

Corporate Profile

Seikagaku Corporation was founded in 1947 as a pioneer in the field of complex carbohydrates. A dynamic commitment to research and development has formed the core of its business activities for more than half a century in this field.

In 1950, Seikagaku became the first company in the world to manufacture the complex carbohydrate chondroitin sulfate on an industrial scale for use in pharmaceutical production. Since then it has developed numerous pharmaceutical ingredients, reagents and diagnostics. In 1987, the Company established a name for itself as a pharmaceutical manufacturer by launching two important new products. ARTZ[®], which was the world's first sodium hyaluronate formulation for osteoarthritis in knee and shoulder joints, and OPEGAN[®], Japan's first sodium hyaluronate formulation for use as a surgical aid in ophthalmologic surgery.

Seikagaku has gained international recognition for its active support of Japanese and overseas researchers and organizations involved in glycoscience. In 1992, its founder and honorary chairman, Masakane Mizutani, established the privately funded Mizutani Foundation for Glycoscience, to promote basic glycoscience research throughout the world.

Today Seikagaku's main areas of involvement are ethical pharmaceuticals and medical devices, especially products based on glycoconjugates, research biologicals and diagnostics for use in glycoscience research and medical treatment, and pharmaceutical bulk, which was the original foundation of the Company's reputation. Its flagship product, ARTZ[®], is used in 19 countries, including the United States and leading European and Asian countries, under local trade names.

The bioscience field continues to make dramatic progress. There has been a steady increase in our knowledge and understanding about the role of complex carbohydrates in the processes of life. Seikagaku Corporation remains firmly committed to its founding mission to contribute to the advancement of glycoscience and genuine improvement in human health through the creation of innovative products based on complex carbohydrates and related fields.

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