



## AJINOMOTO HEARTLAND, INC.

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### **Ajinomoto Heartland, Inc. announces the construction of a new plant to produce AjiPro®-L, a rumen protected lysine product, at its Iowa industrial site.**

From its start up in 1986 as a pioneer in the United States, Ajinomoto Heartland Inc., "AHI", has ramped up L-Lysine production to one hundred thousand metric ton (MT) which is fully dedicated to serve the North American market. In 2002, L-Threonine production followed in Iowa (with a current capacity over forty thousand MT), further enhancing AHI's contribution to increasing the competitiveness of North American livestock production through advanced nutrition. Availability of Ajinomoto-quality L-Tryptophan and L-Valine complements the feed-grade amino acid portfolio and offers even more precise animal nutrition.

Today, AHI announces the construction of a new plant to produce AjiPro®-L as a stimulating endeavor to expand L- Lysine value to the dairy industry. Thanks to the confidence of our North American customers, AjiPro®-L has become a new nutritional standard and our commitment is to fulfill the dairy market's requirement. Please refer to the below press release announced by Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (Tokyo, Japan) on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Group expands its production capacity of value-added product “AjiPro®-L”, a rumen protected Lysine to keep the lead of animal nutrition market.**

**TOKYO, October 29, 2013** - Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Group Inc, 100% subsidiary of Ajinomoto Co. Inc, has decided to newly construct a plant at its U.S. based subsidiary, Ajinomoto Heartland Inc, in order to enhance the production capacity of a rumen protected Lysine, “AjiPro®-L” and to expand its sales in the market. Through this expansion, we Ajinomoto Group aim to grow “AjiPro®-L” as one of the major driving forces in the Animal Nutrition Business along with other existing products such as Lysine, Threonine, Tryptophan and Valine.

Lysine, an essential amino acid for dairy cattle, cannot be utilized by ruminant animals as effectively as by monogastrics like chickens and pigs because of the complicated digestion and absorption systems that are specific to ruminants. After many years of Research and Development, we have successfully developed a technology that enables Lysine to bypass the rumen and to be absorbed in the small intestine of ruminant animals. Ajinomoto Heartland, Inc. launched commercial production and sales of “AjiPro®-L” in April 2011.

“AjiPro®-L” has been able to gain high reputation thanks to its high efficacy based upon abundant scientific evidences. “AjiPro®-L” is now the top brand in a category of rumen protected Lysine in the U.S. market. In order to meet the growing demands by customers, we aim to expand our production capacity to over 10,000 ton per year by FY2016. For the first step, we are going to increase the production capacity by 5,000 ton per year in 2014 by enhancing our facility at Ajinomoto Heartland, Inc. In addition, in order to deliver the value of this technology globally, we will strengthen our competitiveness through continuous investments in Research and Development for upgrading the efficacy of the product.

For the past 50 years, we Ajinomoto Group have been creating the demands for feed use amino acids based on the most advanced amino acid fermentation technology and so-called “local-based” technical promotion activities. We continue to provide customers with products and services as a leading company in the feed use amino acids market for years to come.

Outline of “AjiPro®-L” Plant at Ajinomoto Heartland Inc,

1. Iowa, United States of America
2. Completion of Construction: November, 2014
3. Production Capacity after Construction: 6,500T/y

**About Ajinomoto Co.**

Ajinomoto Co. is a global manufacturer of high-quality seasonings, processed foods, beverages, amino acids, pharmaceuticals and specialty chemicals. For many decades Ajinomoto Co. has contributed to food culture and human health through wide-ranging application of amino acid technologies. Today, the company is becoming increasingly involved with solutions for improved food resources, human health and global sustainability. Founded in 1909 and now operating in 26 countries and regions, Ajinomoto Co. had net sales of JPY 1,172.4 billion (USD 14.1 billion) in fiscal 2012. For more about Ajinomoto Co. (TYO: 2802), visit [www.ajinomoto.com](http://www.ajinomoto.com).

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