# **Appendix: Case Studies**

Tokyo Stock Exchange

February 1, 2024



This document is intended as a reference for listed companies that are considering taking action to implement management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price, and also as a reference for future updates for listed companies that have already made disclosures. This report is based on interviews with many investors in Japan and overseas, and compiles examples of measures investors deemed as fulfilling the expectations they have for corporations.

Note: The examples in this document are provided solely for informational purposes as a reference for listed companies that are considering action to implement management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price, and are not intended as a solicitation for investment in any stock or for any other purpose.

## Introduction



- ◆ Since asking companies to take action to implement management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price in March 2023, we have interviewed a total of more than 90 investors (approximately 30% domestic and 70% from overseas), mainly investors (active investors, etc.) who place importance on medium- to long-term improvement of corporate value. This report provides examples of initiatives that investors have deemed as having met their expectations for corporations.
- ◆ Please refer to the points listed in "Considering The Investor's Point of View in regard to Management Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price, Key Points and Examples." (published February 1, 2024).

# Index -1

Key Points																
							I. Analysis and Evaluation of Current Situation		II. Co	nsideration Initia	and Disclos	sure of		ue with Sha and Investor		
#1	Page Number	Code	Name	Sector	Section	Size	① Considering the cost of capital/equity in regard to the investor's perspective	based on the	(3) Inspection of balance sheets to ensure their efficacy	Implementing fundamental initiatives with an aw areness of the appropriate allocation of management resources	_	Designing a management compensation system that provides an incentive to increase corporate value over the medium to long term	of efforts in relation to medium- to long-term goals	Proactive involvement of management and board	(2) Taking a tailored approach to shareholders and investors	-
1	Page 4	1605	INPEX CORPORATION	Mining	Prime	TOPIX Mid400		•					•			
2	Page 6	1885	TOA CORPORATION	Construction	Prime	TOPIX Small								•		•
3	Page 8	1911	Sumitomo Forestry Co.,Ltd.	Construction	Prime	TOPIX Mid400	•	•		•		•				
4	Page 11	4099	SHIKOKU KASEI HOLDINGS CORPORATION	Chemicals	Prime	TOPIX Small			•	•						
5	Page 12	4183	Mitsui Chemicals,Inc.	Chemicals	Prime	TOPIX Mid400				•				•		•
6	Page 14	4384	RAKSUL INC.	Information & Communication	Prime	TOPIX Small						•				
7	Page 16	4704	Trend Micro Incorporated	Information & Communication	Prime	TOPIX Mid400	•									
8	Page 17	4886	ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Co.,Ltd.	Pharmaceutical	Prime	TOPIX Small		•		•				•		
9	Page 19	5019	ldemitsu Kosan Co.,Ltd.	Oil and Coal Products	Prime	TOPIX Mid400	•				•		•	•		
10	) Page 22	5406	Kobe Steel,Ltd.	Iron and Steel	Prime	TOPIX Mid400										•
1	Page 24	5805	SWCC Corporation	Nonferrous Metals	Prime	TOPIX Small		•		•						
1:	Page 26	5901	Toyo Seikan Group Holdings,Ltd.	Metal Products	Prime	TOPIX Mid400		•		•						
13	Page 29	6246	Techno Smart Corp.	Machinery	Standard	-	•	•	•	•						
1	Page 31	6361	EBARA CORPORATION	Machinery	Prime	TOPIX Mid400		•			•		•			
15	5 Page 33	7186	Concordia Financial Group,Ltd.	Banks	Prime	TOPIX Mid400	•	•			•		•			



# Index -2

										ı	Key F	Points				
							I. Analysis and Evaluation of Current Situation		II. Consideration and Disclosure of Initiatives				III. Dialogue with Shareholders and Investors			
#	Page Number	Code	Name	Sector	Section	Size	① Considering the cost of capital/equity in regard to the investor's perspective	2 Multifaceted analysis and evaluation based on the	③ Inspection of balance sheets to	(1) Implementing fundamental initiatives with an aw areness of the appropriate allocation of management resources	② Being aw are	③ Designing a	Explanation of efforts in relation to medium to long-term goals	(1) Proactive involvement of management and board	② Taking a tailored	③ Disclosure of dialogue and further dialogue and
16	Page 35	7259	AISIN CORPORATION	Transportation Equipment	Prime	TOPIX Mid400		<del>!</del>		•	·		3	.!	2	
17	Page 37	7537	MARUBUN CORPORATION	Wholesale Trade	Prime	TOPIX Small					•					
18	Page 39	7646	PLANT Co.,Ltd.	Retail Trade	Standard	-		•					•			
19	Page 40	8011	SANYO SHOKAILTD.	Textiles and Apparels	Prime	TOPIX Small								•		•
20	Page 42	8051	YAMAZEN CORPORATION	Wholesale Trade	Prime	TOPIX Small							•			•
21	Page 44	8058	Mitsubishi Corporation	Wholesale Trade	Prime	TOPIX Core30								•		
22	Page 46	8098	Inabata & Co.,Ltd.	Wholesale Trade	Prime	TOPIX Small		•			•					•
23	Page 49	8174	NIPPON GAS CO.,LTD.	Retail Trade	Prime	TOPIX Mid400			•	•			•			
24	Page 52	8252	MARUI GROUP CO.,LTD.	Retail Trade	Prime	TOPIX Mid400		•	•	•						
25	Page 54	8306	Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group,Inc.	Banks	Prime	TOPIX Core30		•					•	•		
26	Page 56	8337	The Chiba Kogyo Bank,Ltd.	Banks	Prime	TOPIX Small		•		•			•			
27	Page 58	8360	The Yamanashi Chuo Bank,Ltd.	Banks	Prime	TOPIX Small		•		•			•			•
28	Page 61	8789	FinTech Global Incorporated	Other Financing Business	Standard	-	•	•			•					
29	Page 64	9076	SEINO HOLDINGS CO.,LTD.	Land Transportation	Prime	TOPIX Mid400						•	•			
			(Reference) Numb	per of companie	s introduce	ed per point	6	15	5 4	. 12	? 6	3	11	7	7 0	7

## INPEX CORPORATION (1605) (i)

TOPIX Mid400





### **Analysis of Current Situation**

INPEX

2023/12 (Forecast)

Based on sound financial performance and improved shareholder returns, PBR is on the rise although it is currently in the 0.5 to 0.6 range. Our share price also remains at a discounted level. We believe this reflects the uncertainty over the sustainability of the oil & gas business, the risk of assets being stranded and the uncertainty concerning our future shareholder returns.

On the other hand, in view of the current global energy situation, we acknowledge there are growing expectations for the roles we play in society. Thus, we aim to thoroughly make our oil & gas business cleaner and more resilient to strengthen our stable supply of energy.

We are steadfastly pursuing our energy transformation through our 5 net zero businesses by implementing renewable energy businesses, including wind power and geothermal power projects in our core regions, and making sound progress on hydrogen and methanation initiatives.



- After conducting a time-series analysis of indicators such as PBR, the company presents their evaluation and explain background factors (→Point I. 2)
  - After explaining their medium- to long-term action plan, the company presents specific efforts they intend to take to carry it out. (→Point II. 4)

Source: INPEX CORPORATION, Financial Results for the six months ended June 30, 2023 (August 10, 2023), Page12-13

https://www.inpex.co.jp/english/ir/library/pdf/presentation/e-Presentation20230810-a.pdf



## **Voice of Investors**

This report presents a series of data in an easy-tounderstand manner, including an analysis of the current situation, the direction the company is aiming for, and specific initiatives. In addition, the report clearly states the company's goal of securing a stable ROIC that exceeds the WACC, and it provides substantial evidence that the company is accelerating its efforts to increase its corporate value.

### **Our Initiatives Going Forward**

INPEX

In INPEX Vision @2022, we outlined our strategy to sustainably provide a stable supply of diverse energy over the long-term, and to contribute to the energy transformation as an industry pioneer. This strategy continues to be valid in view of the current global energy situation.

We will aim to sustainably grow our corporate value by investing in sources of business growth, while giving considerable weight to the long-term improvement of capital efficiency. Based on such accomplishments, we will strengthen shareholder returns.

We will promote sustainability management and strategically allocate management resources to developing technology and human resources. We will also continue to provide a stable supply of energy, promote climate change response and pioneer energy transformation.

#### Improving Capital Efficiency

- Steady growth in net income through portfolio enhancement, cost reduction
- Introducing ROIC as a new management KPI to more precisely manage capital efficiency. With ROE and COE in mind, will aim to realize ROIC to stably exceed WACC (approx. 6% on CAPM basis) aiming for further enhancement
- Appropriate control of financial leverage

Action to improve Capital Efficiency



Optimization of Cost of Capita

#### Growth Initiatives to Gain Market Confidence

Gaining market confidence to our future business growth through following initiatives:

- Oil and Gas (Ichthys, Abadi) growth
- Turning our renewable energy business into a contributor to stable income
- Through CCS, reducing stranded asset risks in oil and gas
- Capturing growth opportunities in hydrogen and ammonia

Stronger Shareholder Returns
and Deeper Dialogue with Investors

Confidence in Future Business Growth

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## INPEX CORPORATION (1605) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400





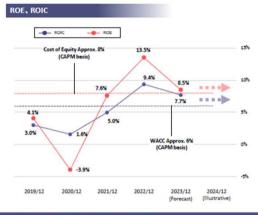
### **Initiatives to Improve Capital Efficiency**

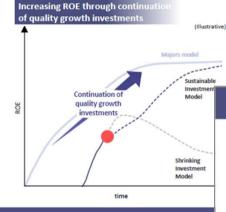
Following the start-up of Ichthys, INPEX is in the next phase of growing its business foundations. By continuing even higher quality growth investments, we aim to enlarge our portfolio and improve capital efficiency through strengthening our energy business foundations.

We aim to achieve a ROIC above WACC in each of our business areas.

 To appropriately reflect our business characteristics, for the numerator of ROIC, we utilize adjusted net income (before interest expenses, extraordinary profit/loss and net income/loss attributable to non-controlling interests), which includes equity in earnings of affiliates such as the ichthys Downstream IV. Backed by strong cashflow through factors such as stable production at Ichthys, reduction of interest-bearing debt has progressed ahead of schedule further securing our financial soundness. Going forward, we will appropriately control leverage so that the net D/E ratio remains largely within the range of 30% to 50%.

INPEX





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### Stronger Shareholder Returns and Deeper Dialogue with Investors

INPEX

Based on our confidence in securing future business growth and as an action to improve capital efficiency, we will continue to strengthen shareholder returns.

With reduction of net interest-bearing debt steadily progressing, keeping in mind the balance with growth investments, we will expand allocation to shareholder returns and conduct the following measures.

As a result, shareholder returns in FY2023 will amount to approximately 200.0 billion yen. Dividend payout ratio and total payout ratio (including buyback) is forecasted to be approximately 30% and 61%, respectively.

- ① Annual DPS forecast increased to 74 yen per share from 62 yen in FY2022 (37 yen interim & 37 yen at year-end)
- ② Best efforts will be made for FY2024 DPS to be equal to or greater than FY2023 DPS
- 3 To conduct share buybacks amounting 100.0 billion yen in FY2023
- 4 To cancel own shares acquired in FY2022 and FY2023 (120.0 billion yen in FY2022, 100.0 billion yen in FY2023)



#### **Share Buybacks and Cancellation** 100.0 To be bought 2023/12 billion back and cancelled yen 120.0 About 80 2022/12 billion cancelled million shares ven 70.0 About 76 2021/12 hillion Cancelled million shares yen

Deeper Dialogue with Investors

- Institutional investors and analysts: To hold inaugural Investor Day and enhance one-on-one meetings, small meetings, conferences organized by securities companies, overseas road shows, overseas site visits
- Individual investors: To enhance presentation sessions and domestic site visits

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(August 10, 2023) Page14,16

Source: INPEX CORPORATION Financial Results for the six months ended June 30, 2023

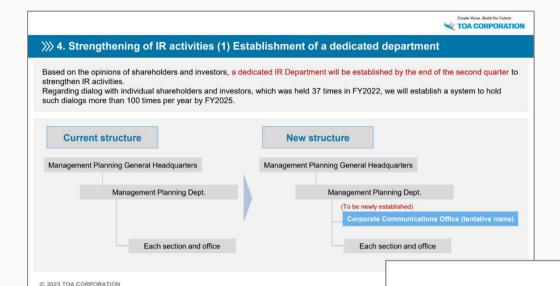
https://www.inpex.co.ip/english/ir/library/pdf/presentation/e-Presentation20230810-a.pdf

## TOA CORPORATION (1885) (i)

TOPIX Small









## **Voice of Investors**

Establishment of a new department dedicated to investor relations and efforts to enhance information disclosure show that management is committed to improving the way it deals with shareholders and investors, and investors can expect accelerated efforts to increase corporate value in the future.

Create Value, Build the Future
TOA CORPORATION

### >>> 4. Strengthening of IR activities (2) Enhancement of information disclosure

We received advice from shareholders and investors that information disclosure should be enhanced in order to fully promote the quality of the Company, including expanding disclosures in English.

We will further expand the disclosure of both quantitative and qualitative information. We will improve our English-language disclosures, particularly for overseas institutional investors.

The company established a dedicated department to strengthen IR activities and works to enhance information disclosure, including English disclosure, based on on investors' opinions. Opinions obtained through dialogue are reported to the board on a regular basis and reflected in the review of measures. (→ Point III.1)

Source: TOA CORPORATION, Action Plan to Improve Price-to-Book Ratio (May 12, 2023), Page6-7 https://pdf.irpocket.com/C1885/ba4w/CWen/bNjb.pdf

#### 1) Enhanced quantitative information

Enhanced supplementary material on financial results
Starting from disclosure documents for the FY ended March 31, 2023

i) Additional information required by investors

Provide additional information such as background information about the target plan at the beginning of the term and follow up information on any deviations from the original plan during the term.

ii) Disclosure in English

Approximately two weeks after the announcement of financial results, an English version of the supplementary material on financial results will be disclosed.

#### 2) Enhanced qualitative information

#### Establishment of IR Day (from FY2023)

- i) A detailed explanation of each business line's strengths (domestic civil engineering, domestic construction, and international)
- \* About one hour (including a Q&A session) for each business line.
- ii) A detailed explanation of our sustainability policies and initiatives
- \* Human capital, climate change, etc.

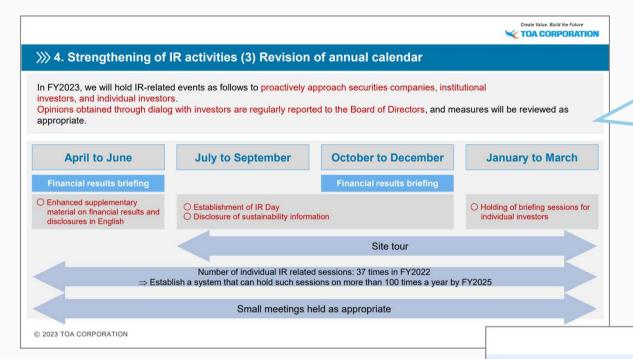
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## TOA CORPORATION (1885) (ii)

TOPIX Small







 The company provides regular reports to the board members on opinions obtained through dialogue with investors and reviews their measures to reflect those opinions.
 (→Point III. 1)

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TOA CORPORATION

 They provide disclosure of major opinions expressed in dialogue with shareholders and investors and the status of subsequent responses (→Point III. 3)

Source: TOA CORPORATION, "Action Plan to Improve Price-to-Book Ratio" (May 12, 2023), Page8, 11

https://pdf.irpocket.com/C1885/ba4w/CWen/bNjb.pdf

Reference 2) Main opinions obtained through dialog with shareholders and investors in FY2022

Shareholders and investors have generally understood the stable growth potential of our main business. However, there were suggestions that we need to improve our approach, particularly with regard to shareholder returns and IR activities. We have implemented some measures but will make further improvements.

1) Approach to shareholder returns, etc.

Priority should be given to increasing the value per share by buying back shares when the share price is low and increase the dividend when the stock price is rising.

The 20–30% dividend payout ratio (set in the previous mediumterm management plan) is not sufficient. It is necessary to improve the dividend payout ratio. 2) Lack of IR activities and information disclosure, etc.

The Supplementary Material on Financial Results discloses past figures only for the second and fourth quarters, and the gross profit is not known. Since I cannot formulate a model, I would like you to disclose the other past figures as well. (=> Disclosures have been already made since FY2020)

The Supplementary Material on Financial Results needs to be disclosed in English.

The reason why the price-to-book ratio is low even though it is comparable to other companies in the same industry is largely due to a lack of recognition by the market. I would like you to disclose trends in an easy-to-understand manner and emphasize your quality well.

Among marine constructors, you have a future, and I feel that you can differentiate yourselves from the competition, so I think the price-to-book ratio is at a comparatively cheap level. However, I do not feel after holding shares for five years that there has been an increase in the number of long-term investors. IR should be strengthened.

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## Sumitomo Forestry Co.,Ltd. (1911) (i)

**TOPIX** Mid400

## Constru ction



#### ◆ 住友林業

Efforts to Realize Management that is Mindful of Equity Cost and Share Prices

- Recognition that Sumitomo Forestry's shareholders' equity cost is about 7%.
- ROE was 19.4% in FY12/22 and forecast to be 13.7% for FY12/23, trending at a rate that is significantly higher than shareholders' equity cost.
- PER has recently been improving to about 9.0x. However, in FY12/22 when the outlook for the US housing market was uncertain, it was 4.3x, moving at a lower rate than other companies in the same industry.
- PBR is currently about 1.0x. To achieve further improvements in corporate value, we recognize that it is even more important to steadily implement and establish the medium- to long-term growth strategy.

- Continue to aim toward achieving the targets set out in the Medium-Term Management Plan, which is positioned as the three-year period for realizing the Long-Term Vision and creating its foundation.
- Financial targets set out in the Medium-Term Management Plan ROE: 15% or higher in a stable manner, Consolidated recurring income: 173 billion ven, Capital adequacy ratio: 40% or higher, Net DE ratio: 0.7 or less, Investment plan: 300 billion yen (three-year total).
- Implementation of growth strategy for the US housing development business while remaining mindful of controlling inventory risks and improving turnover rate.
- Realization of initiatives that contribute toward the realization of a decarbonized society, such as the creation of the Forestry Fund.
- Investment in growth areas while maintaining financial soundness, and providing shareholder returns based on the stable dividend policy.
- Further pursuit of capital efficiency, including reducing assets held and reducing cross-shareholdings, etc.
- Introduction of executive remuneration system that is linked to market capitalization and sustainability indicators (introduced in February 2022)
- Further enhancement of opportunities for dialogue with the market, such as by enhancing disclosure related to arowth businesses

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The company provides disclosure of the their perceived level of cost of equity and the model/parameter settings used to calculate it (→**Point I. 1**)

Source: Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd., FY12/2023 — Second Quarter Financial Results and Full Year Forecast— (August 9, 2023), Page24-25

https://sfc.jp/english/ir/library/pdf/forecast2023 2g.pdf



## **Voice of Investors**

Investors liked this company's proactive approach to its ROE target, which is significantly higher than its cost of capital, as well as its efforts to improve its market valuation. The strong commitment of the management team can be felt through the introduction of a compensation system for board members that is linked to the increase in corporate value.

### **ROE Exceeding Capital Costs**

住友林業

ROE exceeds shareholders' equity cost, and equity spread is positive.

Shareholders

equity cost 7.00%

Also selected for the JPX Prime 150 Index \*Selected based on return on capital (equity spread

### ■ ROE and shareholders' equity cost

Shareholders' equity cost (%) FY12/23

Beta (β) sensitivity

Risk-free rate



Risk premium

■ Toward achieving ROE 15% in a stable manner

Improve profitability

Improve profitability by improving value-added ratio in the US housing business, proposing raising the added value in the domestic housing business

**Improve** capital

Improve capital efficiency by controlling inventory in each business and acquiring carefully selected land through the US housing business.

Growth investment

While maintaining financial soundness, promote investment in growth areas that contribute to increasing corporate value sustainably, beginning with the field of decarbonization.

