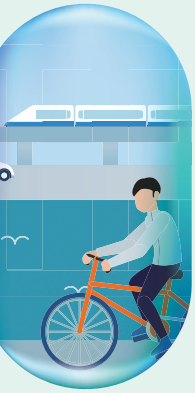
New Value *Creation*

EP-Link CORPORATE PROFILE

EPS EP-Link Co., Ltd.

25th anniversary
since 1999



New Value *Creation*

EP-Link continues to create new values and never stops its progress, valuing “link” that connects the past to the present and into future.

In 1999, at the dawn of the SMO industry, we founded our company as EP-Link. This year, marking the 25th anniversary of our company's founding, in order to go back to the starting point of the company, we have decided to change the company name back again from EP-SOGO to EP-Link Co., Ltd.

The meaning that we have put into the word "Link" again is "bond, circle, and ring". This is our desire to connect and bring together all stakeholders involved in clinical trials, including patients, medical institutions and pharmaceutical companies.

Based on our belief in "bringing new drugs as soon as possible to patients who are waiting for them", which has been unchanged since our founding, EP-Link will continue to develop and seek solutions as a solution provider in the health industry, while also "linking” with other companies in the EPS Group.We sincerely appreciate your continued support.

April 2024

Representative Director
Kenichi Yamamoto

[S M O]

EP-Link leverages its overwhelming experience and track record to support the implementation of high-quality clinical trials

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[Digital Transformation & Solutions]

EP-Link provides convenient systems and schemes to revolutionize clinical trial operations

EP-Link makes a valuable contribution to the future of drug discovery through the trust it has cultivated and new technologies.

Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC)

- Communication and coordination with relevant functions within the hospital
- Preparation and documentation before the start of clinical trials
- Subject support and adverse event handling
- Communication with clinical researchassociates (CRAs) and audit support
- Case report preparation

Site Data Manager (SDM)

- Data-related tasks (preparation and review of source documents, data entry, responding to queries, etc.)

Site Management Associate (SMA, clinical trial secretariat)

- Document management and audit support
- IRB/Central IRB operation support
- Clinical trial implementation system, procedure manual preparation, and procedural materials preparation
- Support for the operation of the affiliated Certified Regenerative Medicine Committee (Type 3), preparation for meetings, and preparation of minutes
- Regenerative medicine-related (Type 3) consulting services

Rater Service

- Administration of rating scales for CNS (dispatch of assessments psychologists)
- Rater trainings

Study Introduction & Feasibility

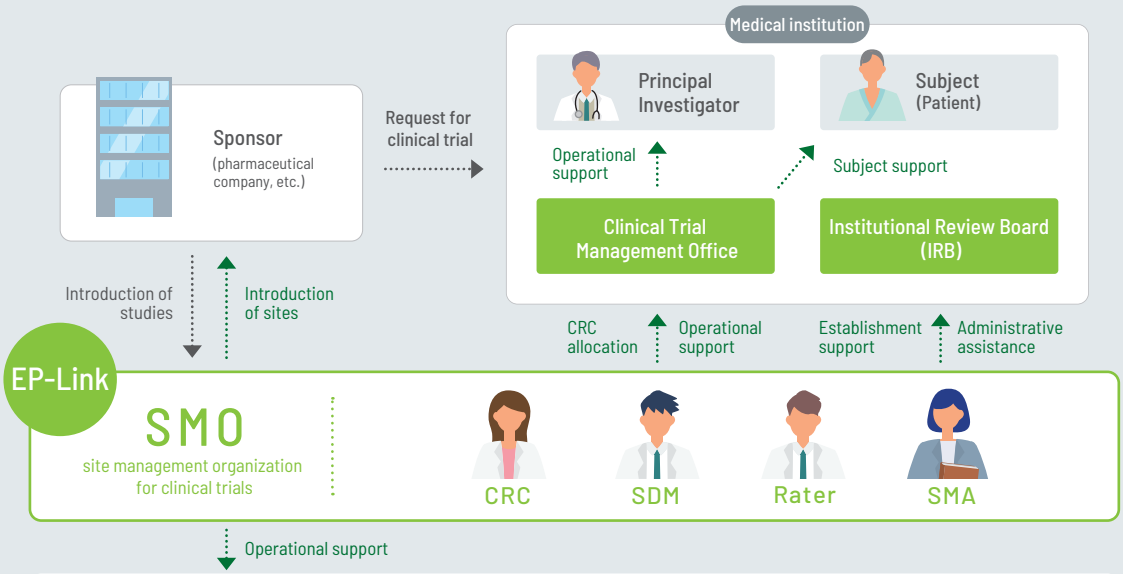
- Introduction of new studies
- Clinical trial feasibility studies
- Establishment of a clinical trial implementation system

