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**Kumiai secures first-instance victory in patent infringement litigation
against an Anhui company in China**

组合化学诉安徽某公司专利侵权案在中国获得一审胜诉

Kumiai is pleased to announce that the Hefei Intermediate People's Court in Anhui Province, China, recently issued the first-instance judgment in a patent infringement litigation in favor of Kumiai Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. ('Kumiai') against a Chinese pesticide manufacturer and its subsidiary in Anhui (collectively 'Anhui Company'). The Court found the Anhui company to have infringed Kumiai's Chinese patent ZL 201210121587.2 which is titled "*Process for production of 5-alkoxy-4-hydroxymethylpyrazole compound*" (the 'Patent') and therefore granted a permanent injunction to stop the infringement, and also required the company to compensate Kumiai for relevant damages and legal expenses.

组合化学很高兴地宣布，中国安徽省合肥市中级人民法院近日对组合化学工业株式会社（以下简称“组合化学”）诉安徽某农药生产企业及其子公司（以下合称“安徽某公司”）专利侵权一案作出一审判决，判决组合化学胜诉。法院认定安徽某公司侵犯了组合化学的中国专利 ZL 201210121587.2（“5-烷氧基-4-羟基甲基吡唑化合物的制备方法”，以下简称“涉案专利”），并据此要求该公司停止侵权，同时赔偿组合化学相关损失和维权合理开支。

The Patent protects a key intermediate compound named "5-difluoromethoxy-4-hydroxymethyl-1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-pyrazole" (CAS No.946409-52-5) (the 'Patented Compound'), which is used in the manufacturing of Kumiai's core product pyroxasulfone.

涉案专利保护一种关键中间体化合物，化学名称为：5-二氟甲氧基-4-羟甲基-1-甲基-3-三氟甲基吡唑，CAS 号为 946409-52-5（以下简称“专利化合物”），用于制造组合化学的核心产品吡唑草酮。

In its judgment, the Court ordered the Anhui company to:

1. cease manufacturing the Patented Compound;
2. cease using the Patented Compound to manufacture any products containing the active ingredient pyroxasulfone N-1 intermediate* ¹, namely 3-[(5-difluoromethoxy-1-methyl-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-4-yl)methylsulfanyl]-4,5-dihydro-5,5-dimethylisoxazole (CAS No. 656825-92-2);
3. cease using the Patented Compound to manufacture pyroxasulfone products (CAS No. 447399-55-5);
4. cease selling or offering for sale any pyroxasulfone N-1 intermediate or pyroxasulfone products manufactured using the Patented Compound;
5. recall from its customers and distributors, and/or destroy, all pyroxasulfone N-1 intermediate products, semi-finished pyroxasulfone products, and finished pyroxasulfone products, manufactured using the Patented Compound and within its control; delete and destroy all promotional materials related to pyroxasulfone N-1 intermediate and pyroxasulfone products manufactured using the Patented Compound, including any materials in print, electronic, web link, and webpage formats; destroy all equipment and raw materials related to pyroxasulfone N-1 intermediate and pyroxasulfone products manufactured using the Patented Compound; and
6. compensate Kumiai for relevant economic loss and reasonable costs incurred in enforcing its rights.

在判决中，法院要求该安徽公司：

1. 停止制造专利化合物；
2. 停止使用专利化合物制造有效成分包括砒吡草唑 N-1 中间体*²即 3-[(5-二氟甲氧基-1-甲基-3-三氟甲基吡唑-4-基)-甲硫基]-4,5-二氢-5,5-二甲基-1,2-异噁唑 (CAS 号为 656825-92-2)的产品；
3. 停止使用专利化合物制造砒吡草唑产品 (CAS 号为 447399-55-5)；
4. 停止销售及许诺销售使用专利化合物制造的砒吡草唑 N-1 中间体产品及砒吡草唑产品；

*¹ N-1 intermediate is the precursor of pyroxasulfone.

*² N-1 中间体是砒吡草唑的前驱体。

5. 从客户和经销商处召回和/或销毁其控制范围内使用专利化合物制造的**砒草唑 N-1** 中间体产品及**砒草唑**成品和半成品，删除和销毁与使用专利化合物制造的**砒草唑 N-1** 中间体产品及**砒草唑**产品有关的宣传材料，不限于纸质、电子形式、网络链接、网页形式，销毁使用专利化合物制造**砒草唑 N-1** 中间体产品及**砒草唑**产品的设备和原材料；
6. 赔偿组合化学相关经济损失和维权合理开支。

Kumiai highly commends and sincerely appreciates the ruling by the Hefei Intermediate People's Court, which demonstrates the Court's steadfast commitment to the principles of equal protection under law for both domestic and foreign entities and the protection of intellectual property rights.

组合化学对合肥市中级人民法院的判决表示高度赞赏和由衷感谢，这体现了该法院坚持依法平等保护中外主体合法权益和保护知识产权的原则立场。

Notably, the Patent has survived multiple invalidation challenges filed by different parties, including the Chinese pesticide manufacturer in Anhui in this case, and has been maintained fully valid by the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) in decisions issued to date, further demonstrating the strong stability of Kumiai's intellectual property portfolio.

特别地，涉案专利历经包括该安徽某农药生产企业在内的不同主体提出的多次无效宣告请求，但在既有裁定中都被中国国家知识产权局维持全部有效，进一步彰显了组合化学知识产权组合的高度稳定性。

Kumiai is one of the world's leading agrochemical companies with over 70 years of experience in manufacturing herbicide products, and its pyroxasulfone herbicide products have long been trusted by farmers worldwide. Kumiai holds a global patent portfolio, including but not limited to Chinese patents related to intermediate compounds and manufacturing processes of pyroxasulfone herbicide.

组合化学是全球领先的农用化学品公司之一，拥有超过 70 年的除草剂产品制造经验，其**砒草唑**除草剂产品长期以来一直深受全球农民的信赖。公司拥有全球专利组合，包括但不限于与**砒草唑**除草剂中间体化合物和制造方法相关的中国专利。

Kumiai firmly believes 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. Moving forward, Kumiai will continue to champion innovation and resolutely defend its legitimate rights and interests. Kumiai maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward any infringement of its intellectual property rights and will actively pursue all available legal remedies to protect its assets.

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。

<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

客户咨询链接 (<https://www.kumiai-chem.co.jp/english/contact.html>)