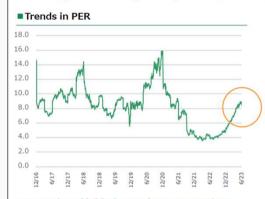
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#### Recent PBR of about 1.0x

◆住友林業 26

PER has remained low from FY12/20 till FY12/22 despite EPS growth, due to the uncertain outlook of the US housing market and other factors. However, it has been improving recently against the backdrop of the payout of stable dividends, enhancing disclosure related to growth businesses, and the recovery of the US single family homes business. PBR is also trending at about 1.0x.





#### ■ Examples of initiatives to improve PER/PBR

- Maintain annual dividend per share for FY12/23 at 125 yen, the same level as in the previous year, although profits are forecast to decline year-on-year.
- Hold briefing sessions on the Global Housing, Construction and Real Estate segment (June 2022, June 2023), and increase the number of items in the disclosure of financial results with a focus on this Business (revision of Factbook in February 2022).

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Active investment to promote and expand businesses set forth in the long-term vision (→Point II. 1)

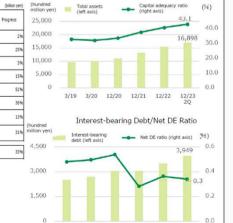
Even though the profitability achieved exceeds the cost of equity, the status of indicators related to market valuation, such as PER and PBR, were also analyzed, and efforts to improve them were considered. (→Point I. 2)

#### ◆ 住友林業

#### Promote Investment in Growth Areas While Maintaining Financial Soundness 27

The three-year investment plan set out in the Medium-Term Management Plan is a cumulative amount of about 300 billion yen. We will also continue to promote the acquisition of real estate for sale separately from the investment plan, promote businesses set out in the Long-Term Vision, and invest actively for expansion.

	Breakdo	FY12/22 Full year results	FY12/23 First half results	Total	The Med	
Major	Timber industrial complex inve	estments	0.4	0.0	0.4	
decarbonization -related	Overseas wooden non-resider	3.6	3.8	7.5		
investments	Forestry Fund-related investm	ents	0.2	0.1	0.4 5.2	
	Timber and Building Materials Manufacturing business investments, etc.		3.9	1.3	5.2	
Investments and		Overseas real estate, land development, etc.	42.9	25.0	67.8	
loans other than	Housing	Model homes, offices, etc.	6.4	2.5	8.9	
the above, by segment	Environment and Resources	Renewable energy/forestry/afforestation investments, etc.	3.1	0.8	3.9	Г
	Other	System investments (DX promotion, etc.), etc.	2.1	2.5	4.6	
	Tota		62.6	36.0	98.7	Г



12/20

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\*Reposted from p.13

Source: Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd., FY12/2023 — Second Quarter Financial Results and Full Year

https://sfc.jp/english/ir/library/pdf/forecast2023 2g.pdf

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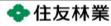
Forecast— (August 9, 2023), Page26-27

## Sumitomo Forestry Co.,Ltd. (1911) (iii)

TOPIX Mid400







## Executive Remuneration System Linked to Enhancing Corporate Value

- In conjunction with the formulation of the Long-Term Vision and Medium-Term Management Plan, the executive remuneration system was reviewed (for FY12/22 and beyond) at the Board of Directors' meeting convened on February 14, 2022. System design is based on the following policy.
- To create a system that is closely linked to improving not only short-term financial results, but also medium- to long-term financial results and corporate value.
- To create a system that is linked to newly created and provided value, alongside the promotion of management that is integrated with ESG.
- To create a system that is mindful of linkage with Sumitomo Forestry's shareholder values.
- To set a remuneration standard that can secure and retain the human resources needed for the achievement of the Long-Term Vision.
- To create a system that secures transparency and objectivity in the process of determining remuneration.

Calculation formula for performance-based restricted Composition ratio of Directors' remuneration stock compensation (illustration in the case where standard profit is 100 billion yen) (1) Amount equivalent to two-thirds of the position-based standard stock compensation 40% amount x Vesting rate \*2 (Sumitomo Forestry's market capitalization growth rate during the Medium-Term Management Plan period/TOPIX growth rate during the same period) Bonus 1 Fixed remuneration 60% (2) Amount equivalent to one-third of the position-based standard stock compensation 25% amount x Vesting rate \*3 (Attainment rate of Medium-Term Management Plan targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions based on SBT) (1) Compensation linked to market (2) Compensation linked to attainment rate capitalization growth rate of sustainability indicators Calculation formula for annual performance-based bonuses Vesting rate (%) Vesting rate (%) Incentive curve Incentive curve Amount of bonus = Standard position-based bonus x Vesting rate \*1 (Initial coverage period: 3 years) 120 Vesting rate (%) Incentive curve 100 100 180 Ratio of market 70 capitalization growth rate to 100 TOPIX growth rate (%) 36 70 100 120 Reduction target (%) 1.000 2,000 \*2 Vesting rate is set to a range from 0% \*3 Vesting rate is set to a range from 0% Base profit (hundred million yen) (minimum) to 120% (maximum) (minimum) to 100% (maximum) \*1 Vesting rate is set at a range from 0% (minimum) to 180% (maximum). ©SUMITOMO FORESTRY CO.,LTD. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

The company introduced a management compensation system with restriction on transfer of shares based on the degree of stock price growth and the rate of achievement of sustainability indicators to make the compensation system highly linked to mid- to long-term business performance and improvement of corporate value.

(→**Point II. 3**)

Source: Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd., FY12/2023 — Second Quarter Financial Results and Full Year Forecast— (August 9, 2023), Page28 https://sfc.jp/english/ir/library/pdf/forecast2023 2g.pdf



### Analysis of current situation and Policies for the present

Since the ROIC of the business is high enough at present, we can achieve an ROE level that exceeds the cost of shareholders' equity by reducing excess capital. In accelerating the current direction, consider and carry out various capital policies.

\* Updated figures only from 2023 2Q disclosure documents (no change in content)

Consolidated Balance Sheet (estimated as of 9/30/2023)

#### [Financial assets]

Cash and deposits Securities (short-term bonds) Investment securities (longterm bonds) Investment securities (crossshareholdings)

Approx.  $\pm 67$  bn

#### [Business assets]

Trade receivables Inventories Property, plant, and equipment/Intangible assets

Chemicals: Approx. ¥ 43 bn Housing Materials: Approx. ¥ 15 bn

Total approx. ¥ 58 br

#### [Excess capital]

(Risk buffer retention policy) Retain 1/3 of annual net sales

(Allocable funds)
Consider shareholder returns, with the amount excluding risk buffers as the capital that can be reduced.
In particular, the reduction in cross-shareholdings is prioritized.

#### [Investment capital]

(Profit indicator to be compared) Operating profit after tax by business

Chemicals business Approx. ¥ 31 bn (ROIC 14%

Housing Materials business Approx. ¥ 8 bn (ROIC 11% level)

Total approx.  $\pm 39$  bn

### [Business liabilities]

Trade payable Labor liabilities and provisions

## [Future earnings to be acquired (FCF)]

(Shareholder return)
Cary out promptly, targeting 50%
of Profit

(Internal reserves)
Prioritize investments in growth
and human capital as risk
capital

## [Net assets in carrying amount]

(Profit indicator to be compared) Profit -> ROE

(Assumed cost of shareholders' equity) 6-8%

(Target ROE)
Set to 8% as a hurdle rate in the short term, and aim to exceed 10% in the future through a capital reduction

Approx. ¥ 84.5 bn

ROE 10% leve

#### [Interestbearing debt]

(Basic Policy on Leverage)
-Actively utilize low-cost funds to the extent that the credit rating can be maintained
-Set D/E ratio to the 30% level

Approx. ¥ 22.3 bn

The company disclosed a balance sheet-based analysis and policy for improvement to achieve higher ROE levels.

(→ Point I.3 & Point II.1)

#### [Future net assets]

Maintain ROE and net asset levels that exceed the cost of capital at all times through balance sheet management to secure both aggressive growth strategies and capital efficiency.

In addition, consider capital policies that enhance the attractiveness of share value from perspectives other than profitability (increased liquidity, preferential treatment) and incentive plans that make employees and management more aware of share value.

## **Voice of Investors**

A unique illustration that shows at a glance that the company is managed with balance sheet awareness. This will lead to a better understanding of the company and deeper dialogue in the future.

Source: SHIKOKU KASEI HOLDINGS CORPORATION, Supplemental Information Financial Results For FY 2023 3Q (October 26, 2023), page14 https://www.shikoku.co.ip/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Supplemental-Information-Financial-Results-for-FY2023 3Q.pdf

[Group capital invested]

After tax (operating profit +

Approx. ¥ 106 bn

(Profit indicator to be

Aiming for 6% or less by

financial revenue)

> Group ROIC

(Target WACC)

leveraging

compared)

## Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (4183) (i)

TOPIX Mid400





### Taking ROIC management to a deeper level

The Mitsui Chemicals Group incorporates ROIC into its business management. In aggressive growth-investment phases, a company's ROIC may experience short-term drops. The Life & Healthcare Solutions business segment is one example: while profits are demonstrating steady growth, the segment's ROIC is on a decline. The downward trend is a temporary one, stemming from aggressive, strategy-driven investments in capacity expansion, other investments, M&A activities, and initiatives to form partnerships. To keep business-promotion efforts positive and active at these junctures, we set ROIC targets not for individual fiscal years but rather from a medium- to long-term perspective.

That said, however, our single-year targets do include ROIC components, such as cash conversion cycle (CCC), in addition to profit targets, providing us with insights that we can use to enhance asset efficiency. For example, we configure a specific CCC target for each business division and monitor progress on a quarterly basis. The Group had 440.0 billion yen i in inventories as of March 31, 2023. An increase of 3% in that total would mean a reduction in cash flow of more than 10 billion yen. As we work to apply cash resources to growth investments more efficiently and effectively, we will need to take steps to improve our CCC.

We will also continue to boost our Group-wide ROIC

through a variety of efforts to review asset holdings across the Group, such as reducing cross-held shares and selling and disposing of idle facilities and equipment. We monitor ROIC levels on a business division basis for every accounting period to assess whether our strategy-based measures are heading in the right direction. In addition, we are exploring ways to accelerate business restructuring through strategy discussions based on a classification of businesses according to ROIC and profit growth. For example, we decided in June 2023 to address the low ROIC levels in Mitsui Chemicals Tohcello, Inc.'s packaging film business by forging a business alliance arrangement with other companies, thereby enhancing performance.

We are thus working to develop and establish a management framework mindful of cost of capital. However, the Group-wide average ROIC as of fiscal 2022 is just over 5%—still short of our return on equity (ROE), which exceeds 10%. To bring our corporate value up to a level comparable with those at other specialty companies, we will need to deepen our ROIC management even further.

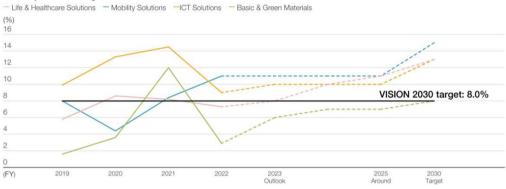
Crucial to that effort will be a stronger awareness of the connections between non-financial components and ROIC. Safety and quality, for example, are core components of business foundations that enhancements in corporate value

#### Financial Strategy

rely on. The same idea applies to human capital. If we can implement measures to transform our corporate culture step by step and help our employees see things from a new perspective, I think we will be able to execute portfolio

transformations even more quickly and further enhance corporate value. Embracing that mindset, we are working to build structures that will facilitate ROIC improvements from both the financial side and the non-financial side.

#### ROIC by business segment

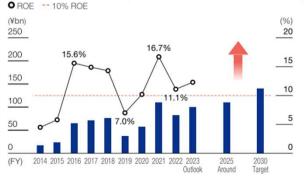


The company has been working for a long time to deepen ROIC management by reviewing asset holdings and promoting portfolio transformation. (→Point II. 1)

## Seeking to increase the P/B ratio by raising the level of ROE, accelerating profit growth in growth domains, promoting further restructuring, boosting shareholder returns, etc.

#### ROE

Profit attributable to owners of parent/Net income attributable to owners of the parent





## **Voice of Investors**

This company has been steadily implementing structural reforms, including a review of its business portfolio, and its stated initiatives have a substantial degree of persuasiveness. In addition, the company's top management frequently communicates with the market, and we feel that the voices of investors are being properly conveyed to the company.

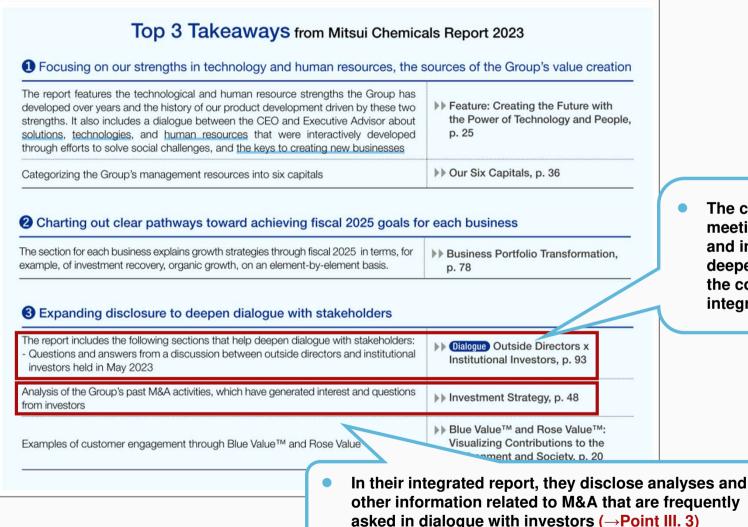
Source: Mitsuii Chemicals, MITSUI CHEMICALS REPORT 2023 (September 29, 2023), Page45-46 https://jp.mitsuichemicals.com/content/dam/mitsuichemicals/sites/mci/documents/ir/ar/ar23 all web en.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf

## Mitsui Chemicals, Inc. (4183) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400







The company conducted roundtable meetings between outside directors and investors for the purpose of deepening dialogue and disclosing the content of such meetings in the integrated report. (→Point III.1)

Source: Mitsuii Chemicals, MITSUI CHEMICALS REPORT 2023 (September 29, 2023), page1 (Red frames added by TSE) <a href="https://jp.mitsuichemicals.com/content/dam/mitsuichemicals/sites/mci/documents/ir/ar/ar23">https://jp.mitsuichemicals.com/content/dam/mitsuichemicals/sites/mci/documents/ir/ar/ar23</a> all web en.pdf.coredownload.inline.pdf

## **RAKSUL INC.** (4384) (i)

TOPIX Small Information & Communica tion





Competitive Compensation: Strengthening Equity Incentives

 Our basic purpose and approach to equity incentives have remained the same since the disclosure of our RS system implementation in FY2019 40

Durana	To align the incentives and commitment of directors and employees with the maximization of long-term shareholder value
Purpose	To ensure the competitiveness of our compensation level in order to attract and retain talen which is the foundation of our competitive advantage
Structure	Structure: restricted stock (RS) and stock options
Structure	Simple design that both investors and recipients can expect
	Expected dilution of max. 10% over 10 years from FY2019 (around 1% per year)     Designed with flexibility for variation in each year
Dilution	<ul> <li>Abandonment of outstanding Trust SO will reduce dilutive impact by 0.58% (disclosed today)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Our percentage of dilutive shares was 7.3% at IPO and 5.1% as of the end of the fiscal year ending July 2023 - lower than other growing companies (see other pages for stock incentive balance)</li> </ul>
	Stock-based compensation expense for FY2023 was JPY 652MM per year
Impact on P&L/CF	<ul> <li>Stock-based compensation expense for FY2024 will be maximum JPY 550MM per year <sup>(1)</sup></li> <li>As the impact is neutral in terms of cash flow, we disclose non-GAAP profits, excluding the impact of RS</li> </ul>



[2] Calculated based on an estimated share price of JPY 1.400 yer

## **Voice of Investors**

The newly introduced CEO compensation package is designed to encourage the new CEO, who succeeded the founder, to embody a founder's spirit, actively engage in corporate growth, and show a strong commitment to achieving corporate growth.

Notes

(I) Estimate as of September 2023. The amount will be affected by stock price. Decrease from the previous period due to the vesting of achievement of performance requirements and the abandonment of the Stock Acquisition Rights No.15 (Trust 50)

• After the retirement of the founder and CEO, the company set a maximum percentage of stock compensation and introduced RSUs (Restricted Stock Units) linked to profit growth to encourage the new CEO to commit to the improvement of corporate value over the medium to long term (→Point II. 3)

Source: RAKSUL INC, Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2023 (September 12, 2023), Page57-58

https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/4384/ir material for fiscal vm3/141632/00.pdf



#### Incentive Design for CEO

- Multiple alignment tools with the shareholders' viewpoint, in order to ensure that the new CEO will not merely be a hired successor, but become a "founder" who will be responsible for increasing the company's value over the next 10 years
- While monetary compensation level is lower than that of other listed companies, the ratio of equity compensation is set at the highest possible level to encourage long-term commitment
- All incentive grants to be contingent upon approval of the grant of RSUs at the 14th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders

Name	Format	Number of Shares(Dilution %(1))	Conditions of Exercise, etc.	PL/BS Impact <sup>[2</sup>
Monetary Compensation	Monetary Compensation	-	+	Executive compensation expenses
Restricted Stock Units (RSU)	Stock-Based Compensation (Service requirement + Single year performance requirement)	Total for 10 years Maximum 877,000 Shares (1.30%)	Removal of restrictions on the transfer of 87,700 shares each after the end of each fiscal year, provided that the following two conditions are met (if not met, the share will be forfeited for that fiscal year)  - Remain as CEO until the end of each fiscal year  - Consolidated gross profit growth of over 13% YoY	Expense of approx JPY 120MM per yea
Stock Options (Paid in SO)	Performance Target Linked (Stock price requirement + Performance requirement)	877,000 Shares (1.30%)	3 tranches setting (share price requirement and performance requirement)  1. Share price of 8,300 yen (market capitalization of approximately 300 billion yen) + EBITDA of 10 billion yen: 20% exercisable  2. Share price 12,000 yen (market cap of approx. 700 billion yen: 33% exercisable  3. Stock price of 17,000 yen (market capitalization of approximately 1 trilion yen) + EBITDA of 20 billion yen: 47% exercisable  Performance evaluation after 3 years for a period of 10 years	Expense of appro JPY 80MM per yer
Negotiated Transaction	Capital Gain	877,000 Shares (0.00%)	No dilution due to the fact that this is a secondary transaction and not an issuance of new shares Company stocks will be purchased from the founder, Yasukane Matsumoto, and the stock market in a negotiated transaction (We lend part or all of the funds)	•11
Total	1,7	54,000 Shares + 877,000 Sha	res	Expense of approx

## **RAKSUL INC.** (4384) (ii)

**TOPIX** 

Communica



## ® RAKSUL

### Issuance of Stock-Based Compensation and Performance Target Linked Stock Options(1)

- Issued a total of 4 stock options linked to stock-based compensation and performance target linked stock options in December 2022
- 1. and 2. are stock-based compensations as annual incentives (1-yen SO instead of RS has been implemented for employees from the current fiscal year)
- 3. and 4. (collectively called Quality Growth Stock Option 2022) are stockbased compensations linked to performance targets and serve as medium-term incentives. However, the decision was made to abandon the Trust SO because it could no longer fulfill its original purpose

Name	Туре	Number of Shares (Dilution % <sup>[2]</sup> )	Allotees	Conditions for Exercise, etc.
1.Restricted Stock-Based Compensation (RS)	Stock-Based Compensation	11,260 shares (0.04%)	Directors	Restriction on transfers lifted in a lump sum after 3 years
2. Stock Acquisition Rights No.13 (1-yen SO)(3)	Stock-Based Compensation	42,370 shares (0.15%)	Employees	Exercisable in one sixth increments every 6 months
3. Stock Acquisition Rights No.14 (Paid-in SO)	Performance Target Linked (Quality Growth Stock Option 2022)	192,500 shares (0.66%)	Directors Employees	When EBITDAI <sup>31</sup> a) Exceeds JPY 2.88n in FY2023 or FY2024: 50% exercisable b) Exceeds JPY 4.08n in FY2024 or FY2025: 50% exercisable
4. Stock Acquisition Rights No.15 (Trust SO) (4)	Performance Target Linked (Quality Growth Stock Option 2022)	167,500 shares (0.58%)	Directors Employees New hires	Same as above

The company promotes initiatives to align executive and employee incentives and commitments with the enhancement of corporate value by granting restricted shares and stock options to board members other than the CEO, and stock options to employees (→Point II. 3)

Notes (3) In February 2023, we executed a stock splf (from 1 share to 2 shares). This page shows the number of shares before the stock sp (2) District rate based on 29,000,100 shares (290,297 votting rights), the total number of outstanding shares of the Company as of Ir (3) Stock Acquisition rights described in the "Announcement of Issuance of Stock-based Compensation Stock Options (2004 Acquisition 1). (4) Stock Acquisition Rights described in the "Announcement of Issuance of Stock Acquisition Rights No.15 Using a Third-party Allots and Introduction of a Market Value Issued Stock Acquisition Rights Trust" disclosed on November 17, 2022

413.630 shares

(1.4296)

## ® RAKSUL

### Stock Incentive Design based on Quality Growth

- Performance target-linked stock options (collectively called Quality Growth Stock Option 2022) issued in December 2022
- Gross profit, the condition for exercising the Stock Acquisition Rights No.12 issued in July 2020, was substantially achieved. EBITDA has been now set as the condition for the exercise, with the aim of generating profit while continuing the growth
- Potential dilution from these stock options is 0.66% (Figures after abandonment of Trust SO)

Purpose

With the intention of improving our business performance and corporate value over the medium-to-long term, we aim to further enhance the motivation and morale of our directors and employees and further strengthen company cohesiveness

Condition of Exercise

Issued in July 2020 Stock Acquisition Rights No.12 (Paid-in SO)

> **Gross Profit** FY2022 - FY2024 JPY 7.7Bn

FY2022 Result JPY 9.8Bn

Issued in December 2022 **Quality Growth Stock Option 2022** (Paid-in SO/Trust SO)

JPY 2.8Bn (50% Exercisable) b) FY2024 or FY2025

Source: RAKSUL INC Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending July 31, 2023 (September 12, 2023) Page87-88

Total

https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/4384/ir material for fiscal vm3/141632/00.pdf

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a) FY2023 or FY2024

JPY 4.0Bn (50% Exercisable)

Information & Communica tion



[Our view on the importance of allocating management resources with full aw areness of the cost of capital and return on capital]

With regard to our cost of capital, we strive to understand not only the figures calculated based on generally accepted calculation methods, but also the actual cost of capital demanded by external parties. For this purpose, we conduct a questionnaire survey of securities analysts and institutional investors at the financial results briefing held each quarter. Based on the results of the survey and the figures applied in analyst reports issued by securities firms, we currently estimate that the cost of capital demanded of us is around 7% to 8%.