Services & Solutions

- Remote SDV System "SYNOV-R "
- Cloud system for clinical trial documents "DDTS"
- Patient referral scheme "Patient LINK"
- Decentralized clinical trials "DCT"
- Creation of clinical trial materials "CCTM"
- Clinical trial education system "CTES"
- Patient & public involvement "PPI"

Full support for clinical trial sites aiming for high quality and efficient clinical trials

Since its founding, EP-Link has expanded its Site Management Organization (SMO) business, supporting the implementation of clinical trials at medical institutions. EP-Link acts as a bridge between pharmaceutical companies that sponsor clinical trials and medical institutions, and provides optimal solutions that meet customer needs. EP-Link contributes to reducing the burden and improving quality and speed in the clinical trial environment, providing strong support to people involved in clinical trials.



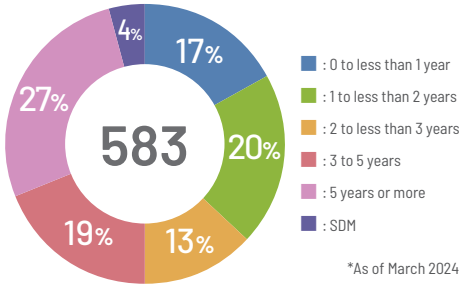
Central IRB (IRB of a specific medical institution that collectively performs reviews entrusted to it by multiple medical institutions)

Supporting the administrative work of the central IRB established at our partner medical institutions.In addition to IRB reviews for drug and medical device trials, regenerative therapy reviews are also available.

EP-Link's strength in the oncology

EP-Link has many CRCs who are able to work in oncology studies, which require extensive expertise.EP-Link has a long history of supporting cancer centers and cancer treatment coordinating hospitals throughout Japan.

Number of CRCs with experience in oncology trials as the main CRC



*As of March 2024

Partner medical institutions

A leading SMO company

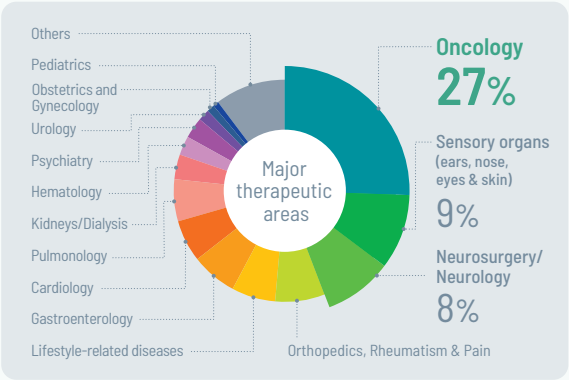
EP-Link's Strengths

Point.

Number of Protocols

Over 6,000

*Number of protocols entrusted between October 2011 and September 2023

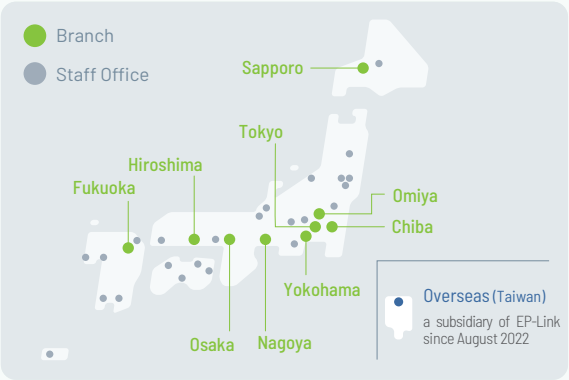


EP-Link has overwhelming strengths in oncology, one of the most difficult therapeutic area, and supports major medical institutions and academia throughout Japan. EP-Link has accumulated experience and know-how in many therapeutic areas, including rare diseases, dermatology, orthopedics, and lifestyle-related diseases.

