

The Nine-Month Period Ended December 31, 2023

Earnings Briefing

January 31, 2024 Securities code: 2148 Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market





This document has been translated from the Japanese original for reference purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this translation and the Japanese original, the original shall prevail.

- Forward-looking statements, such as earnings outlooks, are based on information available when the material was created and include uncertainties. Actual earnings may substantially differ from the forecasts due to changes in various factors and business conditions.
- > Items that could impact the Company's earnings are listed in the "Business Risk" section of the Securities Report (*Yukashokenhokokusho*) for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023. It should be noted that factors that could impact earnings are not limited to those listed in the Business Risk section. Risks and uncertainties include the possibility of future events that may have a serious and unpredictable impact on the Company.
- > The information included in this material has been carefully prepared, but readers should be aware that we do not guarantee the accuracy or certainty of that information.
- > This material is not intended to solicit investments. We shall advise you to make your final investment decision at your own risk.
- > The unauthorized use of this material and data is strictly prohibited.
- > The Company voluntarily applied International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) starting with the 1Q FY16.
- For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, Knowledge on Demand Inc. was classified as a discontinued operation because of the transfer of shares. Income and losses arising from discontinued operations are given separately from continuing operations in the Condensed Interim Statement of Income. Revenue and operating income are the monetary amount of continuing operations. We have applied this classification to the Condensed Interim Statement of Income for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019.



1. Business Status and Growth Strategies

**Business Overview** 

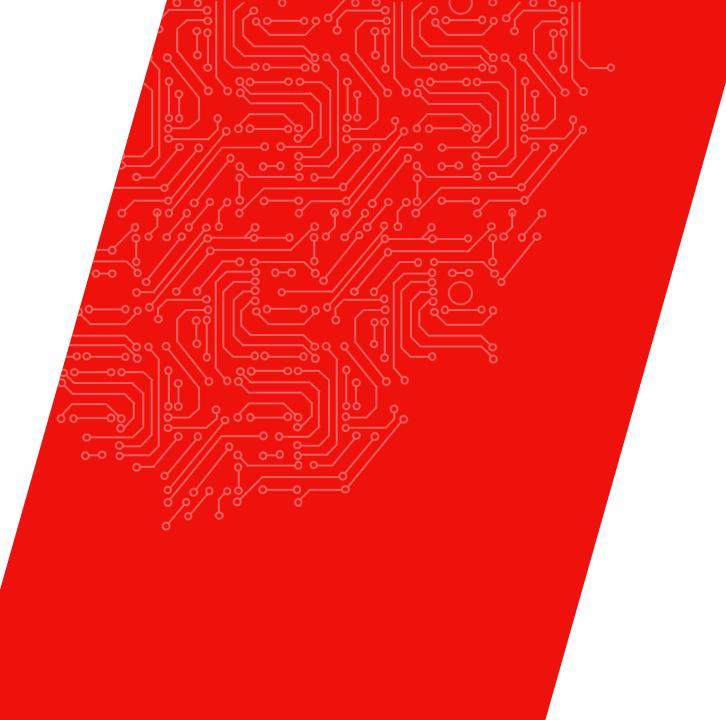
FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview

BtoB Media Business

**BtoC Media Business** 

Initiatives for Growth

- 2. Measures to Promote Management With an Awareness of Cost of Capital and Share Price
- 3. Earnings and Dividend Forecasts





### 1. Business Status and Growth Strategies

### **Business Overview**

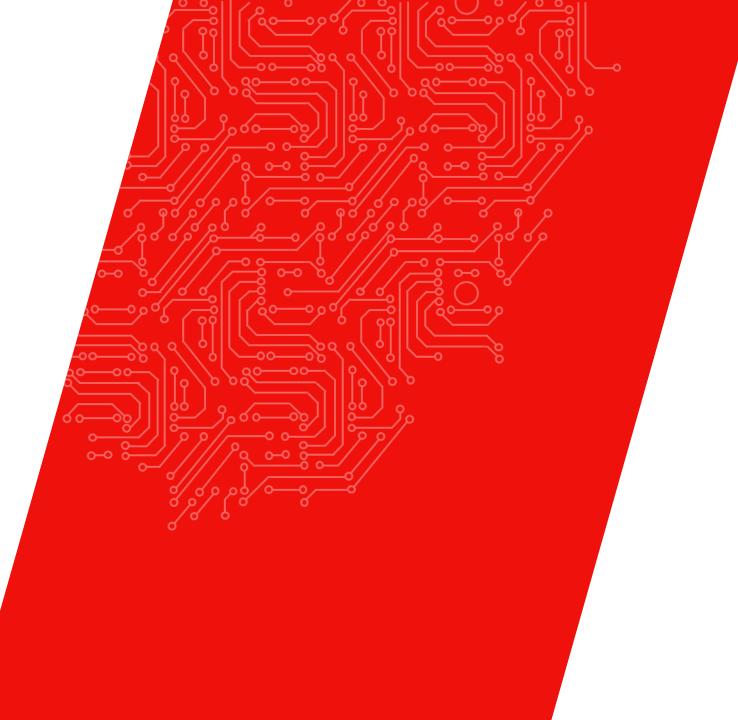
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### **Our Mission**

# Contribute to Information Revolution by Innovating Professional Media

- We believe profession makes media reliability
- Technology leads conventional media to innovation
- Providing media community as a social knowledge platform







# Contributing to the realization of a sustainable society through sustainability initiatives

T C b

# Deliver a bright future for humanity through the information revolution

Contributing to the development of humanity by encouraging the spread of technology, promoting

increases in the overall productive efficiency of society and the resolution of problems.

Social value



Achieve an equitable society
through the provision of a social
knowledge platform

Providing reliable, high-value added knowledge and information, to resolve digital divide and contribute to a society in which no one is left behind.

# Responsible use of information technology

Creating an environment that fosters ethical and appropriate use of technology to prevent adverse effects on society from information and technology.

Power of media



# Promote work styles that respect diversity

Creating an environment in which a diverse workforce can fulfill their potential without anxiety, thereby increasing employees' motivation and productivity while pursuing sustainable corporate growth.



# Develop a strong and transparent governance structure

Developing a strong governance structure with increased transparency that leads to mid- to long-term corporate growth, thereby winning the trust of all stakeholders.

Responsible management base



# December 1, 2023 Established "ITmedia Compliance Code of Conduct"

Materiality

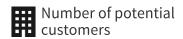
https://corp.itmedia.co.jp/sustainability/governance/code\_of\_conduct/ (in Japanese only)



#### **BtoB Media Business BtoC Media Business** Revenue model Programmatic Ad revenue Lead Generation revenue Digital Event revenue Ad revenue Commissioned **Sponsored** • Provide sales leads Sales of ad slots Revenue format Ad networks Supporting **Sponsor** Provide intent data etc. Tie-up plans events revenue Strong content media Revenue sources **KPIs** Number of members PVs Value **Customer acquisition** Raise awareness provided One of Japan's largest sales networks, focusing on specialized targets Sales resources not required Sales format Sales by partners with • Integrated proposal of wide-ranging solutions as a digital marketing consultant Principal customer segments: BtoB (IT/business, industrial technology fields) superior ad technology

## Business Overview | One of Japan's Largest Digital Media Content Provider





7,000 companies

### Customer/user scale

(Sellers)
Number of customers

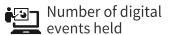
2,000 companies



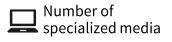
1.2 million people



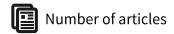
#### Media/data scale



200 times/year



 $30_{\text{media}}$ 

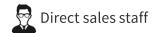


6,000 articles/month



400 million PVs

### Staff



100 people



**1,000** writers



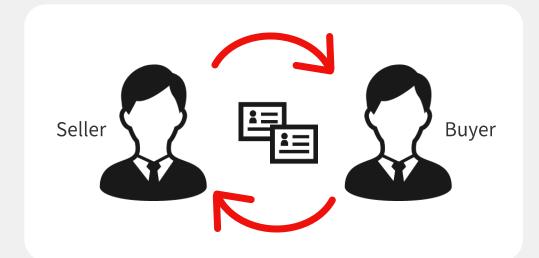
100 writers





One of the largest media in the BtoB technology market

One of the largest holders of data in Japan that brings technology buyers and sellers together





