IKMP Intro

Invest KOREA Market Place (IKMP) is a project designed to help discover and support new investment projects for Korean SMEs, start-ups and local governments seeking foreign investment. Invest KOREA aims to use the IKMP platform to promote the globalization of Korean companies and institutions by utilizing KOTRA’s 36 overseas offices devoted to attracting foreign investment.

Every year in March, June and September, the project notice is available on KOTRA’s website at www.kotra.or.kr. Additionally, project information detailing investment opportunities in Korea is available on the Invest KOREA website at www.investkorea.org.

Investment Opportunities

Below are two Korean companies currently available to receive foreign investment. (some information remains confidential)


Investment Highlights: The company is developing new medicine equipped with a therapeutic platform for oligonucleotides. Its OliPass Platform technology allows for the development of various nucleic acid-based drugs. The company currently has a monomer production line and an R&D center for evaluating the efficacy of medicine for animals, and it is in the process of conducting a first-phase clinical test for SCN9A, a non-opioid analgesic, in Europe.

Company Profile: The company was founded in November 2006 and has 71 employees (as of 2017). Two patent applications have been filed at home and abroad for OliPass Oligonucleotide, which features higher cell membrane permeability than existing technologies.

Investment Requirements:
- Investment method: Minority (financial investment)
- Amount: USD 2 to 20 million
- Region: All available (America preferred)

2. Pharma/Healthcare Company: Microbiome

Investment Highlights: The company specializes in developing probiotics-based medicine and medical supplies by using microbiomes, and currently has partnerships with Asan Medical Center, Samsung Medical Center and other university hospitals. The company is working with Seoul National University Hospital to conduct a clinical demonstration of strains for an anti-obesity drug that proves to be safe based on results of preclinical studies. In addition, the company is dedicated to developing probiotics used for the treatment of diabetes, acne, atopic dermatitis and mental illness.

Company Profile: The company was founded in September 2015, and has 20 employees (as of 2017). It currently has applied for two patents for gut microbial that inhibit adipocyte differentiation and adiposity, and decompose neutral fat in fat cells.

Investment Requirements:
- Investment method: Minority (financial investment)
- Amount: USD 2 million
- Region: North America, China, Europe

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