ENGLISH OVERVIEW

TNP Newsletter

October 23,2025

271th Business Plan Presentations Held on October 14 2025
Tech Hub Yokohama

1. Provigate, Inc. President Mr. Koshin Sekimizu

Presenter Mr. Kein Takeda, General Manager of Laboratory Testing Services Division

Established in May 2015 Capital stock : USD $ 1,400,000

Provigate, Inc. has developed a weekly blood sugar monitoring system aimed at preventing the outbreak and worsening of diabetes. Domicile weekly glycol-albumin GA) testing is at the core of this system, which promotes changes in behavior.Through its healthcare service already being supplied to corporations, it uses a related application to confirm test results and weekly activities, and provides continuous accompany-type support with guidance and assistance by supporters who are medical professionals. The service makes the patients' own condition visible to them, and furnishes an environment helping them to improve their lifestyle on their own initiative. At present, Provigate is developing domicile point-of-care testing (POCT) devices and sensors, and targeting the standardization of blood sugar control that can be put to full use both on the sites of medical care and at home. It is striving for the diffusion of weekly GA monitoring inside and outside Japan through partnership with industry, government, and academia.

【Re-Cap】Provigate is a venture firm that originated in the University of Tokyo. At present, pre-diabetes adults reportedly account for about 20 million (20 percent) of the total Japanese adult population. Diabetes is one of the major diseases greatly driving up medical costs in Japan. One of the main reasons is the protraction of care into the long term, which is liable to make the cost burden heavier. Because diabetes has various causes, even people leading the same lifestyle may not catch it while others will. One of the biggest related barriers is the mistaken idea that diabetes is a disease whose patients are themselves responsible for becoming afflicted with it. Today, what diabetes patients need is accurate monitoring that enables them to measure their own blood sugar levels, grasp the overall situation, and get guidance to change their own behavior. Use of Provigate's system can be expected to lead to the delay or prevention of the outbreak or worsening (progression) of diabetes, and thereby to reduce future medical costs.

2. S&K Biopharma, Inc. President Mr. Shinji Kagaya

Established in April 2020 Capital stock : USD $ 385,000 （Including reserves）

S&K Biopharma, Inc. has discovered a new molecular target (patent pending) for lactoferrin, a highly safe glycoprotein. Because lactoferrin is unstable in blood, the company developed, and has applied for patents for, lactoferrin-fused proteins of two types, one for use in the human immunoglobulin G fragment crystallizable (Fc) region, and the other a fusion with human serum albumen. As for diseases, the first target is development as a therapeutant for spinal cord injuries whose underlying mechanism is the neutralizing action of chondroitin sulfate in lactroferrin (the company is planning to obtain a proof of concept (POC) certificate in this connection before the end of this fiscal year). Regarding the second and subsequent target diseases, the company intends to successively develop therapeutants and expand their application for sepsis caused by neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs), and for autoimmune hepatitis, a designated intractable disease.

【Re-Cap】S&K Biopharma is a venture firm that was born at the Institute of Science Tokyo. Spinal cord injuries are common between the ages of 20 and 69. Once people are afflicted with it, they may experience health problems such as difficulties managing bowel movements and headaches. These could make it hard for them to return to their jobs. As a result, they may have a hard time participating in society again, and this can even lead to the loss of economic activity. This is also a serious disease for which a sure method of treatment has not yet been established. Mr. Kagaya said that yearly expenditures for spinal cord injuries total as high as 350 billion yen. The company is developing improved lactoferrin to treat a wide range of cases, from the acute to the chronic, and is working to continue to expand application for other diseases. Mr. Kagaya added that it is aiming for a rank among the world's top 10 manufacturers of ethical pharmaceuticals, with at least a 20-percent share of the related market.

3. Aquze Co.,Ltd. President Mr. Jin Kawakita

Established in November 2017 Capital stock : USD $ 130,000

Aquze Co., Ltd. was established primarily for the purpose of the transfer of moisture sensor technology and its implementation in society. This technology was one of the fruits of research by the National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), and the company has been certified as a NIMS venture. Thus far, it has engaged in activities centered around rental of and consultation concerning moisture sensors, in order to survey and cultivate markets. In recent years, it has focused on business in condensation detection and transpiration measurement. It is making efforts to increase sales in the construction and building industry in particular.

Management Philosophy: "More Sensing, Better Conditioning"

We aspire to put all life and the environment in a better condition through better sensing in both quantitative and qualitative terms.

【Re-Cap】According to Mr. Kawakita, the principles of action behind Aquze's moisture sensors, which can detect even the slightest amounts of water, are as follows: 1) ability for detection of moisture including even the tiniest drop of water in metal grooves arrayed on the silicon chip, 2) detectability in about 0.02 seconds, and 3) a simple structure with almost no decline in performance as compared to other methods, and a high mass-producibility. In the industrial world, the company's sensors are used for measurement of condensation on windows and walls, and measurement and forecasting of the quantity of yield for plants from their transpiration. In the medical and health field, they are anticipated to find application for assessing the risk of heat stroke and dehydration. Mr. Kawakita noted that the market for environmental sensors was projected to reach about 3 trillion yen in 2033, and that he wanted to expand the business to include the automotive, medical care, semiconductor, and aerospace fields.

《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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