On the other hand, our ROE for the most recent fiscal year, ending December 31, 2022, was 13.4%, and the average ROE for the past five years was 15.5% (maximum 18.9%, minimum 13.4%), which we believe is consistently above the cost of capital.

In addition, the PBR (price book value ratio) is 3.77 times, well above 1x, base d on the closing price of our stock at the end of 2022, and the PER (price to e



### **Voice of Investors**

Surveying investors about cost of capital is a good initiative in terms of understanding investors' expectations.  The company conducts a questionnaire survey of securities analysts and institutional investors at each quarterly earnings conference to ascertain cost of capital. (→Point I. 1)

arnings ratio) is 28.75 times. The PBR ratio has been consistently above 1x no t only in the most recent period but also in other periods. Based on the above, we recognize that our PBR ratio is sufficiently evaluated from the viewpoint of PBR ratio, and we have not set any special improvement measures or targets to significantly improve our PBR ratio from the current level.

Despite this recognition of the current situation, we are conscious of further i mproving the efficiency of shareholders' equity.

First, we intend to return profits to shareholders through a year-end dividend f or the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 (target: 100 billion yen), which will consist of ordinary and special dividends, and a share buyback during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 (target: 40 billion yen). This policy is expected to reduce the level of cash held by the Group and significantly improve the efficiency of shareholders' equity.

Second, our basic policy for shareholder returns for the fiscal year ending Dec ember 31, 2024 (payment in 2025) and beyond is to fully return net income ge nerated from investments necessary for business growth through year-end div idends and share repurchases in the following fiscal year, without retaining any retained earnings. Since cash will continue to increase above the minimum req uired amount even after the substantial shareholder return in 2024, we will pri oritize improving capital efficiency through shareholder returns and M&A.

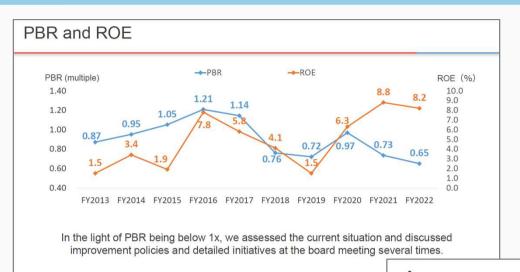
Source: Trend Micro Incorporated, Corporate Governance Report (December 7, 2023), Page13-14 (Red frame added by TSE) <a href="https://www.trendmicro.com/ja\_ip/about/investor-relations/corporate-governance.html?modal=corporate-governance-report\_223127pdf">www.trendmicro.com/ja\_ip/about/investor-relations/corporate-governance.html?modal=corporate-governance-report\_223127pdf</a>

## ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Co.,Ltd. (4886) (i)

**TOPIX** Small

**Pharma** ceutical







## **Voice of Investors**

Main points related to "Action to Implement **Management That is Conscious of Cost of Capital** and Stock Price" are covered succinctly and explained in a way that is easy for investors to understand.

\* PBRs for FY2013-FY2022 are calculated based on the year-end share price PBRs and ROEs up to FY2020 are those of ASKA Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. PBRs and ROEs after FY2021 are those of ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings



Assessment of Current Status and Policy for Improvement

### Assessment of Current Status

- ✓ The Company's ROE has increased to the 8% level for three consecutive fiscal years of profit growth and has exceed the 8% target for FY2025, the final year of the Medium-Term Management Plan.
- ✓ On the other hand, PBR has been below 1x since FY2018. We assess that the feasibility of the growth strategy was not fully understood, the external communication was not sufficient, and the Company did not disclose specific cash allocation. This was due to the Company's lack of clear direction for growth strategy and shareholder returns.

### Policy for Improvement

Conscious of Cost of Capital and Share Price" (November 10 2023), Page 5-6

To improve market valuation, we will continue to strengthen IR activities to communicate our growth strategy by holding financial results briefings and pipeline briefings. Moreover, we will consider optimal cash allocation and take action to implement management that is conscious of the cost of capital and our share price to enhance the feasibility of the growth strategy and meet the expectations of our shareholders. We will continue to reduce cross-shareholdings as a percentage of net assets to less than 20% by the end of March 2024.



X ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Co., Ltd.

Based on the situation where ROE has exceeded the target of 8%, but P/B ratio is below 1, the company analyzed the contributing factors and considered initiatives for improvement. (→ **Point I.2**)

Source: ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings CO., Ltd, "ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Takes Action to Implement Management That is

March 2023

## ASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Co.,Ltd. (4886) (ii)

X ASKA Pharmaceutical

TOPIX Small







 The company provides disclosure of its mid-term cash allocation policy for future growth (→Point II. 1)

Details of Initiatives 3) Strengthen IR Activities

 They describe efforts to strengthen investor relations activities by increasing the number of investor briefings and enhancing information disclosure (→Point III. 1)

- ♦ Strengthen financial results briefings for individual/institutional investors
- Continue constructive dialogue with shareholders and investors (IR meetings)
- ♦ Create new opportunities for dialogue, such as small meetings and pipeline briefings
- Report to the Board of Directors on opinions obtained at IR meetings, etc., as appropriate, and conduct reviews
- ♦ Enhance information disclosure by expanding our website information and availability in English



Financial results briefing for institutional investors (Webcasts in May and November)



IR seminars for individual investors (Held in February and August 2023)

IR meetings with analysts and institutional investors: 78 times; total of 98 participants

> IR meetings (Actual in FY2022)

XASKA Pharmaceutical Holdings Co., Ltd.

Cash Equivalents 17.5 billion

## Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. (5019) (i)

**TOPIX** Mid400





## Market Valuation ■ Market Valuation (1): 5-year Stock Performance [Indexed to April 2018] ▲ 30% **▲**80% April 2020 April 2023 [¥100 millions] 0 ■ Market Valuation (2): 5-year PBR Trend 2,000 1.500 1,000 500 **April 2018**

- ✓ Correlation between the stock price and crude oil prices began to decrease in late 2020. Despite reporting strong profitability from FY21 onward, this may not have been reflected in the stock price due to reduced petroleum demand and heightened momentum towards carbon neutrality
- ✓ PBR exceeded 1x up to 2019 when merger discussions were ongoing, but current PBR is about 0.5x

**F**idemitsu 28

The company presented their recognition that there is a gap between the CAPM-based cost of capital and the market's return expectations, and revised its ROE target upwards. (→ Point I. 1)

Source: Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd, Presentation on Results for FY2022 (May 9, 2023), page28-29 (Red frame added by TSE)

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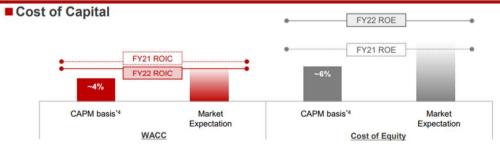
## **Voice of Investors**

After TSE's request, the company was quick to disclose recognition of its current situation and the direction being taken in discussions. They then revised their ROE target upward. In addition, the company's efforts to improve capital efficiency through business restructuring and to engage in more active dialogue with the market demonstrate the sincerity of its efforts.

### Return on capital, cost of capital and Our Strategy

#### ■ Return on Capital

	FY21	FY22	FY23 Forecast	FY25 Target <sup>11</sup>	FY30 Target <sup>*1</sup>
ROIC*2	6.8%	5.9%	4.6%	5.0%	7.0%
ROE'3	9.2%	14.2%	7.4%	8.0%	10.0%



- Recent return on capital has exceeded CAPM-based cost of capital. However, there may be a discrepancy between our cost of capital and the market's expected return
- Pursuing 7% ROIC and improved capital efficiency aimed at improving PBR through business structure reforms towards 2030 based on the new medium-term plan starting April 2023 and considering an upward revision of ROE targets
- We will continue to engage in active dialogue with the capital markets and reflect their opinions in our \*1 Targets: Targets in the medium-term plan announced in Nov. 2022
  \*2 ROIC: (Post-tax operating income excluding inventory impact + equity income)/ (shareholders' equity + interest-bear enterprise value creation efforts

## idemitsu \*3 ROE: Net income excluding inventory impact / shareholders' equity

\*4 CAPM basis: cost of bearing-interest debt (0.7% after tax), cost of equity(risk-free rate 0.23% for 10-year go

## Idemitsu Kosan Co.,Ltd. (5019) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400





### To Improve Corporate Value and Equity Value

FY25 ROE target revised upward to "≥ 10%" Reduce cost of capital to rapidly achieve PBR ≥ 1.0

Further accelerate medium-term plan initiatives

#### **Business strategy**

- Promote structural reforms
- Further enhance earnings from existing businesses and capital efficiency
- Transform business and reduce GHG through expansion of new businesses

#### Capital/financial strategy

- Promote capital/ financial strategy to enhance return on capital
- Enhance shareholder returns

Expand the shareholder/investor base and improve communication

Source: Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd, Presentation on Results for the 2nd Quarter FY2023 (November



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 As announced in May 2023, the company actually revised their ROE target upwards. They raised their ROE target level from 8% to 10% or more based on the level of market return expectations (→Point II.4)

### **Upward Revision of the FY25 ROE Target**

#### **FY25 ROE target:**

At the medium-term plan announcement (11/2022)	Current revision
8.0%	≥10%

#### Reason for the upward revision

 Considering both necessity for further improvement of return on capital from existing businesses and the cost of capital expected by the market; ROE ≥ 10% must be achieved

Direction of efforts aimed at achieving "ROE ≥ 10%":

- 1. Further enhance earnings and capital efficiency from existing businesses
  - Petroleum: Increase capacity utilization at refineries, increase earnings from overseas, reduce capital investments, etc.
  - · Functional materials: Leverage M&A, etc. to expand growing businesses
  - Businesses facing challenges: Achieve stable profits of NSRP and power/renewable energy segment
- 2. Implement capital/financial strategy to enhance profitability
  - Pursue optimal financing balance, taking business risk, credit ratings, return on capital, etc.
  - · Improve shareholder returns (next slide)

5

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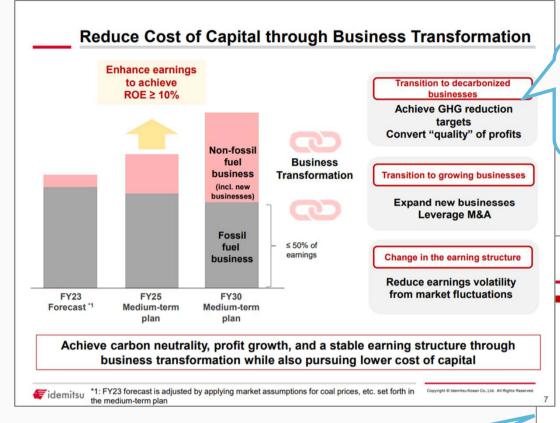
14, 2023), Page4-5

## Idemitsu Kosan Co.,Ltd. (5019) (iii)

TOPIX **Mid400** 







They intend to work to **expand their investor base by** reducing the minimum investment unit, and further enhance opportunities for dialogue with the market and information disclosure (→ Point III. 1)

Source: Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. Presentation on Results for the 2nd Quarter FY2023 (November 14, 2023), Page7,10 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/5019/tdnet/2362973/00.pdf

The company is working to reduce cost of capital through transition to decarbonized/growing business and change in the earning structure.

(→ **Point II.2**)

### Expand the Shareholder/Investor Base and Improve Communication

Stock split

The stock split will be implemented to increase shareholders who identify with our group's medium-to-long-term strategy by reducing the share price and making it easier to invest in our stock

Split ratio:

1:5

Minimum investment:

~¥70,000

Record date: 12/31/2023 Effective date: 1/1/2024

Increase from ¥24 to ¥32/share for annual dividend after the stock split and set this as the FY 2023 Good (increase from ¥120 to ¥160/post-split share and set this as the minimum)

Increase opportunities for dialogue with the capital markets and information disclosures

demitsu Connect

- √ We were ranked the 1st of the energy sector in good disclosure company. selected by the Securities Analyst Association of Japan
- We will continue to increase the quality and quantity of disclosures
- Created shareholder website "Idemitsu Connect"
  - Created as a platform for individual shareholders to learn about and connect more with Idemitsu
  - Planning the following events
    - :online live events featuring the president, site tours, shareholder perks lottery system, etc.

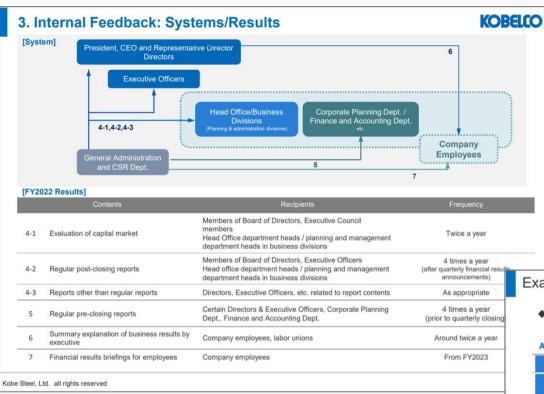
Fidemitsu \*1: Calculated based on a pre-split price of ¥3,500 per share.

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## Kobe Steel, Ltd. (5406) (i)

TOPIX Mid400 Iron and Steel





The company established an internal feedback system to utilize the dialogue in promoting initiatives to enhance corporate value, and disclose the results of the dialogue as well as the results of such initiatives (→Point III. 3)

Source: Kobe Steel, Ltd., Dialogue with the Capital Market FY2022 (June 2023), Page9,11 <a href="https://www.kobelco.co.jp/english/about\_kobelco/kobesteel/governance/files/capital\_markets\_22\_e.pdf">https://www.kobelco.co.jp/english/about\_kobelco/kobesteel/governance/files/capital\_markets\_22\_e.pdf</a>



## **Voice of Investors**

The company's disclosure clearly shows the status of dialogue with shareholders and investors and how it is incorporated into management decisions, and conveys the company's commitment to using dialogue as a growth driver, which will lead to deeper, more constructive dialogue in the future.

Examples of Initiatives that Incorporated Dialogue Outcomes



The Kobe Steel Group has implemented the following kinds of initiatives that reflect dialogues with the capital market in its pursuit of initiatives for sustainable growth and enhancement of corporate value.

#### **Achievements to Date**

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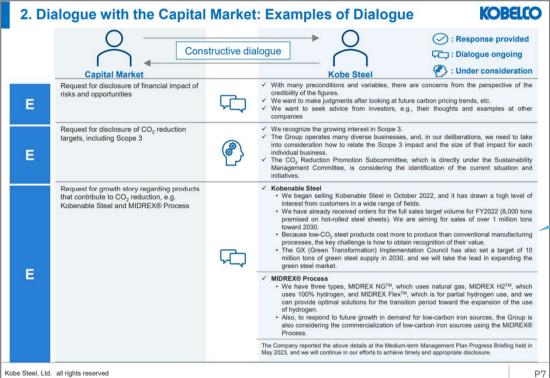
E	CO <sub>2</sub> reductions	Formulated reduc	tion targets and reduction contribution targets	From FY2020			
G	Skills Matrix	Organized knowled	Organized knowledge, experience, and skills officers are expected to demonstrate				
G	Remuneration system for directors and executive officers		Introduced system for incorporating status of ESG-related initiatives into individual evaluation of performance-based compensation				
G	Management structure		Reviewed structure. See <u>P. 27</u> of Medium-term Management Plan presentation material				
Corporate Value	Materiality	Newly formulated		From FY2021			
Corporate Value	Capital efficiency	Included ROIC in targets	From FY2021				
Other	Information disclosure	Expanded disclos businesses	sures, e.g., holding briefings by individual	Ongoing			
[Plans for	FY2023]						
G	Change in policy for strategic shar	eholdings	Change completed in April 2023  Completed in May 2023  Plan to expand disclosures in integrated report to be published in September 2023 and elsewhere				
G	Present status of strategic shareholder						
s	Disclosure of employee engageme	nt information					
G	Dialogues between outside directo market	rs and capital	Plan to conduct in September 2023				
Other	Hold briefings for individual invest	ors	Plan to hold in December 2023				

## Kobe Steel, Ltd. (5406) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400

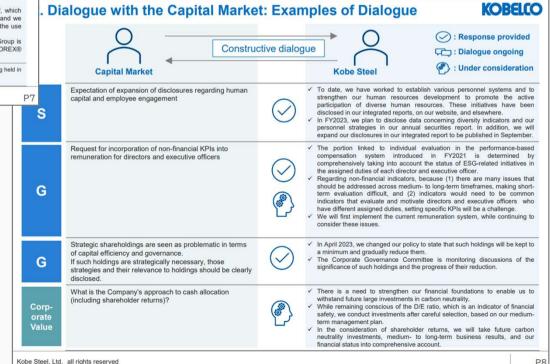






 The company provides disclosure of specific, clear examples of dialogue, the thinking behind them, and the status of subsequent consideration and response.

(→Point III. 3)



Source: Kobe Steel, Ltd., Dialogue with the Capital Market FY2022 (June 2023), Page 7,8 https://www.kobelco.co.ip/english/about\_kobelco/kobesteel/governance/files/capital\_markets\_22\_e.pdf

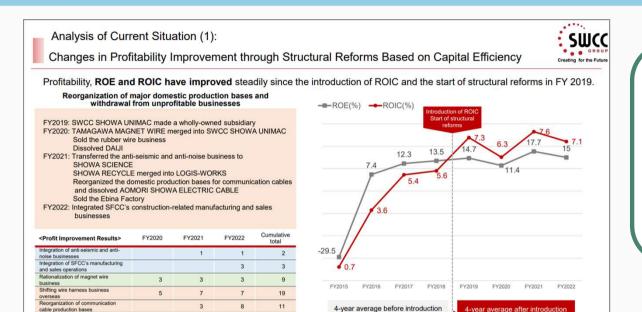
Total (Unit: 100 million ven

## SWCC Corporation (5805) (i)

TOPIX Small Nonferrous Metals



SWCC



3.8%



### **Voice of Investors**

The company has been promoting ROIC management for some time now, and is making steady progress in its transformation. In addition, efforts are being made to communicate how ROIC management is being integrated within the company in a way that is easy to understand for those outside the company, such as by introducing a company newsletter.