Point.

Number of partner medical institutions

Approximately 7,000

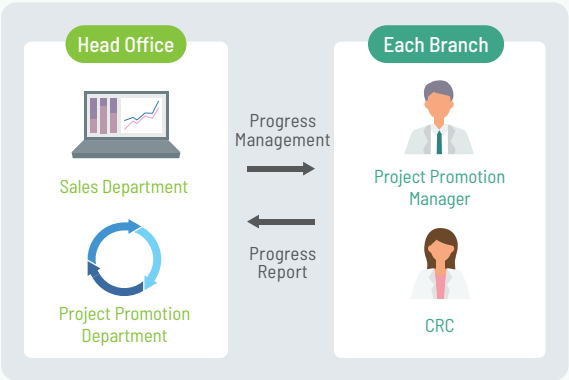


EP-Link has branches and staff offices in 33 locations across Japan and has the largest number of partner medical institutions in the industry. Its partner medical institutions include clinical research core hospitals and university hospitals. This allows EP-Link to provide optimal matching to meet the various needs for clinical trials.

Point.

Progress Management System

Strategic Enrollment & Progress

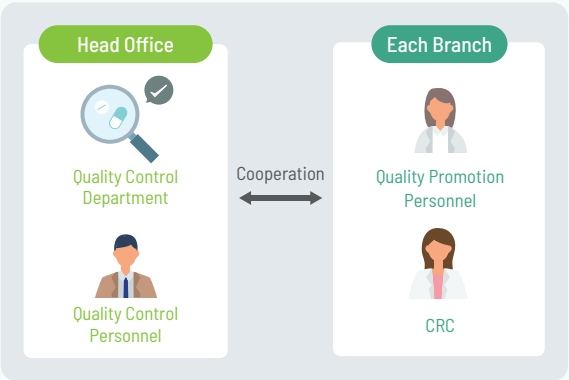


Each branch has dedicated staff to manage and promote enrollment and progress. They work closely with the relevant departments at head office and have a thorough project management system in place that covers everything from preliminary preparations through the enrollment period, post-start, and study close-out.

Point.

Quality Management System

Cross-functional Management



The quality control department at the head office and the quality promotion personnel at each branch work closely. EP-Link strives to improve and standardize the quality of its operations through the promotion of risk-based process management, rapid response to accidents, and regular training.

Highly specialized and skilled personnel support clinical studies in every aspect

Human Resources

Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC)

EP-Link has numerous experienced CRCs to support clinical trials, ensuring smooth and safe clinical trials

CRCs support the progress of clinical trials under the direction of the principal investigator. EP-Link has a large number of CRCs who can play an active role in therapeutic areas, including those requiring a high level of expertise, such as oncology and cardiology, and can handle all types of clinical trials. In terms of human resource development, EP-Link also place emphasis on communication skills. EP-Link trains CRCs to empathize with patients and support the smooth and safe conduct of clinical trials from multiple perspectives.

EP-Link has more than 1,200 CRCs throughout Japan

CRCs are located in 9 branches and 24 staff offices throughout Japan. EP-Link is able to handle clinical trials in a wide range of therapeutic areas in various regions.

Development of professional CRCs

EP-Link has established a unique educational system that fosters a wide range of knowledge, including specialized medical and pharmaceutical knowledge.

Focus on development of CRCs specialized in oncology

Regular in-house training by oncology specialists is held to develop professional CRCs.

