

PRESS RELEASE

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Recognition of Sustainability Initiatives

Ajinomoto Co., Inc. Wins Gold Award in the Environmentally Sustainable Enterprise Category of the ESG Finance Awards Japan

TOKYO, February 28, 2022 – Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (“Ajinomoto Co.”) won the Gold Award in the Environmentally Sustainable Enterprise Category at the Ministry of the Environment’s third ESG Finance Awards Japan, and was presented with the award at a ceremony held today.



ESG Finance Awards Japan was established by the Ministry of the Environment in fiscal 2019 and is presented by the Minister of the Environment to institutional investors, financial institutions, intermediaries, enterprises, and others that are proactively engaged in and have a positive impact through environmental, social, and governance (ESG) finance, or environmental and societal projects. It is designed to recognize and broadly share with society the advanced initiatives and other efforts of the recipients, with the aim of further promoting and expanding ESG finance. The award in the Environmentally Sustainable Enterprise Category, one of the award categories, is presented to show investors and companies concrete examples of environmentally sustainable enterprises that incorporate important environment-related opportunities and risks in their management strategies in order to enhance their corporate value, thereby creating positive effects to the environment while enhancing their corporate value.

Ajinomoto Co. was presented with the Bronze Award in the Environmentally Sustainable Enterprise Category in both fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2020. This is the first time Ajinomoto Co. has won the Gold Award (the Minister of the Environment Award).

For a summary of the Environmentally Sustainable Enterprise Category of the ESG Finance Awards Japan, please click the link below:

<https://www.env.go.jp/policy/award.kigyobumon.html> (in Japanese)

[Evaluation Points]

Ajinomoto Co.’s approach that calls for showing the outcomes in a form contrasting positive impacts with negative impacts that should be avoided, and presenting a value creation model focused on those outcomes is an outstanding example of demonstrating the growth strategies of the food industry. In addition to a large number of initiatives of the highest level to build a resilient, sustainable food system that will be deployed to realize this approach, an effective sustainability governance system has been built under the leadership of top management. These outstanding features of the company can be highly evaluated.

(Excerpts from the statement by the judging office)



Ajinomoto Co. President & CEO Takaaki Nishii with the Award certificate

Based on its purpose to resolve food and health issues, the Ajinomoto Group is seeking to realize both outcomes of reducing its environmental impact by 50% and helping extend the healthy life expectancy of one billion people by 2030. Toward that end, the Group is promoting initiatives to respond to climate change, reduce plastic waste, and reduce food loss and waste, as well as initiatives to improve nutrition worldwide, following the basic policy of “Nutrition Without Compromise” based on the three pillars of taste, food access, and the local way of life. In the field of finance, the Group is promoting the proactive utilization of sustainability finance schemes. Going forward, the Group will further accelerate its efforts to realize a sustainable society.

Reference

Ajinomoto Co. sustainability website

<https://www.ajinomoto.com/sustainability/>

The Ajinomoto Group, unlocking the power of amino acids, aims to resolve food and health issues associated with dietary habits and aging, and contribute to greater wellness for people worldwide.

Based on the corporate message “Eat Well, Live Well.”, we have been scientifically pursuing the possibilities of amino acids to aim for future growth by creating new value through sustainable and innovative solutions for communities and society.

The Ajinomoto Group has offices in 35 countries and regions, and sells products in more than 130 countries and regions. In fiscal 2020, sales were 1.0714 trillion yen (10.1 billion U.S. dollars). To learn more, visit www.ajinomoto.com.

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