



October 30, 2015

**MicroBiopharm Japan Reached an Agreement with Astellas on Transfer of Kiyosu Plant Business and Expands CMO Business in Bio-pharmaceutical Fields**

MicroBiopharm Japan Co., Ltd. (Headquarters: Tokyo; President: Masanobu Suzuki, “MBJ”) reached an agreement with Astellas Pharma Inc. (TSE: 4503, President and CEO: Yoshihiko Hatanaka, “Astellas”) on transfer of the business of Kiyosu Plant (Kiyosu-City, Aichi), the manufacturing site from Astellas to MBJ. Taking this opportunity, MBJ will further strengthen and enlarge CMO business in bio-pharmaceutical fields such as protein/peptide drugs (cytokine, growth factor, hormone, enzyme, antibody fragment), DDS\*<sup>1</sup> and ADCs\*<sup>2</sup> with over 50 years’ experience and technology in fermentation, genetic recombination. Bio-pharmaceuticals, mainly produced by mammalian cells or microbial cells, have higher molecular weights and more complexity in structure as compared with traditional pharmaceuticals of low molecular weights which are mainly produced by chemical reactions. Moreover, bio-pharmaceuticals can provide higher efficacy and lower adverse events as they can attack targets in vivo with higher selectivity. In recent years, bio-pharmaceuticals has been actively developed, and their market size had reached USD225 bil.(27 tri. Yen)in 2014 and will reach over USD300 bil.(36 tri. Yen)in 2018.

MBJ recognizes that manufacturing those pharmaceutical molecules is a requisite basic technology for our future business. MBJ aims to enhance its portfolio in its diversified technology and service.

\*<sup>1</sup> DDS: Drug Delivery System. Technology to strength effectivity of drugs by controlling drug dynamics in human body such as emission, absorption and transportation.

\*<sup>2</sup> ADCs: Antibody Drug Conjugation. Conjugation drug of antibody and compounds which have pharmacological activity. They can specifically attack target disease cells .

(1) Assets Subject to Transfer

Real estate, movable properties (including facilities and equipment) and pharmaceutical manufacturing business at the Kiyosu Plant

(2) Outline of Kiyosu Plant

- Location : 156 Nakagawara, Kiyosu-City, Aichi
- Site area : 21,139.18m<sup>2</sup>
- Building area : 3,270.27 m<sup>2</sup>
- Business description : Manufacturing of Pharmaceutical substances

(3) Schedule for Business Transfer

- October 30, 2015 : Execution of an agreement
- April 1, 2016(tentative) : Transfer of business

< Contacts for inquiries or additional information >

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