

July 9, 2018

**Kirin and Mitsui to Jointly Invest in Thorne Research in the U.S.**

Kirin Holdings Company, Limited ("Kirin", Head Office: Tokyo, President and CEO: Yoshinori Isozaki) and Mitsui & Co., Ltd. ("Mitsui", Head Office: Tokyo, President and CEO: Tatsuo Yasunaga) will subscribe to approximately 80% (approximately 40% for each company) of the shares of the holding company of Thorne Research Inc. ("Thorne", Head Office: New York, New York and Charleston, South Carolina, USA) through a third-party allotment of newly issued shares.\*

\*Closing is scheduled for around October 2018.

Thorne has a strong business base as a developer, manufacturer and supplier of high-quality supplements backed by extensive scientific evidence. It sells its products primarily through medical professionals, and has formed a collaboration with the Mayo Clinic in the U.S., one of the world's leading general hospitals with regard to supplement use and research. In recent years, Thorne has been developing a system for providing solutions in the area of personalized nutrition, which provides nutrition tailored for individuals, through testing services using home test kits.

The Kirin Group, in its "New Kirin Group Vision 2021", states that it aims to "Co-achieve sustainable growth with our societies by realizing value creation, addressing social issues and understanding consumer expectations via the core businesses\* of the Kirin group."

\* alcoholic beverages, non-alcoholic beverages, pharmaceuticals and bio-chemicals

Mitsui, in its Medium-term Management Plan, has identified Nutrition & Agriculture as a new growth area, and in the growing human nutrition field, it is developing a business model which helps consumers obtain health insight and live a healthier life through providing a personalized solution backed by scientific evidences.

Kirin and Mitsui, through this joint investment, will strengthen their initiatives in the field of health, such as preventive and daily health management, which are becoming increasingly important societal issues also in the U.S. and Japan.

After the joint investment, Kirin and Mitsui will leverage the Kirin Group's functional foods and the synergy with Mitsui's wide-ranging business assets to enhance the corporate value of Thorne's U.S. business, and further expand Thorne's business into other markets, such as Japan, through joint cooperation.

**Attached documents : Profile of Thorne**

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Profile of Thorne

Name of Company	Thorne Research Inc.
Head Office	New York, New York and Charleston, South Carolina, U.S.A.
Establishment	1984
Representative	Paul Jacobson, Chief Executive Officer
Employees	298 (as of December 2017)
Business Activities	Development, manufacture, and sale of high-performance supplements, provision of home testing services
Sales	Approximately ¥10 billion
URL	<a href="https://www.thorne.com/">https://www.thorne.com/</a>

■ High-quality supplements and Home test kits



■ Thorne's Plant

