



NIKKOL GROUP



APRIL 15, 2016 IN LYON, FRANCE

SIGNING OF A MAJOR FRANCO-JAPANESE RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP
IN BIOTECHNOLOGIES, PHARMACEUTICALS AND DERMO-COSMETICS

**CTIBiotech, Nikkol Group and Nikoderm Research
officialize their strategic agreement in the presence of
the Japanese Ambassador and the President of Lyon Metropole**

MEYZIEU-LYON (69), April 12, 2016 –

An evaluation of irritant and other physical effects is required for all products that come into contact with the skin: cosmetics, quasi-drugs, pharmaceuticals, chemical products, raw materials derived from natural products and synthetic raw materials. In this sector, acquiring strategic data on safety and efficacy is essential to the development of new products. With this in mind, *CTIBiotech* and *Nikkol Group*, both with cutting-edge R&D in non-animal testing methods, are signing a research and development partnership.

In Japan, *Nikoderm Research* introduced for the first time highly-functional models of reconstructed human skin, which were first approved in the European Union. The Japanese group then reached out to specialized dermatological testing and evaluation institutions in France, the US and Brazil, leading to the strategic partnership with *CTIBiotech*. A young, innovative company specialized in biotechnologies, *CTIBiotech* has developed research on stem cells, tissue engineering and the production of new cellular models (in vitro and ex vivo) for biomedical, pharmaceutical and dermato-cosmetic research, but also for medical devices applied to cell therapy.

Following the international IN COSMETICS congress, held in Paris from April 12-13 of this year, a delegation of executives from *Nikkol Group* and *Nikoderm Research* will go to Lyon on April 15 to officialize this high added-value Franco-Japanese collaboration. A signing ceremony at Lyon's city hall and a tour of *CTIBiotech - Institut de Recherche en Thérapie Cellulaire* - will take place in the presence of the Japanese ambassador to France and the president of « Grand Lyon » along with regional government officials.

This partnership is expected to generate new jobs, with the opening of the collaborative office and laboratory *CTIBiotech / Nikoderm Research*, and should enable both groups to strengthen their respective presence in Asian and European markets.

Thanks to this agreement supported by *ADERLY / Invest In Lyon*, the French research institute and the Japanese group will develop new and innovative techniques in the two partners' areas of expertise. The goal: consolidate their technological advance in the acquisition of precise data on product safety and efficacy, in order to develop new health and beauty products.

« *The partnership with CTIBiotech and the establishment of a European liaison office will allow Nikoderm Research to develop collaborations with the academic laboratories and universities* », explains Daiki KYOTANI, General Manager at Nikoderm Research. « *The objective is to remain on the cutting edge of R&D, in order to develop innovative new models. These models will enable us to get as close as possible to real cutaneous physiology, and facilitate the development of new active molecules that can be used in treating skin diseases (dermatology) as well as in cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.* »

« *This agreement confirms our positioning as a key player in 3-dimensional tissue engineering and the production of humanized cellular bioassays for pharmaceutical and dermato-cosmetic research,* » says Professor Colin McGUCKIN, Chairman and Chief Scientific Officer at CTIBiotech.

« *Thanks to this partnership we are expanding our outlook to new Asian markets, while Nikoderm Research reinforces its presence in Europe.* »

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PRESS RELEASE



NIKKOL GROUP



PROGRAM

**Franco-Japanese research partnership
CTIBIOTECH, NIKKOL GROUP and NIKODERM RESEARCH**

FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2016, LYON

Signature at the *Hôtel de Ville de Lyon* from 12:00 – 2:00 pm

In the presence of

His Excellency the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Yoichi SUZUKI

and

the President of the Lyon Metropole, Mr. Gérard COLLOMB

CTIBiotech will welcome the Japanese delegation from 2:00 – 4:00 pm

In the presence of

Mr. Shigeru SEKINE, CEO of Nikkol Group,
Mr. Shogo SEKINE, CEO of Nikoderm Research,
Mr. Daiki KYOTANI, General Manager of Nikoderm Research

Remarks at 4:00 pm

by

Mr. Michel FORISSIER, Senator-Mayor of Meyzieu,
Mr. Philippe MEUNIER, Deputy of the Rhône region &
Vice-President of the Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes region for international partnerships

