Kirin Holdings to set up HMO manufacturing facility in Thailand

06 November 2020 | News

Kyowa Hakko Bio Co (Kyowa Hakko Bio), a subsidiary of Japan based Kirin Holdings Company (Kirin Holdings), will establish a new facility to manufacture human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs) in Thailand. Kyowa Hakko Bio decided on the move with expectations of a future increase in global demand for HMOs. This move further expands its global footprint to consolidate its position as a global specialty fermentation manufacturer.

It is scheduled to open operations in the summer of 2022

Kyowa Hakko Bio Co (Kyowa Hakko Bio), a subsidiary of Japan based Kirin Holdings Company (Kirin Holdings), will establish a new facility to manufacture human milk oligosaccharides (HMOs) in Thailand. Kyowa Hakko Bio decided on the move with expectations of a future increase in global demand for HMOs. This move further expands its global footprint to consolidate its position as a global specialty fermentation manufacturer.

The new facility is to be established at Kyowa Hakko Bio's subsidiary Thai Kyowa Biotechnologies Co. (Thai Kyowa) in Rayong Province, Thailand. It is scheduled to open operations in the summer of 2022.

Kyowa Hakko Bio was the first company in the world to establish an industrial-scale HMO production system, and the actual application of this system will be the core of the companyâ??s medium- to long-term growth strategy. After the establishment of this production system, Kyowa Hakko Bio plans to supply HMOs to other companies as well as utilize it for its own and the Kirin Groupâ??s product development.

Under Kirin Holdings' medium-term business plan, Kyowa Hakko Bio will continue to make fundamental improvements to its quality assurance system and other operations. In addition, Kyowa Hakko Bio aims to grow into a global-scale specialty fermentation manufacturer featuring a large number of highly profitable product pipelines in the future. Kyowa Hakko Bio plans to accomplish this by leveraging the strength of its fermentation technology that it has cultivated over 60 years.

Kyowa Hakko Bio has already established manufacturing processes for three of its HMOs (2FL, 3SL and 6SL). In particular, 3SL and 6SL, for which Kyowa Hakko Bio holds several registered patents, however have never yet been supplied on an industrial scale.

Kyowa Hakko Bio will be able to secure a competitive advantage through its strain development and manufacturing process development capabilities.

Future growth in demand is expected in China and Southeast Asian markets; so locating a manufacturing base in Thailand will provide Kyowa Hakko Bio with a secure supply capacity and cost competitiveness close to large consumption areas.