News Release

Notice of Capital Increase through Third-Party Allotment (Series D Financing)

Kobe, Japan, January 27, 2025 – Synplogen Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Kobe; Representative Director, CEO: Kazuhiko Yamamoto; hereinafter referred to as “Synplogen”), a biotech startup spun out of Kobe University, announced that it raised JPY 600 million in Series D Financing through a third-party allotment of new shares to Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; CEO, President and Representative Director: Kazuo Kawamura; hereinafter referred to as “Meiji Group”) and Taiyo Holdings Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Toshima-ku, Tokyo; President and CEO: Eiji Sato; hereinafter referred to as “Taiyo Holdings”) as underwriters.

Using its proprietary DNA synthesis technology “OGAB™”, and its DNA library construction technology “Combinatorial-OGAB™ (Combi-OGAB™)”, Synplogen offers contract services for ultra-long/complex DNA synthesis and diverse DNA library constructions. In addition, as a biofoundry specializing in the field of gene therapy, Synplogen provides high-quality, cost-effective “Gene Therapy Biofoundry™” services. Specifically, Synplogen offers one-stop solution services at its own R&D center in Kobe, from DNA synthesis and large-scale preparation of plasmid DNA, to the design and development of viral vectors and mRNA, process development, characterization analysis and quality testing, and technology transfer to development partner companies that own GMP-compliant manufacturing facilities.

Meiji Group handles a wide range of products that are essential to people's daily lives, including dairy products, confectionery, nutritional foods, and pharmaceuticals, and has abundant microbial resources and excellent microbial culture technologies. Through this investment, Meiji Group will build a foundation for research and development and production technology for high-value-added food ingredients that can help solve health issues, while also promoting studies aimed at commercialization, by utilizing Synplogen's unique DNA synthesis and DNA library construction technologies.

Taiyo Holdings is not only active in its mainstay electronics business, but is also vigorously developing its medical and pharmaceutical business. In November 2023, Synplogen signed a business collaboration agreement with Taiyo Pharma Tech Co., Ltd., which undertakes the contract manufacturing of pharmaceuticals under Taiyo Holdings. In October 2024, both companies established a joint non-GMP facility in its Takatsuki plant to facilitate smooth technology transfer, and have been steadily advancing business collaboration towards the development and manufacturing of GMP-compliant gene therapy products.

The funds raised in this round will be effectively used to promote Synplogen's innovation strategy, including accelerating research and development related to its proprietary technologies and business development.

Synplogen will work to achieve the early commercialization of innovative gene therapy products by strengthening its collaboration with Taiyo Holdings in the field of gene therapy, as its own “focused” business domain. In addition, as a “sharing” business domain for its unique technologies, Synplogen will contribute to the innovation of bio-manufacturing in the food industry by collaborating with Meiji Group, which is one of the leading companies in bio-manufacturing that can transform society.

About Synplogen Co., Ltd.

Head Office:	6-3-7 Minatojima-Minajimachi Chuo-ku, Kobe Japan
Established:	February 2017
Representative:	Kazuhiko Yamamoto, Representative Director, CEO
Capital:	JPY 3,847.28 million (including capital reserve)
Business:	Custom DNA synthesis and Gene Therapy Biofoundry™ services
URL:	https://www.synplogen.com/en/

About Meiji Holdings Co., Ltd.

Head Office:	2-4-16 Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo Japan
Established:	April 2009
Representative:	Kazuho Kawamura, CEO, President and Representative Director
Capital:	JPY 30 billion
Business:	Management of business operations of subsidiaries manufacturing and selling food and pharmaceuticals and incidental/related operations
URL:	https://www.meiji.com/global/

About Taiyo Holdings Co., Ltd.

Head Office:	16F, Metropolitan Plaza Bldg., 1-11-1 Nishi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo Japan
Established:	September 1953
Representative:	Eiji Sato, President and CEO
Capital:	JPY 10,031 million
Business:	Holding company; the group's overall business policy formulation and business management functions
URL:	https://www.taiyo-hd.co.jp/en/

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