

NEWS RELEASE

January 5, 2026

Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.

Mizuho Bank, Ltd.

Mizuho Research & Technologies, Ltd.

Mizuho Bank and Mizuho Research & Technologies conclude merger agreement

Today, Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (President & CEO: Masahiko Kato) and Mizuho Research & Technologies, Ltd. (President & CEO: Masatoshi Yoshihara) have concluded an agreement for the two companies to merge, pending regulatory approvals.

1. Overview of the merger

(a) Date of merger (tentative)

Agreement date: January 5, 2026

Effective date: April 1, 2026 (execution pending regulatory approvals)

(b) Structure of merger

The merger will be a merger by absorption, with Mizuho Bank as the surviving company and Mizuho Research & Technologies as the dissolving company. There will be no distribution or allocation of shares, cash, or similar due to the merger.

(c) After the merger

Mizuho Bank's trade name, head office location, representatives (names and titles), business, and fiscal year will remain the same.

2. Purpose of the merger

The merger will bring together personnel with a diverse range of expertise—from banking functions to research, consulting, IT, and technological development—under Mizuho Bank. With these personnel working alongside and inspiring one another, Mizuho Bank will extend its strengths, fold in new capabilities, and better take on the ever more complex and imposing challenges and needs of customers and society. This will further reinforce its corporate foundations in line with Mizuho's Purpose to "Proactively innovate together with our clients for a prosperous and sustainable future."

For research and consulting, Mizuho Bank will more thoroughly integrate Mizuho Research & Technologies' expert insights in macroeconomics, strategy, sustainability, and digital areas into its financial functions, making maximum use of its financial and customer base to again broaden the value it provides for customers and society.

Mizuho Bank will also inherit and carry forward Mizuho Research & Technologies' history of offering tailored solutions to issues faced by customers and society through high-level expertise and objective, medium- to long-term perspectives. To that end, Mizuho Bank will operate the Mizuho Research Institute brand name.*

* About the Mizuho Research Institute brand name (Japanese language only):

<https://www.mizuho-rt.co.jp/business/mizuho-ri/index.html>

Until now, in the IT field, Mizuho Bank has mainly handled upstream IT system development (IT system planning and definition of system requirements) and project management, while Mizuho Research & Technologies has mainly handled downstream processes (design, development, and testing) and maintenance. After the merger, this previous "outsourcing" type of relationship will become a single unbroken set of operations. While continuing to fully ensure stable operation of IT systems, its most important priority, Mizuho Bank will more rapidly incorporate business trends into IT system development, speeding up the cycle for timely utilization of the latest technological advances in customer services.

In the field of technological development, Mizuho Bank will set up a research center for information, mathematics, and engineering as part of unlocking technology's potential both for finance and for addressing various social and economic issues. The research center will combine basic research, applied research, and research and development under a uniform structure and build on the insights, experience, and results of Mizuho Research & Technologies to become a singular presence in the crossover of technology and finance.

Mizuho Bank will also streamline administrative and other redundant functions, optimize management to avoid the communication-related oversights that tend to arise between separate companies, and reallocate corporate resources to growth areas from a medium- to long-term perspective.

Corporate profiles (as of March 31, 2025)

Mizuho Bank

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| (1) Company name: | Mizuho Bank, Ltd. |
| (2) Location of head office: | 1-5-5 Otemachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan |
| (3) Representative: | Masahiko Kato, President & CEO |
| (4) Principal business: | Banking |
| (5) Capital: | JPY 1.404 trillion |
| (6) Shareholder: | Mizuho Financial Group, Inc. |
| (7) Employees: | 23,827 |

Mizuho Research & Technologies

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| (1) Company name: | Mizuho Research & Technologies, Ltd. |
| (2) Location of head office: | 2-3 Kanda-Nishikicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan |
| (3) Representative: | Masatoshi Yoshihara, President & CEO |
| (4) Principal business: | Information processing services, think tanks, and consulting |
| (5) Capital: | JPY 1,627.5 million |
| (6) Shareholder: | Mizuho Financial Group, Inc. |
| (7) Employees: | 4,071 |