

Announcement of Third-Party Allocation of New Shares Worth a Total of 9.58416 Billion Yen Accelerating Toward the Proliferation of New-Generation Protein Materials

In order to accelerate its research and development of new-generation protein materials and to scale up production toward widespread adoption, Spiber Inc. has received 9.58416 billion yen through third-party allocation of new shares. (This number includes a 3 billion yen investment by GOLDWIN INC., and other undisclosed organizations that cooperate with Spiber.) Following the issuance of these new shares, the company's total capital has increased to 7.326666 billion yen, and capital reserves have increased to a total of 7.316666 billion yen.

[About Spiber Inc.]

When Kazuhide Sekiyama was a 4th year student at Keio University's Faculty of Environmental Information in 2004, he started doing research with Junichi Sugahara, a 2nd year student at the same faculty, at Keio University's Institute for Advanced Biosciences. They aimed to be the first in the world to industrialize "synthetic spider silk" biomaterials. In September 2007, along with Hideya Mizutani (Certified Public Accountant and Sekiyama's high school classmate) they founded Spiber Inc., a biotechnology research and development startup. They established the technologies needed to manipulate sequences of amino acids and genes for artificial synthesis of protein materials including spider silk (fibroin). Furthermore, they developed original technology for high-efficiency fermentation and spinning. This resulted in the successful creation of synthetic spider silk fiber with toughness comparable to that of natural spider silk, a goal once thought to be impossible. Including this third-party allocation of new shares, the amount of capital received to date from investors, including venture capital company JAFCO, exceeds 14.6 billion yen.

Located in Tsuruoka, Yamagata, Spiber has been pursuing research and development with support from the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI); the Tohoku Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry; the New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO); and the Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation. In 2012, Spiber was selected by METI to take part in the TRAHED program. In 2013, Spiber was selected for the second year in a row for NEDO's "Innovation Commercialization Venture Support Project" to accelerate its R&D. Furthermore, in 2014 Spiber was named a core research organization by the Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan in the "Super High-Function Structural Proteins to Transform the Basic Materials Industry" project of the "Impulsing Paradigm Change through Disruptive Technologies (ImPACT)" Program to conduct research and development together with several other participating institutions.

Representative: Rep. Executive Officer Kazuhide Sekiyama (born January 2, 1983 in Tokyo)
Location: 234-1 Mizukami, Kakuganji, Tsuruoka, Yamagata
Founded: September 26, 2007
Paid-in capital: ¥7.326660 billion
Number of Employees: 85

Business Outline:

- Development of new-generation biomaterials
 - Development of platform system for designing new biomaterials
 - Development of mass production systems for protein materials
- Services utilizing DNA information recording technology
 - R&D and services involving “CELL-ID™” DNA tagging technology

History:

- Sept. 2007 Spiber Inc. founded (capital: ¥10 million)
- May 2008 Opened research laboratory at Tsuruoka Metabolome Campus
- Jun. 2008 1st round of capital increase (capital: ¥15 million, capital reserves: ¥5 million)
Changed registration of location of head office to present location
- Dec. 2008 2nd round of capital increase (capital: ¥20 million, capital reserves: ¥10 million)
- May 2009 3rd round of capital increase (capital: ¥25 million, capital reserves: ¥15 million)
- Aug. 2009 4th round of capital increase (capital: ¥150 million, capital reserves: ¥140 million)
- Dec. 2009 5th round of capital increase (capital: ¥175.05 million, capital reserves: ¥165.05 million)
- Dec. 2011 6th round of capital increase (capital: ¥380.33 million, capital reserves: ¥370.33 million)
- Apr. 2013 7th round of capital increase (capital: ¥780.33 million, capital reserves: ¥770.33 million)
- Mar. 2015 8th round of capital increase (capital: ¥2,055.33 million, capital reserves: ¥2,045.33 million)

Spiber Inc.: <http://www.spiber.jp/>

[For inquiries regarding this release]

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