



Proceeding towards Becoming a Contract Producer of Bio-pharmaceuticals
~MGC reaches an agreement with U.S.-based Catalent Pharma Solutions~

 **mitsubishi GAS CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.**

January 5, 2015

MGC Pharma Co., Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc. (MGC; Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President: Toshikiyo Kurai), and Catalent Pharma Solutions, a leading contract manufacturer of pharmaceuticals (Head Office: Somerset, New Jersey, USA), have entered into an agreement to jointly engage in the contract research/development, and contract production up to the clinical trial phase, of biosimilars*1.

Under the agreement, MGC Pharma will use highly efficient antibody drug producing cells*2 produced with Catalent's GPEX® technology to develop processes for biosimilars used in the treatment of respiratory syncytial virus infections, cancers and rheumatism, with the aim of winning API production contracts.

Since 2011, MGC has been developing antibody drug operations as a contract research organization (CRO) focusing on process development. The new agreement with Catalent will enable MGC's contract antibody drug services to provide customers with a one-stop solution encompassing all phases from cell line development to commercial production, and thereby to proceed to being approved as a contract manufacturing organization (CMO).

*1: Biosimilars

Biosimilars are generic biological drugs featuring quality/ safety levels and efficacies comparable to those of brand-name products.

*2: Antibody drug producing cells

Antibody drug producing cells produce antibodies that are used as raw materials for antibody drugs. A category of biological drugs employing the principles of antigen-antibody reaction (immune reaction), antibody drugs are employed primarily to treat cancers and immunological diseases. Compared with conventional low-molecular medicine, they have a higher specificity and therefore cause fewer side effects.

<Inquiries>

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< Reference informations >

About MGC Pharma

Head office: Mitsubishi Building, 2-5-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8324, Japan

Business operations: Contract research and contract production process development for
antibody drugs

Representative : Masami Orisaku, Representative Director, President

Established : April 2, 2014

Employees : 11 including directors (as of September 2014)

URL : <http://www.mgc-pharma.com/en/index.html>

About Catalent Pharma Solutions

Head office : Somerset, New Jersey, USA

Business operations: Contract development, production, supply, and provision of
solutions for pharmaceuticals used in medical, biotech, and
consumer-health products; contract production of investigational
new drugs

Representative : John Chiminski, President and CEO

Established : April 2007

Employees : 9,000

URL : <http://www.catalent.com/index.php>

About Catalent Japan

Head office: Akasaka Daiichi Building, 4-19-17 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-0052,
Japan

Business operations: Contract production of soft capsules and contract production of
investigational new drugs

Representative : Tadahiro Matsumura, President and Representative Director

Established : October 29, 1974

Employees : 241 (as of December 2014)

URL : <http://japan.catalent.com/index.php>