 The company conducted time-series and element-by-element analyses of various indicators related to profitability and market valuation (→Point I. 2)

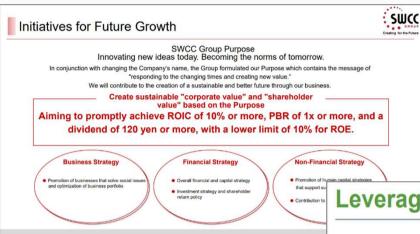
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indicators related to profitability and market valuation (→Point I. 2)

Current status analysis (2): Market valuation transition and decomposition of PBR factors PBR ratios are rising as profitability improves, but are still below 1x recently. In addition, the market is expected to have a low evaluation of the Company's growth potential based on the level of PER. Market capitalization, equity capital, PBR PBR factor decomposition (Millions of yen) (times) 1.20 80.000 Growth rate 70.000 8.49x Cost of shareholders 60 000 equity **PBR** 50,000 0.91x Financial leverage 40.000 Stock prices 2,129 yen ROE Net profit margin on 30.000 sales 10.8% 20.000 Total asset turnover 2,331 yen 10.000 \* Share prices are closing prices on September 29, 2023. FY2015 FY2016 FY2017 FY2018 FY2019 FY2020 FY2021 FY2022 FY2023 Q2 \* All indicators are based on the balance at the end of September. However, profit ratios are the figures announced for the full year. 28

Source: SWCC Corporation, Supplementary Material for the Second Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending March 2024 (November 2, 2023), Page27-28 https://www.swcc.co.jp/eng/company/pdf/Briefing20231108.pdf



 To promote ROIC management throughout the company, easy-to-understand indicators and numerical targets for each site were set so that each employee can view increasing ROIC as part of their job and take action accordingly. (→Point II.1)

## Leveraging our strengths to offer added value proved successful

Looking back on business conditions in fiscal 2021, copper prices remained high in the first half of the fiscal year, and prices of petrochemicals and other raw materials also soared. We therefore worked on improving production efficiency, and from the autumn onwards, passed on the higher costs to customers by raising prices, having obtained their understanding. In terms of changes in our operating environment and our responses to them, I think this was the most significant factor.

Regarding the COVID pandemic, an outbreak of infections in Vietnam hit us especially hard, while in China lockdowns kept logistics paralyzed. As a result, the adverse effects extended to our wire harness business, which we had been endeavoring to expand overseas.

Under these circumstances, the Communication and Industrial Devices Business Segment struggled in terms of profits, but the Energy and Infrastructure Business Segment and the Electrical Equipment and Components Business Segment saw their profits rise, and as a result, our overall consolidated operating results showed higher revenues and profits than we had targeted at the start of the term. In the Energy and Infrastructure Business Segment, we moved away from business targeting long-distance power transmission in favor of total solutions centered on substations. This is an example of the way the SWCC Group has shifted to providing added value by leveraging its strengths, and I feel that our financial results indicate that this approach has been successful.

Regarding capital efficiency, ROIC increased to 7.6% in fiscal 2021 from 6.3% in the previous year. In fiscal 2018,

when we introduced ROIC-based management, ROIC was 5.6%, so we have made considerable strides. Nonetheless, I believe that company-wide penetration of ROIC-based management is still insufficient, so we will aim for further improvement by setting easy-to-understand indicators and target figures for each site so that each employee can view increasing ROIC as part of their job and take action accordingly.



Source: SWCC Corporation

(Left side) Supplementary Material for the Second Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending March 2024 (November 2, 2023), Page25

 $\underline{https://www.swcc.co.jp/eng/company/pdf/Briefing20231108.pdf}$ 

(Right side) Integrated Report2022 (November 25 2022), Page8

(Red frame and red lines added by TSE)

https://www.swcc.co.jp/eng/news/pdf/IntegratedReport2022.pdf

## Toyo Seikan Group Holdings,Ltd. (5901) (i)

TOPIX Mid400

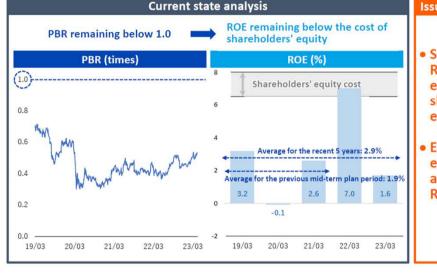




## Current state analysis and issues to address



The price-to-book ratio remaining less than 1.0 for the recent years has prompted us to take specific action following our basic approaches for higher returns on capital and to make a strong commitment.



Issues to address

- Setting an ROE target exceeding the shareholders' equity cost
- Enhancing efforts to achieve the ROE target

Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd. 5

 In addition to a time-series analysis of the various indicators, a comparative analysis with sector averages was conducted to identify issues. (→ Point I.2)

Source: Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd., Capital Efficiency Initiative 2027 (May 12, 2023),

https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/5901/ir material for fiscal ym6/135279/00.pdf

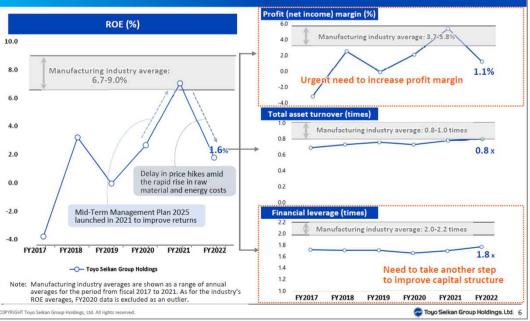
### **Voice of Investors**

This company's report presents a series of contents in an easy-to-understand manner, including an analysis of the current situation, the direction the company is aiming for, and specific measures to be taken. In addition, they present their medium- to long-term cash allocation policy, making it easy to understand how cash will be allocated for investment in growth and shareholder returns in the future. This makes it easier to evaluate investments.

## **Analysis of Return on Equity**

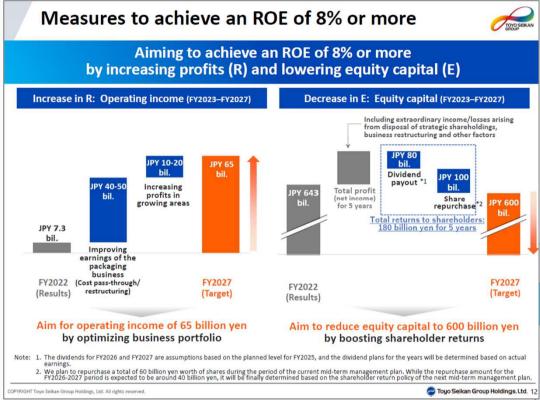


Soaring raw material and energy prices have led to lower ROE, which has forced us to face additional challenges, particularly in improving profitability and capital structure.



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 To improve capital profitability, the company worked to optimize its business portfolio by restructuring unprofitable divisions and expanding growth areas (→Point II. 1)

### Optimizing business portfolio



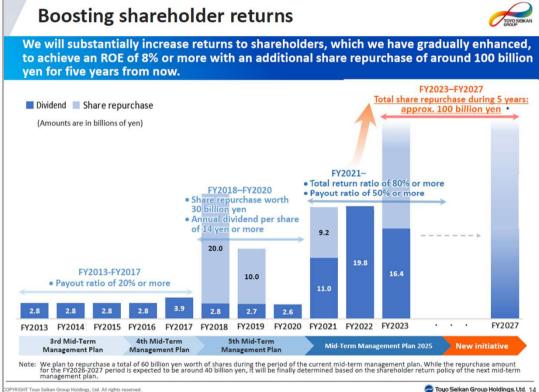
We will accelerate cost pass-through efforts and the restructuring of unprofitable operations mainly in the domestic packaging business and achieve business expansion in growth areas, in order to meet FY2027 operating income target.

9	the second secon		Control of the Contro	
(in billions of yen)	FY2022 results	FY2023-FY2025	FY2026-FY2027	FY2027 targets
Packaging Restructuring	Net sales: 544.4 Operating income: -10.7 Operating income margin: -2.0%	Cost pass-through efforts (30 to 35 billion yen)  Restructure unprofitable operations.  Reduce environmental impact. / Pasaving and other cost cutting efforts.		Net sales: 600.0 Operating 30.0 income: (+40.7) Operating income margin: 5.0%
Engineering/ Filling/Logistics Growth (and restructuring)	Net sales: 198.3 Op. income: 8.7 Op. margin: 4.4%	Restructure unprofitable operations. Improve profitability by tapping into can making machines. (Engineering) in Asian markets with high growth p	/ Increase production capacity	Net sales: 190.0 Op. income: 13.0 (+4.3) Op. margin: 6.8%
Steel Plate Growth	Net sales: 86.5 Op. income: 4.6 Op. margin: 5.4%	Invest in production of materials and rechargeable batteries, which are ra		Net sales: 110.0 Op. income: 7.0 (+2.4) Op. margin: 6.4%
Functional Materials Growth	Net sales: 45.7 Op. income: 2.0 Op. margin: 4.4%	leveraging our technologies in optica		Net sales: 60.0 Op. income: 6.0 (+4.0) Op. margin: 10.0%
Cross-segment growth areas		in the mobility market.  Expand filling and packaging i	ents and engineering operations manufacturing operations erseas markets, particularly in	Net sales: 80.0 Op. income: 6.0 (+6.0)
COPYRIGHT Toyo Seikan Group Ho	ldings, Ltd. All rights reserved.		Toyo:	Selkan Group Holdings. Ltd. 13

Source: Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd., Capital Efficiency Initiative 2027 (May 12, 2023), Page12-13

https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/5901/ir material for fiscal ym6/135279/00.pdf





 The report clearly states the company's cash allocation policy to achieve business growth and improve capital profitability (→Point II.1)

## Cash allocation (FY2023 - FY2027)

term management plan.



Seeking business growth and higher returns on capital, we will strategically allocate funds obtained from operating cash flows and through asset disposal and fundraising to investment activities and shareholder returns.



Note: 1. The dividends for FY2026 and FY2027 are assumptions based on the planned level for FY2025, and the dividend plans for the years will be determined

2. We plan to repurchase a total of 60 billion yen worth of shares during the period of the current mid-term management plan. While the repurchase amount for the FY2026-2027 period is expected to be around 40 billion yen, it will be finally determined based on the shareholder return policy of the next mid-

Source: Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd., Capital Efficiency Initiative 2027 (May 12, 2023), Page14-15

https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/5901/ir material for fiscal ym6/135279/00.pdf

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Toyo Seikan Group Holdings, Ltd. 15



**Techno Smart** 



## Voice of Investors

The company is making sincere efforts based on the expectations of shareholders and investors to realize medium- and long-term improvements in corporate value. In addition, analysis of the current situation and disclosure of initiatives are precise and clearly explained.

 The company disclosed the details of its calculation model and parameter settings, along with its cost of equity level. (→Point I.1)

> The company conducted a time-series analysis of the level of ROE and cost of capital (→Point I.2)

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

## 企業価値向上のための目標ROE

現在のROE水準は市場の求める株主資本コストを十分に上回ることは出来ていないという認識 収益性の向上とバランスシートの効率化を通し、早期に株主資本コストを上回るROEの実現を目指す





Source: Techno Smart Corporation, 3rd Medium-Term Management Plan, page 19-20 (red frame added by TSE)

(2) 市場全体の動きに対する個別証券・ボートフォリオの感応

https://www.technosmart.co.jp/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/%E3%88%86%E3%88%AF%E3%88%BF%E3%882%B9%E3%883%9E%E3%883%BC%E3%883%B6%E7%AC%AC3%E6%AC%A1%E4%B8%AD%E6%9C%9F%E7%B5%8C%E5%96%B6%E8%A8%88%E7%94%BB.pdf

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注:SPEEDAより作成。PBR=時価総額(自己株式調整後)/株主資本等合計(年度実績





 After considering the level of cash and cash equivalents required for business operations, the company developed a future capital allocation policy based on that level, the status of excess cash and cash equivalents, and the outlook for future operating cash flows. (→ Point I. 3 & Point II.1)

## キャピタル・アロケーション

## Techno Smart

事業運営に必要な現預金の水準を、固定費と運転資金の変動見通しから策定。また、策定した水準を踏まえて、 余剰現預金と中計における営業CF見通しから、キャピタル・アロケーションを策定





Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

Source: Techno Smart Corporation, 3rd Medium-Term Management Plan, page 21-22 (red frame added by TSE)

https://www.technosmart.co.jp/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/%E3%83%86%E3%82%AF%E3%83%8E%E3%82%B9%E3%83%9E%E3%83%BC%E3%83%8B.%E7%AC%AC3%E6%AC%A1%E4%B8%AD%E6%9C%9F%E7%B5%8C%E5%96%B6%E8%AB%88%E7%94%BB.pdf

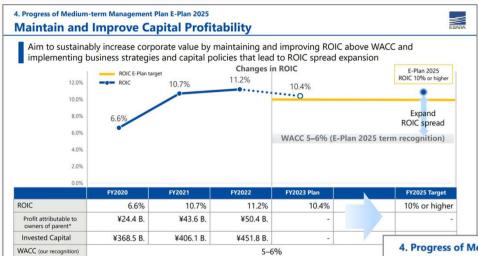
22

## EBARA CORPORATION (6361) (i)

TOPIX Mid400









### **Voice of Investors**

The report clearly explains the current state of ROIC, the goal of expanding its spread, and measures to achieve this goal by presenting breakdowns. This type of disclosure makes it easier to have deeper discussions with management, and investors hope that other companies will find this kind of disclosure useful for investors.

4. Progress of Medium-term Management Plan E-Plan 2025

## **ROIC Spread by Segment**



Streamline production by promoting automated

production



WACC

PROIC-WACC spread is analyzed and evaluated by segment, and measures to increase ROIC spread by segment were announced. (→ Point I.2)

om FY2023, the numerator in the ROIC formula is changed to NOPLAT (Net Operating Profit Less Adjusted Taxes

Source: EBARA CORPORATION, Results Presentation for Six Months Ended June 30, 2023 (August 14, 2023), Page20,22 <a href="https://www.ebara.co.ip/en/ir/library/earnings/briefings-documents/">https://www.ebara.co.ip/en/ir/library/earnings/briefings-documents/</a> icsFiles/afieldfile/2023/08/14/presentation 20230814 1.pdf

(growth business)

## EBARA CORPORATION (6361) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400





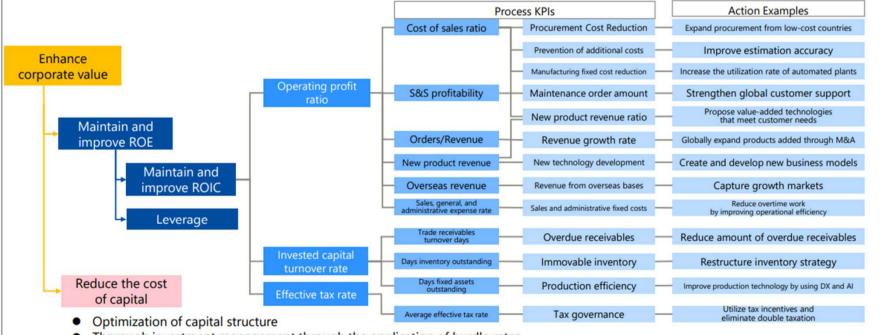
 The company provided a clear explanation of how each initiative contributes to the improvement of corporate value using a ROIC tree. (→ Point II.4)

4. Progress of Medium-term Management Plan E-Plan 2025

### **ROIC Tree**



- Improve capital efficiency through appropriate management of ROIC by business with respect to ROE/ROIC management targets
- Active dialogue with capital markets and implementation of measures to reduce the cost of capital



- Thorough investment management through the application of hurdle rates
- Reduce long-term risks in business operations (BCP, strengthen supply chain management, etc.)
- Expansion of disclosure in financial and non-financial information

 Efforts to reduce cost of capital are also mentioned (→Point II. 2)

Source: EBARA CORPORATION, Results Presentation for Six Months Ended June 30, 2023 (August 14, 2023), Page21 <a href="https://www.ebara.co.jp/en/ir/library/earnings/briefings-documents/">https://www.ebara.co.jp/en/ir/library/earnings/briefings-documents/</a> icsFiles/afieldfile/2023/08/14/presentation 20230814 1.pdf

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## Concordia Financial Group, Ltd. (7186) (i)

TOPIX Mid400

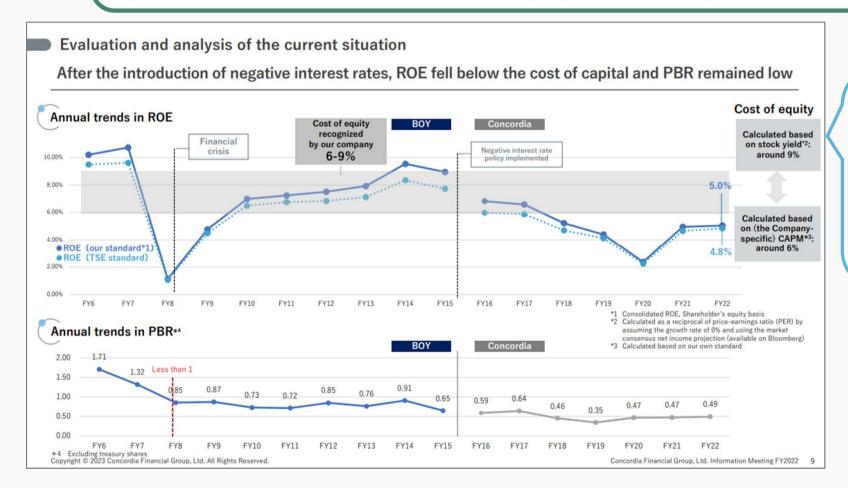






### **Voice of Investors**

The report provides a deep analysis of the company's current situation, including the cost of capital calculation using multiple models, historical analysis of various indicators, and comparisons with other companies in the same industry. In addition, the report provides a clear explanation of how each initiative is expected to contribute to the realization of the company's vision, and is persuasive in terms of feasibility.