Japanese executives

and

Founders of CTIBiotech
Professeur Colin McGUCKIN, Chairman and Chief Scientific Officer
Dr. Nico FORRAZ, CEO

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Presentation of the two partners

> The Japanese entity *Nikkol Group* is a major Asian holding with over 65 years of experience and 420 employees in Japan. The group is specialized in the production of chemical ingredients for dermato-cosmetic and pharmaceutical companies. Among the 9 companies comprising the group, *Nikoderm Research*, created in 2003, is specialized in the evaluation of the safety and efficacy of raw materials and products developed for skin application such as cosmetics, quasi-drugs and pharmaceutical products.

The companies belonging to Nikkol Group have developed pioneering standards of effectiveness in skin-care. The development of ingredients involves a series of tests known in the industry as the « golden game » : cell cultures (in vitro), cultured skin models (ex vivo) and actual human skin (in vivo).

> Founded in 2008, CTIBiotech – Institute for research in cell therapy – has developed expertise in 3-dimensional tissue engineering combining cells, biomaterial, growth factors and bioreactors for the development of innovative humanized cell models.

About CTIBIOTECH - Institut de Recherche en Thérapie Cellulaire (www.ctibiotech.com)

Founded in 2008, **CTIBIOTECH** is specialized in biotechnologies and particularly in research on cancer, stem cells, tissue engineering and the production of innovative cell models (in vitro et ex vivo) for biomedical, pharmaceutical and dermato-cosmetic research, as well as medical devices applied to cell therapy.

CTIBIOTECH contributes to the development of new cell and regenerative therapies in order to make progress in the treatment of diseases such as cerebral palsy, strokes, diabetes, cancer, orthopedic and cranio-facial malformations, blood diseases as well as immune system, hepatic and cardiovascular diseases.

CTIBIOTECH implements a multi-disciplinary strategy that encourages and stimulates innovation in complementary areas: cellular biology, genetics, biomaterials chemistry, engineering, nanotechnologies, bio-imagery, biophysics and bioethics. In 2015, the proportion of operating expenses allocated to research & development represented 80% of revenues. CTIBIOTECH collaborates internationally with the academic and industrial sectors to develop clinical trials in regenerative medicine and against cancer.

Fully licensed as a biobank of human tissues and cells for scientific applications, CTIBIOTECH is certified by the regional health agency of Rhône Alpes to host and train pharmaceutical and medical interns for semester-long internships. CTIBIOTECH trains students and doctoral candidates in biomedical research and biotechnologies. CTIBIOTECH is an active member of professional and industry associations such as Lyon Biopôle, competitiveness cluster; the AFSSI, *Association Française des Sociétés de Services et d'Innovation pour les Sciences de la Vie*; European Center of Dermocosmetology, which promotes the activities of regional Rhône-Alpes cosmetics companies on a national and international level.

A propos de NIKKOL GROUP et NIKODERM RESEARCH (<https://www.nikkol.co.jp/en/>) and (<http://ndr-english.jimdo.com>)

Nikkol Group is a major Asian chemical holding company based in Japan. The group consists of nine companies with the collective mission to provide to the ever-expanding chemical industry with a complete range of goods and services, from the research, development, and manufacture of cosmetic, pharmaceutical, and industrial chemical ingredients to performance evaluation and application design. For many years, the group motto has been "One Stop Shopping" as an actual description of our continuous improvement of the variety and thoroughness of our service.

First company of the group, Nikko Chemicals, established in 1946, focuses on the development of unique skin care ingredients providing visible results. The company develops new mechanisms and is the link between research and the application of new active molecules. Nikko Chemicals has an open research laboratory in Tokyo, available to its customers for learning techniques of emulsification, dispersion and solubilization, as well as basic cosmetic techniques. The company is involved in the co-development and creation of new products with its customers.

NIKODERM RESEARCH (NDR), created in 2003, evaluates the safety and efficacy of raw materials and products developed for skin application such as cosmetics, quasi-drugs and pharmaceutical products.

The company employs 17 people and has capital of 100 000 000 Yen.

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