

News Release

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Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and Idemitsu Signed Collaboration Agreement in the OLED Material Business

- Cooperation partner is a leading OLED material company
- Both companies have a long history of developing OLED materials and own a variety of patents related to OLED materials
- Greater freedom for both companies to develop high-performance materials under specified conditions

Darmstadt, Germany, November 7, 2016 – Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, today announced that it has entered into a collaboration agreement with Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director and CEO: Takashi Tsukioka, hereinafter “Idemitsu”) that allows each party to use the other party’s OLED material-related patents in certain areas.

In the remarkably fast-expanding OLED market, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and Idemitsu are both leading OLED material companies and have continued to supply a variety of high-performance OLED materials to customers. Each company has a long history of developing OLED materials and owns a variety of patents related to OLED materials.

Under this collaborative relationship, each company will be allowed to develop, manufacture and sell OLED materials in certain areas of the other company’s material-related patents under specified conditions. This will help to accelerate the generation of new high-performance materials (higher efficiency, longer life time, etc.), by allowing both parties to exploit undeveloped areas of OLED materials with different knowledge and experience.

The companies expect to continue discussions to expand the collaboration to include other areas in the future.

The OLED market is expected to grow further in the field of display and lighting technology. Through this collaborative agreement, both leading companies will have

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greater freedom to develop high-performance materials and strive for further expansion of the OLED market.

Corporate Profiles

Company Name	Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.
Location	3-1-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Representative	Representative Director and CEO : Takashi Tsukioka
Established	1940 (founded 1911)
Paid-in capital	JPY 108.6 billion
Sales	JPY 3,570.2 billion (FY2015)
Business Description	Refining of petroleum and manufacturing and sales of oils Manufacturing and sales of petrochemical products

Company Name	Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany
Location	Frankfurter Straße 250, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany
Representative	CEO: Dr. Stefan Oschmann
Established	1668
Sales	EUR 12.8 billion (FY2015)
Business Description	Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials.

About Idemitsu

The Idemitsu Group carries out core business centered on fuel oils and basic chemicals on a global basis. In addition, it pursues a diverse range of businesses, including functional materials businesses that encompass lubricants and performance chemicals as well as such electronic materials as OLED. These businesses have advanced the core technologies cultivated in the core businesses. Also, the Group undertakes resource businesses that include oil exploration and production as well as coal, uranium and geothermal resource development. Idemitsu had sales of about ¥3,570 billion in FY2015 and 9,203 employees as of the end of the FY. Idemitsu shares are traded on the stock exchanges in Tokyo (5019).

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About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2015, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, generated sales of € 12.85 billion in 66 countries.

Founded in 1668, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, holds the global rights to the Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.