

Nippon Flour Mills Ties Up with Eurofins Scientific to Cooperate in the Global Expansion of the Molecular Biology Business

Tokyo, July 11, 2006 --- Nippon Flour Mills Co., Ltd. (president: Wataru Aosaki) has decided to form a business partnership with Eurofins Scientific S.A. ("Eurofins"), a testing and research company with global high quality analysis services in the areas of food, pharmaceuticals, environment and others. To build tangible ties with Eurofins, some of the issued shares of FASMAC Co., Ltd. (president: Satoshi Futo; head office: Atsugi, Kanagawa Prefecture; "FASMAC"), a company in the Nippon Flour Mills Group engaged in advanced analysis of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), have been transferred to Eurofins. As a result, Eurofins is now one of the main FASMAC shareholders.

Based on this partnership, FASMAC and Eurofins will make use of their distinctive technological capabilities to offer more reliable analysis and testing services and more extensive advice to assume a leading position in the analysis and testing industry, not only Japan and Asia, but throughout the world.

Details of the partnership are as follows.

1. Reasons for Partnership

- Accompanying growing awareness of food safety and security and the environment, new legislation and technical developments in medicine and treatment, the demand for advanced testing in the field of molecular biology is rapidly expanding in Japan and throughout the rest of the world. International competition among different companies is intensifying.
- To outpace the competition, it is now important to form strategic international business partnerships to boost the credibility of testing services and bolster the sales force.
- With operations in Europe and in other locations around the world, Eurofins believes that the Asian region, including Japan, is strategically important and studied the possibility of entering the region.
- For Nippon Flour Mills, the partnership paves the way for active overseas promotion



of FASMAC's GMO analysis technology.

- In March 2006, Nippon Flour Mills and Eurofins reached an agreement to build a partnership to make FASMAC more competitive and boost its bioanalytical business.

2. Points of the Partnership

- Nippon Flour Mills and Eurofins will cooperate to create a business plan for FASMAC in a bid to expand the molecular biology business using genes and synthetic DNA.
- Nippon Flour Mills will offer information regarding relevant leading-edge technologies and industry trends to the extent that it is effective in the fields in which the businesses are cooperating.
- Nippon Flour Mills will transfer its own FASMAC shares to Eurofins.
- Eurofins will offer its Group's cutting-edge technology, market information and other tangible and intangible knowledge to FASMAC to the extent that they are effective in the fields in which the businesses are cooperating.

3. Corporate Profile of the Two Companies

(1) Company Name	 FASMAC Co., Ltd.	 Eurofins Scientific S.A.
(2) Main Business	Genetic testing of food, sale of reagents for food testing and manufacture and sale of reagents for genetic engineering	High quality analysis services in the areas of food, pharmaceuticals, the environment etc.
(3) Company Description	FASMAC was established as a wholly owned subsidiary of Nippon Flour Mills for engaging in advanced GMO testing. It offers highly credible analysis services based on basic patents related to the Japanese GMO analysis standards applied for jointly	Eurofins is the nucleus in a group of analysis and testing companies that leads the world with its distinctive biological analysis and studies, and its strong track records in analysis services. It operates more than 50 analysis laboratories in 13 countries

	<p>by Nippon Flour Mills, Asahi Breweries and the National Food Research Institute. In addition, it provides all oligo-DNA used in the standard analysis and controls the patents. The company earns high marks and has gained the confidence of the market for the excellence of its leading-edge technologies for its analysis services for allergy-causing food, and for its outsourced synthesis of DNA and manufacturing reagents for molecular biological studies.</p>	<p>around the world. Its employees, numbering more than 3,000, have established in excess of 10,000 analysis methods that are highly regarded in the food, pharmaceutical, medical care and environmental fields. GeneScan Inc., which signed a deal with FASMAC for reciprocal exclusive licensing in Japan and in the United States, is part of the Eurofins Group.</p>
(4) Established	2001	1987
(5) Head Office	Atsugi, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan	Nantes, France
(6) Representative	Satoshi Futo, President and Representative Director	Dr. Gilles G. Martin, C.E.O.
(7) Capital	44,204,800 yen	1,375,000 euro