Contribute to digital transformation of Sales and Marketing

Data on purchasing behavior for BtoB technology products

Developing innovative services unique to digital



**Lead Generation** 



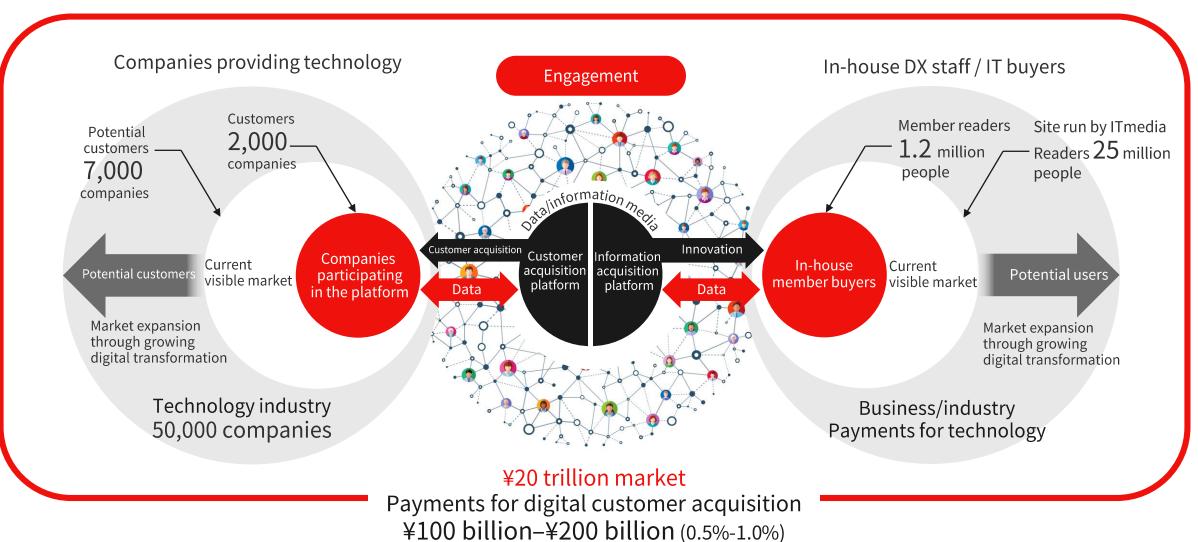
Digital Event



Ad

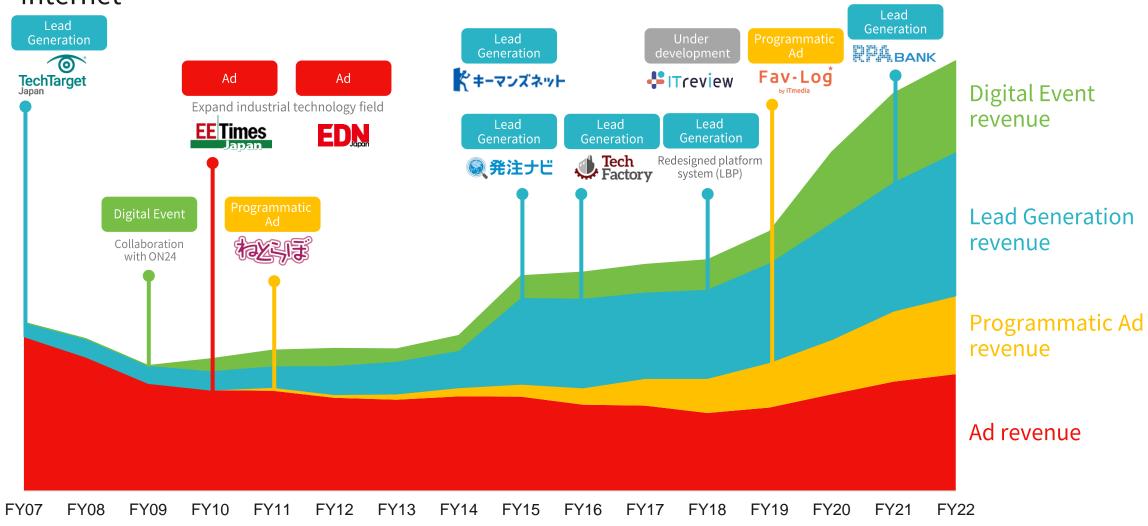


# One of the largest holders of data in Japan that brings technology buyers and sellers together



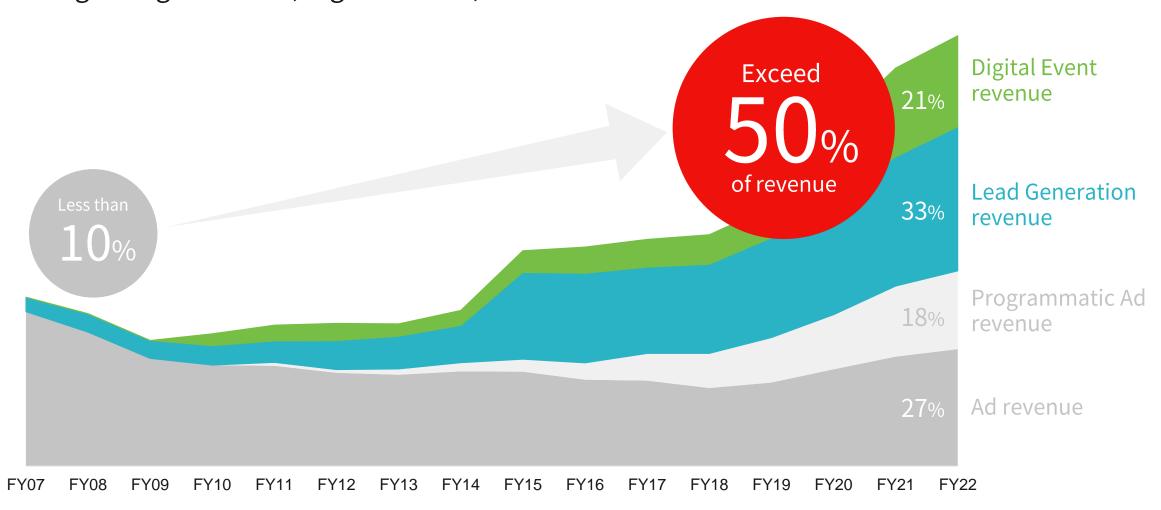


Expand business domains through new business development only possible with the Internet





Shift from being advertising centric to customer acquisition-oriented services using lead generation, digital events, etc.





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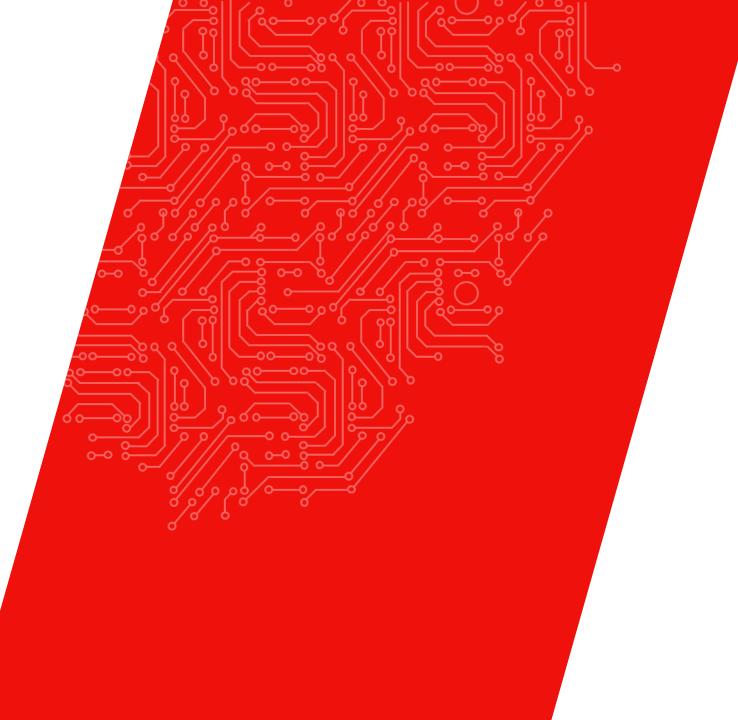
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# Decreased revenue and profit. The situation from the first half continues. Impact of market deterioration expected to remain throughout FY23.

### Earnings

### **External Environment & Overview**

# Q3 Actual

### Decreased revenue and profit

Revenue: ¥5,769 million (-10%)

Lead Generation revenue -0%

• Digital Event revenue -19%

Ad revenue -12%

• Programmatic Ad revenue -14%

Operating income: ¥1,564 million (-28%)

# Impact of market conditions surrounding the Company continued

U.S. technology market growth slowdown

Decreased revenues from foreign customers

There was a return to in-person activity due to the expected end of the pandemic

Demand for digital events slowed down

Programmatic Ad market declined more than expected

Traffic decay occurred on some search engine algorithms

# Earnings Forecast

### Will remain within planned range

Revenue :¥8,320 million (-5%)

Operating income: ¥2,400 million (-18%)

We purchased own shares (Oct.)

Revised dividend policy and the fiscal year-end dividend forecast

# Improvement of market environment for the next fiscal year + new revenue development

U.S. technology market

Expected to improve from the next fiscal year onward

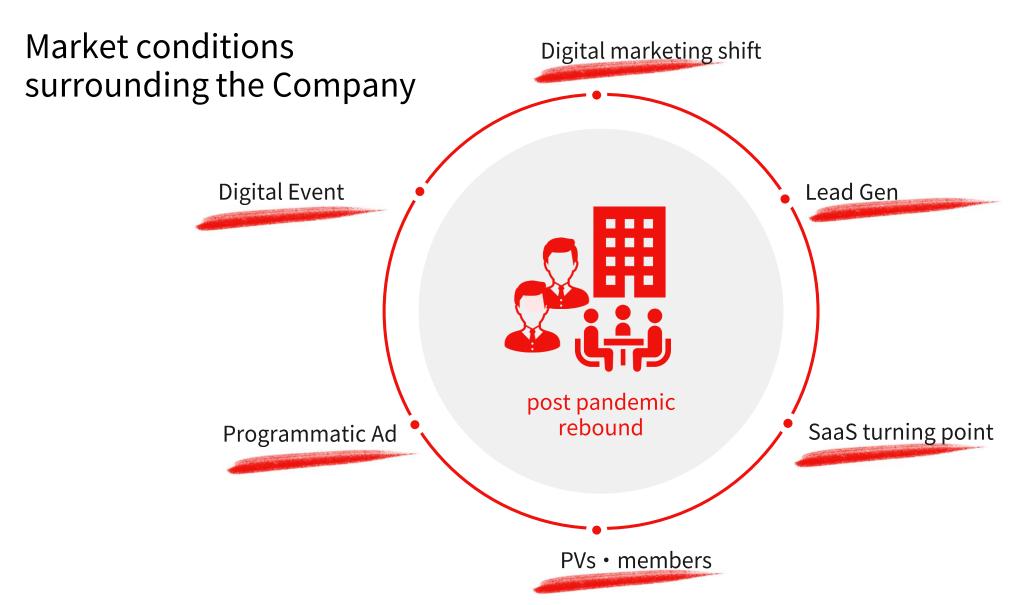
Expansion of media in industrial fields in response to the expansion of DX

• Data-driven, company-wide enhancement of products

Programmatic Ad market

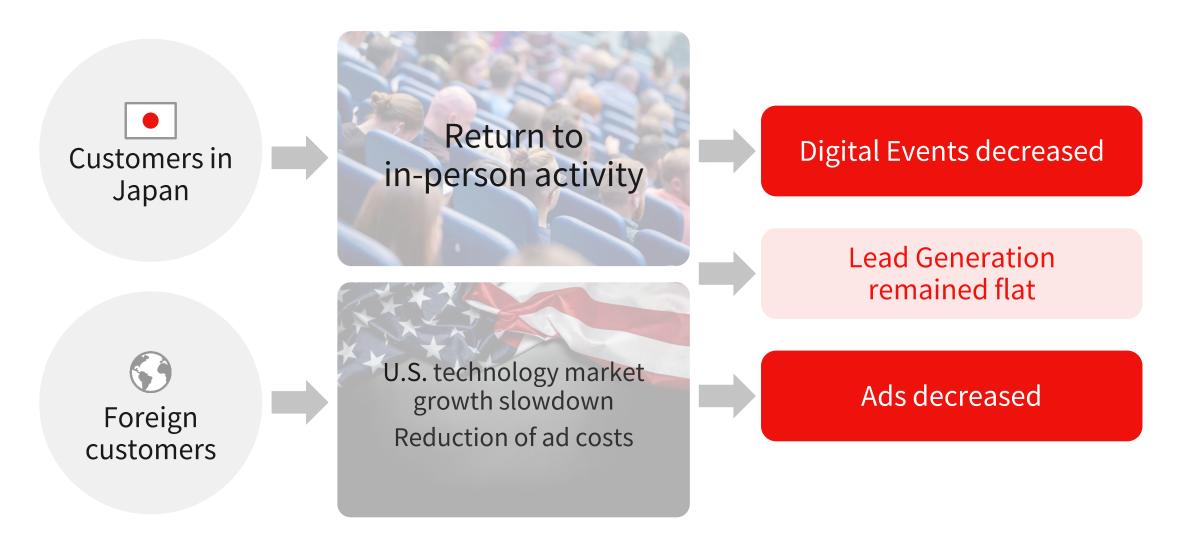
- Moderate improvement is expected
- Improving media capabilities through the use of AI