English translation support team for global clinical trials

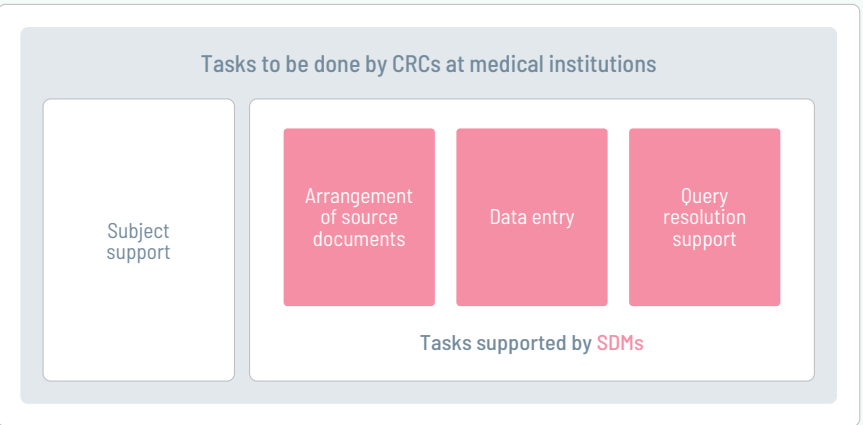
EP-Link has an in-house English translation support team and also hold English training for CRCs, enabling strong operations of global studies.

Human Resources

Site Data Manager (SDM)

Working closely with CRCs to contribute to streamlining clinical trial operations and improving data quality

SDMs are specialists who have experience as a Clinical Research Associate (CRA) and are responsible for data-related tasks in collaboration with CRCs. SDMs reduce the burden and increase the efficiency of clinical trial sites, and improve the quality of contracted trials.



Human Resources

Site Management Associate (SMA, clinical trial secretariat staff)

Total support for creating the environment necessary for clinical trials

SMAs provide comprehensive support for creating the environment necessary for clinical trials, including assistance with setting up a clinical trial office. EP-Link's SMAs have an average of over 5 years of work experience. 70% hold professional qualifications related to SMA. Utilizing that experience and knowledge, EP-Link provides flexible support, from full-scale support to pinpointing specific needs.

Establishment of a clinical trial implementation system	-Support for setting up and running clinical trial secretariat and Institutional Review Board (IRB) -Support for creating SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) for medical institutions and IRBs -Educating site staff and IRB committee members
Before the start of the clinical trial	-Support for sponsor's site qualification -Support for preparation of CVs for the principal investigator and clinical subinvestigators, as well as a list of study collaborator -Support for Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission -Support for clinical trial contract procedures
Clinical trial start to end	-Support for preparation of various documents such as clinical trial status reports and the end of clinical trial report -Handling inquiries from the sponsor to the clinical trial office -Support for Institutional Review Board (IRB)'s subsequent review submission -Support for requests to change the clinical trial contract

Human Resources

Assessment Psychologists

EP-Link provides assessment psychologists to medical institutions for clinical studies and trials

Neuropsychological assessment using rating scales is essential in clinical studies and trials in the fields of psychiatry and central nervous system. EP-Link has a large number of assessment psychologists with advanced expertise and skills. They are also well versed in operations and industry knowledge related to clinical trials, and contributes to solving issues related to the efficiency, speed, cost, and data quality of industry-sponsored clinical trials.

Standardized administration of rating scales

To minimize inter-rater variability, EP-Link regularly provide rater training.

Unbiased evaluation of efficacy

EP-Link's assessment psychologists visit medical institutions on the contracted dates and only administer the rating scale of the clinical trial. The rating scales are administered under unbiased conditions.

Reducing the workload of site's medical professionals, including doctors

With EP-Link's support, rating scores are administered without taking up the time of site staff.

Full support system

EP-Link has a comprehensive support system, including follow-up on obtaining rater certification and handling inquiries after the start of the study.

EP-Link is the only company in the industry with a CRC team of over 1,000 people.
In addition to CRCs, EP-Link also has many other experts working on clinical trials.

