SANTEN AND SINGAPORE EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SERI) ANNOUNCE A COLLABORATION TO DEVELOP NEW OPHTHALMIC THERAPEUTICS

November 12, 2014, Singapore and Osaka, Japan — Santen Pharmaceutical (Osaka, Japan hereinafter “Santen”) and the Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) announced today they have launched a strategic, multi-year collaboration designed to develop new therapeutics in ophthalmology by bringing together the two parties’ capabilities in ophthalmic R&D, with a special focus on diseases prevalent in Asia.

Several key programmes were established in which substantial synergy can be found between Santen’s asset portfolio and longstanding drug development program, and SERI’s novel technologies and proven translational research capabilities. R&D activities will span a variety of domains within ophthalmology and involve high level researchers from both sides, with the goal of establishing a robust pipeline of therapeutics which Santen will be able to bring to market and to benefit patients.

“We are pleased to have established a robust and long-term partnership with SERI for comprehensive research programs in multiple disease areas to meet our business objectives” said Naveed Shams, Senior Corporate Officer, Chief Scientific Officer and Head of R&D Division of Santen. “To achieve our R&D strategic goals, we need to perform multi-disciplinary and cross-functional research such as translational research and disease-targeted drug discovery. Our partnership will be a key driver to strengthen our R&D capabilities and thereby our future pipelines. By leveraging this robust partnership, Santen will be continuously seeking innovative therapeutic opportunities and technology platforms that visualize and fulfil future unmet medical needs in the ophthalmology space.”

“This is an exciting strategic collaboration we’re embarking on with our partners from Santen, which we are thrilled to be part of” Said Prof. Tin Aung, Executive Director of SERI. “The marriage of Santen’s experience in drug development and commercialization with SERI’s diverse translational research capabilities promises to bring forth a number of new therapeutics and delivery systems to benefit patients around the world. At SERI we will be leveraging on several of our leading research domains and platforms and harnessing novel technologies developed in Singapore to work with Santen to enhance further the company’s offering in ophthalmology. We are all looking forward to this developing a strong partnership, with the aim of developing new and better treatments for ophthalmic diseases.”

ABOUT THE SINGAPORE EYE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SERI)

Established in 1997, SERI is Singapore’s national research institute for ophthalmic and vision research. SERI’s mission is to conduct high impact eye research with the aim to prevent blindness, low vision and major eye diseases common to Singaporeans and Asians. SERI has grown from a
founding team of five in 1997 to a faculty of 200, encompassing clinician scientists, scientists, research fellows, PhD students and support staff. This makes SERI one of the largest research institutes in Singapore and the largest eye research institute in Asia-Pacific. In addition, SERI has over 219 adjunct faculties from various eye departments, biomedical institutes and tertiary centres in Singapore. SERI has amassed an impressive array of publications totalling 1,879 scientific papers as of December 2013, and has secured 181 external peer-reviewed competitive grants worth $169 million. To date, as of December 2013, SERI’s faculty has been awarded 285 national and international prizes and filed 77 patents. Serving as the research institute of the Singapore National Eye Centre, and directly affiliated to the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, as well the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, SERI undertakes vision research in collaboration with local clinical ophthalmic centres and biomedical research institutions, as well as major eye centres and research institutes throughout the world.

For more information about SERI, visit http://www.seri.com.sg.

ABOUT SANTEN PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD

Founded in 1890, Santen is a global company headquartered in Osaka, Japan. Santen researches, develops and markets ophthalmic products for physicians worldwide. Among prescription ophthalmic pharmaceuticals, Santen holds the top share within the Japanese market and is one of the leading ophthalmic companies worldwide.

Please be notified that the collaboration mentioned above does not include financial capital collaboration between the two parties. Please also be notified that Santen does not expect to make any revision in its financial forecast which was announced earlier this year in August in relation to this collaboration arrangement.

For more information, please visit http://www.santen.com.

Santen Forward-looking Statements

Information provided in this press release contains so-called “Forward-looking Statements”. The realizations of these forecasts are subject to risk and uncertainty from various sources. Therefore, please note that the actual results may differ significantly from the forecasts. Business performance and financial condition are subject to the effects of change in regulations made by the governments of Japan and other nations concerning medical insurance, drug pricing and other systems, and to fluctuations in market variables such as interest rates and foreign exchange rates.

Santen contact
Takashi Hibi
E-mail: ir@santen.co.jp
Tel: +81-64802-9360

SERI media contact
Ravi Chandran
Email: ravi.chandran@snec.com.sg
Tel: +65-81218569