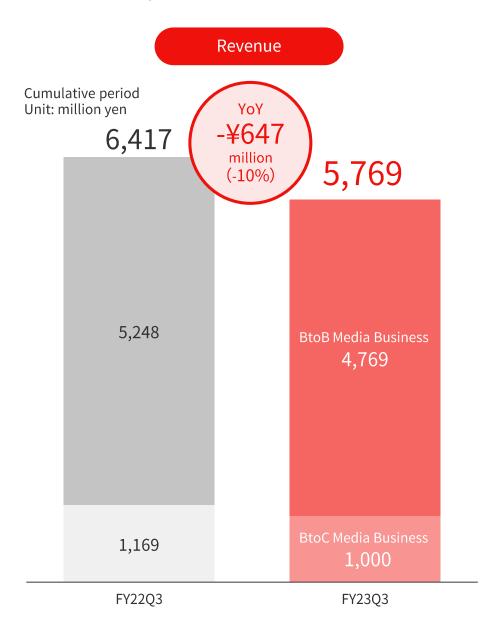


# Impact of market conditions surrounding the Company continues

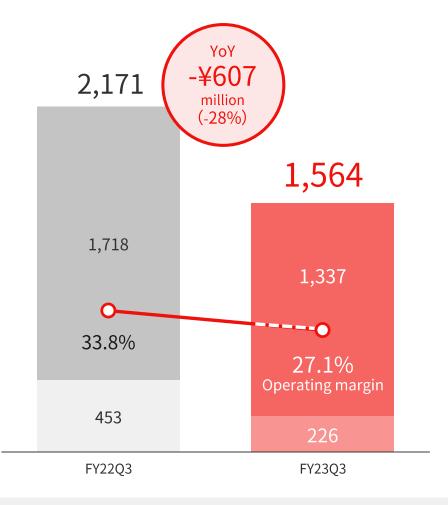


# FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview | Earnings





# Operating income





# Decreased revenue and profit. Decreased total cost



19



	FY22Q3		FY23Q3			
Cumulative period Unit: million yen	Amount	As % of revenue	Amount	As % of revenue	Increase	% change
Revenue	6,417	100.0%	5,769	100.0%	(647)	(10.1)%
Total cost	4,245	66.2%	4,205	72.9%	(39)	(0.9)%
(of which are personnel expenses)	2,248	35.0%	2,324	40.3%	+75	+3.4%
EBITDA	2,362	36.8%	1,729	30.0%	(632)	(26.8)%
Operating income	2,171	33.8%	1,564	27.1%	(607)	(28.0)%
Income before income tax	2,163	33.7%	1,560	27.0%	(602)	(27.8)%
Net income	1,467	22.9%	1,051	18.2%	(416)	(28.4)%
Net income attributable to owners of parent	1,467	22.9%	1,051	18.2%	(416)	(28.4)%

<sup>\*</sup> EBITDA: Operating income + depreciation + amortization on intangible assets + impairment loss + stock-based compensation expenses - other one-time revenue + other one-time expenses

# FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview | Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows



Cumulative period Unit: million yen	FY22Q3	FY23Q3	Charge
Cash flows from operating activities	1,040	808	(231)
Cash flows from investing activities	(32)	(122)	(89)
Cash flows from financing activities	(631)	(1,313)	(682)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	375	(627)	(1,003)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	6,815	7,978	+1,162
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	7,191	7,350	+159

Main items of operating CF	
Net income (loss) before income tax	+1,560
Depreciation and amortization	+166
Decrease in trade and other receivables	+197
Income taxes paid	(939)
Main items of investing CF	
Purchase of property,	
equipment, and intangible assets	(159)
	(159) +49
equipment, and intangible assets	
equipment, and intangible assets  Leasehold and guarantee deposits	
equipment, and intangible assets  Leasehold and guarantee deposits  Main items of financing CF	+49

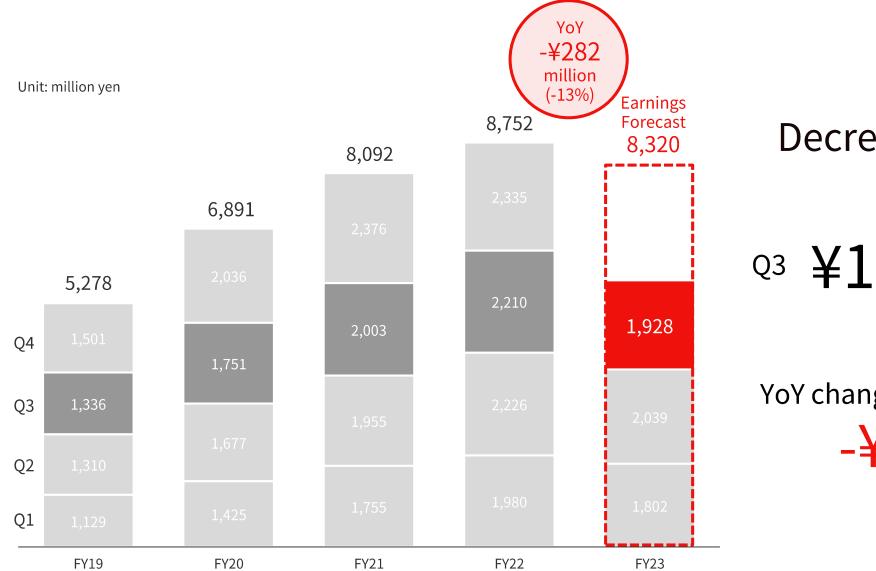
# FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview | Consolidated Statement of Financial Position



Unit:	million yen	At the end of March 2023	At the end of December 2023	Change
Assets	Current assets	9,996	9,133	(863)
	Non-current assets	1,161	1,301	+140
S	Total assets	11,158	10,435	(722)
Lis	Current liabilities	1,668	1,078	(589)
Liabilities	Non-current liabilities	60	94	+33
ies	Total liabilities	1,729	1,173	(555)
	Share capital/capital surplus	3,969	3,972	+2
	Retained earnings	6,603	7,085	+481
_	Treasury stock	(1,144)	(1,795)	(651)
Equity	Accumulated other comprehensive income	-	0	+0
·	Total equity attributable to owners of parent	9,429	9,262	(166)
	Total equity	9,429	9,262	(166)
par	Equity attributable to owners of parent per share 476.37円		481.81円	+5.44円
	io of equity attributable to ners of parent to total assets	84.5%	88.8%	+4.3pt

Total assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	(627)
Trade and other receivables	(197)
Right-of-use assets	+165
Total liabilities	
Trade and other payables	(115)
Income tax payable	(429)
Total equity	
Retained earnings	+481
Of which is net income	+1,051
Of which are dividends from retained earnings	(569)
Treasury shares	(651)





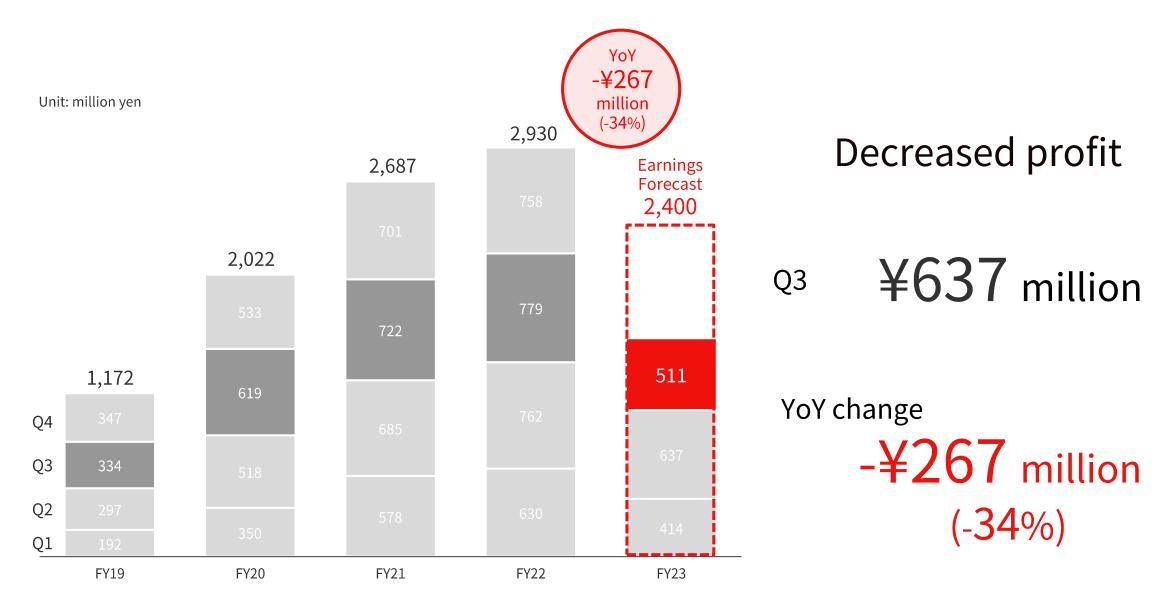
Decreased revenue

Q3 ¥1,928 million

YoY change

-¥282 million (-13%)







