

November 15, 2012

Interprotein Corporation

**Adoption of small molecule IL-6 inhibitor program of Interprotein
as a subject for A-STEP**

Interprotein Corporation (President, Masato HOSODA; Headquarters: Osaka, Japan; hereinafter “Interprotein”) announced today that Interprotein’s small molecule IL-6 inhibitor program was adopted as a subject (support type: Full-scale R&D Stage, High-risk Challenge) in the first approval of 2012 for A-STEP (Adaptable & Seamless Technology Transfer Program through Target-driven R&D) by Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

The subjects that were adopted in the first approval of 2012 for A-STEP were listed in:

<http://www.jst.go.jp/a-step/kadai/h24-1honkaku.html> (in Japanese) or
<http://www.jst.go.jp/pr/info/info907/index.html> (in Japanese)

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