



April 20th, 2018

Nippon Shokubai announces signing of agreement with Nano Cube Japan for cosmetic ingredient business

NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD. (Headquarter: Osaka, Japan, President: Yujiro Goto, hereinafter “Nippon Shokubai”) announces that Nippon Shokubai has signed agreements for exclusive distribution right and joint development regarding cosmetic ingredients with NANO CUBE JAPAN CO., LTD. (Headquarter: Okayama, Japan, Representative Director: Yoshiaki Nakazaki, hereinafter “Nano Cube Japan”). According to the agreements, Nippon Shokubai has started marketing activities from April 1, 2018 concerning materials that Nano Cube Japan developed as well as materials that both companies jointly develop in the area of cosmetic ingredients.

The nano-dispersion technology of Nano Cube Japan utilizes micro reactors and makes it possible to uniformly disperse oil-soluble or water-insoluble materials into water at nano-size. Based on the nano-dispersion technology, Nano Cube Japan developed materials where various components, which used to be water-immiscible, are dispersed uniformly into water without chemical modifications.

These materials are expected to provide a variety of functions to cosmetics.

Nippon Shokubai has set a target at cosmetic ingredients business as one of the new business target areas in the 2nd medium-term business plan, “Reborn Nippon Shokubai 2020 NEXT” started in 2017, and established Cosmetics Business Planning Office in July 2017 to drive business development for early commercialization. Creating the synergy between Nano Cube Japan's technology and Nippon Shokubai's raw materials, Nippon Shokubai will develop new cosmetic ingredients and aim for early entry to the market. Nippon Shokubai will continue to pursue partnerships with companies that possess innovative technologies and promote the development of unique ingredients to satisfy market needs.

About NIPPON SHOKUBAI Co., Ltd.: Since 1941, Nippon Shokubai has grown up its business with unique catalyst technology. Nippon Shokubai has supplied, for example, ethylene oxide, acrylic acid, automobile catalysts, process catalysts and so on. Among all, our global market share of superabsorbent polymer is the largest in the world now. Nippon Shokubai is a global chemical company operating under its corporate mission "Providing affluence and comfort to people and society with our unique technology." <http://www.shokubai.co.jp/en/>

【Contacts】

Investor & Public Relations Dept.,

NIPPON SHOKUBAI CO., LTD.

TEL: +81-3-3506-7605 E-mail: shokubai@n.shokubai.co.jp