CRCs
1,237

SDMs
22

SMAs
135

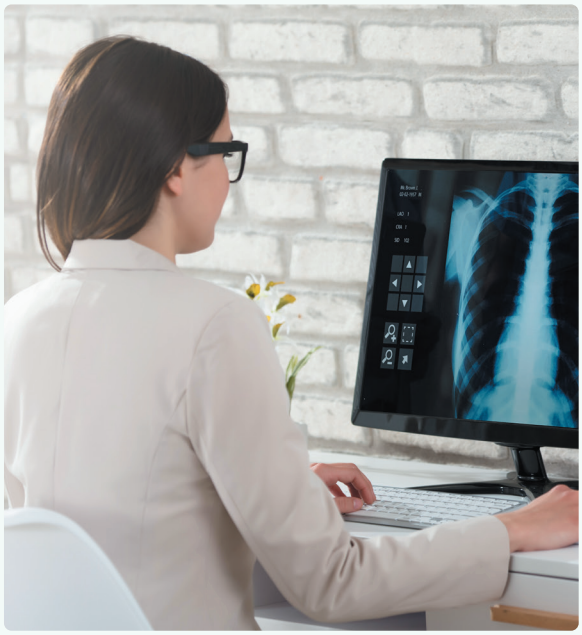
Assessment Psychologists
300

*As of September 2023

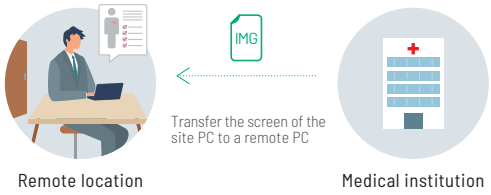
Reduce the burden of increasingly complicated clinical trial work with EP-Link's unique solutions

System Remote SDV system "SYNOV-R"

A next-generation system that enables safe access to source documents such as electronic medical records from remote locations



SYNOV-R is a remote SDV system that uses unique network technology to enable secure access to source documents such as electronic medical records from remote locations. In addition to this *STRONG SECURITY*, it also enables users to *CONTROL & MANAGE VIEWING*.



ものづくり日本大賞
優秀賞

Winner of the Excellence Award at the 9th Monodzukuri Nippon Grand Awards hosted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

EP-Link's staff was awarded for improving the efficiency of pharmaceutical clinical trial processes.

System Clinical Trial Document Cloud System "DDworks NX/Trial Site (DDTS)"

A cloud-based system for electronic management of clinical trial documents that improves operational efficiency and quality

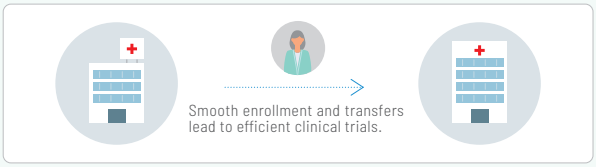
DDTS is a solution that digitizes various clinical trial documents and enables their exchange and management on the cloud. By using electronic data as the original, it contributes to business efficiency and paperless operations. Furthermore, computerizing clinical trial process management helps reduce costs and improve security.

EP-Link offers a variety of clinical trial schemes and services to meet the needs of today's clinical trial environment.

NEW Scheme Patient referral scheme "Patient LINK"

EP-Link's patient referral service solves challenges in enrollment

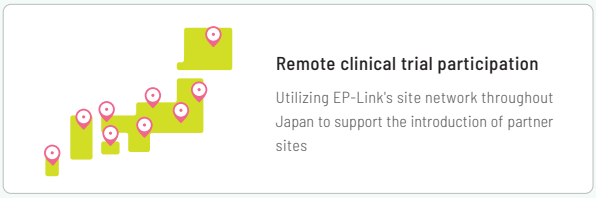
Patient LINK is a service where EP-Link intermediates in referring patients who are subjects of clinical trial medical institutions (trial sites) from EP-Link's other partner medical institutions (partner sites). It helps to resolve the issue of subject recruitment and contribute to shortening the clinical trial period.



Scheme Decentralized clinical trial "DCT"

EP-Link supports clinical trials that are not dependent on visits to clinical sites

By promoting the concept of patient-centricity and utilizing digital technology, EP-Link provides opportunities for patients who have previously found it difficult to participate in clinical trials due to geographical factors, etc.



