

# News Release

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August 7, 2025

TOKYU LAND CORPORATION  
Scrum Studio Inc.

## Tokyu Land Corporation and Scrum Studio Announce Inaugural Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator Cohort: 10 Global Deep Tech Startups Selected

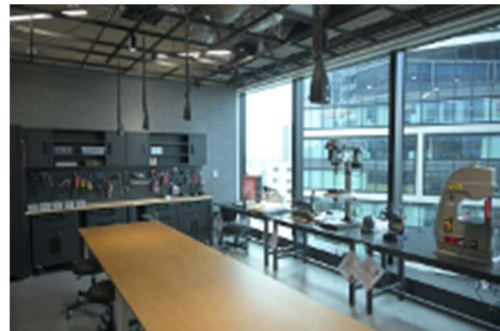
*The launch marks a collaboration with leading professors from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the MIT Industrial Liaison Program, and Oxford Science Enterprises, aiming to drive innovation in AI, robotics, and climate tech.*

TOKYU LAND CORPORATION announced the launch of the Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator, developed in partnership with Scrum Studio, Inc. The program kicked off on June 23, 2025, with the selection of 10 groundbreaking deeptech startups from around the world. Based at SAKURA DEEPTECH SHIBUYA (SDS)—one of Shibuya's largest new community hubs—the initiative aims to fast-track market entry and connect cutting-edge technologies with strategic partners and business opportunities across Japan.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome this inaugural cohort to the Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator," said **Masami Takahashi, General Partner & COO of Scrum Ventures Group and President of Scrum Studio**. "This program represents a significant step in our mission to bridge global innovation with the Japanese market. With the exceptional talent in this cohort and the support of our world-class partners, we are set to drive transformative advancements in deeptech."



Selected startups gather together



Research lab designed by MIT Professors



Mentors providing feedback to startup pitches



Panel session on AI

## The 2025 Accelerator Program Cohort:

After a rigorous selection process involving external experts, 10 startups—including 9 international companies—were chosen from a competitive pool of applicants spanning 28 countries. These companies represent the forefront of innovation in AI, robotics, and climate tech, and will receive six months of intensive support from a global network of mentors, including university faculty, venture capitalists, corporate leaders, and subject matter experts.

A Kickoff Week event was held to mark the start of the program from Monday, June 23 to Friday, June 27, at SAKURA DEEPTech SHIBUYA. The event welcomed the selected startups to Tokyo and featured guest appearances by Professor Desirée Plata and Professor Hermano Igo Krebs from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), both of whom have founded multiple startups in the deeptech field. Drawing on their research and entrepreneurial experiences, they led mentoring sessions for this cohort of deeptech entrepreneurs.

The program will focus on facilitating each startup’s entry to the Japanese market and partnerships with leading Japanese corporations. The inaugural Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator cohort will showcase the culmination of their six-month journey at Demo Day, scheduled in December 2025.

| Company Name        | Website                | Country   | Domain        | Business Overview  |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------------|--|
| Aikido Technologies | aikidotechnologies.com | USA       | Climate Tech  | Self-upending floating offshore wind platform technology   |
| Code Metal          | codemetal.ai           | USA       | AI & Robotics | Agentic workflow that executes automatic code conversion and optimization platforms for edge devices |
| Edgenesis           | edgenesis.ai           | Singapore | AI & Robotics | Developer of an open-source IoT gateway to achieve interoperability in IoT                           |
| EX-Fusion           | en.ex-fusion.com       | Japan     | Climate Tech  | Developer of next-generation energy through inertial confinement fusion                              |

