

July 4, 2017

Life Science Innovation Network Japan, Inc.

Kyoto Research Park Corp.

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## LINK-J and KRP Sign Partnership Memorandum

### Facilitating open innovations and personnel exchanges in life sciences

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On Tuesday, July 4, 2017, Life Science Innovation Network Japan, Inc. (chairman of the board: Hideyuki Okano, hereinafter “LINK-J”) and Kyoto Research Park Corp. (president: Kazuya Matsuo, hereinafter “KRP”) signed a comprehensive partnership memorandum of both parties’ contribution to the creation of innovations in life sciences. LINK-J runs a platform for creating new industries in life sciences, while KRP supports the creation of innovations originating from Kyoto.

As the first event for facilitating the exchanges between the two member companies, Regenerative Medicine Supporting Businesses Forum in Nihonbashi will be held on Friday, July 21, 2017. The forum is about the hopes and technical challenges of organs-on-a-chip.

Since its foundation in June 2016, LINK-J has divided its operations into “exchanges and partnerships” for gathering and connecting the people concerned in life sciences, and “development and support” for developing the ideas and innovations from the exchanges and partnerships into higher levels, as the company offers many different opportunities with the aim of creating new industries in life sciences that we have never had before.



Photo of a LINK-J event

Since 2009, KRP has run the Regenerative Medicine Support Platform which aims at industrializing life sciences, mainly regenerative medicine, from the perspective of monozukuri (manufacturing). As part of its activity, KRP organizes the Regenerative Medicine Supporting Businesses Forum in Nihonbashi, a members-only forum for companies specializing in monozukuri. Chaired by Prof. Yasuhiko Tabata (Institute for Frontier Life and Medical Sciences, Kyoto University), the forum invites frontline researchers in regenerative medicine to lectures and, in a round-table format, encourages the participants to exchange opinions and discuss commercialization.

Photo of the Regenerative Medicine  
Supporting Businesses Forum

Regenerative Medicine Supporting Businesses Forum in Nihonbashi, the KRP’s memorable and first exchange event, has invited Mr. Toshiyuki Kanamori (Group Leader, Drug Assay Device Research Group, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology) as a lecturer, and the topic will be “hopes and technical challenges of organs-on-a-chip.” The event will be organized by KRP, co-organized by LINK-J and held at Nihonbashi Life Science Building. The Regenerative Medicine Supporting Businesses Forum is organized by KRP in Kyoto six times a year with members only. The third one in fiscal 2017 will be held in Nihonbashi for KRP member

companies and LINK-J member companies. This is intended to facilitate exchanges among these companies and expand the area of life sciences. Applications for participation by the member companies are currently being accepted on the website.

By continuing the mutual efforts for personnel exchanges through events and other measures, LINK-J and KRP will support the commercialization and industrialization of life sciences such as regenerative medicine and contribute to the creation of innovations and new industries.

### ■ About Life Science Innovation Network Japan, Inc. (LINK-J)

LINK-J is a general incorporated association established by Mitsui Fudosan and volunteers from academic circles. With its base in the Nihonbashi area, where a number of pharmaceutical companies are clustered, LINK-J aims to promote open innovation in the life science realm through industry-government-academia cooperation and extend support to the creation of new industries. Across the entire life science area, i.e., the area where all sciences are combined, ranging from medicine to science and further to engineering or new technologies, such as information and communication technology (ICT) or artificial intelligence (AI), it will accelerate interdisciplinary human and technological exchanges. For details, see the website of LINK-J.

<http://www.link-j.org/>

### ■ Nihonbashi Life Science Hub

Mitsui Fudosan has created the following life science bases in Nihonbashi.



### ■ About Kyoto Research Park Corp. (KRP)

Since fiscal 2009, Kyoto Research Park Corp. has run the Regenerative Medicine Supporting Platform with the aim of commercializing and industrializing the peripheral areas of regenerative medicine from the perspective of monozukuri.

[Activities] 1. Information and promotional activities for providing monozukuri companies with opportunities for market entry;

2. Supporting monozukuri efforts based on needs in research and healthcare practice;

3. Creation of projects and businesses (e.g. commercialization, development of distribution channels)

4. Physicochemical and medical device mall: Rikamo

Rikamo is a website for connecting researchers in academia with engineers in monozukuri companies, facilitating developments of new products and contributing to the continued development of life sciences. (URL: <https://rikamo.jp/>)

For more detailed information about the platform, see the following website:

<http://www.krp.co.jp/sangaku/bio/>