

Postscript

The production of “10-Year History” of the Ajinomoto Group between FY2009 and FY2019 began with preparations for the launch of the production committee in July 2017. The committee was established in November of the same year and was authorized at the Executive Committee Meeting in April 2018. A little over three years later, the project is finally nearing completion.

During this time, we conducted more than 50 interviews with various departments to record the history of the Group during this period. We made efforts to include not just written text, but voice recordings of the employees who actually engaged in the work. When we met with company President & CEO Takaaki Nishii in January 2018, he said we should “Create something that will be read by as many stakeholders as possible.” This became our project coordination team members’ motto throughout its production.

The style of our “10-Year History” differs greatly from that of most corporate histories. Many people might be surprised that interviews and conversations with CEOs play a major role in this publication (The History of the Ajinomoto Group (FY2009 - FY2019), Chapter II).

During this period, we initiated various efforts towards becoming a truly global company. We realized input from top management would be essential to gain a more realistic understanding of the Ajinomoto Group Creating Shared Value (ASV) and to have our valued stakeholders understand their passion for food, which plays an important role in our lives.

We would like to thank the many people within and outside the Group who cooperated in this history’s production. In particular, we want to thank Mr. Tomohide Tsuji, author of “Toyonobu Domen, A Manager Who Challenged the Times: Another Jiro Shirasu,” for allowing us to use quotations from the book. They helped us recognize that we exist on a foundation built by the great executive Mr. Toyonobu Domen. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. So Maeda of DNP Communication Design Co., Ltd., who kindly helped us with many difficult problems, and Mr. Makoto Tsukioka of APIX Co. for writing clearly and carefully about our complicated activities.

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