

November 12, 2020

To all persons concerned:

Nippon Steel Trading Corporation

**Decision on Business Collaboration with and Investment in the Startup Company DAIZ Inc. Producing Plant-based Meat from Sprouted Soybeans**

The following is notice that Nippon Steel Trading Corporation (head office: Minato-ku, Tokyo; president: Yasumitsu Saeki) has decided to form a business collaboration with the startup company DAIZ Inc. (headquarters: Kumamoto City, Kumamoto Prefecture; president: Tsuyoshi Ide; hereafter referred to as “DAIZ”) that develops and manufactures plant-based meat\* from sprouted soybeans. Nippon Steel Trading has also decided to invest in a partial share of DAIZ by means of a capital increase through third-party allocation.

\* Plant-based meat (PBM) is a food product made from soybeans and other plant protein.

## 1. About DAIZ



DAIZ develops, manufactures, and sells next-generation plant-based meat (product name: Miracle Meat) made from sprouted soybeans using patented Ochiai High Pressure Method technology. This Ochiai High Pressure Method is a method that achieves a dramatic increase in nutrients and UMAMI(flavor) by controlling the oxygen, carbon dioxide, temperature, and moisture content in the cereal seed germination process. This technology has been patented in Japan, the United States, and Europe. DAIZ operates a business providing raw materials for plant-based meat and plant-based meat products using this production method.

## 2. What is Miracle Meat?

Previous plant-based meats were primarily made from defatted soybeans that are the residue after soybean oil extraction. The Miracle Meat next-generation plant-based meat developed and manufactured by DAIZ uses the whole soybean as the primary ingredient. By using soybeans rich in oleic acid, the particular soybean smell is eliminated, greatly improving the taste. This ingredient is sprouted using the patented Ochiai High Pressure Method technology to increase UMAMI(flavor) and nutritional value. The company then uses its original manufacturing method to create plant-based meat by applying pressure to the soybeans using a screw at high temperature, producing a food made from plants but with a springy texture similar to animal meat.

Image (1)



## 3. About our company's Foodstuffs Division

Our Foodstuffs Division imports beef, pork, chicken, and other agricultural and seafood products, as well as other products such as processed foods, from a wide range of countries around the world, and supplies them primarily to the Japan market. We controls one of the top market shares in the industry.

We operates a wide range of sales channels within Japan and also has an extensive overseas purchasing network.

Image (2)



## 4. Future business plans

### - Accelerating initiatives to address SDGs

The global population is expected to approach 10 billion in the year 2050, and the consumption of meat products will continue to increase worldwide. From the perspective of sustainability, these are conditions which the future supply of meat will be unable to keep up with.

In addition, plant-based meat is said to be a food that is high-protein and low-cholesterol.

Through these initiatives, our company aims to contribute to efforts aimed at achieving the “zero hunger” and other SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) by expanding our trade in plant-based meat.

Image (3)



### - Expanding sales channels in Japan

Our Foodstuffs Division will utilize the wide range of domestic sales channels that we has developed through sales of meat over its long history in order to sell Miracle Meat and processed foods using Miracle Meat, and work to expand our business together with DAIZ.

### - Entry into overseas markets

Based on the extensive overseas network that we have constructed for procurement of meat and other products, we will partner with DAIZ and together expand our business into overseas markets.

Image (4)



# Press Release



## 5. Reference materials

### - Profile of DAIZ -

Trade name: DAIZ Inc. (<https://www.daiz.inc/>)  
Representative: Tsuyoshi Ide, President  
Address: TelWel Kumamoto Bldg. 7F  
5-1-1 Minami Kumamoto, Chuo-ku, Kumamoto City, Kumamoto  
Prefecture 860-0812  
Founded: December 1, 2015  
Capital: 440,015,000 JPY  
Business areas: Development, production, and sale of plant-based meat made from  
soybeans (Miracle Meat)  
Development and production of food products using plant-based meat  
made from soybeans (Miracle Meat)

### - Profile of Nippon Steel Trading -

Trade name: Nippon Steel Trading Corporation (<https://www.nst.nipponsteel.com/>)  
Representative: Yasumitsu Saeki, President and Representative Director  
Address: 8-5-27 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8527  
Founded: August 2, 1977  
Capital: 16,389,059,776 JPY  
Sales: 2.4802 trillion JPY (year ended March 2020)  
Business areas: Sales and import/export of steel, industrial supply & infrastructure,  
textiles, foodstuffs, and other products

### - Schedule -

Contract concluded: November 12, 2020  
Planned payment date: November 19, 2020

\* Inquiries regarding this release:

Corporate Communications Section  
General Affairs & Corporate Communications Department  
Nippon Steel Trading Corporation  
TEL: +81-3-5412-5003 FAX: +81-3-5412-5102