

## **Luxna Biotech and Inabata Enter into a License Agreement for Manufacture and Sale of XenoModified Nucleic Acid Amidite “GuNA™”**

Luxna Biotech Co., Ltd. (President & CEO: Hideaki Sato, Headquarters: Suita-shi, Osaka, Japan, hereinafter “Luxna”) and Inabata & Co., Ltd. (President: Katsutaro Inabata, Headquarters: Osaka-shi, Osaka, hereinafter "Inabata") today announce that the parties have entered into a license agreement to grant a license to Inabata for the manufacture and sale of modified nucleic acid GuNA™ amidite. This alliance is positioned as a strategic partnership that leverages the strengths of both companies: Inabata's global sales network for chemicals, its ability to develop new sales channels, and Luxna's innovative modified nucleic acid technology.

Luxna will receive an undisclosed upfront payment upon the execution of the License Agreement. Luxna may also receive milestone payments and royalties based on the future production and sales of GuNA™ by Inabata. The licensed product will not be used for the development of nucleic acid therapeutics. Inabata will focus on the manufacturing and supply of amidites as raw materials for nucleic acid therapeutic development.

GuNA™ is one of our artificial bridged types modified nucleic acids developed using Luxna's modified nucleic acid technologies (Luxna XNAs technology) and is used as a raw material for nucleic acid therapeutics. Compared to conventional modified nucleic acids, it is expected to improve affinity with target RNA and reduce neurotoxicity.

In partnership with Inabata, Luxna aims to expand the adoption of its XNAs technology through the supply of GuNA™ and to advance the development and real-world implementation of nucleic acid therapeutics.

### About Luxna XNAs Technology

Luxna XNAs Technology collectively means an innovative nucleic acid group of AmNA™, scpBNA™, GuNA™, and 5'-CP™ originated in Professor Obika's laboratory at the Osaka University Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Bioorganic Chemistry. Luxna XNAs Technology could make available ASOs with high activity and low toxicity by leveraging its characteristics of strong binding to mRNA and/or reduced immune response.

### About GuNA™

GuNA™ has a positive charge, and its introduction into antisense nucleic acids can enhance its binding affinity to RNA and nuclease resistance, reducing neurotoxicity, reducing immunogenicity thereby

reducing neurotoxicity, immunogenicity, and prolonging the duration of action. We also expect similar effects among antisense nucleic acids, not only for knockdown but also for splicing control applications.

#### About nucleic acid therapeutics

Nucleic acid therapeutics are chemically synthesized drugs that use nucleotides - the building blocks of DNA and RNA - as their fundamental backbone. Unlike conventional drugs that primarily act on proteins or the pathways that produce them, nucleic acid therapeutics directly target upstream genetic information such as mRNA and noncoding RNA. This enables highly sequence-specific modulation of gene expression and allows access to intracellular targets that have been difficult to reach with traditional pharmaceuticals. Because these molecules are produced through chemical synthesis, candidate compounds can be generated rapidly, supporting their development as a next-generation class of medicines.

#### About Amidite

Amidite refers to a phosphoramidite-activated nucleoside, which serves as the monomer used in solid phase synthesis of oligonucleotides. These oligonucleotides function as the active pharmaceutical ingredients in nucleic acid therapeutics.

#### About Inabata & Co., Ltd.

Founded in 1890, Inabata & Co., Ltd. is a global chemical trading company with approximately 70 locations in 19 countries. The company operates across four core business segments: Information & Electronics, Chemicals, Life Industry, and Plastics.

Within the Life Sciences Division of the Life Industry segment, Inabata provides end-to-end solutions tailored to customer needs. In addition to having active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) and intermediate manufacturing facilities in France, Inabata provides comprehensive solutions tailored to our customers' needs. These include sourcing pharmaceutical raw materials domestically and internationally, CDMO management, and logistics support for overseas distribution. Recently, Inabata has strengthened our handling of products related to new modalities such as regenerative medicine and nucleic acid therapeutics. By contributing to the revitalization of the pharmaceutical market and the promotion of research and development, Inabata aims to help realize healthy and comfortable lives.

For more information: <https://www.inabata.co.jp/>

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