TNP Newsletter

1. Smart Sensing Corporation President Mr. Koyu Yamanoi

Established in September 2013 Capital stock : USD \$ 3,000

Taking "the latest technology, embodying customer dreams and comfort" as its theme, Smart Sensing Corporation is developing sensor modules and actuator modules to deliver what customers want to see and have. In order to meet their wants and needs, it has acquired the technical skills and experience required for proof of concept, and action confirmation and verification. Based on this know-how, it has responded to the requirements of numerous customers already. Going forward, it intends to develop products that are linked to even higher levels of contribution and mass-production for customers. It also plans to make efforts for the development of original products that can set it apart from other companies.

[Re-Cap] Smart Sensing's specific areas of business number three: 1) liquid crystal lenses, 2) smart prisms, and 3) building health monitoring systems. The liquid crystal lenses do not contain any mechanical elements, and the focal distance can be changed solely by means of electric signals. These features are linked to a reduction in liquid crystal size requirements, decrease in the drive voltage, and improvement in the response speed. The liquid crystal lenses offer a slim profile, low energy consumption, high reliability, and high amenability to mass production. By making the most of these characteristics, the technology it can be used for augmented reality (AR), eyeglasses, laser LiDAR scanners, free space optical communications, etc. The purpose of the company's presentation this time was to seek help with fundraising to assist its development.

2. Nudge Healthtech Inc. President Mr. Takahiro Nakama

Established in June 2019 Capital stock: USD \$ 840,000

- * Construction of the healthcare infrastructure (collaboration with pharmacies and travel agencies)
- * Development of next-generation devices for micro blood sampling
- * Expansion of micro blood sampling technology from the domain of healthcare to that of medical services

[Re-Cap] Nudge Health Tech's vision consists of creating new value in the healthcare domain through fingertip blood sampling (= Nudge technique), spreading this technique, and aspiring to become a leading brand worldwide. At present, blood sampling is in the process of moving away from venous sampling to sampling by the Nudge

technique, a simpler method. For this business, the company developed the world's smallest micro sampling tube (with a capacity of 100 milliliters, the equivalent of three drops of eye medicine) in collaboration with Nipro Corporation, for use as a medical treatment device. Ordinarily, in Japan, the condition of blood becomes known only at the time of disease diagnosis. Analysis of data for the flow from a healthy state to disease is linked to progress in drug discovery technology, and may be expected to establish new technology for medical treatment and healthcare. Such data analysis enables evidence-based prevention of disease at a pre-symptomatic stage, and affords prospects for curbing treatment costs. Mr. Nakama stated that it is additionally linked to solutions for a reform of physician work styles. With a view to building a next-generation healthcare infrastructure, it is widening its operation through 12 Sugi Pharmacy stores in Tokyo and Osaka beginning this year, toward the goal of implementation in society. As for future activities, Mr. Nakama said that he was planning to deepen partnership with local health-related firms and gradually expand the business. "Because this is a project of a highly public nature aimed at the resolution of social issues, we would like to move it forward with many supporters," he added.

3. ImmunoGeneTeqs, Inc. President Mr. Yoshimasa Imamura

Established in June 2019 Capital stock : USD \$ 127,400

ImmunoGeneTeqs is a venture firm that took its start from the Tokyo University of Science. With its own patented technology, it provides services in single-cell ribonucleic acid (RNA) analysis with higher precision and lower cost than competitors. Such analysis is indispensable in cellular research in the bio and pharmaceutical industries. Its future aspiration is to amplify and expand its business in the field of cellular analysis and to become a solution provider in immunotherapy through the development of diagnostic methods that heighten the efficacy of cancer immunotherapy, based on the results of immunology research at the university.

[Re-Cap] According to Mr. Inamura, in Japan, a total of eight immune-checkpoint inhibitors (ICIs), the first being opdivo, have been approved for use for more than 20 types of cancer. ICIs are utilized as part of the standard treatment for many kinds of carcinoma, and are ordinarily administered for two years. They are an extremely high-cost medicine, and this is a problem for society as a whole. Meanwhile, there are also many patients for whom they lack sufficient efficacy. Mr. Inamura said that, beginning this year, he was planning to expand business in the respective fields of ICI diagnosis, outsourced analysis, and drug discovery support, and that he had listing on the stock market in mind further in the future.

《Impressions》 We received applications for participation in this last meeting until right before it was held. I could sense the high degree of interest among all who attended. There was a lively exchange of views in the reception after it.

The companies which made presentations this time were bringing about innovations in different fields and striving to create new markets. We are looking forward to their future activities. If you are interested in presenting, we would appreciate it if you could contact us as soon as possible.

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