NEW Service Creation of clinical trial materials "CCTM"

EP-Link's experienced team of experts prepares a batch of clinical trial materials

Staff with CRC experience use their expertise to create case files, worksheets, and other clinical trial materials. In addition to improving work efficiency, it also improves issues such as cost and quality.

NEW Service Clinical trial education system "CTES"

EP-Link provides training that condenses practical know-how in clinical trial work to meet the needs of medical institutions and sponsors.

EP-Link provides medical institutions and clinical trial sponsors with the various knowledge it has accumulated over many years that is necessary for carrying out clinical trial operations.

NEW Service Patient and public involvement "PPI"

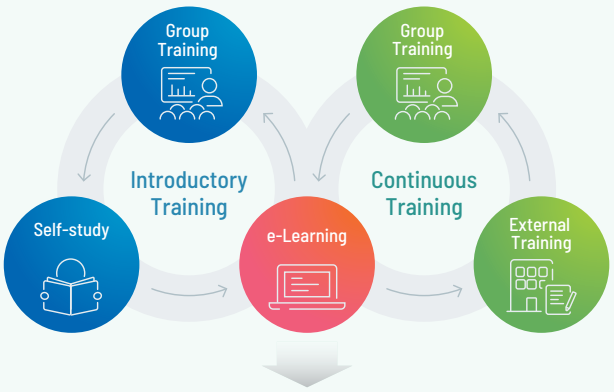
EP-Link supports drug development with the voices of patients

EP-Link utilizes our network of approximately 7,000 partner medical institutions to collect information on the needs of patients, their families, and medical institutions. EP-Link delivers them to pharmaceutical companies and contribute to the development of high-value pharmaceuticals.

The entire company is focused on improving service quality and developing professional human resources

Human Resource Development

A site management organization (SMO) needs a wide range of specialized knowledge, including medical, pharmacological, and GCP-related legal knowledge. In addition, a variety of qualities are required to act as a "bridge" between pharmaceutical companies and medical institutions, such as coordination and negotiation skills, communication skills, and a strong sense of ethics. To develop employees with this wide range of knowledge and skills, EP-Link have established a unique educational system that focuses on continuity and practicality, fostering human resources with a wealth of expertise.



EP-Link is working to improve the skills of each employee as a business person

Human Resource Development System

		Joining / Training Period	Growth Period / Establishing Career Path	Management Period / High Performance Period
General Education	By Position	New Employee Training →		New Manager Training →
		Follow-Up Training →		Secondary Manager Development Training (Selective Type) →
			Promotion Training →	
	By Purpose	Compliance / Information Security / Harassment Prevention / Safe Driving / English →		
			Training Of On-The-Job Trainers →	Evaluator Training →
Specialized Education	By Job Type		Training & Study Sessions for Each Department →	
	CRC SMA BD	CRC/SMA Introduction Training →	Obtaining Certification (JASMO, etc.) →	
		On-The-Job Training (Practical Training) →	Oncology CRC Specialized Training (Basic/Continuous Training) →	
		Disease-Specific Training / Quality Control / GCP / SOP / Infection Prevention →		
		Participation In Various Academic Conferences →		
Others		Elective, Voluntary Training →		
		e-Learning →		

ISMS Certification

EP-Link has been certified with JIS Q 27001:2014 (ISO/IEC 27001:2013), the applicable standard for information security management systems (ISMS).

RB-IS15008

MS CM044

Registered departments: Business Planning Promotion Department, Corporate Planning Office, Sales Planning Department, COSMO Management Office and Quality Control Department
Scope of registration: clinical trial site management services

People-oriented Work Environment

EP-Link provides an environment where all employees can work positively, including promoting the active participation of female employees and supporting employees raising children, and have been certified by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare.

EPS Group's organically linked businesses contribute to the further development of the healthcare industry

EPS Holdings Inc.

EPNextS Inc.

