



February 13, 2020
Denka Company Limited
Denka Seiken Co., Ltd.

Notice Regarding Start the Development of Simple and Rapid Testing Kits for COVID-19,
Novel Coronavirus Infection

Denka Company Limited (headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; president: Manabu Yamamoto; hereinafter, “Denka”) announces that Denka Seiken Co., Ltd. (headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; president: Hideki Takahashi; hereinafter, “Denka Seiken”), which is a consolidated subsidiary of Denka, has started to develop a simple and rapid testing kit (hereinafter, the “testing kit”) to detect the COVID-19, Novel Coronavirus. General medical facilities can detect the virus antigen rapidly and easily by the testing kit applying immunochromatographic method.

Since the foundation in 1950, Denka Seiken has been taking an important role in preventing the spread of infectious diseases in Japan through the supply of vaccines and diagnostic reagents. In recent years, Denka Seiken has taken an initiative to supply pre-approved prototype test kits for the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition, Denka Seiken is known as one of the leading manufacturers of simple and rapid testing kit for influenza diagnostics in Japan, and therefore can establish a system to supply sufficient quantity of testing kit for COVID-19 diagnosis.

The Denka Group has positioned healthcare-related businesses as one of the priority fields in the Denka Value-Up management plan. Denka Seiken also endorsed FUSEGU2020, a project promoted by The Japanese Association for Infectious Diseases and Japanese Society for Infection Prevention and Control.

In response to the recent COVID-19 outbreak, the Group considers the supply of the testing kit as social responsibility. Leveraging the knowledge nurtured, Denka Seiken will proceed with the development to immediately supply the testing kits, while simultaneously seeking cooperation from public organizations and research institutions in Japan and abroad.

(Reference)

Novel Coronavirus Infection: Named COVID-19 by the WHO.

Novel Coronavirus: Named SARS-CoV-2 instead of 2019-nCoV (tentative name) on February 11, 2020.

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