

PRESS RELEASE

Ajinomoto Co., Inc.
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Ajinomoto Co., Inc. and CJ Japan Corp. Settle Japan Patent Litigation Regarding Manufacturing Process for Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) Products CJ Japan Pays Settlement Money

Tokyo, May 31, 2022 – On September 24, 2020, the Tokyo District Court decided in favor of Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (“Ajinomoto Co.”) in a patent infringement suit it had filed against CJ Japan Corp. (“CJJ”), an affiliate of CJ CheilJedang Corp. (“CJCJ”) of South Korea, which imports and sells MSG products. CJJ objected to the decision and appealed to the Intellectual Property High Court, but this litigation recently concluded when Ajinomoto Co. and CJJ reached settlement conditions that include receipt of monetary payment from CJJ. Ajinomoto Co.’s patents remain valid and enforceable.

Ajinomoto Co. also filed suit against CJCJ and its affiliates (collectively “CJ Group”) in the Düsseldorf District Court in August 2016, and CJ Group appealed the first-instance decision. This litigation regarding German patent infringement relating to Ajinomoto Co.’s manufacturing process for MSG products is not included in the settlement and remains pending.

The Ajinomoto Group will continue its research and development so as to further contribute to solving health issues by utilizing the knowledge and technology cultivated through more than 100 years of amino acid research. We believe that infringement of patent rights and other intellectual property rights hinders such research efforts, and we will continue to enforce and protect our intellectual property rights.

References

Press release dated November 17, 2020

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Wins Patent Infringement Suit Regarding Its Manufacturing Process for Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) Products in the Tokyo District Court

https://www.ajinomoto.com/cms_wp_ajmnt_global/wp-content/uploads/pdf/201117Ajinomoto-Co.-Inc.-Wins-Patent-Infringement-Suit-Regarding-Its-Manufacturing-Process-for-Monosodium-Glutamate-MSG-Products-in-the-Tokyo-District-Court.pdf

Press release dated August 2, 2016

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Files Patent Infringement Suits in Germany and Japan Regarding Its Manufacturing Process for Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) Products

https://www.ajinomoto.co.jp/company/en/presscenter/press/detail/q2016_08_02.html

The Ajinomoto Group, unlocking the power of amino acids, aims to resolve food and health issues associated with dietary habits and aging, and contribute to greater wellness for people worldwide.

Based on the corporate message “Eat Well, Live Well.”, we have been scientifically pursuing the possibilities of amino acids to aim for future growth by creating new value through sustainable and innovative solutions for communities and society.

The Ajinomoto Group has offices in 36 countries and regions, and sells products in more than 130 countries and regions. In fiscal 2021, sales were 1.1493 trillion yen (10.2 billion U.S. dollars). To learn more, visit www.ajinomoto.com.

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