

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Starts Joint Research of Sustainable Amino-Acid Production Method with Logomix Inc., a Biotechnology Start-up Company

Aiming to Attain Carbon Neutrality by 2050

TOKYO, April 7, 2023 – Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (“Ajinomoto Co.”) has concluded a joint research and development agreement with Logomix Inc. (“Logomix”), a start-up company with proprietary genome engineering platform. Through this agreement and the resulting interaction between Logomix’s genome engineering platform and Ajinomoto Co.’s amino-acid production technology and expertise, the two companies will pursue joint research of a sustainable amino-acid production method that will contribute to attaining carbon neutrality.

The Ajinomoto Group has set the goal to attain carbon neutrality through reduction of its net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to zero by 2050. As part of this effort, Ajinomoto Co. is introducing sustainable amino-acid production biocycle in its factories around the world, including low environmental impact production technologies and cyclical use of by-products for farming. Furthermore, it is also promoting technological development to innovate amino-acid production biocycle through GHG reduction in order to achieve its goal to attain carbon neutrality.

Logomix, established in July 2019, is a genome engineering company, developing high-performance cells to overcome challenges in drug discovery and biomanufacturing. Logomix is creating various versions of cells and cell systems by its proprietary genome engineering platform, Geno-Writing™. This technology can be applied to a wide range of organisms, including bacteria, yeast, animal cells, and human stem cells. Currently, Logomix is collaborating with companies, which are working on manufacturing using cells and microbes, in pharmaceutical, chemical/material, and energy industry, and positions this agreement as one of such initiatives.

By combining Logomix’s genome engineering platform with Ajinomoto Co.’s amino-acid production technologies and expertise, the two companies aim to innovate the amino-acid production biocycle to manufacture “green” amino acid by developing a sustainable amino-acid production method with less environmental impact, including by reducing the carbon dioxide emitted in the fermentation process.

Ajinomoto Co. has established four growth areas - “Healthcare”, “Food & Wellness”, “ICT”, and “Green” - in order to contribute to the well-being of human beings, our society, and our planet with “AminoScience”. Through this joint research with Logomix, it aims to build sustainable food systems by promoting carbon neutralization.

Reference

■ Outline of Logomix

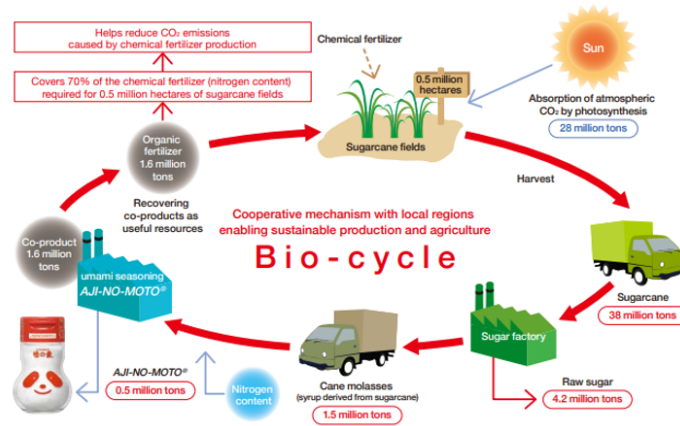
- (1) Name of company: Logomix Inc.
- (2) Location: Chuo-ku, Tokyo
- (3) Established: July 2019
- (4) Representatives: Taiki Ishikura, CEO
- (5) Business description: Research and development of Master Cells for Cell Therapy, Regenerative Medicine and Biomanufacturing (Tokyo Institute of Technology-oriented biotechnology start-up company)
- (6) Employees: 12 (as of March 2023)
- (7) Website: <https://logomix.bio>

■ Genome engineering platform, Geno-Writing™

The genome refers to the entire genetic information, which serves as a blueprint of an organism. In 2003, the human genome was sequenced. In 2020, the genome editing technology was awarded the Nobel Prize. Applying this and using other technologies developed by the Tokyo Institute of Technology as a platform, Logomix developed Geno-Writing™ to allow genome designing and modification on a larger scale, attracting high expectations worldwide for its contribution to various industries.

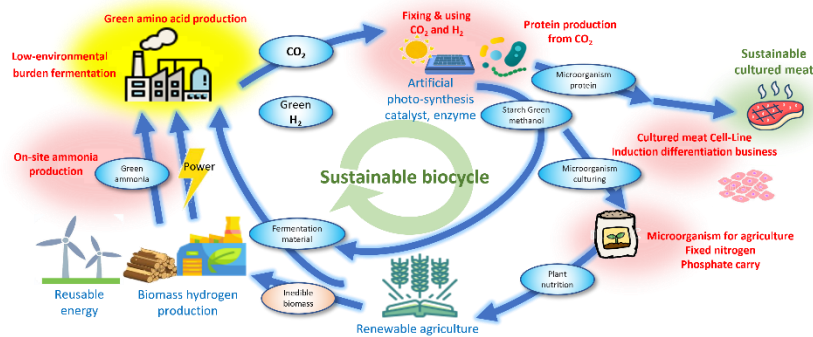
■ Sustainable Amino-Acid Production

Ajinomoto Group’s Current Amino-Acid Production Biocycle



Implementation of biocycles including low environmental impact production and cyclical use of by-products, contributing to reduction of CO₂ emission

Sustainable Amino-Acid Production Biocycle that Ajinomoto Group Aims to Realize



Production of carbon neutral “green” amino acid by creating sustainable biocycles

The Ajinomoto Group will contribute to the well-being of all human beings, our society and our planet with “AminoScience” based on the corporate slogan “Eat Well, Live Well.” 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.

For further information, please contact: [HERE](#)