

NEWS RELEASE**COMPLETION OF FUND RAISING THROUGH THIRD-PARTY ALLOTMENT OF SHARES**

May 22, 2023

EditForce, Inc. (Head Office: Fukuoka; President and CEO: Takashi Ono) announces that we have raised a total of 300 million yen through a third-party allotment of new shares to FFG Venture No. 3 Investment Limited Partnership, SMBC Venture Capital No. 7 Investment Limited Partnership, and Fukuoka Jisho Co., Ltd.

As a result of this round of financing, we have completed ¥2.1 billion in funding together with the previous fund-raising in March of this year.

Takashi Ono, President and CEO, commented, "The fact that we have received support again since the year of 2021 from the venture capital of Fukuoka Financial Group, Inc., and that Fukuoka Jisho Co., Ltd. and the venture capital of the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Group, which is a major financial group, have chosen us as an investment destination shows high evaluation for the innovativeness and future potential of our proprietary RNA editing technologies. We would like to firmly meet such expectation."

We will use the funds raised through this recent third-party allocation to promote our existing pipeline and expand our R&D activities to improve our basic technologies and build new pipelines, striving to deliver our technology-based pharmaceuticals to patients suffering from genetic diseases as soon as possible.

**About EditForce:**

EditForce, Inc., a Kyushu University-originated start-up developing a unique DNA/RNA editing technology (PPR platform technology*), was established in May 2015 by KISCO Co., Ltd. and Prof. Takahiro Nakamura of Kyushu University (former president of EditForce and currently its scientific advisor) and funded by companies and funds that have track records of investing in life sciences and biotechnology. EditForce aims for drug discovery that applies the PPR technology through joint research with universities and private companies.

For more information, please visit <https://www.editforce.co.jp/>

***Pentatricopeptide repeat (PPR) protein platform technology**

PPR is a protein discovered in plants that regulates gene expression by binding to DNA and RNA in a sequence-specific manner. The PPR proteins are also found in humans and yeasts, and they have similar functions. Professor Takahiro Nakamura and Dr. Yusuke Yagi, CTO of EditForce, have focused on the PPR proteins and elucidated the mechanism that determines sequence specificity, and established a technology for creating various PPR proteins, each of which binds to a specific target DNA or RNA sequence. Furthermore, it is possible to manipulate and modify the target genome and RNA both inside and outside the cell by fusion with effector proteins.

About FFG Venture No. 3 Limited Partnership:

FFG Venture 3 Investment Limited Partnership is a venture capital fund managed by FFG Venture Capital Business Partners Co., Ltd. FFG Venture Capital Business Partners Co., Ltd., as a venture capital under the umbrella of Fukuoka Financial Group, supports startups that contribute to the revitalization of regional economies and the creation of new industries. We invest not only in Kyushu, but also in domestic and overseas cutting-edge startups. At the same time, our purpose is to contribute to the business growth of local companies by bridging startups to the Kyushu economy.

For more information, please visit <http://www.ffg-venture.co.jp/>

About SMBC Venture Capital No. 7 Limited Partnership:

SMBC Venture Capital No. 7 Investment Limited Partnership is a venture capital fund managed by SMBC Venture Capital Co., Ltd. SMBC Venture Capital Co., Ltd. is a long-established domestic VC that has been investing in start-up companies for more than 20 years, and it conducts investments from a long-term perspective. We have contact points with a variety of companies that support venture companies, such as auditing firms, securities companies, and other investors, and we will provide support using these networks. As a member of the Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, a comprehensive financial group, we provide seamless support in line with the growth stage through the Group's global network and comprehensive strengths.



For more information, please visit <https://www.smbc-vc.co.jp/>

About Fukuoka Jisho Co., Ltd.:

As a community-rooted developer, Fukuoka Jisho Co., Ltd. has engaged in the planning and development of office buildings, retail facilities, condominiums, hotels, and logistics facilities with the idea of "making Fukuoka more interesting."

In order to enhance the attractiveness of towns, Fukuoka Jisho believes that we need not only to attract companies and human resources from both domestic and overseas, but also to support start-up companies and make them from local companies to global ones, and it has participated in the operation of Fukuoka Growth Next, a public-private, collaborative startup support facility, since 2017. It also invests in FGN ABBALab Fund, a venture-capital firm based in Fukuoka Growth Next, and start-ups originating from Kyushu University.

For more information, please visit <https://fukuokajisho.com/>.