



## **Announcement of AISol Startup Program's First Certification**

TSUKUBA CITY, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan, June 5, 2023. **Veneno Technologies Co. Ltd.** is pleased to announce that we have been certified as the first company in the AISol Startup Program by AIST Solutions Co. ("AISol")

AIST Solutions was established on April 1st of this year as a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Japan's largest public research institution. Leveraging the technological assets and research resources of the institute, AIST Solutions aims to enhance open innovation, foster ecosystem development, and create new businesses through proactive marketing activities.

Veneno Technologies has been selected as the first AISol start-up in recognition of the competitiveness and business concept of the company's proprietary DRP-based technology for the discovery of new pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals, bio-chemicals, and other products.

*"We are very honored to be recognized as the first AISol startup. With the support of the AIST group, we will continue to refine our technology and move forward with research and development to realize our goal of innovative drug discovery as soon as possible."*, said Kazunori Yoshikawa, President and CEO of Veneno Technologies.

Mr. Seiji Osaka, President of AIST Solutions Co. commented, *"Recognizing the significant potential and business value of their innovative technology utilizing peptides, often referred to as the dream of bio-pharmaceuticals, we have certified Veneno Technologies as an AISol Startup and will provide full support to unleash its possibilities, including the development of new therapeutic drugs."*

### **About AIST Solutions Co.**

Company Name: AIST Solutions Co.

Location: (Tokyo) Hibiya Fort Tower, 1-1-1 Nishi-Shinbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo  
(Tsukuba) 1-1-1 Umezono, Tsukuba City, Ibaraki

Representative: Seiji Osaka

HP: <https://www.aist-solutions.co.jp>

## **About AISol Startups**

AIST Solutions identifies and certifies startup companies as AISol Startups, based on their contribution to solving social challenges, technological competitive advantage, market potential, and synergy with the AIST Group's management strategy.

AIST Solutions, in collaboration with AIST, will support the growth and commercialization of AISol Startups through various aspects such as engineering, marketing, business acceleration, and capital reinforcement. Together, we will advance the business development of AISol Startups.

For inquiries regarding this release, please contact:

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## **ABOUT DRPs**

Disulfide-Rich Peptide (DRP) is a generic term for peptides of about 20 to 60 amino acid residues that have a characteristic structure with three or more disulfide bonds in the molecule. DRPs have a rigid molecular structure due to multiple disulfide bonds in the molecule, and are highly stable against heat, acid, and degrading enzymes compared to linear peptides. DRPs are widely found in nature, from bacteria to humans, but they are also found in animal venoms and have evolved as a major component of venoms to be potent even in minute amounts. DRPs have been attracting attention in recent years as a new basic molecule for drug discovery because of their excellent functions as natural modulators with high potency and selectivity.