758

701

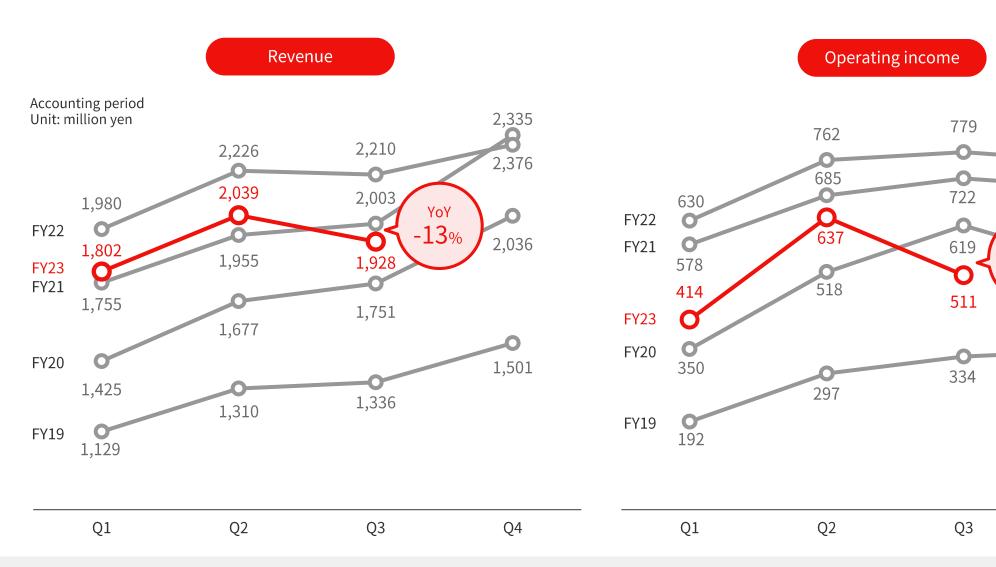
533

347

Q4

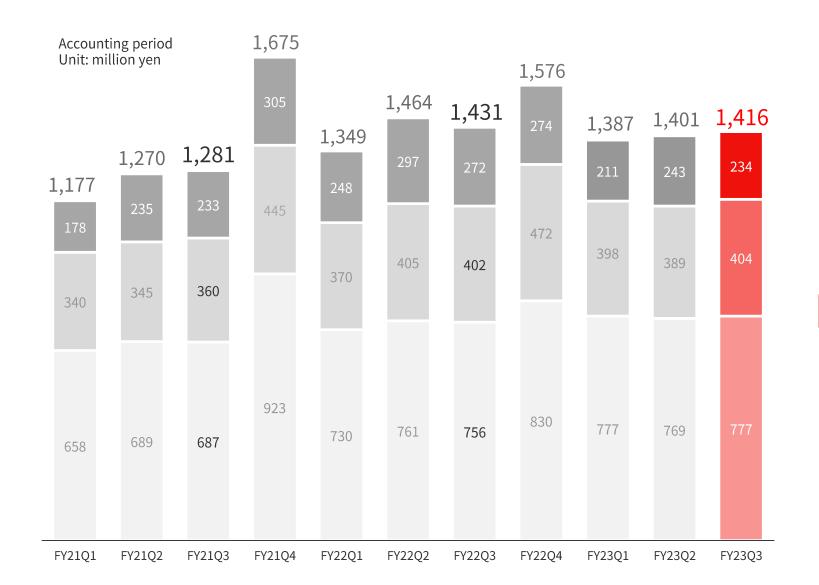
YoY

# Decreased revenue and profit



## FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview | Cost Breakdown by Quarter





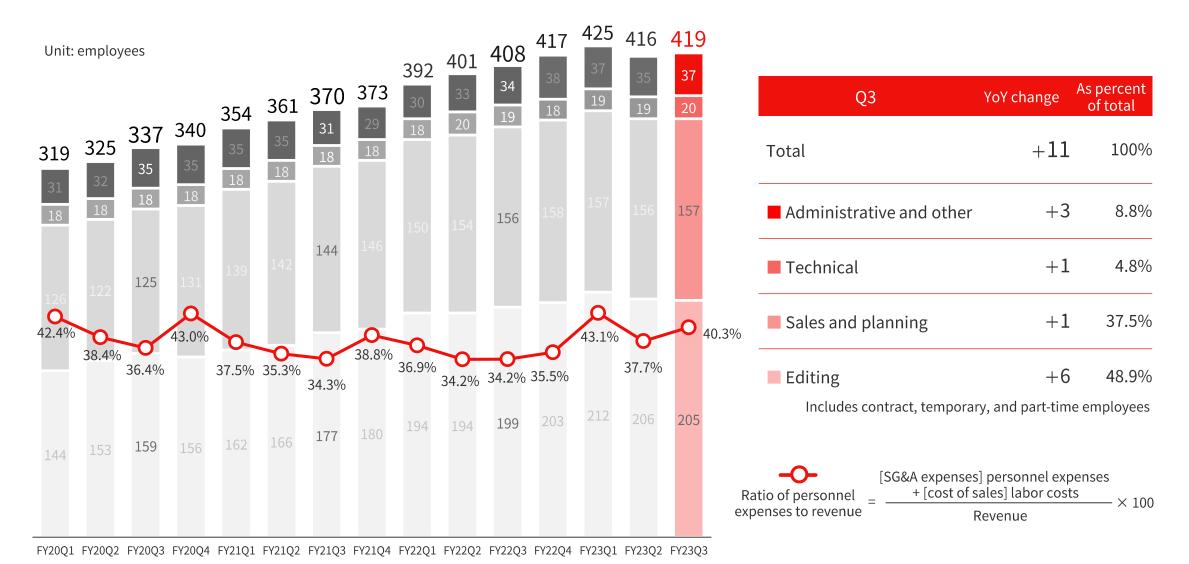
Q3	YoY change	As percent of total
Total	-1.0%	100%
Outsourcing expenses	-13.9%	16.6%
Other	+0.6%	28.5%
Personnel expenses	+2.8%	54.9%

### Main factors behind year on year change

- Personnel expenses: +20
- Curtailed of new recruitment
- Six new graduates joined the Company in the current fiscal year
- Outsourcing expenses: -37
- Curtailed, especially for digital events
- Other: +2
- Business environment, systems

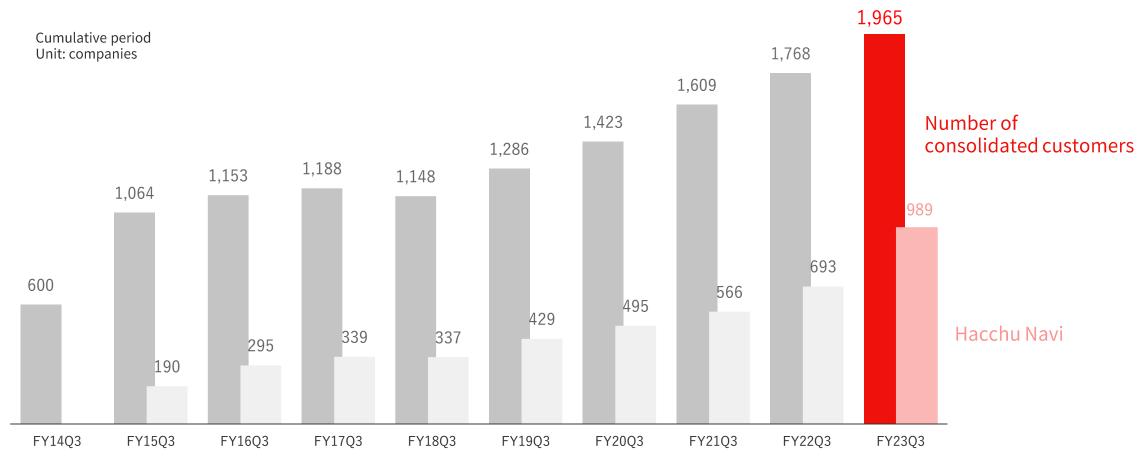
## FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview | Employee Breakdown by Quarter







# Hacchu Navi expanded



<sup>\*</sup> Number of companies to which sales were recorded during the period

<sup>\*</sup> Hacchu Navi has been consolidated since October 2015



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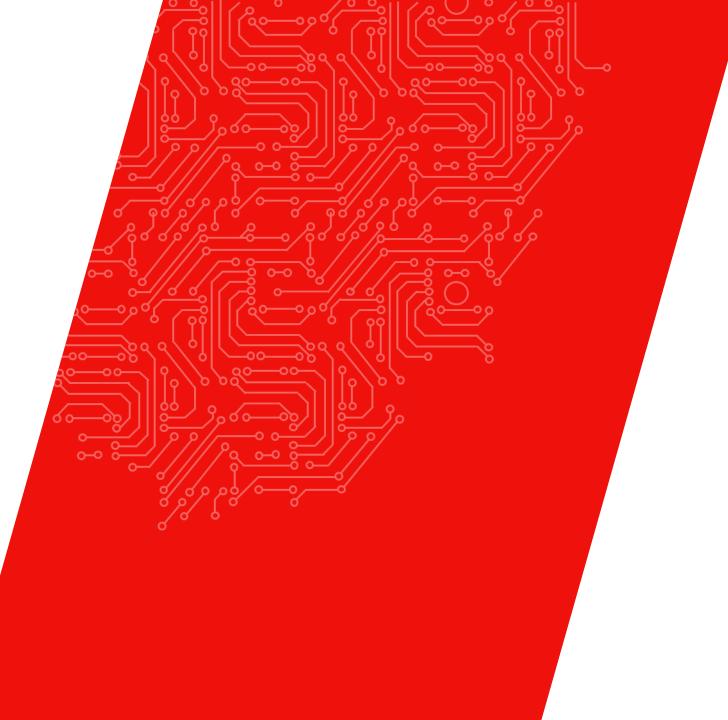
FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview

### BtoB Media Business

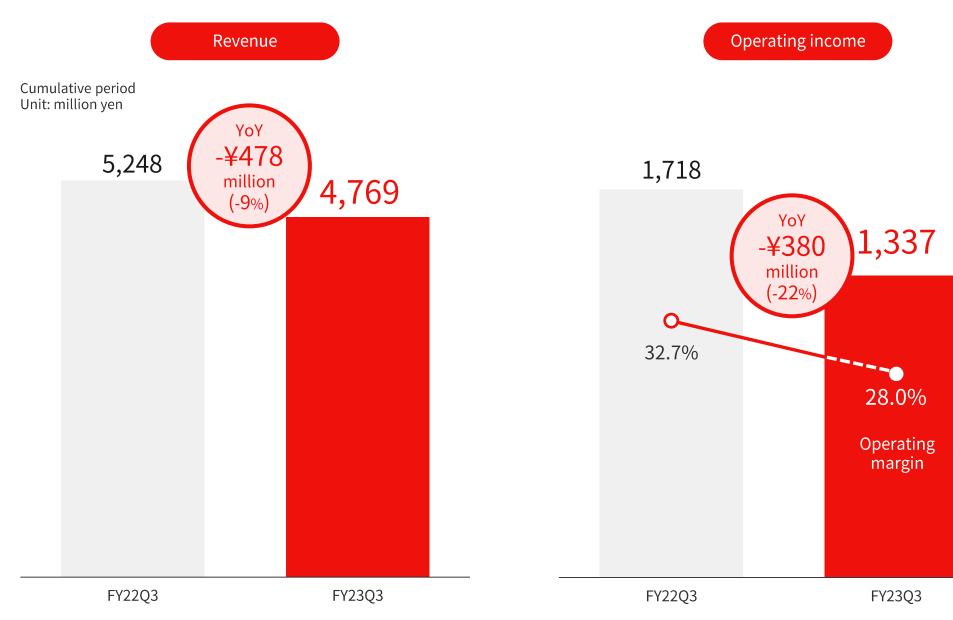
BtoC Media Business

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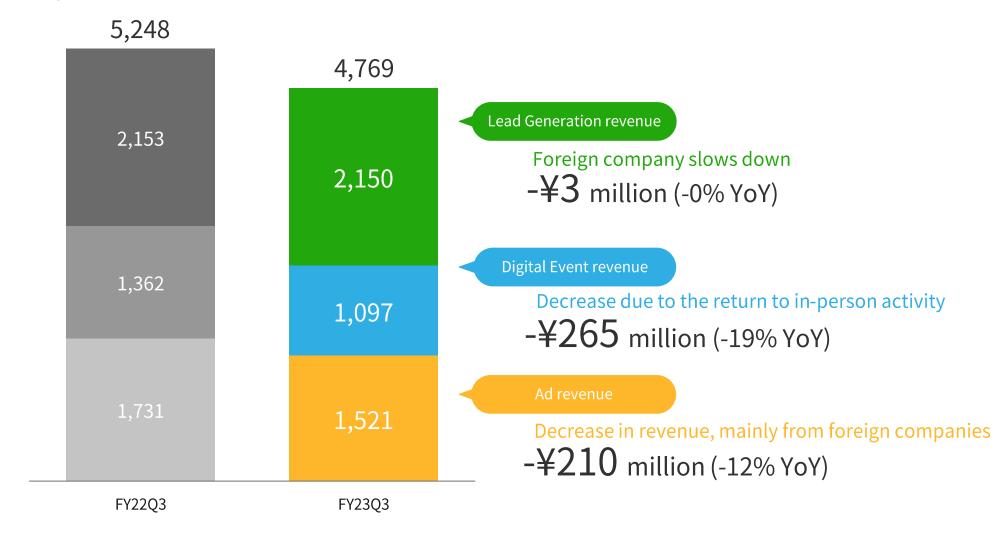






