

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Company name: H.U. Group Holdings, Inc.
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Securities code: 4544 First Section, Tokyo Stock Exchange

Winner of the "Special Committee Award" at the 9th Technology Management and Innovation Awards in Recognition of the Development of Novel Coronavirus Antigen Detection Reagents

Fujirebio Inc. (President & CEO: Takeshi Fujita; Head Office: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo; hereinafter "Fujirebio"), which is a consolidated subsidiary of H.U. Group Holdings, Inc., recently won the "Special Committee Award" at the 9th Technology Management and Innovation Awards (hereinafter the "Awards") organized by the Japan Techno-Economics Society (President: Nobuhiro Endo; hereinafter "JATES") in recognition of the development of novel coronavirus antigen detection reagents ("ESPLINE® SARS-CoV-2" and "LUMIPULSE® SARS-CoV-2 Ag").

The Awards recognize outstanding innovations that contribute to the development of Japan's economy, social transformation, reinforcement of global competitiveness, improvement of welfare, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the fight against the pandemic.

Fujirebio started developing rapid antigen detection reagents in January 2020, at the early stage of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, and released Japan's first rapid antigen test kit "ESPLINE® SARS-CoV-2" (testing time: 10-30 minutes) in May 2020, followed by "LUMIPULSE® SARS-CoV-2 Ag" (testing time: within 30 minutes), the world's first high-sensitive antigen qualitative assay launched on a fully automated platform, in June 2020.

Fujirebio won the "Special Committee Award" in recognition of its huge contribution to reducing the risk of transmission through the swift development and launch of easy to use detection reagents which provide test results within 30 minutes and its establishment of a development framework to quickly develop much-needed products despite the state of emergency introduced due to COVID-19, as well as the corporate culture and management underlying these achievements.

Fujirebio and the other H.U. Group companies will continue working together to solve social problems through the provision of a range of products and services.

[Outline of the Technology Management and Innovation Awards]

Organizer:

Japan Techno-Economics Society (JATES)

Sponsors:

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology,
Nikkei, Inc., and NIKKAN KOGYO SHIMBUN, LTD

Co-sponsor:

Watanabe Memorial Foundation for The Advancement of New Technology

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