

## **Press Release**

November, 16, 2005

**PharmaDesign, Inc. (PDI) receives an Industrial Technology Research and Development Projects grant from New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization for development of long peptide libraries aimed at discovery of novel drug targets.**

PharmaDesign, Inc. (PDI) announced today that they have received an Industrial Technology Research and Development Projects grant from New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization for development of long peptide libraries aimed at discovery of novel drug target proteins.

Since its release in last year, PharmaGPEP, PDI's peptide library of novel peptide ligand candidates designed based on human genome information and bioinformatics has been receiving very positive feedbacks from many pharmaceutical companies. The goal of this project is to develop their proprietary technologies in bioinformatics even further, and produce new libraries of longer peptides with physiological activities.

### **Project summary**

PDI will develop libraries of novel long peptide and protein ligand candidates as a research tool for novel drug target discovery, aiming at pharmaceutical companies and research institutes. They will develop a bioinformatic program to predict novel ligand candidates based on profiles of known long peptide/protein ligands, and perform genome-wide search of novel ligands. They will also have the libraries synthesized and evaluate the results.

**PharmaDesign, Inc.** (PDI), <http://www.pharmadesign.co.jp> is a Tokyo-based genome drug discovery company established in 1999, and the first venture company of its kind in Japan. PDI offers a range of proprietary *in silico* technologies in drug discovery

based on bioinformatics and computational chemistry. G-protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs), which is a group of proteins most successful as drug targets, have been a major focus in their research. They provide synthesized peptide libraries to identify novel ligands of orphan GPCRs (GPCRs whose ligands are still unknown), and structure-based focused chemical libraries for specific GPCRs.

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