The cost of equity was calculated based on the stock yield as well as the CAPM. In addition, historical trends of other indicators were presented along with their fluctuation factors. (→ Point I.1)

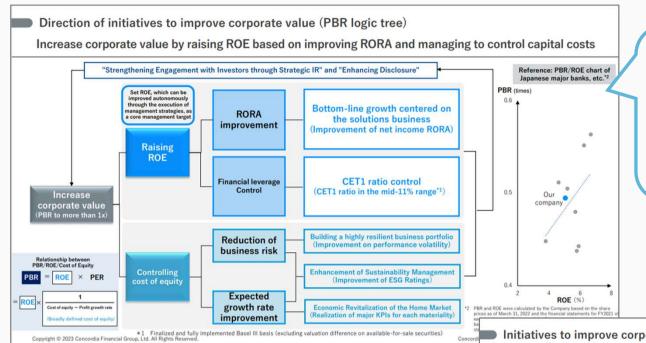
Source: Concordia Financial Group, Ltd. Information Meeting (FY2022 Financial Results and initiatives to enhance corporate value) (May 22,2023), Page9 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/7186/ir material for fiscal ym13/136055/00.pdf

## Concordia Financial Group, Ltd. (7186) (ii)

TOPIX Mid400







- The report clarifies the company's position by presenting comparative mapping of PBR and ROE status with other companies in the same industry. (→Point I.2)
- The company describes initiatives to enhance corporate value using a logic tree to clarify the relationship between initiatives and enhancement of corporate value.  $(\rightarrow Point II.4)$

Improve ESG assessment

ment from the RR

MSCI

Initiatives to improve corporate value (Control cost of equity) Strengthen three initiatives to control cost of equity

Building a highly resilient business portfolio

(Improvement on performance volatility)

**Enhancement of Sustainability Manager** 

Initiatives to control cost of equity

Reduction of

business risk

• To reduce the cost of equity, the company is working to build a resilient business portfolio and enhance sustainability management. (→ Point II.2)

(Improvement of ESG Ratings) CCC B BB BBB AA AAA · Obtained the A rating, a two Expected Economic Revitalization of the Home Market growth rate rating of the previous fiscal year ealization of major KPIs for each material in MSCI ESG Ratings Improve performance volaitilty  $\bullet$  Reduce  $\beta$  by reducing a deviation of actual net income against forecast net long-term sustainability KPIs Rate of deviation of actual net income against forecast net income Threshold line for upward revision **Carbon Neutral** (Scope1,2) Threshold line for downward revision

 Reduce the cost of capital by improving ESG assessment, which is correlated with the cost of capital **ESG RATINGS** 

n Japan, for the information disclosure on GHG emissions and initiatives addressing climate change (based on responses in 2022)

Achieve KPIs by material issue Increase the growth rate by revitalizing the local economy through achieving

Long-term sustaibnability KPIs by FY2030

UPDATE Sustainable finance  $42 \text{ tn} \Rightarrow 44 \text{ tn}$ o/w environment finance ¥1 tn → ¥2 tn

UPDATE Number of financial education program participants 100K → 500K

Targets to be revised upward (planned) Concordia Financial Group, Ltd. Information Meeting FY2022 13

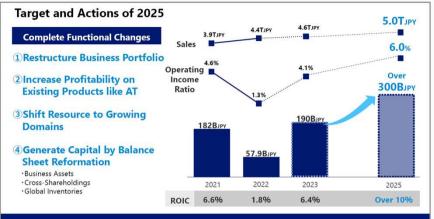
Source: Concordia Financial Group, Ltd., Information Meeting (FY2022 Financial Results and initiatives to enhance corporate value) (May 22,2023), Page 10,13 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/7186/ir material for fiscal ym13/136055/00.pdf

## **AISIN CORPORATION (7259) (i)**

TOPIX Mid400

Transportation Equipment





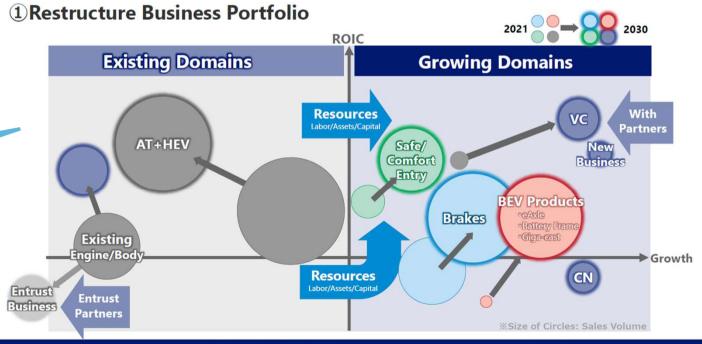
## **Voice of Investors**

The report is highly commendable because it presents specific initiatives that investors expect, such as providing a ROIC and growth potential conscious business portfolio restructuring and promoting balance sheet reforms that show a serious approach to reform.

Promote "core changes" by completing functional changes for growing stage from 2026

FISIO We Touch the Future IR Presentation / Sep. 14th, 2023 / ©. AISIN O

• After analyzing the profitability and growth potential of each business, the report clearly states that the company will promote the revision of its business portfolio by shifting resources to growth areas over the medium to long term. (→Point II. 1)



Restructure portfolio by shifting resources to growing domains

AISIN We Touch the Future

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33/39

Inefficient assets

Structural change on surplus assets
 Marge Production companies (Ongoing)

# **AISIN CORPORATION (7259) (ii)**

TOPIX Mid400 Transportation Equipment





 The company generated cash by reducing asset holdings through balance sheet reforms, and injected funds for investment in growth, shareholder returns to achieve the improvement of its corporate value. (→ Point II.1)

Reform 400BJPY, which is 10% of total assets, by 2025

2023

2025

2021

2022

2023

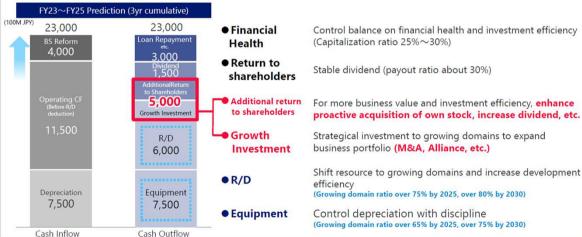
2022

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2010

Capital Allocation for 2025

FY23~FY25 Prediction (3yr cumulative)



Utilize generated cash for growth investment and shareholder returns to achieve PBR over 1x

AISIN We Touch the Future

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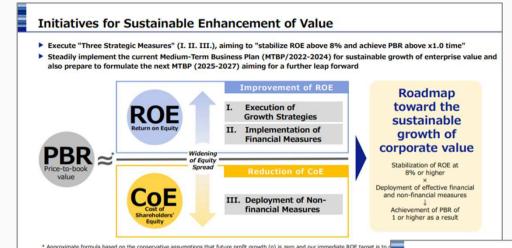
37/39

**Marubün** 

# MARUBUN CORPORATION (7537) (i)

TOPIX Small Wholesale Trade







### **Voice of Investors**

The report provides a clear explanation of the company's analysis of its current situation and efforts being made. In addition, while many companies do not mention reducing the cost of equity, the report clearly states that they will work to reduce the cost of equity through the implementation of non-financial measures, which investors think is a great course of action.

### III. Non-financial Measures

- We are to implement initiatives in the "three thematic domains for non-financial measures" and translate these into "reduction in expected cost of shareholders' equity"
- We are to enhance the trustworthiness and appealing values of the Marubun brand, while ensuring management transparency through efforts to further enhance information disclosures to public domain
- At the same time, we contribute to the "creation of social values" and work on collaboration with stakeholders on all sides



"Three thematic domains" for reduction of expected CoE



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Source: MARUBUN CORPORATION, Financial Results for the 2nd Quarter of Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2024 (November 2023), Page20,27 <a href="https://www.marubun.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/2023q2">https://www.marubun.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/2023q2</a> ir presentation e.pdf

To reduce the cost of equity, the company implements initiatives in non-financial areas,

strengthening governance, and improving stakeholder engagement. (→Point II.2)

such as sustainability management,

# **MARUBUN CORPORATION (7537) (ii)**

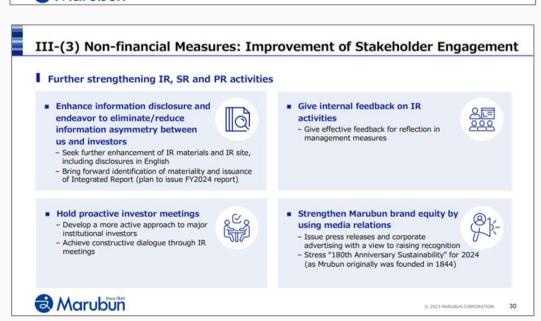
TOPIX Small









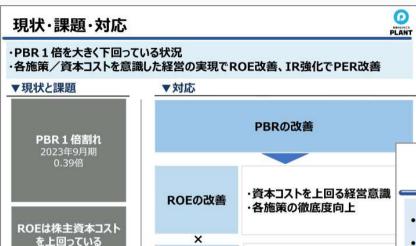


Source: MARUBUN CORPORATION, Financial Results for the 2nd Quarter of Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2024 (November 2023), Page28-30 <a href="https://www.marubun.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/2023q2">https://www.marubun.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/11/2023q2</a> ir presentation e.pdf

·IR活動の強化

・成長戦略の策定





PERの改善

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

2023年9月期 1.2% (特別損益除(8.1%)

株主資本コスト=6.86% 2023年9月末時占当計算出

WACC=4.69%

PBR was analyzed with ROE and PER, and ROE was further analyzed with net profit margin, total assets turnover, and financial leverage (DuPont analysis), and efforts to improve each factor were described. (→ Point I.2 and Point II.4)

Source:PLANT Corporation, PLANT's Response to Achieve Management Conscious of Capital Cost and Stock Price (October 23, 2023), page 3-4. https://www.plant-co.jp/ir/pdf/318/press20231023 03.pdf

### **Voice of Investors**

The company provides concise disclosure of its analysis of its current situation and the action it has taken in response. The company's disclosures can be used as a reference for Standard Market listed companies.

# ROEの改善



- ・各種施策徹底、迅速に外部環境変化へ対応できる組織への対応
- ・利益率向上と資本政策(Equityコントロール等)でROE8.6%達成を目指す



42期1.2%⇒43期8.6% ※42期特別損益除<8.1%



### 当期純利益率

0.19% ⇒ 1.38%

### 当期純利益 ↑↑

- ·PB商品開発体制強化 ・ 粗利率の改善
- ·開発/宣伝/販売施策

183百万⇒1,350百万円

### 売上高↑

- ・販売体制の強化
- ・商販宣連携する組織
- ・差別化商品の育成
- デジタルマーケの取組み (新規・休眠顧客獲得)

97,548百万⇒98,000百万円

### 総資産回転率

2.4回転

### П

売上高↑

- ・販売体制の強化 ・商販宣連携する組織
- ・差別化商品の育成
- デジタルマーケの取組み (新規·休眠顧客獲得)

97,548百万⇒98,000百万円

### 総資産」

- ·在庫の適正化
- 無駄な資産の削減

41,049百万⇒40,949百万円

# 財務レバレッジ

2.6倍

### 総資産」

- ・在庫の適正化
- ・無駄な資産の削減

41,049百万⇒40,949百万円

### 自己資本

- ·增配
- ・自己株買い ※総還元性向100%以上

15,674百万⇒15,666百万円

# SANYO SHOKAI LTD. (8011) (i)

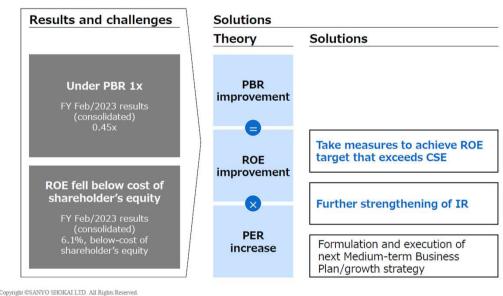
TOPIX Small Textiles and Apparels



### **Results, Challenges and Solutions**

TIMELESS WORK.

Improve PBR through ROE improvement by taking measures to achieve ROE target that exceeds cost of shareholder's equity (CSE), further strengthening of IR and planning/execution of next Medium-term Business Plan.



As a measure to improve PBR, along with measures to improve profitability, the company will further strengthen and improve the foundation of IR and SR activities, and will work to promote dialogue with the market. (→Point III. 1)

Source: SANYO SHOKAI LTD., PBR Improvement Plan (October 6 2023), page1,5 https://www.sanyo-shokai.co.jp/en/company/ir/pdf/pbr 20231006 en.pdf



### **Voice of Investors**

The company's stance toward the market has changed with the strengthening of its IR/SR activities system and the expansion of information disclosure. The disclosure of the status of dialogue with the market shows the management team's strong commitment.

### Other PBR improvement measures

TIMELESS WORK

SANYO

Promote improved PBR by further strengthening IR/SR activities in addition to business growth.

In March 2022, we established IR Department as a dedicated department responsible for IR/SR activities. Establishment of foundations for IR/SR Reinforce disclosure including English by updating the activities corporate website as well as IR website. Projects are under way targeting renovation in March **Further** strengthening Actively implement IR/SR activities. IR/SR activities Promoting Eliminate the investor expectations gap by dialogue strengthening internal feedback on IR/SR activities. with market Strengthen dissemination of information on sustainability through HP disclosures, etc.

Formulate next Medium-term Business Plan/growth strategy as well.

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# SANYO SHOKAI LTD. (8011) (ii)

**TOPIX** Small

**Textiles** and **Apparels** 



### Status of Dialogue with Shareholders

TIMELESS WORK はんとうにいいものをつくろう。 SANVO

60 annual IR/SR dialogue with Representative Director, President & CEO as a main speaker. Discussed specific measures to achieve operating profitability, Medium-term Business Plan and ESG initiatives.

#### Status of Dialogue

Total number of IR/SR dialogue<sup>1</sup> 60

#### Speakers

IR/SR meeting

Representative Director, President & CEO **Executive Managing Officer** GM of Corporate Management HQ (Chair of Sustainability Committee) General Manager of IR

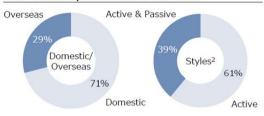
**Financial** meeting Representative Director, President & CEO Director, Senior Executive Managing Officer GM of Business HQ and Marketing & Digital

General meeting of shareholders

All Directors and Corporate Auditors

1. Includes financial results meeting and GMS 2. Excludes securities and industrial corp. Copyright @SANYO SHOKAI LTD. All Rights Reserved

#### **Outline** of Shareholders/Institutional Investors



#### Major Topics and Interests of Shareholders

- Changes in the market environment due to the calming down of COVID-19
- · Business model and strengths
- · Structural reforms and operating profitability
- · Medium-term business plan and growth strategy
- · ESG initiatives
  - Identification of our materiality
  - Initiatives to reduce GHG, CSR procurement, diversity, employee engagement
- Board structure and succession plan

Disclosure of the status of dialogue and feedback to the board in an easy-to-understand manner, as well as disclosure of the input obtained from the dialogue and the subsequent actions taken as a result. (→Point III. 3)

### Status of Dialogue with Shareholders

TIMELESS WORK はんとうにいいものをつくろう。 SANVO

Timely feedbacks to Board. Discussions on future growth strategies, shareholder returns, share price measures and the identification of materiality were major outcome from dialogue.

#### Feedbacks to Board of Directors

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#### Outcome of Dialogue Freq. Method Contents Status Input Confirmed that preparations Summary of Requests for disclosure and will be made to include Comments dialogue with explanation of specific Report to specific details of future shareholders after details of future growth Board of growth strategies in the next Twice 02/04 sharehold strategies Directors/ medium-term business plan. announcements of ers/Instiexplanatory financial results, as tutional meeting Confirmed that shareholder well as input for investors return policy could be flexibly improvement Requests for strengthening revised while monitoring shareholder returns and performance. Promoting stock price measures preparations for disclosing IR strategies, Report/email plans to improve PBR. priority measures, to Board of issues and 4 materialities were Directors/ countermeasures, reports Materiality identification identified and disclosed in explanatory share price/index, Recommendations the financial year ended meeting February 2023. Improvement of employee

engagement disclosure; not

degree of leverage in areas

in overall score but also

of shortage

only degree of improvement

Source: SANYO SHOKAI LTD., Status of Dialogue with Shareholders (From 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023) (July 28 2023), page1-2

https://www.sanyo-shokai.co.jp/en/company/ir/pdf/dialogue with shareholders20230728 en.pdf

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Currently preparing for

Committee.

disclosure in March 2024,

led by HR and Sustainability

# YAMAZEN CORPORATION (8051) (i)

**TOPIX** Small

Trade





#### ~資本収益性向上へのIRの取り組み~ エクイティ・ストーリーの充実と開示「生産財&消費財のビジネスの強み」



#### 生産財・消費財には「卸売」・「エンジニアリング」・「ファブレスメーカー」というビジネスモデルがあり、 それぞれに異なった強みを有しております。

生	彦	財
ᆂ	炷	H/J

### 機械事業 国内 海外

事業概要 ・国内外トップメーカーとのコラボレーションにより、生産現場の工作機 械による生産・加工システム(最先端のハード&ソフト)を提供し 国内外の「ものづくり」現場をサポート

・海外は世界の主要産業都市に地域密着の販売体制と高度な工 ンジニアリング機能を備え、ライン等の設計から工作機械の設置、そ してアフターメンテナンスまでトータルでサポート

機工事業 国内 海外

・生産現場の多種多様なニーズ (消耗品や付帯設備等)を提供 するほか 自動化・省人化等の生産効率の向上 生産現場の環境 改善 先端技術に至るまで 総合システムを提供

・ラインの自動化、ラインを構成する機械や刃物の選定は、現地のエンジニアリング部門が行い、設備納入後も消耗材の調達、メンテナ ンスまで一貫してサポート

#### 主要取扱品目

工作機械(マシーンガヤンタ CNC 旋線、CNC研削線、CNCフライス 盤、放電加工機、汎用工作機械、 3Dプリンター等)、銀圧・板金機 械、射出成形機、ダイカスト成形 CAD/CAM等

マテハン(物流機器)、メカトロ (メカトロ機器、ロボット、省カ化機 . 環境改善機器, 切削工具 補票丁旦 作業丁旦 雷動丁旦 测定,针测模器,流体模器等

#### ビジネスモデルと強み

在庫を持たず、低利益率で あるがCFが高い商流

エンジニアリング 工場への直販でエンジニア (国内外) 機能も付加し、高利益率

> ・ユーザーの潜在ニーズ の掘り起こしとソリュー ・即時納品に向けた在庫 コントロール

工務店等への建材・機器

卸モデルで、全国の配送



### **Voice of Investors**

The company provides clear, persuasive descriptions of each initiative based on the equity story. They include specific disclosure on the implementation status of dialogue, which will lead to deeper constructive dialogue in the future.

#### ■消費財



家庭機器

事業

国内

・環境、脱炭素、健康、パリアフリーなど、人にも地球にも優しい社 会・住まいづくりを目指した新しい商品やシステムをトータルに提案。 具体的には、木材加工品や工業製品などの一、二次加工製品の 調達、安定供給を行っているほか、住設建材や設備機器などを提 案・販売、リフォーム事業にも注力。

家電から、インテリア、エクステリア、レジャー用品、防災グッズまで、 日々の生活シーンで使われる身近で役立つ商品群を取り扱っており、 流通・物流という商社としての機能と、オリジナル商品の企画・開発 というメーカーとしての機能を併せ持つ





厨房, 調理, 厨房間連, 浴室, 洗 而, 給湯, 衛生, 空調,換気関連 器、太陽光発電、禁電池、床膳房 太陽熱温水器、蓄熱式暖房機、 管工機材、内装建材、電工機材

歌歌 (原風機,將屋機器,週刊 A V・昭明) インテリア家貝 アウ トドア・レジャー用品、キッチン・日用 品、エクステリア、ガーデニング・農業、 健康機器、衛生・ヘルスケア、工具、 車用品・バイク用品、防災用品等

点より即納体制をとり、 在庫を持たないモデルで は高い 在庫を持たず、低利益率

ファブレス

卸売

消費者ニーズを捉えたPI 商品の販売で高い利益

あるがCFが高い商流 メーカー

2023年3月期 決算説明会資料 (13頁) よ

The company discloses of efforts to improve capital profitability in the equity story.

(→Point II. 4)

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

Source: Yamazen Corporation, Actions to Achieve Management Conscious of Capital Cost and Stock Price (June 28, 2023), page 6-7.

https://www.yamazen.co.jp/ir/action to implement management.html



~資本収益性向上へのIRの取り組み~ エクイティ・ストーリーの充実と開示 「成長戦略」 CROSSING YAMAZEN 2024

当社の事業のベースは生産財・消費財とも卸売であり、「ストック的な収益基盤」となっております。その上でファブレ スメーカーとしての機能やエンジニアリングカ、新規ビジネスを加算し、キャッシュフロー創出力を高めております。 今後、その基盤を維持・拡大するための投資を行ってまいります。



# YAMAZEN CORPORATION (8051) (ii)

TOPIX

Wholesale





### 株主・機関投資家との対話推進内容①



当社は、当社グループの持続的な成長と企業価値向上に向けて、株主・機関投資家との建設的な対 話を促進するため、IR活動を積極的に行っております。2022年度における株主・機関投資家との対話 及び推進内容につきまして、以下の通りご報告いたします。

2022年度 機関投資家との対話 実	施概要		
株主・機関投資家との対話の主な対 応者	CEO: 決算説明会 2回 (2Q·本決算) · CFO:スモールMTG (3Q) · 広報·IR室 責任者 (1on1ミーティング 33回/年)		
	投資スタイル	グロース	7
	+0.2年2月7日	バリュー	13
	投資スタイル	GARP	2
		ファンドマネージャー	3
	対応者の担当分野	ポートフォリオマネージャー	6
		アナリスト	24
対話の主なテーマや株主の関心事項	当社のビジネスモデル 意識、資本政策(株	市場環境、成長投資分野、PBR1/ 主還元方針)等	倍割れへの課題

対話において把握された株主の意見・懸念の経営陣や取締役会に対するフィードバックの実施状況

2023年5月実施の取締役会において2022年度のIR活動によって得られた株主・投資家の意見・懸念点のフィード バックを実施、その内容を基に議論が行われました。

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

Source: Yamazen Corporation, Report on the Promotion of Dialogue with Shareholders and Investors (June 28, 2023), page 1-2

https://www.yamazen.co.jp/media-download/1266/85cab44a2d13fd33/

The company discloses the status of implementation of dialogue feedback, examples of dialogue, and their approach to dialogue, in a concrete and easy-tounderstand manner. (→Point III. 3)



### 株主・機関投資家との対話推進内容②



対話の事例

ではないか?その影響と対策は?また、ユーザーも同じように町 工場等が減少、且つ(M&A等により)大型化し、メーカーが直 販するケースが増える動きもあるため、御社のマーケットはシュリン クするのでは?