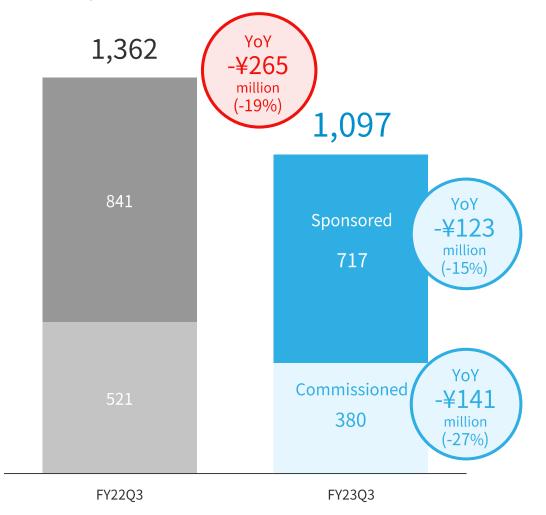


Cumulative period Unit: million yen





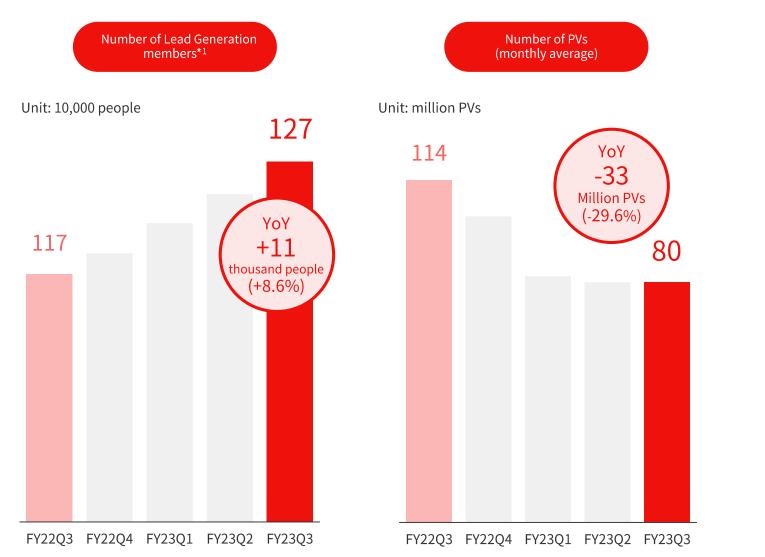


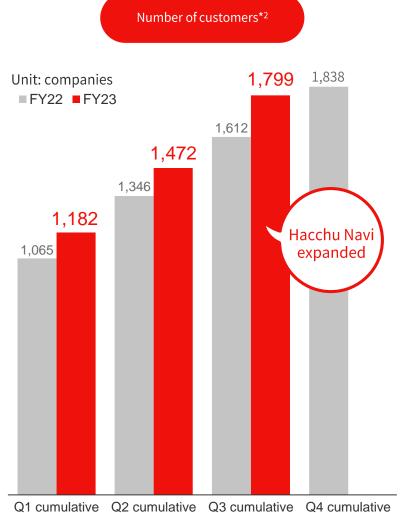


# Established market from the pandemic, but special demand subsides









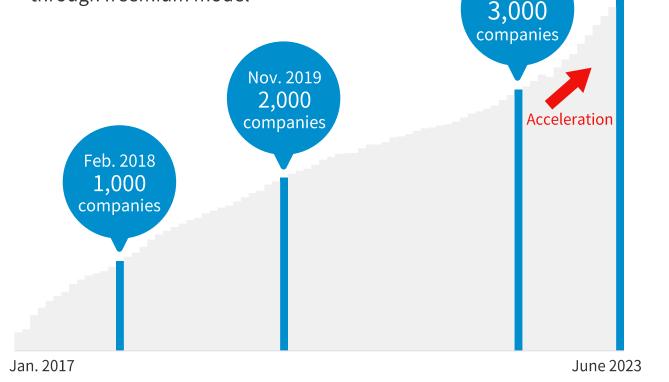
<sup>\*1:</sup> Members eligible for Lead Generation service because of ITmedia ID, common member platform

<sup>\*2:</sup> Number of companies to which sales were recorded during the period





- ☑ BtoB Media Business subsidiary
- ☑ Specialized for system development companies
- ☑ Subscription-type Lead Generation services
- ☑ Expands the number of member companies through freemium model



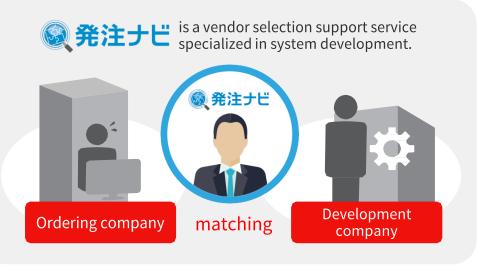


June 2023

4,000

companies

May 2022







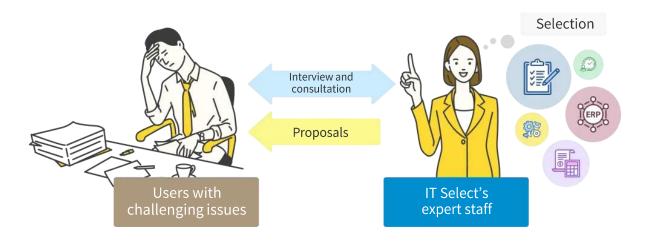
powered by **総発注ナビ** 

# SaaS Information Media "IT Select powered by Hacchu Navi" launched



https://itselect.itmedia.co.jp/ (in Japanese only)

- ☑ Expert concierges help customers select SaaS products
- ✓ Provide comparative information and user reviews of IT and SaaS products



Joint venture between ITmedia and subsidiary Hacchu Navi



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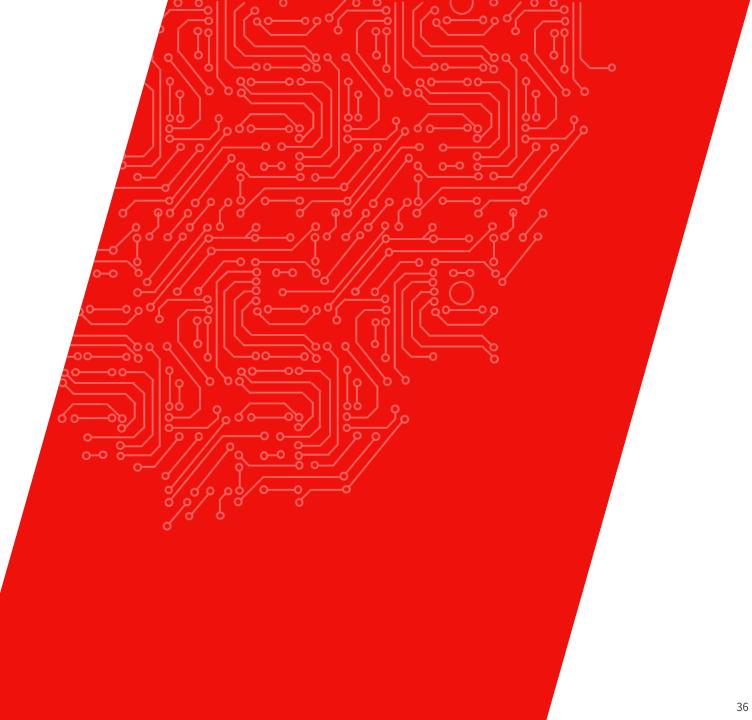
FY23 Q3 Earnings Overview

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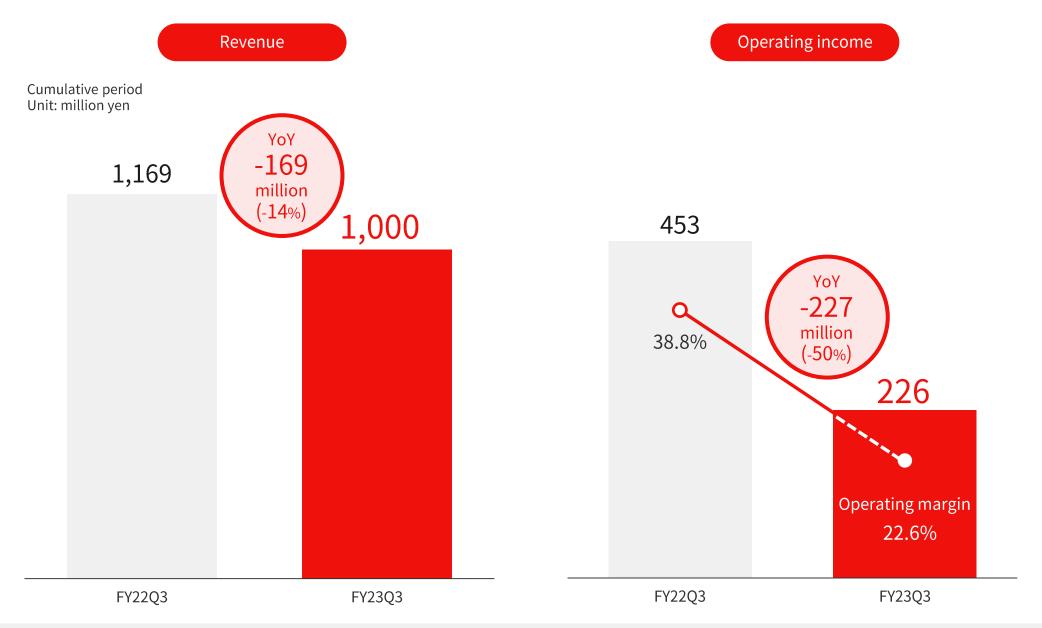
**BtoC Media Business** 

