

April 26, 2018
SBI Holdings, Inc.

Dr. Kosciessa Assumes COO of SBI ALApharma

SBI ALApharma Co., Ltd. (Head office: Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China; Representative Director & CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao) (“SBI ALApharma”), a subsidiary of SBI Holdings, Inc. (Head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President and CEO: Yoshitaka Kitao) and an intermediate holding company of the pharmaceutical and other business lines using 5-aminolevulinic acid (“5-ALA”) (*1) hereby announces that Ulrich Kosciessa, Ph.D., of photonamic GmbH & Co. KG (Head office: Wedel, Germany; Representative: Ulrich Kosciessa, Ph.D.) (“photonamic”) (*2), a wholly-owned subsidiary of SBI ALApharma and engaged in the business of pharmaceutical development using 5-ALA mainly in Europe assumes the office of COO of SBI ALApharma.

Dr. Kosciessa completed Ph.D. in Molecular Biology in 1993 at Georg-August University of Goettingen, Germany, and in 1996 joined medac GmbH (“medac”), a pharmaceutical company in Hamburg, Germany after having worked for at major pharmaceutical companies before.

He assumed in 2008 Representative of photonamic, a subsidiary of medac (at that time), and in 2010 Managing Director of medac, respectively. During his service he achieved outstanding results, such as raising the overseas sales more than 10 times growing it to higher than 50% of total revenues of medac.

To contribute fully to 5-ALA related business of our Group, Dr. Kosciesssa left medac and assumes COO of SBI ALApharma. Concurrently with the office of Representative (CEO) of photonamic, Dr. Kosciessa is expected to devote to the expansion of 5-ALA related business of our Group and focus on the build-up of the management team aiming at the stock listing.

(*1) 5-aminolevulinic acid (“5-ALA”)

An amino acid produced in mitochondria. It is an important substance that serves as a functional molecule related to energy production in the form of heme and cytochromes, and its productivity is known to decrease with age. 5-ALA is contained in food such as shochu lees, red wine and Asian ginseng. It is also known as a material forming chloroplasts in plants.

(*2) photonamic GmbH & Co. KG (“photonamic”)

A company established in 2002 for the purpose of developing 5-ALA for photodynamic diagnosis and therapy. In collaboration with medac, it could obtain in 2007 the approval of Gliolan as intra-operative diagnostics to visualize malignant glioma in Europe. In the dermatology, the approval of Alacare was obtained in 2009 as a therapeutic drug for solar keratosis. At the end of 2015, our Group acquired all of its outstanding stocks to form a wholly-owned subsidiary.

For further information, please contact:

SBI Holdings, Inc. Corporate Communications Dept., Tel: +81 3 6229-0126