



February 7, 2012

For Immediate Release

UMN Pharma Inc.

## UNIGEN, a UMN Pharma Subsidiary, Selected in First Round of METI's FY 2011 “Subsidy for Domestic Location Promotion Projects”

On 3 February, 2012, UNIGEN Inc. (Headquarters, Akita, Japan; CEO: Yasuo Amatsuji, Ph.D.) was selected in the first round of the public offering for the FY 2011 “Subsidy for Domestic Location Promotion Projects” administered by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). UNIGEN was selected on the basis of its development of equipment and facilities for contract manufacturing of biopharmaceutical drug substances using next-generation biomanufacturing technology.

UNIGEN was selected for this subsidy because of its potential to attract new investments and because of job opportunities that are expected to be maintained and created from the new plant scheduled for construction in Gifu prefecture. These subsidy funds are planned to be used for equipment costs, study design costs, and other expenses associated with the construction of this plant.

The production facility to be constructed with the assistance of this subsidy program is a 5-floor steel frame structure with a total floor area of about 14,000m<sup>2</sup>. This plant will use recombinant protein production technology based on insect cells to produce commercial drug substances in the rapidly-growing field of biopharmaceuticals. UNIGEN has already started operations of a pilot plant capable of process development in Akita prefecture, and in addition to the flu vaccine that will be jointly developed by UMN Pharma Inc. and Astellas Pharma Inc., this plant will enable UNIGEN to handle the entire manufacturing process from initial development to large-scale commercial production in the manufacturing of biopharmaceutical drug substances.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Tsuyoshi Teshima, General Manager, Business Development Division

Tel: +81-45-624-8341

E-mail: [press@umnpharma.com](mailto:press@umnpharma.com)