



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JT Signs Exclusive License Agreement with ROHTO Pharmaceutical
for the Development and Commercialization of JAK Inhibitor in Japan**

Japan Tobacco Inc. (JT) (TSE:2914) announced today that the company has signed an exclusive license agreement with ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (ROHTO Pharmaceutical) for the development and commercialization in Japan of JT's original compound, JTE-052, for the treatment of the specific disease(es) in ophthalmology.

JTE-052 inhibits Janus kinase (JAK), which plays an important role in immunologically activating signal transduction. JTE-052 works by controlling excessive activation of immunoreaction and relieves autoimmune and allergic disease symptoms.

Under the terms of the agreement, ROHTO Pharmaceutical will develop and commercialize JTE-052 for the treatment of the specific disease(es) in ophthalmology in Japan. ROHTO Pharmaceutical will start its development from non-clinical stage.

The conclusion of the agreement is not expected to have a significant impact on the consolidated business performance of JT in the fiscal year ending December 2018.

About ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., established in 1949, is manufacturing and marketing of pharmaceutical products, cosmetics and functional foods. The company is headquartered in Osaka, Japan, and is listed on Tokyo stock exchange.

For more information, visit <http://www.rohto.co.jp/>.

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Japan Tobacco Inc. is a leading international tobacco company with operations in more than 130 countries. With close to 60,000 employees, it manufactures and sells some of the world's best-known brands including Winston, Camel, MEVIUS, LD and Natural American Spirit. The JT Group is committed to investing in Reduced-Risk Products (RRP) and currently markets Ploom TECH, its tobacco vapor product, and various e-cigarette products under the Logic brand. The Group is also present in the pharmaceutical and processed food businesses. For more information, visit <https://www.jt.com/>.

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