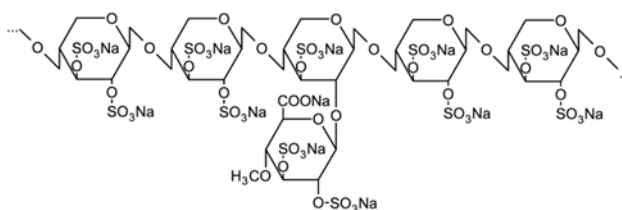


Announcement Regarding the Development of PPS, an Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient

Oji Holdings Corporation (“Oji,” Director of the Board/President: Masatoshi Kaku, Head office: Tokyo) has agreed to cooperate with Hamari Chemicals, Ltd. (“Hamari,” President: Tokiro Takami, Head office: Osaka) on the joint development of pentosan polysulfate sodium (PPS) for the commercialization of the active pharmaceutical ingredient (as a major raw material).

PPS is an active pharmaceutical ingredient based on hemicellulose, a wooden component. In the application of medical products for human use, PPS was developed antithrombotic therapy in Europe in 1949, approved and distributed as an interstitial cystitis drug in the U.S. in 1996, and as a therapeutic drug for cystalgia syndrome in Europe in 2017. In terms of medical products for animal use, PPS is distributed as arthritis therapy for horses and dogs in Australia and supplied as a drug for improving symptoms of osteoarthritis for dogs in Japan. Oji and Hamari will jointly advance the development to commercialize PPS as an active pharmaceutical ingredient for human/animal use.



Oji owns the original technology for extracting/refining hemicellulose from wood with a high purity. It will continue to develop more uses of wooden components in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food and other life science fields to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



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