GMO INTERNET GROUP

Announcement of the Joint Research Agreement with the Division of Cancer Cell Biology of the Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo on 'Identification and Clinical Application of Human Senescent Cells Using Generative AI'.

GMO Internet Group, Inc. (the Company) is pleased to announce that we have entered into a joint research agreement with the Division of Cancer Cell Biology (Professor Makoto Nakanishi) of the Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo. This collaboration aims to decipher the signals of human senescent cells using generative AI, and the joint research commenced on October 1, 2023.

While this matter does not fall under the timely disclosure requirements set by the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) rules, we have chosen to voluntarily disclose it, deeming the information to be valuable.

1. Background and overview of the joint research agreement

The GMO Internet Group has been tackling challenges using AI technologies, such as machine learning and deep learning, since the 2010s. Currently, as part of its AI initiatives, the Group has established the "AI Empowerment Office" within the Group Research and Development Division. This office, staffed by data scientists and machine learning engineers, employs the vast amount of real business data held by the Group in various businesses and projects across the Group. As a data science team, they provide technical support, development, and analysis, thereby aiding in the success of the business ventures. Additionally, the Group places emphasis on AI infrastructure, like machine learning platforms for big data, and continues to invest in research and development related to AI areas, including deep learning.

Additionally, the GMO Internet Group, with the collaboration of all its Group partners, strives to utilize generative AI, aiming to not only save time and cost but also improve the quality of existing services. The overarching goal of the Group is to become the 'No.1 AI Application Group'.

With a history spanning over 130 years, the Institute of Medical Science at the University of Tokyo (IMSUT) is dedicated to uncovering the truths behind life phenomena and the principles of diseases. It fosters a free and interdisciplinary research environment where diverse academic fields inspire each other. IMSUT emphasizes the development of innovative preventive measures and therapeutic methods. Aiming to address intractable diseases like infectious diseases, cancer, and immunological, neurological, and muscular disorders, IMSUT pushes forward with cutting-edge medical advancements in areas like genomic medicine, regenerative medicine, gene/virus therapy, cell therapy, vaccine development, and AI in medicine. Equipped with three core research departments, seven centers, five research facilities, and an affiliated hospital, the Institute has laid out a roadmap for translating its research breakthroughs into real-world applications.

This joint research aims to utilise the GMO Internet Group's generative AI technology to analyse valuable data

on gene expression levels within cells, as studied by the Nakanishi Laboratory, and apply the 'selective removal of senescent cells', which has already been successful in mice, to humans. If it becomes possible to elucidate and remove senescent cells in humans, this research will be an important breakthrough in medicine, as it is expected to extend the 'health span' of mankind and make humans younger.

GMO Internet Group, in support of the Nakanishi Laboratory's leading-edge research on aging, is contributing through various means. This includes offering servers equipped with the high-performance NVIDIA H100 GPUs and periodically dispatching data scientists and machine learning engineers. By utilizing AI technology cultivated in practical business endeavors, the Group contributes to the advancement of life sciences and aims to bring about 'smiles' for humanity.

2. Overview of joint research partner

(1)	Name	The University of Tokyo (President Teruo Fujii)
(2)	Location	7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan
(3)	Principal Investigator	The Division of Cancer Cell Biology of the Institute of Medical Science, the University of Tokyo. Professor Makoto Nakanishi

3. Future outlook

The impact of this matter on the consolidated financial results for the fiscal year ending December 2023 is minimal.