## News Release

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|--------------------------|----------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Foundation Alloy</b>  | foundationalloy.com  | USA    | Climate Tech                   | Developer of next-generation high performance metal alloys                                       |
| <b>Impossible Metals</b> | impossiblemetals.com | USA    | AI & Robotics/<br>Climate Tech | AI-powered robots to sustainably mine and sell critical minerals from the seabed                 |
| <b>LOLIWARE INC.</b>     | loliware.com         | USA    | Climate Tech                   | Developer of Sustainable, Seaweed-derived plastic alternatives                                   |
| <b>Novathena</b>         | novathena.ai         | USA    | AI & Robotics                  | Developer of real-time AI collaborators to deliver procedural excellence in device manufacturing |
| <b>Thermulon</b>         | thermulon.com        | UK     | Climate Tech                   | Developer of scalable and cost-efficient next-generation aerogels                                |
| <b>Verobotics</b>        | verobotics.com       | Israel | AI & Robotics                  | Robotics platform that provides fully automated cleaning and inspection services                 |

## Partnerships Driving Global Expansion & Co-Creation:

**Oxford Science Enterprises** has joined as a new SDS partner, providing mentorship for the accelerator program and helping connect promising startups from the University of Oxford network. This partnership is expected to significantly enhance the program's global reach.



Several corporate partners are set to engage in business collaborations with the startups and conduct demonstration initiatives within SDS. **NTT, NTT DOCOMO, NTT EAST** will integrate its cutting-edge IOWN next-generation high-speed communication system into SDS, kicking off collaborative efforts, including an event in July at “SHIBUYA SACS”.

## News Release

### Event Name:

Let's Go to the Osaka/Kansai Expo! "Tsunagaru-ten"

### Overview:

Experience the latest technologies exhibited by the NTT Group at the Osaka/Kansai Expo.

### Date & Time:

July 18 (Fri) – July 31 (Thu) 13:00–20:00

*On the final day (Thursday, July 31), the venue will close at 15:00.*

### Venue:

Shibuya Art Collection Store *(A paired IOWN setup will also be installed at SDS.)*

## ■ Looking Ahead

In December, we plan to hold "Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator Demo Day 2025 (tentative)", where the inaugural Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator cohort will present the results of their six-month efforts. We will be inviting world-class partners from industry, government, and academia to participate in the Demo Day.

## ■ About SAKURA DEEPTech SHIBUYA

**Name:** SAKURA DEEPTech SHIBUYA -Global Innovation Hub

**Location:** Shibuya Sakura Stage Central Building 12F, 1-2 Sakuragaoka-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

**Opened:** January 23, 2025

**Website:** [SAKURA DEEPTech SHIBUYA | Global Innovation Hub](https://sakura-deeptech-shibuya.com/)

### ■ Company Overview:

#### ▼ TOKYU LAND CORPORATION

Address: SHIBUYA SOLASTA, 1-21-1 Dogenzaka, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo

CEO: Hiroaki Hoshino

Year of Establishment: 1953

Website: <https://www.tokyu-land.co.jp/english/>

#### ▼ Scrum Studio Inc.

Address: 1-1-1 Nishi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo

President: Masami Takahashi

Year of Establishment: 2020

Website: <https://scrum.vc/>

Scrum Studio, Inc. is an open innovation platform formed to bridge the gap between iconic Japanese corporations and startups from around the world. The platform focuses on three pillars to create new business opportunities: acceleration, incubation, and connection.

- Past English press release from Tokyu Land Corporation  
Community platform for Deeptech startups  
"SAKURA DEEPTech SHIBUYA" officially opens

## News Release

Official launch event features MIT professors, experts, and startups

[https://www.tokyu-land.co.jp/english/news/uploads/TLC\\_SDS\\_En%201.pdf](https://www.tokyu-land.co.jp/english/news/uploads/TLC_SDS_En%201.pdf)

- Japanese Version of this press release

Sakura Deeptech Shibuya Accelerator 本格始動 新たにオックスフォード大学発の投資機関も参画、MIT 教授陣など世界トップクラスのメンターがそろう

<https://www.tokyu-land.co.jp/news/2025/001515.html>

- Scrum Blog post about SDA startup selection

<https://scrum.vc/ja/2025/07/07/sakura-deeptech-shibuya-accelerator-announces-inaugural-2025-cohort/>