Initiatives for Growth

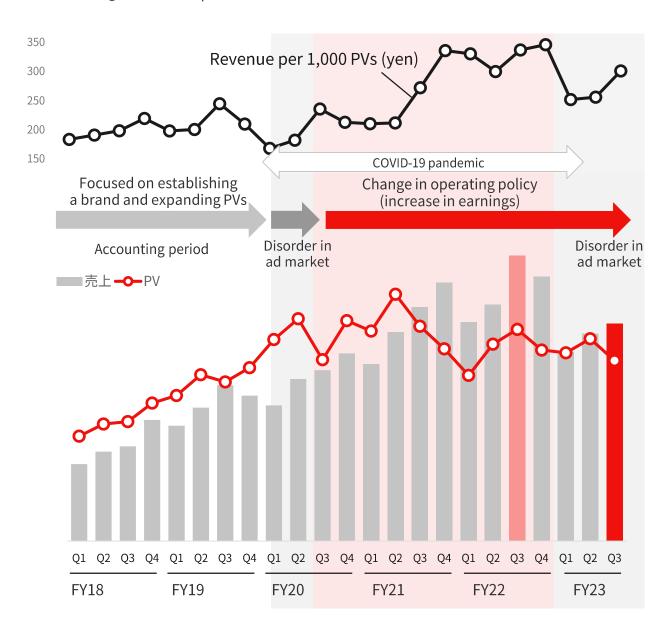
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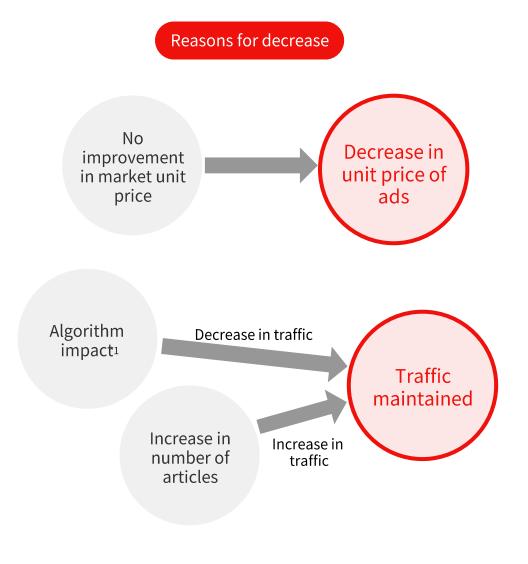












<sup>\*1</sup> Temporary traffic decay occurred on some search engine algorithms like Google's



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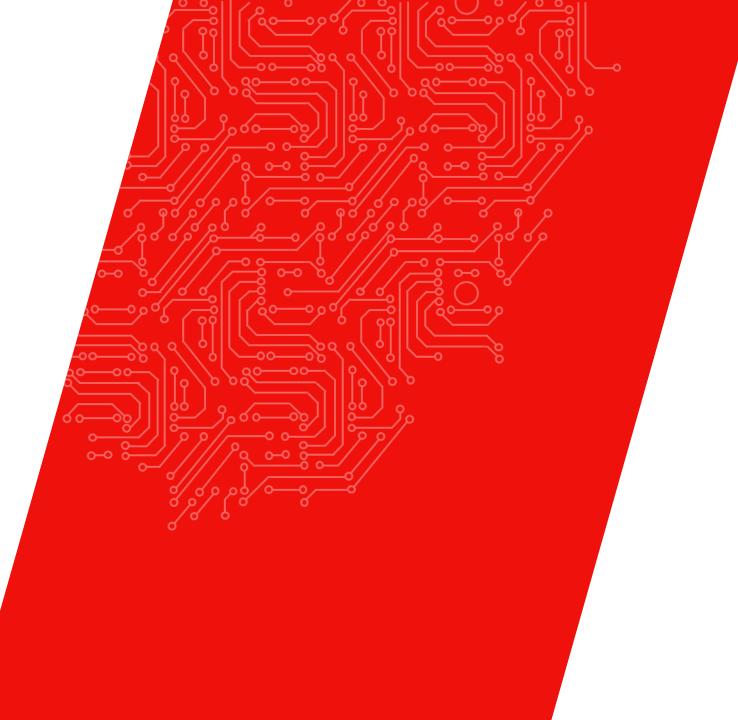
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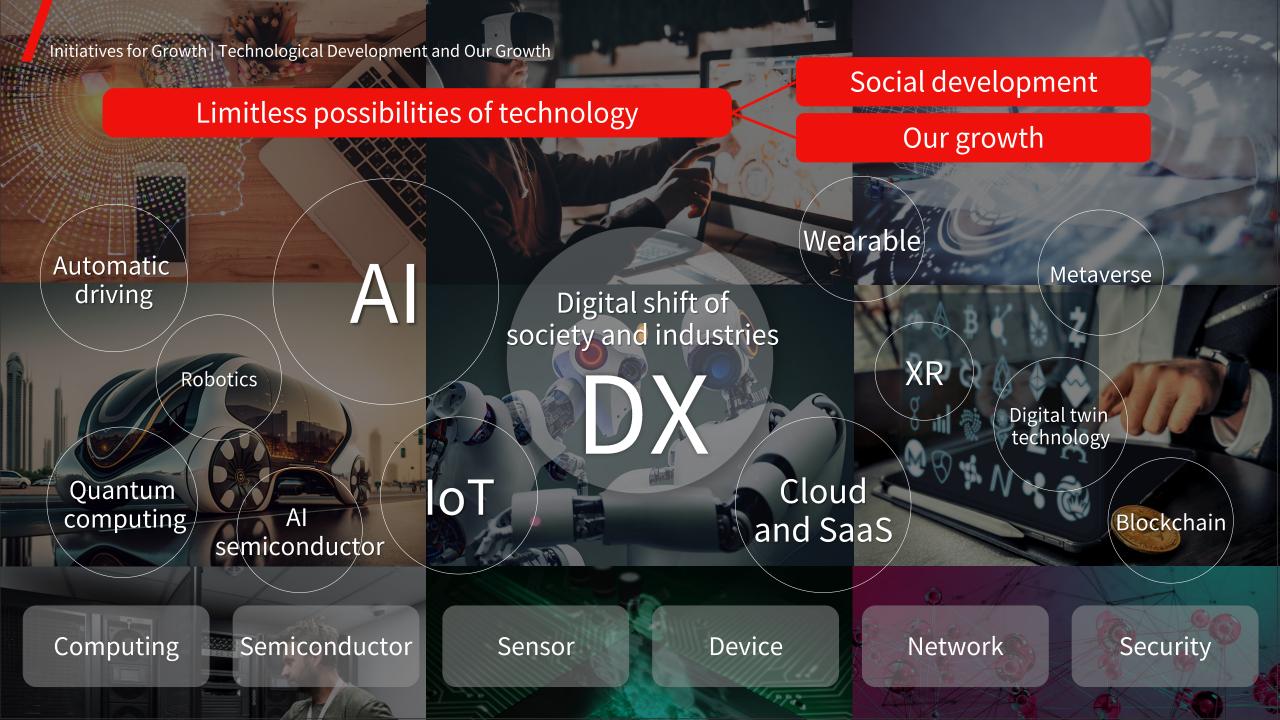
BtoB Media Business

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#### Initiatives for Growth

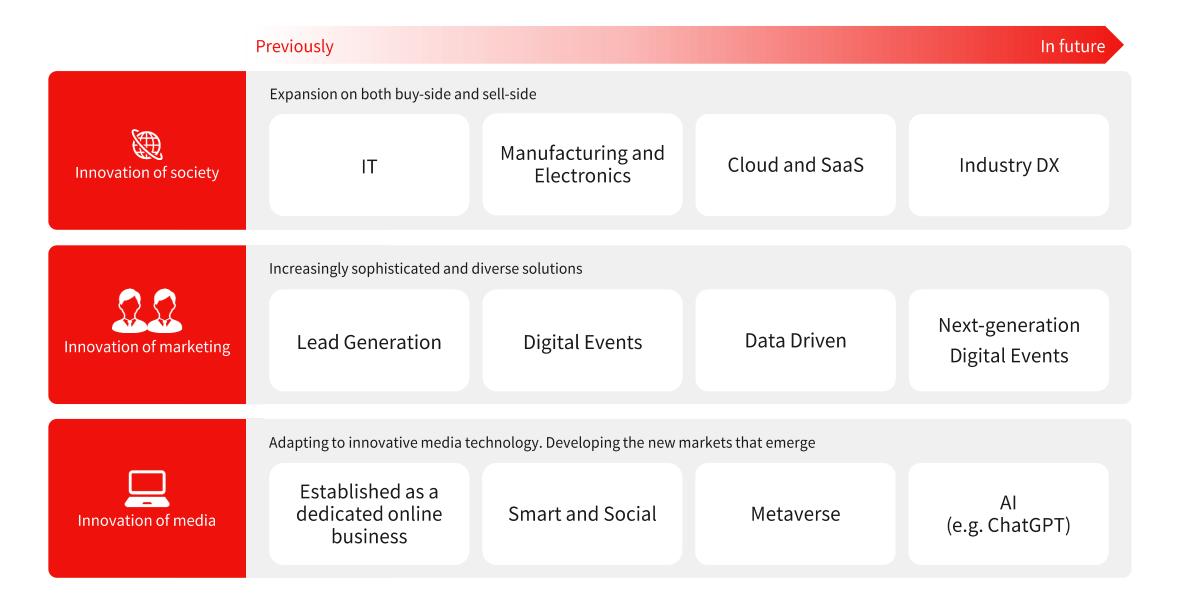
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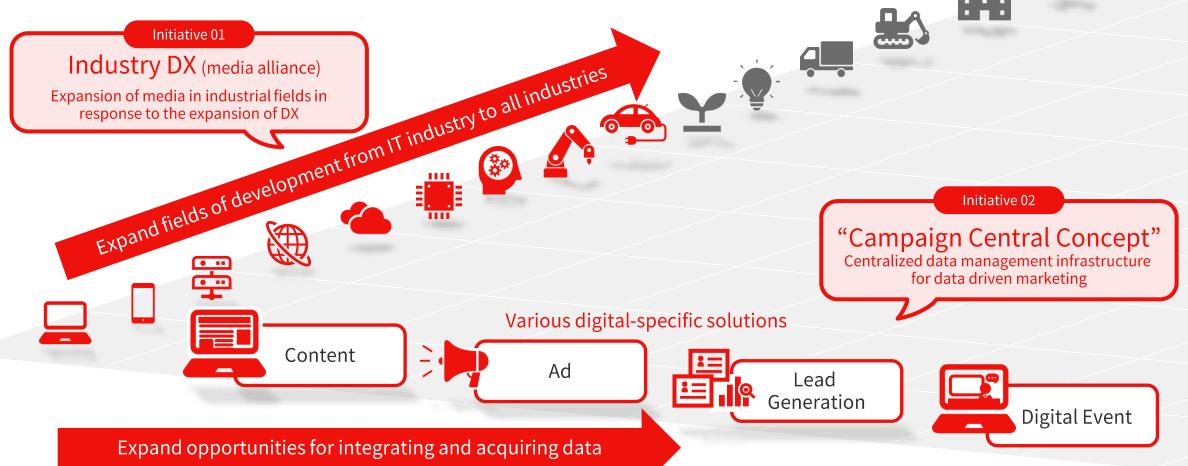
#### Initiatives for Growth | Engage with Growth Vectors