国内生産財事業における御社の直接顧客は二次卸である販売 | マーケット構造から言うと日本の流通関連においては中小企業が大勢を占めているので 店だと思うが、中小が多く事業承継問題等で今後減少していくのメーカーが直接販売するのは難しい。二次卸の先のユーザーも減ってはいるが、直ちに大 きな変化がある訳ではない。全て我々が網羅している訳ではないので、選別しつつここ の部分でもまだまだやっていきたい。事業承継向けのファンドに出資もしており、後継者問 題を抱える中小の要望があれば当社グループに加えることも行い、マーケットの維持拡 大に尽力している。

また、ユーザーの大型化については、仕入先を含む中堅大手メーカーに対し専門部隊 を作って独自にアプローチしており、徐々に伸びている。

当社が取り扱う製品を製造するメーカーが属する市場の規模を13兆円程度とすると、 我々の取扱高は卸売業者として規模的にはトップ水準ながらも2,500億円程度であり、 伸びしろは十分にあると考えている。

一次卸の競合も淘汰が進んでいるのではないか?その残存者利 益を御社は享受していると考えられるか?

この業界は参入が難しく淘汰は起こりにくかったが、昨今は合併など業界再編の動きも見 られ始めており、今後も出てくるのではないかと思っている。当社は業界第1位なので優位 に進められると思っているが、非効率な先を抱えることにならないように市場を注視しながら 対応していく。残存者利益は享受できる立場だと考えている。この業界でも人材の流動 化が起きているので優秀な方は採用したい。

PBR0.8倍と1倍割れだが課題意識、改善策は?

経営レベルでも課題と認識している。当社の事業モデルがわかりにくいと認識しているの で市場からの理解を促進するためにIR活動を積極化する。稼ぐ力も上げていくために 投資も積極的に行い、成長率や利益水準を上げていく。その上で、財務の健全性を保ち ながら資本政策も重視して進めていく。

この数字以上を目指すという意味合いなのか?

中計で自己資本比率40~45%という指標を掲げられているが、当社の事業体においては、財務安定性は信用格付けと資本効率を考えるとこの位が妥 当な水準だと考えている。これ以上に高めるということではない。今期の結果次第ではある が、資本政策をしっかり考えなければいけない状況であると、会社としては認識している。

このままいくと近いうちに自己資本比率が45%は超えてしまうと思 うが、自社株買いや増配は行わないのか?

当社の事業リスクに対して要求される水準以上に過剰な資本を維持する考えはない。 ある一定のところに到達したら、クレジットサイドとエクイティサイドの両面の満足を目指し ていかなければいけないと強く認識している。

# Mitsubishi Corporation (8058) (i)

TOPIX Core30





### Policy of Dialogue with Shareholders

### (a) Basic Stance

MC's corporate philosophy is enshrined in the Three Corporate Principles. Through corporate activities rooted in the principles of fairness and integrity, MC strives to continuously raise corporate value over the medium to long term, which MC believes that it will also meet the expectations of all stakeholders. In order to achieve these goals, MC is committed to fulfill accountability as a corporate enterprise that gains credibility and reputation from stakeholders, including shareholders and investors, by proactively engaging in dialogue with them and by appropriately and timely communicating the Company's management and business strategies to the stakeholders while simultaneously communicating those stakeholders' expectations to the management.

Voice of

# **Voice of Investors**

A new position of CSEO in charge of stakeholder engagement was created to further accelerate dialogue with the market. Investors felt a strong commitment from top management to actively engage in dialogue with investors and analysts in Japan and overseas.

Source: Mitsubishi Corporation, Initiatives on Japan's Corporate Governance Code (Red frame added be TSE)

https://mitsubishicorp.disclosure.site/en/themes/127/#1088

 The company appointed a new CSEO (Chief Stakeholder Engagement Officer) to strengthen dialogue with shareholders and investors, and established a crossfunctional internal structure. (→ Point III.1)

### (b) Persons in Charge and Promoting System

To strengthen communication with shareholders and investors,MC has appointes a Chief Stakeholder Engagement Officer (CSEO) as of April 2023. The CSEO manages the Corporate Communications Department, the Sustainability Department, and the Investor & Shareholder Relations Department to meet the diversifying needs of stakeholders in an integrated manner. The Investor & Shareholder Relations Department is responsible for dialogue with shareholders and investors, and the Investor & Shareholder Relations Department led to built a cross-sectional company structure, by organically linking business groups to corporate staff departments.

Furthermore, with respect to information disclosure, on which dialogue with shareholders and investors is premised, MC prepares documents in line with the Financial Instruments and Exchange Act, Companies Act, and others, and discloses information in a timely and appropriate manner in line with the rules defined by the Financial Instruments Exchangesets up the Disclosure Committee, whose members are the CFO, Executive Officers in charge of Corporate Communications, Corporate Administration, Legal, and Corporate Sustainability and persons in charge of corporate staff departments (General Managers), as well as a working group consisting of working-level persons from corporate staff departments. In addition, MC has established the Disclosure Committee, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee, and deliberates and confirms the appropriateness of the content of the Annual Securities Report disclosure documents. The CSEO leads the way in disclosing proactive, highly transparent information through the MC website, Sustainability Website, Integrated Reports, Investors' Note, and newspaper ads, etc. As a policy for its information disclosure system, MC developed and disclosed Information Disclosure Regulations to keep all officers and employees fully informed.

# Mitsubishi Corporation (8058) (ii)

TOPIX Core30

### Wholesale Trade



#### (c) Policy of Dialogue with Shareholders and Investors and Results of Activities

To continually raise corporate value over the long term, MC is promoting constructive communication with shareholders and investors as follows.

#### i. Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders

MC positions the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders as the place to fulfill accountability to shareholders. In addition to proactive information disclosure in the Notice of Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, MC tries to respond to questions raised by shareholders in a respectful manner.

#### ii. Communication with Individual Investors

MC holds regular meetings for individual investors.

#### <a>Activities Conducted in the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023></a>

Individual investor briefing sessions: 9 times (of these, 1 included the participation of the President, CFO, etc.)

#### iii. Dialogue with Institutional Investors

In addition to quarterly financial results briefings, briefing sessions and meetings are held for domestic and foreign institutional investors. In addition, briefing and dialogues called "MCSV Creation Forum" are held.

#### <a>Activities Conducted in the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023></a>

Financial results briefings\*: 4 meetings

MCSV Creation Forum\*: 3 meetings (2 business briefing sessions, 1 ESG Briefing)

Interviews with domestic and foreign institutional investors (operations departments) and analysts: approximately 430 meetings (of these, approximately 30 included the participation of the President and CEO, CSEO, CFO, etc.)

Interviews with domestic and foreign institutional investors (responsible investment departments): approximately 70 meetings (of these, 3 included the participation of the CSEO, CAO, etc.)

### (d) Feedback to Business Management and Control of Insider Information

MC has developed a system by which the opinions from shareholders and investors and business challenges obtained through IR and SR activities are adequately reported to the management including the President and CEO, Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee. In addition, to help improve business management, the responsible departments feed the opinions obtained through communication with shareholders and investors across financial results briefings and other means back into the Company.

To prevent insider information from being leaked during communication with shareholders, either deliberately or accidentally, MC has set forth the Standard for the Prevention of Unfair Stock Trading in accordance with the Code of Conduct for MC's Officers and Employees. MC keeps all officers and employees fully informed of this requirement.

• The company provided disclosure of management's dialogue with domestic and foreign investors and analysts, as well as the status of implementation of such dialogue. In addition, they have a system in place to provide feedback to management on investors' opinions and management issues obtained through the dialogue. (→Point III. 1)

Source: Mitsubishi Corporation, Initiatives on Japan's Corporate Governance Code (Red frame added be TSE)

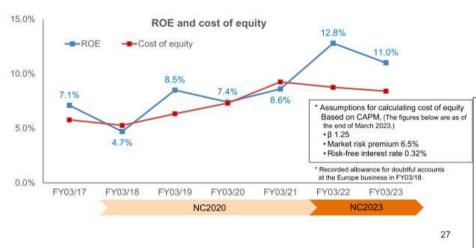
https://mitsubishicorp.disclosure.site/en/themes/127/#1088



#### I INABATA & CO., LTD.

### Current Status: Cost of Capital vs. Return on Capital

- Since the start of NC2023, ROE rose to the level exceeding the cost of equity.
- If we can maintain ROE at 10% or higher, the target set forth in NC2023, we can keep ROE above the cost of equity.



 Even if the company's return on capital achieved exceeds the cost of equity, the company will also analyze the status of indicators related to market valuation, such as PER and PBR, and consider efforts to improve. (→Point I. 2)

Source: Inabata & Co., Ltd., IR Briefing for the Fiscal Year Ended March 2023 Progress in the Second Year of Medium-Term Management Plan NC2023 (June 5, 2023), page27-28 https://www.inabata.co.jp/themes/english@inabata/investor/library/file/ir\_briefing20230605.pdf



### **Voice of Investors**

The company's response is convincing, as a careful analysis of its current situation is a prerequisite for its initiatives. In addition, the company's proactive disclosure of the status of its dialogue shows that it takes its commitment to the market seriously.

#### I IM INABATA & CO., LTD.

### Current Status: Share Price and the Market's Valuation of the Company

- Share prices steadily increased, reflecting earnings growth and a substantial improvement in shareholder returns.
- PBR was below 1x, but rose mainly on the back of an increase in ROE (0.90x as of May 31, 2023\*).
- PER largely remained unchanged at a low level, suggesting that investors have low expectations for our future profit growth.
  \*Obtained by dividing the closing price on May 31, 2023 by BPS at



\*All figures are as of the end of the fiscal year



#### I INABATA & CO., LTD.

### Specific Measures: Maintain ROE of 10% or above

■ Maintain ROE of 10% or above, largely by expanding profits, enhancing profitability, and continuing to control the cost of equity

### ■ Expand profits and increase GPM

- · Grow mainstay businesses
- · Increase the share of earnings accounted for by highly profitable businesses
- · Make aggressive investments, including in M&A, and generate revenue at an early stage
- · Steadily dispose of strategic shareholdings

### ☐ Control of equity

- · Continue flexible share buybacks and cancellations
- Maintain a progressive dividend policy

around 50%

Maintain a total return ratio of

Reference is made not only to efforts to improve return on capital, but also to efforts to control and reduce cost of capital. (→Point II. 2)

### I IM INABATA & CO., LTD.

### Specific Measures: Control and Curtail Cost of Capital

■ By promoting indirect measures in addition to direct measures, reduce risks and information gaps with the market and control and/or curb the cost of capital

### ■ Direct measures

- Utilize debt (diversify funding methods, including the issue of corporate bonds)
- · Buyback and cancel own shares

### ■ Indirect measures

- Enhance information disclosure
- Actively engage in dialogues with investors (step up efforts to provide explanation)
- · Strengthen the Board's monitoring function to continuously monitor performance
- Be selected as a constituent of many ESG indexes by increasing ESG scores

33

Source: Inabata & Co., Ltd., IR Briefing for the Fiscal Year Ended March 2023 Progress in the Second Year of Medium-Term Management Plan NC2023 (June 5, 2023), page32-33 https://www.inabata.co.jp/themes/english@inabata/investor/library/file/ir briefing20230605.pdf



The company provides disclosure of the main points raised in the dialogue, as well as investor attributes and their thoughts and responses to the dialogue, in a concrete and easy-to-understand manner. (→Point III. 3)

#### Implementation Status of Dialogue with Shareholders in FY2022

At Inabata & Co., Ltd., we actively engage in dialogue with shareholders and investors, with the aim of promoting sustainable growth and enhancing our corporate value over the medium to long term. The following is a report on the implementation of our dialogue with shareholders in FY2022.

#### 1. Structure for Promoting Investor Relations (IR)

- Our President leads the IR efforts, supported by Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer, a designated officer responsible for IR ("IR Officer"). The primary point of contact for dialogue with shareholders and investors are the President and the IR Officer.
- Our dedicated IR Department works in collaboration with related departments to gather and analyze various business data. This ensures the timely and accurate distribution of information within the company and to the public.

#### 2. Summary of IR Activities

- We proactively seek to arrange meetings with investors to the extent reasonable.
   We also consider accommodating requests for engagement with our outside directors to the extent practical.
- We organize biannual financial result briefings where we explain the progress of our Medium-Term Management Plan and present an overview of our financial results.
- We foster opportunities for dialogue with individual shareholders and investors by participating in IR events.
- We actively disseminate information through various mediums such as our website, integrated reports, shareholder newsletters, and shareholder meeting notices.

#### [Record of IR Activities for FY2022]

Activities	Frequency
Financial results briefings	2 times
One-on-one meetings with institutional investors & analysts	54 times
(including foreign investors and analysts)	
Individual investor briefings (participation in online IR fair)	1 time

#### 3. Feedback to the Board of Directors

Our Board regulations require that shareholder opinions and concerns gathered through our dialogue with shareholders be incorporated into the IR Officer's activity report at least once a year. For FY2022, we presented reports concerning IR matters at Board meetings held in July and September 2022, and January 2023.

#### 4. Main Topics of Discussion

# Medium to Long-term Management Challenges Discussion with: Foreign institutional investors (responsible investment managers)

Q: Looking ahead to the next five years or so, what do you see as the significant management challenges?

A: First, we aim to increase our overall profitability. While we have primarily focused on organic growth and maintained a cautious stance on acquisitions until now, we recognize the need to be more proactive in this area moving forward. Second, we must establish new drivers of earnings. At present, our Plastics and Information & Electronics segments make up around 80% of our total sales and operating profit. We need to cultivate growth in other areas, such as the food sector within the Life Industry segment. Lastly, we are focusing on the development and utilization of our human capital. In response to the expansion of our overseas business, we believe it is increasingly important to cultivate our local staff, create more opportunities for them to excel, and promote diversity as an important challenge.

#### [Our views, understanding, and response]

We have communicated our intentions for sustainable growth, and how we recognize and address challenges, using ongoing initiatives as examples. This has fostered understanding among our shareholders. In future dialogue, we plan to regularly update our shareholders on our progress, focusing on the three aspects of increasing our overall profitability, establishing new drivers of earnings, and developing and utilizing our human capital.

#### 2) Direction of Growth Investments

Discussion with: Domestic institutional investors (active fund managers)

Q: Your current Medium-Term Management Plan, NC2023, highlights the intensification of investment targeting future growth. What are the key directions and targeted sectors? Also, can you share any past success stories related to growth investment?

A: Fundamentally, we view our trading business as the cornerstone of our investment strategy. We will continually evaluate whether prospective investments align with our primary business and if we are capable of managing them effectively. Our most notable success has been our compound business in the Plastics segment, where our ability to cater precisely to our global customers' needs has become a differentiating factor.

- Omitted below -

Source: Inabata & Co., Ltd., Implementation Status of Dialogue with Shareholders in FY2022 (June 19, 2023), page1-2 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/8098/ir material1/209842/00.pdf

# NIPPON GAS CO.,LTD. (8174) (i)

TOPIX Mid400 Retail Trade



### **Investment Highlight/ NICIGAS' Growth Story**

NICIGAS

NICIGAS will grow by increasing customer number and focuses on return to shareholders. To achieve ¥15.0B net income & ROE 22% in FYE 03/26. Will continue 100%+ return to shareholders, focusing on dividend. In addition, plans return equity to shareholders by optimizing capital-to-asset ratio.

- Profit Growth with Customer Number Expansion
   NICIGAS increases LP and Electricity customers, resulting in profit growth. LP Gas market is highly fragmented. Will create exponential growth through energy industry consolidation.
- Will achieve ROE 22% in FYE 03/26. Will enhance ROIC and optimize capital-to-asset ratio to 40%. Plans 100%+ return to shareholders and will increase return to shareholders, focusing on dividends.
- Mid- to long-term Strategy
  With the advantage of the last mile energy company, improving corporate value while working to decarbonize. The means to achieve this is to evolve the business to Energy Solution. Aims ¥500B market cap in FYE 03/31.

2023 Nippon Gas Co., Ltd.

 The company describes their desired growth story in their long-term vision and disclose efforts to achieve it (→Point II. 4)



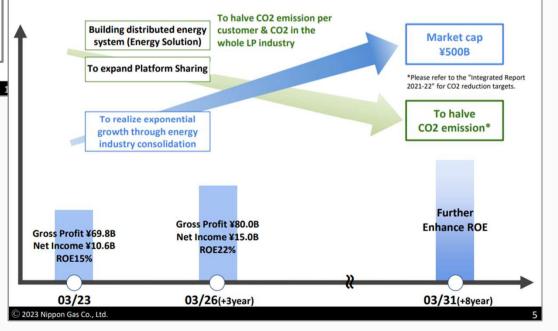
### **Voice of Investors**

The company demonstrates full awareness of the perspectives of shareholders and investors by presenting a growth story from a long-term perspective and formulating a medium- to long-term balance sheet plan and cash flow allocation policy.

### Targets in FYE 03/31 (Long-term strategy)

NICIGAS

Plans ¥500B market cap in FYE 03/31. To expand profit by Energy Solution & Platform based on existing energy retail. Will increase corporate value while reducing CO2.



Source: NIPPON GAS CO., LTD, NICIGAS' Growth Strategy, page1,5 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/8174/ir material for fiscal ym21/111262/00.pdf

20%

18%

16%

14%

12%

10%

8%

st of cap 6%

4%

2%

2023 Nippon Gas Co., Ltd.

ROE

15%

ROIC

9%

11-12%

Cost of capital

6%

FYE 03/26: ROE 22%

shareholders' equity and

optimizing capital-to-asset

ratio (Please refer to P.17).

Return on Invested 4

**Equity Spread:** 

recognizes it as "value

Capital (ROIC)



NICIGAS

#### NICIGAS **Growth Story (2)** Will achieve 20% ROE in FYE 03/25 & 22% in FYE 03/26. Will enhance ROIC by increasing "higher profit generating asset". Optimizing capital-to-asset ratio in the 3 years without holding unnecessary shareholders' equity. FYE 03/23(A) FYE 03/24(P) FYE 03/25(P) FYE 03/26(P) FYE 03/25: ROE 20% 24% L Further enhance 20% \* In the case excluding the impact 22%

from the reorganization: 18%

Equity Spread

9%

Cost of capital

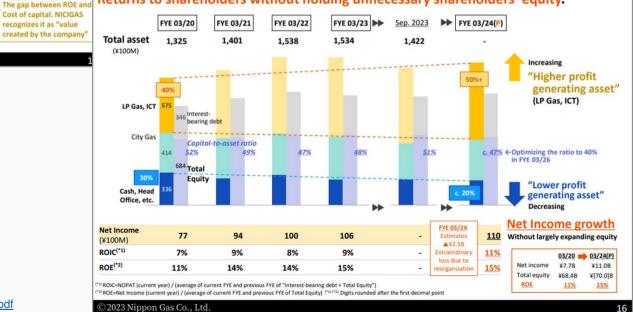
15%\*

11%

The company disclosed mid- to long-term balance sheet plans and cash flow allocation policies, with a policy of not holding unnecessary shareholders' equity. (→Point I.3 & Point II.1)

### Financial Strategy: B/S Control

Financial strategy is to maximize the performance of shareholders' equity. Without expanding asset amount largely, increasing "higher profit generating asset". Returns to shareholders without holding unnecessary shareholders' equity.



