

TAUNS Laboratories, Inc.
GENEX, Inc.

Announcement of Strategic Capital and Business Alliance
between TAUNS Laboratories, Inc. and GENEX, Inc.

SHIZUOKA and TOKYO, November 30, 2023 - TAUNS Laboratories, Inc. (Headquarters: Izunokuni-shi, Shizuoka; President and CEO: Masaki Nonaka; hereinafter referred to as "TAUNS") and GENEX, Inc. (Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Co-CEOs: Ken Yagi and Atsushi Iida; hereinafter referred to as "GENEX") announce that TAUNS has subscribed to a third party allotment of new shares and stock acquisition rights of GENEX and that they have entered into a strategic business alliance agreement to collaborate in the genomics business field.

TAUNS' mid- to long-term strategy is to expand its business into the field of chronic diseases, as well as disease prevention and pre-symptomatic disease through the development of new diagnostic technologies and next-generation POCT (*1).

On the other hand, GENEX is one of the few companies in Japan to provide whole-genome DTC(*2) genetic testing services. While promoting services for individuals, including rare disease patients and general consumers, by accumulating genomic and healthcare data, GENEX aims to apply the data to clinical trial recruitment and biomarker research with pharmaceutical and diagnostic companies in the medium to long term.

Through this capital and business alliance, the companies aim to develop new diagnostic technologies by combining TAUNS' knowledge and data on diagnosis and testing with GENEX's knowledge and data to be built in the genomics field.

(*1) POCT: Point of Care Testing. A test that can be performed outside of the laboratory and can be conducted at the subject's side. Test results can be provided quickly and easily.

(*2) DTC (Direct to Consumer) genetic testing: A service in which subjects provide their own specimens for genome testing without going through a medical institution. The results of the genome analysis will be provided later, and the patient will be notified of disease risks, etc.

Mr. Nonaka, President and CEO of TAUNS, and Mr. Yagi and Mr. Iida, Co-CEOs of GENEX, commented on this alliance as follows.

Message from Masaki Nonaka, President and CEO, TAUNS Laboratories, Inc.

“The genomic field is expected to expand further in the future due to a significant decrease in sequencing costs and progress in the development of legislation on genomic medicine as a national policy. As a mid- to long-term strategy, TAUNS aims to develop new diagnostic technologies using various test data, including genomic data, and has high expectations for GENEX as a strategic partner with its advanced know-how in genomic analysis and knowledge of the genomic field. As a shareholder of GENEX, we are confident that we can also increase the company's corporate and shareholder value in the medium to long term.

Message from Ken Yagi and Atsushi Iida, Co-CEOs, GENEX, Inc.

“We are very pleased that TAUNS, a leading in vitro diagnostics company, has evaluated our technology and entered into a strategic capital and business alliance with us. Our company's mission is to utilize genomic information and bring the results back to the individual by providing whole-genome testing services to individuals. We look forward to working with TAUNS to create new diagnostic technologies from test data and genomic data, and to the possibility of making a broad contribution to society.”

About TAUNS:

TAUNS Laboratories, Inc. is one of the major companies of rapid diagnostic test kits for infectious diseases in Japan. We manufacture in vitro diagnostic test kits and research reagents applying various diagnostic technologies for global consumption. In the field of rapid diagnostic test kits for infectious diseases, which are our main products, we have been widely known for high-quality products and customer services by hospitals, clinics, research institutes and biotech start-ups. For over 30 years since the company was established in 1987, under the corporate philosophy of enriching lives and providing peace of mind, we have strived to develop and improve our products. As a leading company of rapid diagnostic test kits in Japan, we continue to advance R&D to meet the needs for clinical tests. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.tauns.co.jp/en/>.

About GENEX:

GENEX, a startup founded in 2019, accelerates the accumulation of healthcare data represented by whole-genome information and provides whole-genome testing for individuals and genome analysis services for hospitals as part of its contribution to the development of the medical and healthcare industry.

For more information about its technology and services, please visit our website at https://genex.co.jp/en/toppage_en/.

The purpose of this release is to provide our stakeholders with the latest information related to our companies. Although it may contain information on our products and research and development, it is intended to disclose our management information and is not intended as promotion, advertisement, or medical advice regarding our products.

For inquiries regarding this press release, please contact:

TAUNS Laboratories, Inc.
General Affairs Department
TEL : +81-558-76-8181
E-mail: kouhou@tauns.co.jp

GENEX, Inc.
TEL : +81-70-2490-8411
E-mail: support@genex.co.jp