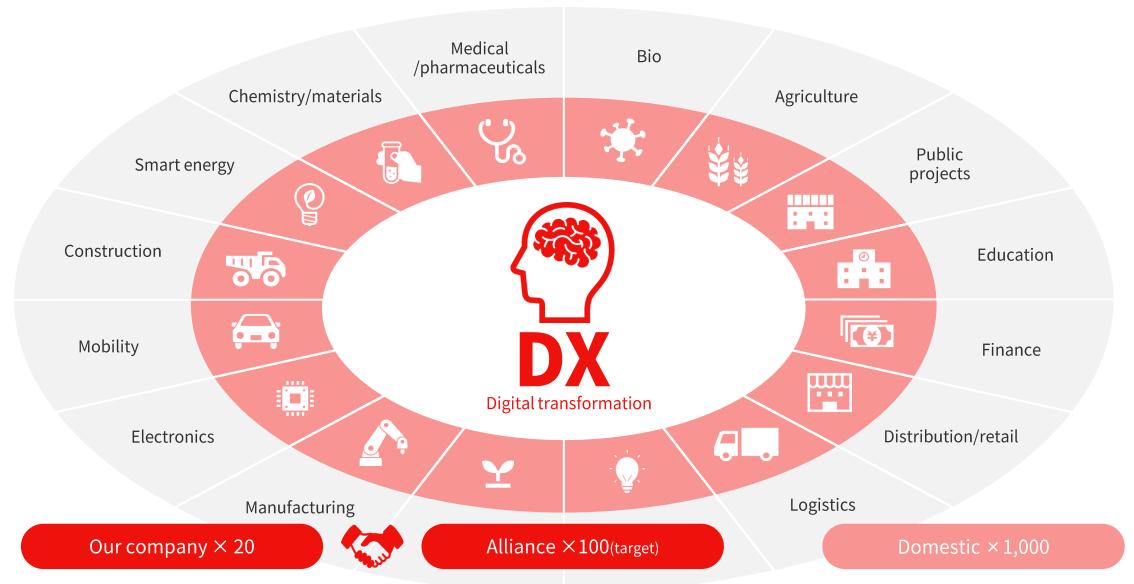


# The largest BtoB holders of data that brings buyers and sellers together from all industries





Expansion of mutual revenue opportunities through alliances with specialist media of various industries





# Expand partnerships into new domains







Realize partnerships newly in pharmaceuticals and food domains

<sup>\*</sup>Jointly operated Account Zone with Zeimu Kenkyukai Inc. at SaaS EXPO, an exhibition type digital event hosted by the Company



# Expand partnerships into new domains

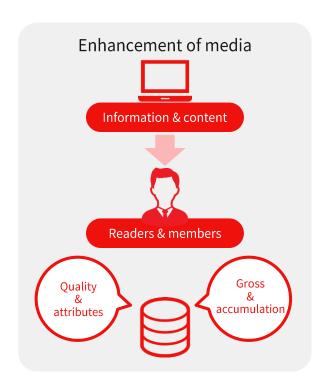




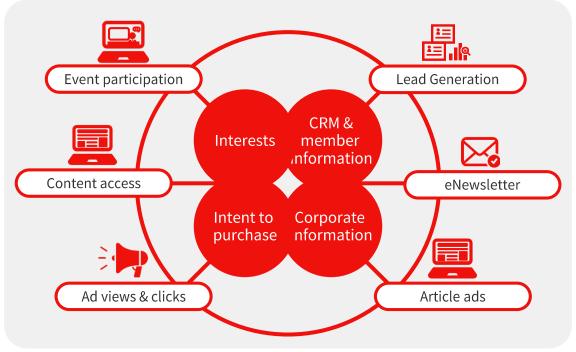
## Digital Advantage:

As data accumulates and becomes more connected, it becomes more valuable.

## "Campaign Central Concept"



Increasing data



Connecting



Improved services for readers and members

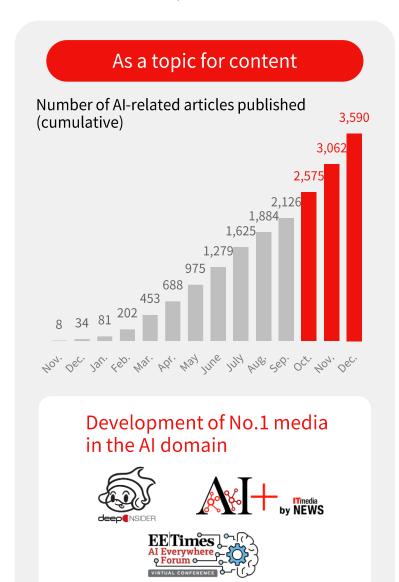
Enhancement of existing products

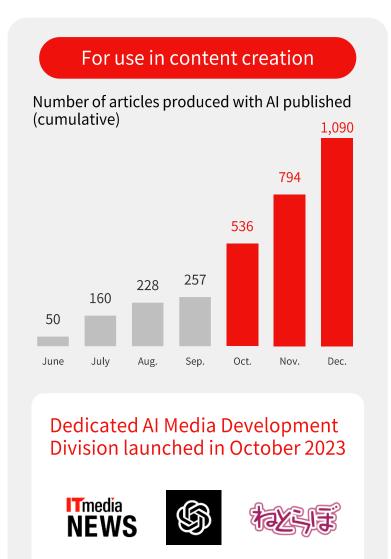
Development of data-based products

Sales innovation through data

Utilizing







#### For use in business operations

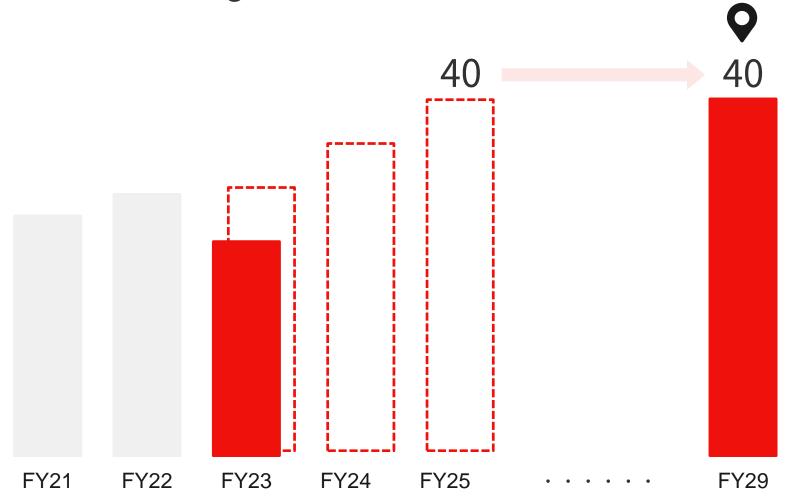
Use of AI in various operations Utilization of SaaS tools that use AI is underway

- Copywriting
- Ad serving & UI optimization
- Sales management
- Legal
- Office productivity etc.

Promoting further use



# Medium-term Targets to be Reestablished



Operating income target

FY29

40 hundred million yen



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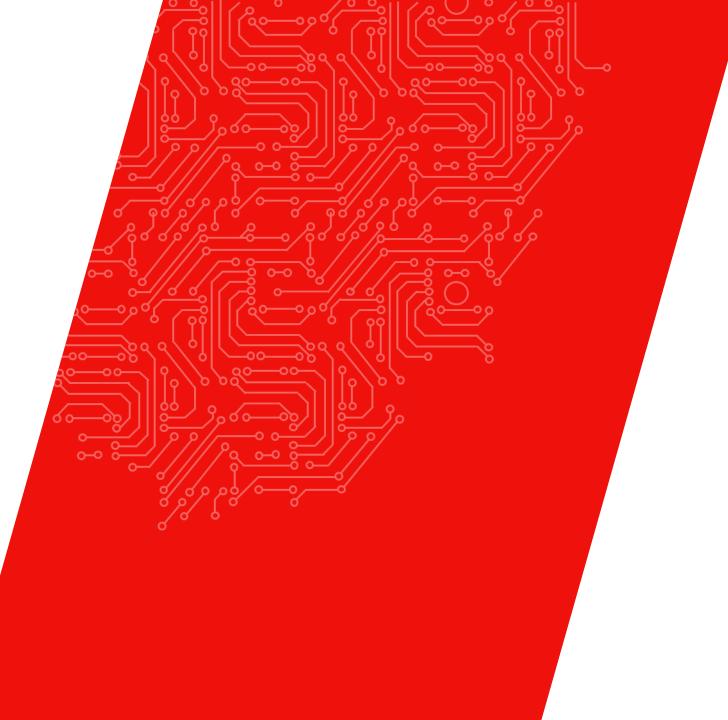
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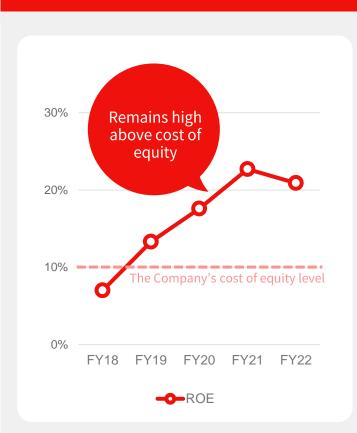
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Established a highly profitable business model

#### Stock price and PBR



Promoting growth strategies as a top priority

#### Net assets



Reducing and optimizing cost of capital



## Optimizing cost of capital by utilizing funds for business growth and improving capital efficiency

	Financial strategy		Growth strategy		IR & sustainability
	Capital efficiency improvement		Optimization of management resource allocation		Promoting dialogue
Short- term	Enhancing shareholder returns	Optimizing net assets	Ma A to increase	Expanding business domains	Enhancing disclosure in English
		ussets	M&A to increase the speed and certainty of plan achievement		Enhancing IR content
Mid- to long-term		Utilizing interest- bearing debt			Issuing integrated reports
	N	laintaining and im	Controlling the cost of equity		

Improvement of corporate value and formation of appropriate stock price



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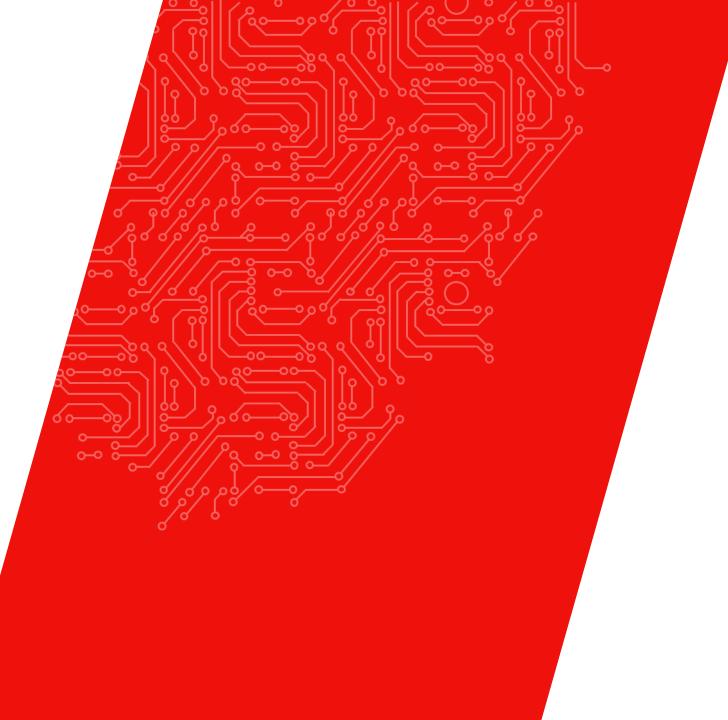
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## Strengthen new earnings development for the next fiscal year and beyond

