, hereinafter, the company) has acquired the first certification as an organization that has contributed to national resilience (resilience certification) under Japan's first third-party certification system for business continuity management (BCM) initiated this year.

In February 2016, the Cabinet Secretariat's National Resilience Promotion Office published guidelines for the certification of organizations contributing to national resilience. The guidelines serve as the basis for the establishment of Japan's first organizational certification system for business continuity management (BCM). The Association for Resilience Japan plays a central role in the operation of the system and grants certification to companies, local governments, schools, hospitals, and other organizations that support the national resilience objectives and take active BCM measures as organizations contributing to national resilience.

Aeon regularly conducts major disaster prevention and safety drills on a continuing basis simulating response to large-scale earthquakes and tsunami as part of the company's proactive BCM initiatives. In response to the Kumamoto Earthquake in April 2016, Aeon utilized its Group's merchandise procurement capabilities and logistics networks to immediately respond to emergency relief supplies requests from 11 organizations after the disaster, including Kumamoto Prefecture, Kumamoto City, and other local governments, along with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and the Japanese Red Cross Society. Overall, Aeon has rapidly supplied approximately 5.3 million units of relief supplies to these organizations. Additionally, Aeon has established collaborative support systems with Japan Airlines, the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force and other external partners to deliver supplies to evacuation and relief centers, reflecting the company's central role in the relief efforts. These initiatives in Kumamoto were recognized during the process to acquire of the resilience certification.

Moving forward, Aeon continues to actively promote business continuity measures and engage in disaster-prevention activities with the aim of building safe and secure communities.