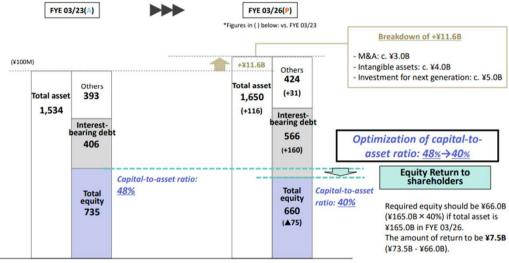
Source: NIPPON GAS CO., LTD NICIGAS' Growth Strategy, Page15-16 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/8174/ir material for fiscal vm21/111262/00.pdf



### Financial Strategy: B/S Control

NICIGAS

Increasing higher profit generating asset and will optimize capital-to-asset ratio by decreasing the ratio from 48% to 40%. In the case of ¥165.0B total assets in FYE 03/26, leading to ¥7.5B return to shareholders.



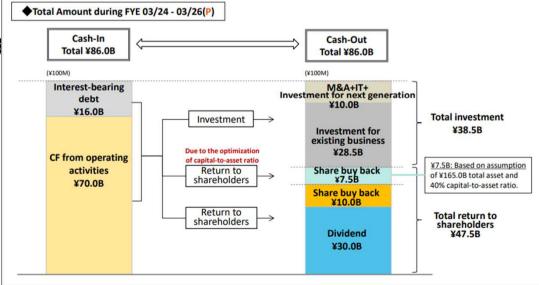
 The company provides disclosure of their cash flow allocation plan in an easy-to-understand manner. (→Point II. 1)

# **Financial Strategy: CF Allocation**

2023 Nippon Gas Co., Ltd.

NICIGAS

Allocation of ¥86.0B Cash-In in 3 years: ¥38.5B for Investment and ¥47.5B for Return to Shareholders. For the return, will focus on dividend and allocate ¥30.0B for dividend in 3 years.



Source: NIPPON GAS CO., LTD, NICIGAS' Growth Strategy, Page17-18 https://ssl4.eir-parts.net/doc/8174/ir material for fiscal vm21/111262/00.pdf

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2023 Nippon Gas Co., Ltd.

# MARUI GROUP CO.,LTD. (8252) (i)

**TOPIX** Mid400 Retail **Trade** 



### **Voice of Investors**

Despite having a P/B ratio of more than 1x, the company is proactively working for further improvement, disclosing its "target balance sheet" figures in line with its business structure innovation, along with a breakdown by segment. Investors found this company's proactive attitude to be commendable.

### DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIMAL BALANCE SHEET MATCHED TO BUSINESS STRUCTURE REFORMS

the launch of the EPOS card in 2006. This situation made for a business structure through which the Company was able to sustain steady growth. The targeted balance sheet defined in this olan was based on the transition to this business structure driven by the FinTech segment. As a result of this emphasis, we were able to build the balance sheet we targeted by optimizing the

The balance sheet we are targeting in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026, the final year of the new medium-term management plan, will require us to optimize the capital structure of the Retailing segment, which generates stable cash flows. Our balance sheet will also see a large shift in the ratio of capital allocations from tangible assets to intangible assets in conjunction with the creation of a new business model incorporating forward-looking investments. The forward-looking investments driving this shift, which include co-creative investments and new business investments, have the potential to produce significant returns, but also carry significant risks. For this reason, we intend to limit the amount of assets associated with forward-looking investments to the scope of sharehold ers' equity. With this focus, MARUI GROUP will regrient its investments toward intangible assets with the goal of improving corporate value by evolving into an intellectual creation company

• The company presents their "opitimal balance sheet" together with a breakdown by segment (→Point I. 3)

#### Balance Sheet Targeted under Medium-Term Management Plan



 They also present a cash allocation policy (→Point II. 1)

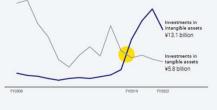
Source: Marui Group CO., LTD., Medium-Term Management Plan (Last updated: June 2023),

https://www.0101maruigroup.co.jp/en/ir/pdf/plan/2022/mp2022 all en.pdf

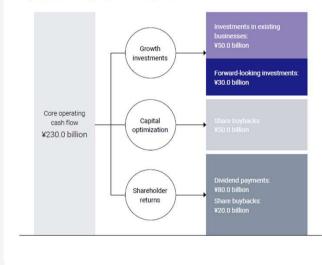
#### Shift Toward Investment in Intangible Assets

surpassed the amount invested in tangible assets. Moreover, investments in intangible year ended March 31, 2015, and twice the amount invested in tangible assets. Our year ended March 31, 2022, as we have earmarked ¥80.0 billion of the core operating growth investments in intangible assets. In addition, we plan to allocate ¥50.0 billion to shareholder returns, which will comprise ¥80.0 billion in dividend payments and an additional ¥20.0 billion in share buybacks

# Amounts of Investment in Tangible and Intangible Assets



### Capital Allocation Plan (April 1, 2021-March 31, 2026)



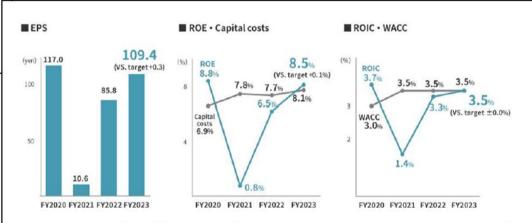


#### Principle 5.2: Establishing and Disclosing Business Strategies and Business Plans

The Company shall formulate management strategies and plans based on the corporate philosophy and an accurate understanding of the Company's capital costs (shareholders' equity costs and weighted average cost of capital) and disclose related information. The progress of these management strategies and plans is to be confirmed and analyzed annually. When deemed necessary, revisions shall be instituted with regard to areas such as business structures or plans for allocating management resources to new business investments, capital investments, or investments in human resource development.

In the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026, the final year of the medium-term management plan, the Company is targeting earnings per share of \(\frac{x}{2}\)200.0, return on equity of 13%, and return on invested capital of 4%. In the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023, earnings per share was \(\frac{x}{1}\)109.4, up 27%, or \(\frac{x}{2}\)23.6, year on year as a result of earnings growth and capital measures. Return on equity was 8.5%, up 2.0 percentage points, surpassing the level of shareholders' equity costs of 8.1%, while return on invested capital was 3.5%, up 0.2 percentage point, the same level as weighted average cost of capital, which was also 3.5%.

 Despite having a P/B ratio of more than 1x, the company is proactively working for further improvement. (→ Point I.2)



Going forward, MARUI GROUP will seek to evolve into a company that contributes to the resolution of social issues through human capital investments to achieve its desired form of corporate value, which will entail achieving return on equity of 25% and a price-to-book ratio of 5.0 times.

Current

Future

PBR 1.7times

PBR 5times

= ROE 10% × PER 17times

(Forecast for FY2024) (Current level)

= ROE25% × PER 20times

Source: MARUI GROUP CO.,LTD., Corporate Governance Report (Date of Latest Update: July 21, 2023), page36-37 https://www2.ipx.co.ip/disc/82520/140120231128595997.pdf

# Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (8306) (i)

**TOPIX** Core30

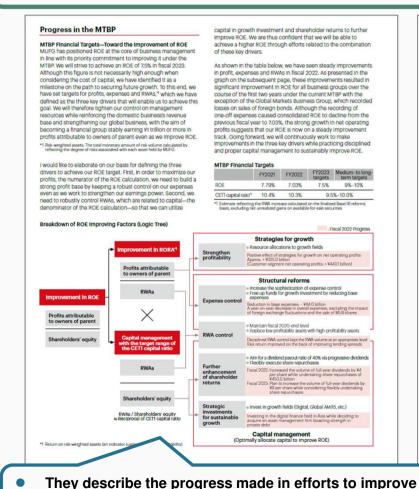






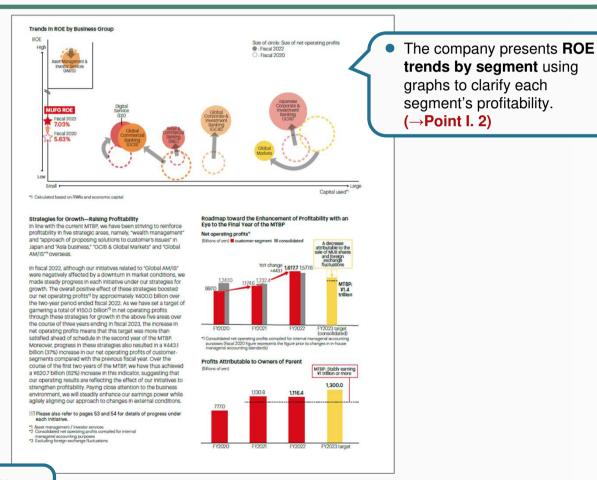
### **Voice of Investors**

The logic tree, segment-by-segment disclosure, and comparative analysis of the company's performance with global peers provide an easy-to-understand explanation of the direction in which the company is headed. In addition, the company is commendable for its sincere attitude toward the market, such as by actively setting up opportunities for the management team and outside directors to talk with investors in Japan and overseas.



ROE in an easy-to-understand manner using a logic tree.

(→Point II. 4)



Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. MUFG Report 2023 (Integrated Report) Page 18-19 https://www.mufg.ip/dam/ir/report/annual\_report/pdf/ir2023\_all\_en.pdf

# Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (8306) (ii)

TOPIX Core30





#### **Enhancement of Shareholder Value**

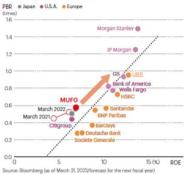
#### Our Recognition of MUFG's Stock Price

For MUFG, enhancing shareholder value is an important management issue.

Looking at the recent trend in Total Shareholder Return (TSR), MUFGS TSR over the past 10 years has been lagging considerably behind that of some global competitors. Although our two-year results following the launch of the current MTBP have shown an upward trend, we believe that this is largely attributable to growing market expectations regarding MUFGS future growth in light of steady progress in key strategies under the MTBP, including those that led to a 50% increase in EPS over past two years due to profit growth and disciplined capital management. Accordingly, we are acutely aware of the importance of steadily meeting such expectations.

As stated earlier, MLFG's stock price is currently stagnant, with the PBR trending around 0.7 times. This is attributable to our ROE falling short of the cost of capital. We therefore consider low ROE to be a major factor contributing to the present sluggishness. Taking a look at global banks and the relationship between their PBRs and ROEs as shown in the diagram on the right, these two indicators seem to strongly correlate. In particular, some U.S. banks whose TSR has remained high ower past decade are appreciated by the market for their robust PBR, which is a result of ongoing improvement in ROE. This strong PBR, in turn, help raise stock prices of these banks and enables them to achieve a constantly high TSR.

#### Relationships between PBR and ROE





#### Global Comparisons of Total Shareholder Return (TSR) (Closing price as of March 31, 2013 - 100)



They conducted a **comparative analysis** of the relationship between PBR and ROE, as well as TSR (Total Shareholder Return) trends **in comparison to global peer companies** (→**Point I. 2**)

#### Initiatives to Enhance Shareholder Value

As mentioned earlier, MUFG has positioned ROE at the core of business management based on a recognition that improving ROE is essential to enhancing shareholder value.

In line with the current MTBP, we are striving to improve ROE by executing key strategies (Strategies for Growth and Structural Reforms) as well as practicing proper capital management. Details pertaining to these endeavors are provided in Breakdown of ROE improving Factors featured on page 1.

However, our MTBP target of raising ROE to 7.5% remains insufficient when we consider the cost of capital. To achieve a higher stock price with PBR of at least 1 time, which represents the bare minimum level, we need to aim for even higher ROE. We also believe that, to improve ROE. It is important to practice disciplined capital management even as we strive for steady and ongoing growth in profit. We expect that achieving robust operating results backed by steady profit growth could positively impact MUFG's stock prices via an increase in PER. In addition, we deem it important to allocate surplus in a well-balanced manner to both investment for growth and shareholder returns, including dividends and share repurchases, in a way that maintains disciplined capital management.

We are fully aware that the markets evaluation of MUFG is reflected in the currently stagnant PBR. Taking this situation seriously, we will strive to sustainably improve ROE so that market participants can have even greater expectations for our future growth. In this way, we will enhance shareholder value.

#### Divestment of Strategic Equity Holdings

In line with our basic policy of reducing strategic equity holdings, we divested such holdings by an amount equivalent to ¥870.0 billion (on an acquisition-cost basis) over the six years from fiscal 2015 to fiscal 2020. Thus, going into the current MTBP, our divestment target for the three years is set at ¥500.0 billion.

in fiscal 2022, we were able to divest equity holdings totaling YISA.0 billion thanks to our engagement in intensive dialogue with corporate clients. This brought the cumulative amount of equity holdings divested thus far since fiscal 2021 to Y323.0 billion, making steady progress toward the MTBP target of reducing such holdings by YSGO.0 billion.

Equity holdings divestment is essential from the perspective of maintaining robust RWA control as it frees up capital resources it also helps reduce financial risk arising from share price fluctuations. Therefore, MUFG's stock prices may well be positively affected by the divestment of equity holdings and resulting reductions in volatility and the cost of capital.

Going forward, we aim to further divest equity holdings while engaging in dialogue with our corporate clients to secure their understanding.

#### Dialogue with Shareholders and Other Stakeholders

As we aim to help our stakeholders to gain a good overview of MUFGs strategic endeavors employing its unique and extern business portfolio, we believe that providing them with accurant timely explanations of our operations is a matter of importa Furthermore, the provision of sufficient information to stakeholders will lead to the elimination of informational asymmetry between MUFG and investors, and could possibly result in reductions in the cost of capital. Accordingly, we are striving to enhance the content of information disclosure by, example, enriching presentation materials. In addition, we are deem it important to enhance the content of non-financial information being disclosed given the growing significance of such information.

In fiscal 2022, we held one-on-one and small meetings to secure opportunities for dialogue between too management and investors in Jacan and abroad. We also hosted investors Day, with presentations by the heads of the sewen business groups, as well as small meetings hosted by outside directors, seminars focused on discussing climate change measures, seminars for individual investors and other events. (Please refer to page 31 for details.) As for the disclosure of non-financial information, we issued the Sustainability Report, the Progress Raport aimed at disclosing progress in our initiatives to realize carbon neutrality and the Human Bights Report, which summarizes our efforts to ensure respect for human rights, among other publications. In these ways, we strove to enhance the content of information disclosure.

Dialogue with our stakeholders, including shareholders, investors and ratings agency representatives often provides valuable opportunities and insights. Going forward, we will focus on maintaining such dialogue, stepping up both investor relations (IR) and shareholder relations (IR) and shareholder relations (IR) angagement with those charged with exercising votting rights. Stakeholder opinions are shared among Board members and given due consideration in the course of business operations and capital management. We always welcome frank opinions about MUPS.

Having positioned the current MTBP period as "three years of new challenges and transformation," we will continue to strive for improvement in MUFG's corporate value and the successful closure of the final year of the MTBP through steady profit growth and disciplined capital management, thereby achieving a higher ROE.

We ask for your continuous support in this endeavor.

overseas (→Point III. 1)

The company proactively

sets opportunities for

outside directors to

communicate with

investors in Japan and

management and

MUFG Report 2023 26

Source: Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc., MUFG Report 2023 (Integrated Report) (Red lines added by TSE), page25-26 https://www.mufg.jp/dam/ir/report/annual report/pdf/ir2023 all en.pdf

# The Chiba Kogyo Bank, Ltd. (8337) (i)

TOPIX Small









### **Voice of Investors**

The report clearly explains how each of these initiatives will lead to an increase in corporate value. In addition, specific reference to review of the business portfolio with profitability in mind conveys the company's sincere commitment to management that is conscious of cost of capital and stock price.

- The company provides analysis of past P/B ratios in relation to past initiatives (→Point I. 2)
- They also disclose the current status and initiatives for each of the P/B ratio components. (→Points I. 2 & II. 4)

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

Source: Chiba Kogyo Bank, Ltd., Measures to Achieve Management Conscious of Capital Cost and Stock Price (November 10, 2023), Page1-2 https://www.chibakogyo-bank.co.jp/ir/capital\_costs.pdf

### 2. PBR水準への現状認識

ROE PER ■ PBR構成要因 × **PBR** (収益性) 市場評価 普通株ROE: 4.80% 約10.3倍 約0.49倍 (2023年10月末) (2023年10月末) ■ 現状認識 2024/3(予) ※ 広義の資本コスト:約9.7% 【財務目標】 まずは 非財務戦略の着実な遂行による持続的成 企業価値向上に 普通株ROE 5%以上 向けた具体的な 長と広義の資本コストの低減 PBR: 0.6倍台 (時期:2026年度以降安定的に) 取り組み ⇒PER:約12倍を目指す ①優先株の実質"ゼロ"の早期実現 RWAの効率的な入れ替えによる ④ 法人向けコンサルティング業務の更なる 強化を通じた地域課題の根本解決と RORAの向上 持続的成長の両立 ③ 金利上昇局面での収益向上 ⑤ 業務軸の拡大を通じた収益の安定化 上記計数は2023年11月10日時点で公表されている計数より千葉興業銀行が算出しております ※ 広義の資本コスト=1÷PER 普通株ROE = 優先株式除く1株当たり当期純利益÷優先株式除く1株当たり純資産額 当行内の資本コストはCAPM (安全利子率+株式リスクプレミアム×株式ベータ) で内部管理しています



### 3. 今後の取り組みについて

ロ以下の課題に対し、事業ポートフォリオの発展的な見直しを伴う取り組み等により、企業価値を高めてまいります。

の付加価値の提供を伴い、リスクアセット対収益力を高 めていくための更なる取り組みが必要となっています。

課題	低PBRの要因	今後の取り組み
【既存ビジネス変革】 住宅等ローン事業の抜本的対 応	【ROE要因】  ✓ 競争環境の厳しい住宅ローン事業が、資本対収益およびリスクアセット対収益を押し下げています。	■ 住宅等ローン事業について、ボリューム拡大路線から転換および住宅ローン等の信用保証業務を行う当行連結子会社の業務効率化等を伴い、事業ボートフォリオを見直す(※) ことにより、メリハリのある経営資源配分を行ってまいります。 (※) 事業ボートフォリオ見直しに当たっては当該連結子会社を譲渡することも含めて検討を行ってまいります。
【資本構造の変革】 優先株式"実質ゼロ"の早期 実現	【ROE-PER要因】 ✓ 将来ROE水準の見通しは、優先株式の今後の対応に 影響されるものと考えられます。 ✓ 優先株式の償還・自己株買い見通しが、広義の資本コ	■ 採算性の低いアセットを削減すること及び付加価値が高く採算性の高い法人コンサルティング分野への経営資源シフトによりリスクアセットの削減を通じた優先株償還余力を確保し"優先株式実質ゼロ"の状態を早期に実現してまいります。
	ストの観点からのPERの水準感に影響を与えているもの と考えられます。	■ また着実な優先株式の償還・自己株買いを通じて ROEの向上を図ってまいります。
【新たな価値創造】 金融・非金融機能の強化	【PER要因】  ✓ 従来型金融事業の範疇では現状の競争環境から抜け 出すてができず、安定的・持続的成長に向けて、一層	■ 金融・非金融分野でのソリューション力を高めていくことで、 地域経済の発展に貢献し、当行グループは地域と共に 持続的な成長を確立してまいります。

The company analyzed each division in terms of RORA (return on risk-weighted assets) and ROE, and specified which businesses to focus on and which to downsize. (→ Point II.1)

Note: The disclosure documents shown in this slide are available in Japanese only.