#### **Current Environment**

Return to in-person activity from digital events

U.S. technology market growth slowdown (Restructuring)

Programmatic Ad market unit price decline

#### Environmental Outlook

Short-term recovery is not expected

Signs of improvement in some fields

## New Revenue Development Initiatives



Data-driven, company-wide enhancement of products (Campaign Central)



Expansion of media in industrial fields in response to the expansion of DX (Industry DX)



Acceleration of media capabilities
Use of AI



- Progressing as expected
- Strengthen new earnings development for the next fiscal year and beyond



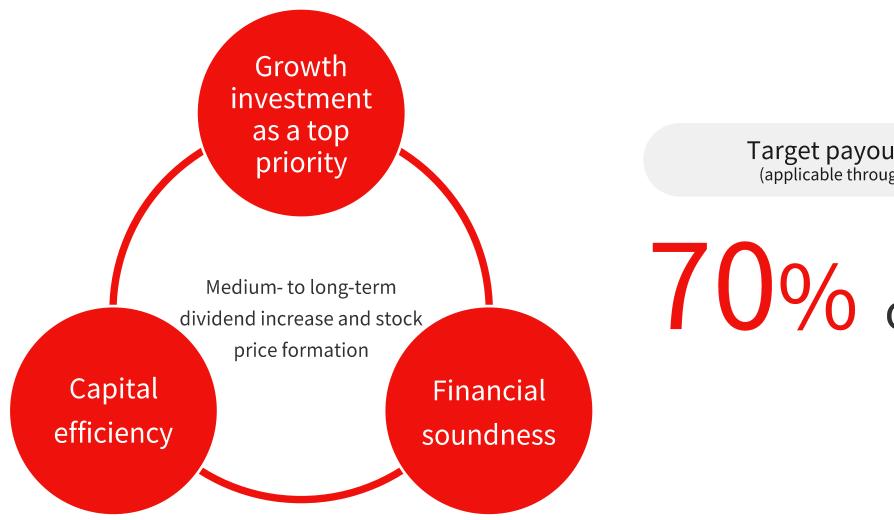
# Current forecasts are maintained

Unit: million yen	Revenue	Operating income	Net income attributable to owners of parent
full year	8,320	2,400	1,620
YoY change	(4.9%)	(18.1%)	(18.0%)
FY22, full year (actual)	8,752	2,930	1,974

Forward looking comments noted above, such as earnings outlooks, are based on information available when the material was created and certain assumptions deemed rational and the Company does not guarantee they will occur. Actual earnings may substantially differ due to various factors.



Implementing management resource allocation with an awareness of cost of capital and capital efficiency



Target payout ratio (applicable through FY28)

70% or more



## Revision of fiscal year-end dividend forecast to ¥100 per share and annual dividend to ¥115 per share

#### 1. Revision of the fiscal year-end dividend forecast

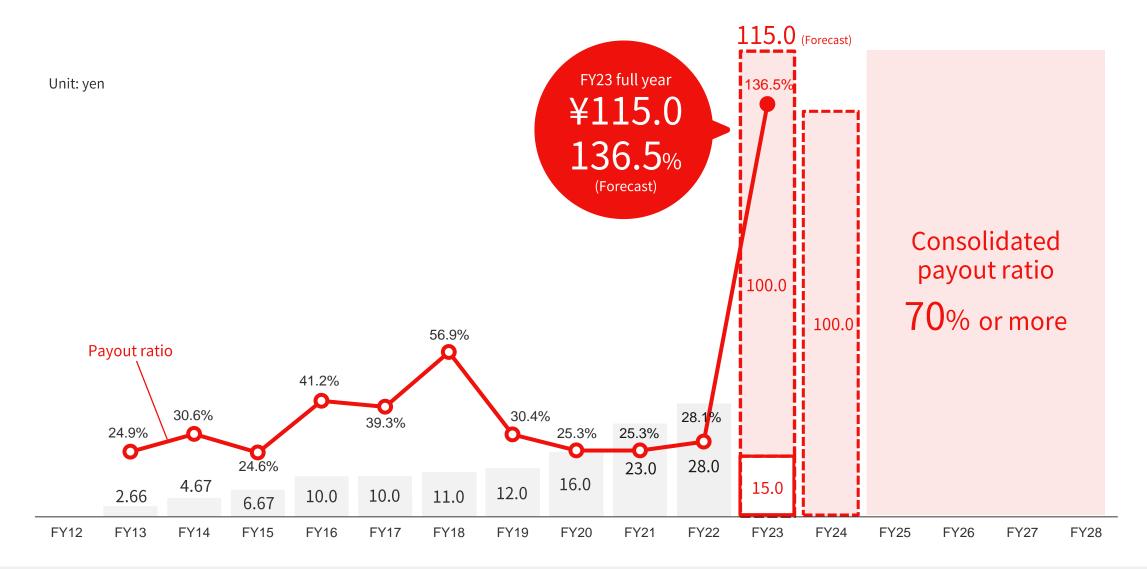
	Annual dividend				
	Second quarter-end	Fiscal year-end	Total		
Previous forecast	¥15.00	¥15.00	¥30.00		
Revised forecast		¥100.00	¥115.00		
Results for the current fiscal year	¥15.00				
Results for the previous fiscal Year (Fiscal year ended March 31, 2023)	¥14.00	¥14.00	¥28.00		

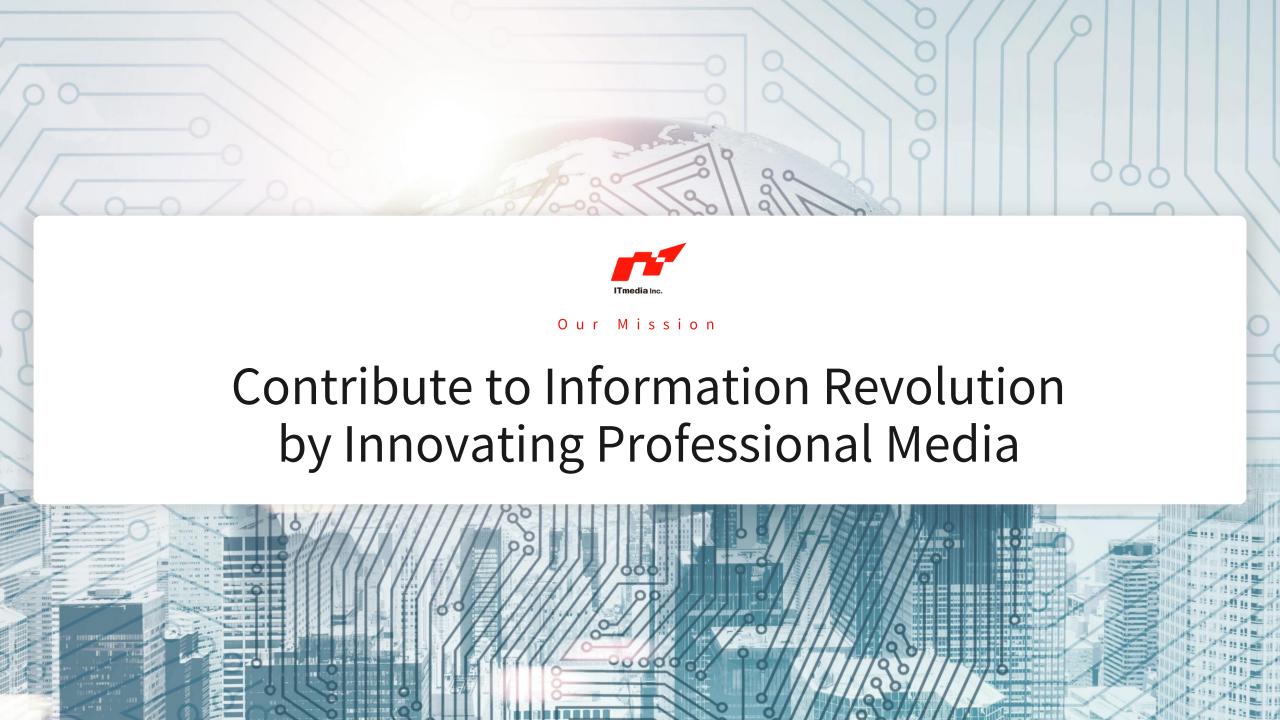
#### 2. Future dividend forecast

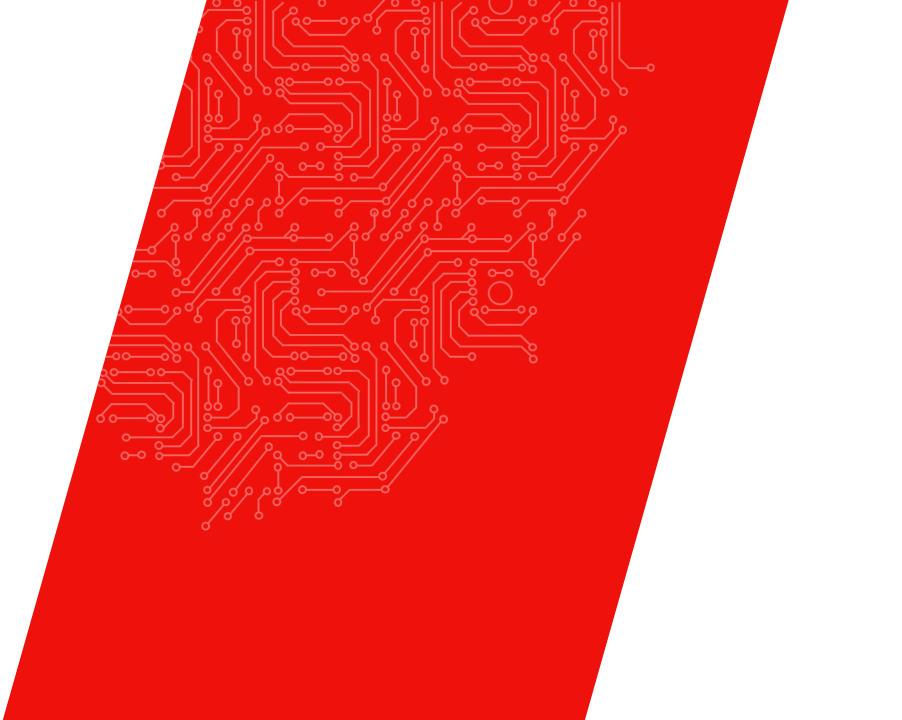
	Second quarter-end	Fiscal year-end	Total
Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2024 (Current fiscal year)	¥15.00	¥100.00	¥115.00
Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2025	_	¥100.00	¥100.00
Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2026 onward  The Company has set a target of 70% or higher for the consolidated dividend payout ra-			



## Balance sheet optimization ahead of schedule in current and upcoming fiscal years









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