PRESS RELEASE

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

TOKYO, October 14, 2025 – Ajinomoto Co., Inc. ("Ajinomoto Co.") filed patent infringement suits against Meihua Holdings Group Co., Ltd. of China and three of its affiliates ("Meihua Group"), which manufacture and sell MSG products in China and other countries, as well as FDJ Co., Ltd. ("FDJ Co.") of Japan which imports and sells Meihua Group's MSG products in Japan, regarding the manufacturing process for such products with both the Guangdong High People's Court in China and the Tokyo District Court in Japan on October 9, 2025 (local time).

The Meihua Group manufactures MSG products in Chinese subsidiary of Meihua Group and sells them in various countries. Ajinomoto Co. is of the opinion that the manufacturing process used by the Meihua Group infringes its patent rights, and has applied for an injunction against the production and sale of the allegedly infringing product, as well as a judgment for compensation for damages related to the allegedly infringing products already sold. Additionally, Ajinomoto Co. has applied for an injunction against import and sale of the infringing products by FDJ Co. in Japan, as well as a judgment for compensation for damages related to the allegedly infringing products already sold.

As a leading global company in the manufacture of MSG, which is the main ingredient of umami seasoning *AJI-NO-MOTO*®, the Ajinomoto Group has been making intensive investments in R&D to create highly efficient manufacturing technologies for MSG. The Ajinomoto Group believes that infringement of its intellectual property obstructs its R&D efforts and will therefore continue to pursue necessary measures to protect its legitimate rights.

The Ajinomoto Group, utilizing its knowledge and technology of amino acid research accumulated for more than a century, will continue its research in its effort to "contribute to the well-being of all human beings, our society and our planet with AminoScience."

For details on Ajinomoto Co. and the Ajinomoto Group, visit www.ajinomoto.com
For further information, please contact: HERE