Source: Chiba Kogyo Bank, Ltd., Measures to Achieve Management Conscious of Capital Cost and Stock Price (November 10, 2023), Page3-4 https://www.chibakogyo-bank.co.jp/ir/capital\_costs.pdf

事業部門別 RORA・ROE戦略の方向性 ロ 以下、2022事業年度の部門(業務区分)別のRORAでは"住宅等ローン"の収益性が低調であり、またリスクアセットの 使用状況も全体の約30%とRORAに及ぼす影響が大きく、対応を早期に検討する必要がある状況。 ロ 企業価値向上に向けては、本業内において、高付加価値の事業部門へリソースをシフト。

※3 パブルの大きさ = リスクアセットの大きさ
※2 RWA配合とは銀行単体リスクアセット翻に対する同
部門が使用しているリスクアセットを配に対する同
部門が使用しているリスクアセットの割合
※3 下記数値は当行内部管理へ一スの2022年度実績 (事業性貸出・法人コンサルティング) RWA割合: 1.2% 法人関連の役務収益は増加傾向であり、地元企 ALM部門 業支援にはアセットの活用を伴い、収益性を高め 7.0% 業務純益R 当行の強みを生かし、かつ、地元マーケットでの存 在意義を発揮していくには最も重要な分野 6.0% 政策保有株式や満期保有債券などが 収益の源泉となる部門 地域・お取引先へのコンサルティング業務を通じた高付加価値 銀行全体のリスクバランスの中で、主に金 5.0% を提供していくことが当行企業価値向上につながる 利リスクについて、経営リスクを低減させる 0 ⇒アセットを使うビジネスでは法人ビジネスを一段と強めていく E 4.0% 市場部門 (有価証券運用) 単 住宅等ローン 3.0% 市場リスクが大きく、ROEは低く抑えられるが、 体 インターネット専業含む同業種内での RORAは高水準を確保 金利競争厳しく、ROEおよびRORA 預貸差からの余資を使った運用を行っており 2.0% ともに低水準 中長期的な安定収益が運用スタンス 0.25% 0.50% 1.50% 0.00% 5.75% 6.00% 業務純益 RORA (単体)

# The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd. (8360) (i)

TOPIX Small





### 

Version upgrades of targets set forth in Medium-Term Management Plan "TRANS<sup>3</sup> 2025"

- Upward revision of targeted CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction rate
- Clarified the timing of achievement of financial and non-financial targets set forth as "ideal."

FY24

(Results)	(Results)	(Final year of the Medium-Term Management Plan)	Ideal	Achieved by	
73.41%	67.74%	73.5% or less	60% level	FY27	
1.82%	2.34%	3% or more	5% or more	FY27	
13.1%	14.81%	15% or more	40% or more	FY30	
-	5.01%	30% or more	70% or more	FY30	
71.5 billion yen	118 billion yen	250 billion yen or more	800 billion yen or more	FY30	
30.08%	52.66%	70% or more	Carbon neutrality	FY30	
		Upward revision of targeted ${\rm CO_2}$ emissions reduction rate FY2024: From 46% or more to 70% or more Ideal: 60% or more to CN			
4.2 billion yen	5 billion yen	6 billion yen or more	10 billion yen or more	FY27	
	(Results) 73.41% 1.82% 13.1% - 71.5 billion yen 30.08%	(Results) (Results)  73.41% 67.74%  1.82% 2.34%  13.1% 14.81%  - 5.01%  71.5 billion yen  30.08% 52.66%	1.82%   2.34%   3% or more   13.1%   14.81%   15% or more   15.01%   30% or more   18.5 billion yen   250 billion yen   30.08%   52.66%   70% or more   14.2 billion yen   5 billion yen   6 billion yen   7 more   14.2 billion yen   5 billion yen   6 billion yen   6 billion yen   7 more   14.2 billion yen   5 billion yen   6 billion yen   7 more   1 mo	1.82%   2.34%   3% or more   5% or more   13.1%   14.81%   15% or more   40% or more   13.1%   14.81%   15% or more   40% or more   70% or m	

- \*1. Investment and loan that contribute to creating sustainable regional society (environment, education, start of business, succession of business, etc.)
  \*2. Comparison with FY201: target scope: Scope 1 + Scope 2 (including emissions from the use of gasoline since FY2022; prior data also adjusted in
  - The company presents the ideal state to be achieved over the long term for each KPI/KGI (→Point II.4)
    - They conducted a historical analysis of the relationship between the company's ROE and PBR and reflect it in the consideration of initiatives. (→Point I. 2)

Source: The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd., The 44th Analyst Meeting (June 7, 2023), page18,20 https://www.yamanashibank.co.jp/english/earnings/assets/files/44th Analyst Meeting.pdf

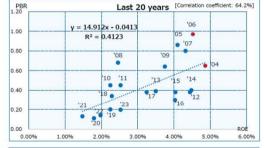
# Voice of Investors

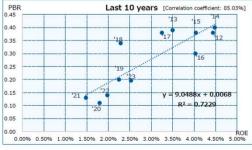
The report presents KPIs and KGIs for their ideal long-term vision, and then describes the various initiatives to achieve this vision, making the overall picture easy to understand. In addition, the company's proactive efforts to improve its balance sheet, including the reduction of cross-shareholdings, is evidence of progress in their reform process.

### **Growth Strategy (Medium- to Long-Term Targets) (3)**



- There is a high correlation between the Bank's ROE and PBR.
- We will work to reduce cost of capital as well as improve ROE, in order to improve PBR.





# Measures to improve ROE and reduce cost of capital

#### Growth strategy (Improve profitability)

- Deepening and expanding core businesses
- Exploring new businessesStrategic investment
- Group company strategy

### Capital strategy

- Reduction of strategic shareholdings
   Enhancing shareholder returns
- Raise the payout ratio
- Flexible and agile acquisition of own shares
- Enhancement of dialogue with shareholders and institutional investors

#### Sustainable strategy

- Environment-conscious management initiatives
- Human capital management initiatives
- Improving disclosure to include non-financial information

# The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd. (8360) (ii)

TOPIX Small



Example of increases in risk-weighted

Expected to increase by 150 billion yen over the next 2 years

Business loans

mainly through business loans.



### Capital Strategy (Effective Use of Capital) (1)

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Approach to the effective use of capital

(1) Balanced capital policy

Focus on the balance between soundness, return, and shareholder return.

#### Soundness (stable business foundation)

 Stable supply of funds to the regional economy
 Stability to enable the Bank to invest in growth investment opportunities in a flexible manner

> Sustainable enhancement of corporate value

Medium-Term Management Plan target ROE: 3% or more

Ideal ROE: 5% or more

Profitability

- Growth investments to deepen and expand the core business and in new businesses, etc.
- Securing profit in consideration of risk-return characteristics

Enhancement of shareholder return

- Strengthening shareholder returns through improving profitability
- Acquiring own shares in a flexible manner

(2) Effective use of capital

**Effective** 

use of

capital

Carry out growth investments and provide shareholder returns while maintaining soundness (consolidated regulatory capital ratio roughly at 10%).

- Take risks through structured finance, sustainable investment and lending, personal loans, provision of equity capital to regional companies, etc., in addition to business loans.
- Invest in new businesses toward the resolution of regional issues.
- Invest in DX and human capital.
- Enhance and strengthen shareholder returns through improving profitability.

 The company presents their vision for capital allocation in the medium term (→Point II. 1)

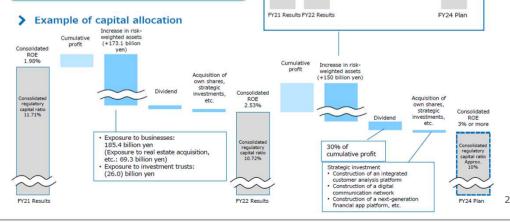
Capital Strategy (Effective Use of Capital) (2)

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Structured finance etc

### Capital allocation

- Increase risk-weighted assets mainly through business loans.
- Strategic investments focus on the fields that support our growth strategy.
- The rough indication of shareholders return ratio has been changed to a payout ratio of 30%.
- We take a flexible and agile approach to acquisition of own shares.



Source: The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd. The 44th Analyst Meeting (June 7, 2023) Page28,29 https://www.yamanashibank.co.jp/english/earnings/assets/files/44th Analyst Meeting.pdf

# The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd. (8360) (iii)

TOPIX Small

The company discloses their policy and

targets for reducing cross-shareholdings, as

well as policy for using capital generated





#### Capital Strategy (Reduction of Strategic Shareholdings) (1) ① 山梨中央銀行

### Policy on strategic shareholdings

- In accordance with the purport of the Corporate Governance Code, we have established a policy on strategic shareholdings and is reducing such shareholdings based on the periodic review of the significance of the holding of
- In order to accelerate the reduction of strategic shareholdings, we have established reduction targets for such shareholdings.

#### **Reduction target**

- Reduce strategic holdings of listed shares by approx. 10 billion yen\* in fair value terms by FY2024. \* Compared with FY2021, excluding changes in fair value
- We aim to reduce the ratio of strategic shareholdings (in fair value terms) to consolidated net assets to 10% or
- Any capital generated from the sale will be invested in a well-balanced manner for the purpose of enhancing corporate value.
- . We aim to maintain dividend at roughly 30% of profit attributable to owners of parent.
- We will take a flexible and agile approach to acquisition of own shares.
- Invest in new businesses to help resolve regional issues
- Invest in human capital.
- Human resource development, such as skills improvement, reskilling, etc.
- · Strategic recruitment, improvement of employment terms and conditions, etc.
- Invest in DX.
- Construction of an integrated customer analysis
- Construction of a digital communication network



Capital Strategy (Enhancement of Dialogue with

from the sale. ( $\rightarrow$ point II. 1)

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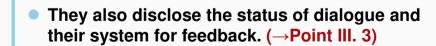
Dialogue with various stakeholders

Shareholders and Institutional Investors)

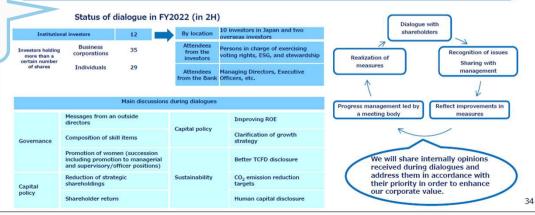
The Bank recognizes that it is more important than ever to build a long-term, stable relationship of trust with shareholders. As part of such efforts, we started, in the second half of FY2022, the following initiatives to strengthen engagement with institutional investors and major shareholders:

- ✓ Interviews with major institutional investors
- ✓ Interviews with business corporations and individuals holding more than a certain number of shares

We intend to share with management issues identified through dialogues and reflect them in future measures in order to achieve medium- to long-term enhancement of corporate value.



Source: The Yamanashi Chuo Bank, Ltd., The 44th Analyst Meeting (June 7, 2023), page32,34 https://www.yamanashibank.co.jp/english/earnings/assets/files/44th Analyst Meeting.pdf



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assets mainly through

investment in securities.

loans.

# FinTech Global Incorporated (8789) (i)

Standard

Other Financing Business



### Analysis of Current Situation — Return-on-Equity (ROE) Changes in ROE Between fiscal 2016 and fiscal 2020, ROE remained in negative territory due to costs associated with preparations for the opening of Metsä as well as losses caused by pandemic-related factors. But since fiscal 2021, ROE has greatly improved, paralleling favorable demand for services, especially business succession solution services. Spread of COVID-19 3.4% 2.1% FY20 FY2017 FY2018 FY2019 FY2020 FY2022 FY2023 The company conducted a time-- 17.3% - 19.7%

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### **Voice of Investors**

A careful analysis of the company's current situation is provided, including a time-series analysis of capital return and market valuation. The report also covers the main points of action that investors expect to see, including efforts to both improve return on capital and reduce cost of capital.

### Analysis of Current Situation — Cost of Capital

ROE greatly exceeds cost of shareholders' equity, and return on invested capital (ROIC) greatly exceeds weighted average cost of capital (WACC). The equity spread—difference between ROE and cost of shareholders' equity—hit 13.8, indicating that FGI generated shareholder value.

ROE 21.6%

Cost of shareholders' equity\*1 7.8%

Equity spread 13.8

ROIC\*2 12.5% WACC 5.2% ROIC-WACC spread 7.3

# Notes: 1. Cost of shareholders' equity based on capital asset pricing model (CAPM) The beta used in CAPM calculation is 1) beta value determined through return analysis from the price-earnings ratio over a weekly window (52 weeks and 104 weeks) or a monthly window (36 months and 60 months); 2) industry beta value; or 3) comparable company beta value, whichever is higher.

- ROIC (return on invested capital) = Earnings before interest after taxes/ (Average interestbearing debt at end of year + Average total net assets at end of year - Average cash and deposits at end of year)
- The cost of capital and WACC are compared to the profitability indicators to be compared respectively. In addition, disclosure of the calculation method for cost of capital and the how the parameters are set. (→Point I. 1)

Source: FinTech Global Incorporated, Measures to Implement Management that is Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price (November 2023), page2-4 https://www.fgi.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/c23e895983e4441b356af61fa9d8b4df.pdf

# series and factor-by-factor (DuPont decomposition) analysis of Current Situation — Ret

#### ROE breakdown

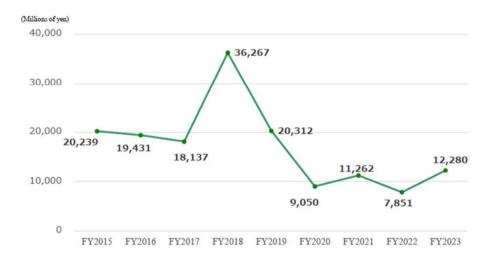
#### Major improvement in net profit margin.

	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
ROE	-13.5%	-21.5%	-17.3%	2.1%	2.7%	21.6%
Net profit margin	-22.2%	-17.3%	-17.3%	1.6%	1.9%	17.2%
Total asset turnover	0.27 times	0.56 times	0.38 times	0.49 times	0.54 times	0.50 times
Financial leverage	2.23 times	2.24 times	2.60 times	2.63 times	2.66 times	2.49 times
	[Profita	me Re	efficiency]	[Financial leverage]		
	ROE = Revenue		tal assets X asset turnover	Shareholders'equity Financial leverage ratio		



### Analysis of Current Situation — Market valuation (market capitalization)

Business results have been on recovery and expansion track since fiscal 2021, but this trend is not fully reflected in stock price. Primary reasons for disconnect between business results and stock price is that potential investors do not have deep understanding of FGI's business initiatives, including business succession solution services, and that small market capitalization often falls outside the investment range of institutional investors.

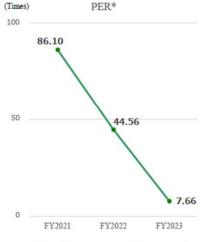


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 Even though the company achieves a return on capital that exceeds its cost of capital, it analyzes and evaluates market valuations in order to understand its challenges. (→ Point I.2)

### Analysis of Current Situation — Market valuation (PER, PBR)

Price-to-book ratio (PBR) consistently maintained above 1.



\*Note: Calculated using closing price on last trading day of each fiscal year. Data for fiscal 2020 and earlier, not presented because, except for fiscal 2015, FGI booked loss attributable to owners of the parent.



Source: FinTech Global Incorporated Measures to Implement Management that is Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price (November 2023) Page5-6 https://www.fgi.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/c23e895983e4441b356af61fa9d8b4df.pdf



#### Activities and Targets - ROE target and initiatives

#### Promote initiatives emphasizing enhanced profitability on steady path toward ROE exceeding 20%

Euhancing profitability	Strengthen all business segments, with emphasis on high-margin business succession solution services Described on consolidated performance forecast page in fiscal 2023 results presentation materials released November 8, 2023.  Strive to recruit, train and keep employees with excellent capabilities, and strengthen human capital Human resources evaluation and compensation system reviewed at domestic companies engaged in investment banking business in fiscal 2023, and efforts will roll out to achieve further progress on issues related to human resources.  Medium- to long-term perspective on cost control Planning to build solar power generation facility on grounds of Metsä Village for captive consumption. Aim to reduce electricity bills over medium to long term, and strive to show proven results and acquire know-how in renewable energy business. Also reduce social risks by cutting CO2 emissions.	
Improving asset efficiency	Regularly conduct review of investment portfolio and allocate capital accordingly Improve Metsä Village profitability toward securitization	
Improving financial leverage	Expand debt procurement for growth investment Project finance for Moominvalley Park accounts for debt on the consolidated financial statements, with FGI's own loan balance very minor. Will accelerate growth strategy through investment using borrowed funds.  Realize return to shareholders Ensure cash in hand so as not to miss out on investment opportunities, and then utilize profit generated to execute return t shareholders.	

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 In addition to reducing performance volatility, the company works to reduce the cost of equity through proactive investor relations activities and information disclosure (→Point II. 2)

### Activities and Targets — Reducing cost of shareholders' equity

#### Reduce performance volatility by expanding stable sources of revenue

Utilize power of IR activities and information disclosure to control huge stock price fluctuations

Lower performance volatility	Reduce performance volatility by expanding stable sources of revenue In investment banking business, high demand for business succession solution services is driving growth, but profitability fluctuates depending on size of project and is difficult to control at the formation stage, creating an issue of volatility impacting business results.  Stable sources of revenue are expanding as the balance of assets under management accumulate, but must stabilize and diversify revenue further throughout the Group to reduce performance volatility and cost of shareholders' equity.
IR activities	Promote dialogue with institutional investors Promote dialogue to encourage accurate evaluation of prevailing corporate status and control huge stock price fluctuations through reasonable stock price formation. Will reduce cost of shareholders' equity.  Run information meetings for individual investors Will run information meeting similar to one held in May 2023, and facilitate viewing through website link
Information disclosure	Appropriate information disclosure  Control huge stock price fluctuations by adequately explaining business opportunities and inherent risks to stock market and thereby minimizing surprises. Reduce cost of shareholders' equity.

Source: FinTech Global Incorporated, Measures to Implement Management that is Conscious of Cost of Capital and Stock Price (November 2023), page7-8 https://www.fgi.co.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/c23e895983e4441b356af61fa9d8b4df.pdf

# SEINO HOLDINGS CO.,LTD. (9076)

**TOPIX Mid400** 

Land **Transport** ation



### Roadmap 2028 **Create Value Using a Reverse ROE Tree**



Aim to achieve ROE of 8.0% within 3-5 years by improving earning power and actively promoting shareholder returns

Steady growth of the Less than Truckload business Growth of the logistics business Organic growth of around 4%/year + M&A Growth of the charter business **ROE of 8.0%** M&A and open innovation or higher Increase profitability through better by 10% or more efficiency in the Less than Truckload Operating margin of around annually business 5.8% (4.5% in FY03/23)

Achieve both economic and social value

**Grow Operating income** 

Grow EPS by 15-20% annually

Equity ratio to an appropriate

level (63.2% in FY03/23)

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The ROE to be achieved by 2028 was shown, and working backward from there, the efforts to improve each of the components of ROE were described. (→ Point II.4)

Drivers of ROE improvement

Increase the proportion of operating

and charter businesses

revenue from the highly profitable logistics

Maintain DOE of 4.0% or more and continue

to steadily acquire treasury stock (¥30.0bn acquisition planned for FY03/24)

> The company will utilize an employee stock ownership plan, and after a certain period of time, during the period. (→Point II. 3)

distribute to members the portion of increased share price achieved

Source: Seino Holdings Co., Ltd., Long-Term Vision and Roadmap 2028 Toward Enhanced Corporate Value through Green Logistics (June 12, 2023), page 17,44 www.seino.co.jp/seino/media/pdf-lib/shd/ir eng/financialdata/irday 2023 en.pdf

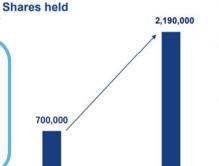
### **Voice of Investors**

The company provides disclosure that leads to deeper dialogue, such as the use of a logic tree to clearly show how each initiative will lead to increased corporate value. In addition, the use of employee stock ownership plans to provide employees with incentives to increase corporate value over the medium to long term is also highly regarded as an initiative to accelerate management efforts to achieve corporate value enhancement.

**Enhancing the Employee Stock Ownership Plan** So That Increased Corporate Value = Economic **Value for Employees** 



We will provide employees with incentives to enhance corporate value over the medium to long term. At the same time, we will promote membership in a stock ownership plan as a way to enhance employee benefits.



FY03/23

FY03/16

- We will strengthen the employee stock ownership plan so that increased corporate value = economic value for employees.
- Overview of employee stock ownership plan Members: 5,289 Shares held: 2,190,000 (16th largest shareholder)
- Incentive plan FY03/22 to FY03/26 (four years) At the end of the period, the amount of increase in the share price during the period will be distributed in proportion to the number of shares accumulated by
- Employees can share in the goal and sense of achievement as we work toward a PBR of more than

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