Contract Research Organization (CRO)

EPS Group's CRO Segment provides one-stop service covering everything from clinical trial planning to operation, regulatory applications, and post-marketing surveillance, quickly and efficiently supporting the development of pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

EPS Corporation
EP Mediate Co., Ltd.
EP Yamanashi Co., Ltd., etc.

Site Management Organization (SMO)

Utilizing the advanced expertise and extensive operational track record, cultivated at medical institutions across the country, EPS Group's SMO Segment provides strong support for the proper and smooth implementation of clinical trials and studies in a wide range of fields.

EP-Link Co., Ltd.
Total Trial Management Consulting Co., Ltd. (Taiwan)

Contract Sales Organization (CSO)

With a focus on five areas - DI, BPO, MCP, MDS, and HC - EPS Group's CSO Segment leverages its extensive experience and refined knowledge to provide strong support to the pharmaceutical, medical, medical device, and healthcare industries.

EP-Pharmaline Co., Ltd.

Healthcare Business Development Partner

In addition to its apparel business in Hong Kong, this segment is also engaged in a drug discovery business that aims to commercialize drug candidates discovered through joint development with universities and companies or in-house research into pharmaceuticals, etc.; a one-stop business consulting and CRO business that mainly targets biotech companies from founding to commercialization; and a trading business that supports research materials and Japanese food manufacturers in entering the Chinese market. The company is also engaged in pharmaceutical and other businesses between Japan, China, and Asia.

EPS Creative Health Technology Group Ltd., etc.

China Business

EPS Group's China Business has a broad portfolio including research & development, manufacturing, and marketing of pharmaceuticals and medical devices in China. Together with partners in Japan and China, it aims to become a specialized trading company in the healthcare industry that connects Japan, China, and Southeast Asia.

EPS EKISHIN Co., Ltd., etc.

Others

EP PRO Career Co., Ltd.
EPBiz Co., Ltd.
EPS Digital-Share Co., Ltd., etc.

[Our Mission]

We will contribute to the advancement of the healthcare industry by providing high-value-added solutions to our clients.

[Our Vision]

If we improve each day, we can progress ourselves daily, and will continue to do so.

Ever **P**rogressing **S**ystem

[Our Values]

For our Clients

We always place the highest priority on meeting clients' needs and providing high-value-added services.

For our Business

We will contribute to the advancement of society through sustained development of our businesses.

For our People

We will grow through our service to clients, and improve the quality of life (QOL) of all our stakeholders.

EP-Link's 25 Years of History

1999 EP-Link Co., Ltd. (current company) was established in Koraku, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo in December.

2005 EP-Mint Co., Ltd. was established through the merger of EP-Link Co., Ltd. and Mint Co., Ltd. in July.

2011 EP-Mint Co., Ltd. was listed on JASDAQ in September.

2012 EP-Mint Co., Ltd. acquired S-Medical Service. Inc. in April.

2013 EP-Mint Co., Ltd. signed business cooperation agreement with Sogo Rinsho Science Co., Ltd. in March.

2015 EP-Mint became a subsidiary of EPS Holdings Co., Ltd. in January.

2016 EPS Holdings, Inc. merged with Sogo Rinsho Holdings Co., Ltd., and conducted business integration in January.

EP-Mint Co., Ltd. and Sogo Rinsho Science Co., Ltd. merged to become EP-SOGO Co., Ltd. becoming the largest SMO in Japan in May.

EP-SOGO Co., Ltd. acquired Sogo Rimsha Holdings Co., Ltd. and makes Sogo Rinsho Medefi Co., Ltd. a subsidiary in October.

2018 EP-SOGO Co., Ltd. acquired SMO MEDHISHISU Co., Ltd. in January, and EXAM Co., Ltd. in July.

2022 Total Trial Management Consulting Co. Ltd. (Taiwan) became a subsidiary of EP-SOGO Co., Ltd. in August.

EP-SOGO Co., Ltd. became a subsidiary of EPNextS Co., Ltd. (established in October 2022), an intermediate holding company that oversees the core businesses of the EPS Group in October.

2024 The company name was changed to EP-Link Co., Ltd. in April.
25th anniversary in December.

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Corporate website

May 2024 Edition