KUMIAI CHEMICAL INDUSTRY CO., LTD. May 7, 2025

2025年5月7日

Selection of Kumiai's Patent Dispute with a Chinese Company as a "2024 Typical Case of Administrative Protection for Intellectual Property Rights" by CNIPA

组合化学工业株式会社与中国企业专利纠纷案例入选中国国家知识产权局 2024 年度知识产权行政保护典型案例

We, Kumiai Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (Kumiai), are pleased to announce that the patent dispute¹⁾ concerning Chinese Patent ZL200580010635.9, titled "Process for producing 5-hydroxy-4-thiomethylpyrazole compound", with a Chinese company, which was successfully resolved through a settlement, has been selected by the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) as a "2024 Typical Case²⁾ of Administrative Protection for Intellectual Property Rights". This announcement, initially made by CNIPA on April 26, 2025, coinciding with "World Intellectual Property Day", was publicized on its website on April 27. On this occasion, along with Japan's 50th anniversary of joining the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Kumiai reaffirms its unwavering commitment to respecting and protecting intellectual property rights. Additionally, we express our gratitude for the great efforts of the Chinese authorities in supporting our enforcement actions in China.

组合化学工业株式会社(组合化学)与一家中国企业关于中国专利 ZL200580010635.9 ("5-羟基-4-硫甲基吡唑化合物的制备方法")的侵权纠纷行政裁 决案成功入选中国国家知识产权局 2024 年度知识产权行政保护典型案例。典型案 例由国家知识产权局于 2025 年 4 月 26 日(世界知识产权日)首次发布,并于 4 月 27 日在其网站上公布。在这一重要时刻,并恰逢日本加入世界知识产权组织(WIPO) 50 周年之际,在此,组合化学要重申对知识产权保护的坚定立场以及对中国当局 保护外资企业在华的合法权益表示感谢。

Kumiai regards intellectual property rights as a core asset and has continuously expanded its investments in research and development over the years. As a result, we hold numerous patents and trademarks across various countries and regions. In strict compliance with domestic and international laws and regulations, we endeavor to protect the legitimate rights and interests of both ourselves and others. As part of it, we have built a robust patent portfolio for our flagship herbicide AXEEV® (common name, Pyroxasulfone),

and since 2023, have exercised intellectual property rights against suspected infringers of our patents in Australia and China. In Australia, five lawsuits have been filed, two of which have been resolved through settlements. In China, eight cases have been filed, with one successfully reaching in a settlement. Notably, the patent dispute resolved in China was recognized by CNIPA as a "2024 Typical Case of Administrative Protection for Intellectual Property Rights". CNIPA has decided that the patent which Kumiai enforced against a Chinese company in this case is fully valid despite the invalidation petition filed by the defendant. We consider this proves the high quality of our intellectual property portfolio.

知识产权作为企业核心资产,组合化学始终坚持对研发的持续投入,在全球范围内拥有众多专利和商标,并严格遵守各国及国际相关法律法规,努力维护自身及其他企业的合法权益。近年来,组合化学积极采取法律行动,以保护创新除草剂砜吡草唑的全球专利组合。自2023年以来,公司已在澳大利亚、中国等多个国家针对涉嫌侵犯组合化学专利的企业提起法律诉讼。在澳大利亚,已提起五起诉讼,其中两起通过友好和解得到解决;在中国,已提起八起诉讼(含行政裁决),其中一起已达成和解,其他案件仍在审理中。值得关注的是,在中国国家知识产权局评选为2024年度典型案例的专利纠纷中,尽管被告企业曾提出专利无效宣告请求,最终组合化学的专利仍被中国国家知识产权局维持有效,进一步彰显了公司知识产权组合的高质量。

We firmly believe that "respecting intellectual property rights fosters fair competition and drives technological advancement", "strengthening intellectual property rights management is essential for creation of corporate value and sustainable business growth", and "taking a firm stance against intellectual property rights infringement is vital to ensure the healthy growth of the industry and contribute to the betterment of society". With this conviction, we remain resolute in supporting innovation, and respecting and protecting intellectual property rights. Kumiai takes any infringement of our intellectual property rights seriously and will continue to safeguard our legitimate interests through legal measures without hesitation.

组合化学始终坚信,尊重知识产权是促进公平竞争和技术创新的基石,强化知识产权管理是企业价值创造和可持续发展的关键,坚决打击侵犯知识产权行为是维护行业健康发展及社会公共利益的重要责任。未来,公司将继续支持创新,坚决维护自身合法权益,对任何侵犯知识产权的行为绝不妥协,并积极采取法律措施加以保护。

- 1) https://ir.kumiai-chem.co.jp/en/newsrelease/newsrelease-20241111/main/0/link/1111.en_cn.pdf
- 2) Typical Cases refer to cases selected by the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) through local recommendations and expert reviews. These cases are recognized as highly valuable precedents that have delivered outstanding results.

<Inquiry for this press release> Kumiai Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.

Customer Inquiry Form (https://www.Kumiai-chem.co.jp/english/contact.html)

如有关于本新闻稿的咨询,请联系: 组合化学工业株式会社

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