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For Immediate Release

UMN Pharma, Inc.

Akita Plant has Commenced Operations as a Novel Manufacturing Technology Development Center

UMN Pharma Inc. (Headquarters, Akita-shi, Akita, Japan; CEO, Shu-ichi Kanazashi) announced today the successful opening of a new influenza vaccine production facility. This experimental-scale plant, located in the Akita New Town Industrial Park, is expected to become the leading manufacturing technology development center for UMN Pharma.

Since purchasing the 13,000 m² land for a plant site in April 2008, UMN Pharma has been developing plans for the new plant. In July 2010, UMN Pharma had a New Influenza Vaccine Development and Production System Program approved by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, thus paving the way for the construction of the experimental-scale influenza vaccine production facility.

Three 600-L culture tanks have been installed in the newly-built plant, the largest recombinant protein production facility utilizing the cell culture-based method and the Baculovirus Expression Vector System. The production system is GMP-compliant, while also satisfying the environmental requirements of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

The new facility is intended to be used for taking on challenging tasks in a dynamic and flexible manner. Such tasks will include improvement of manufacturing processes, the production of clinical trial materials, and the manufacture of other recombinant proteins. Unigen Inc. (<http://www.unigen-bio.com/>), a subsidiary of UMN Pharma, will be responsible for plant operations.

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