Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market: Securities Code 3992

Needs Well Inc.

Financial Results

for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2023

(October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022)

February 10, 2023





1. 2023/9 1Q Financial report summary



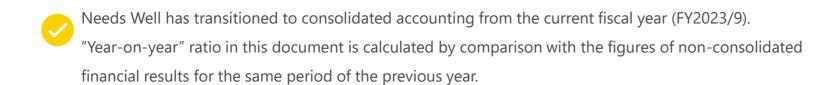
2. 2023/9 Results forecast



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## 1.1) Financial highlights



With transition to consolidated accounting, significant increase in both net sales and profit year-on-year, showing a strong trend of expansion on a non-consolidated basis, as well as on a consolidated basis

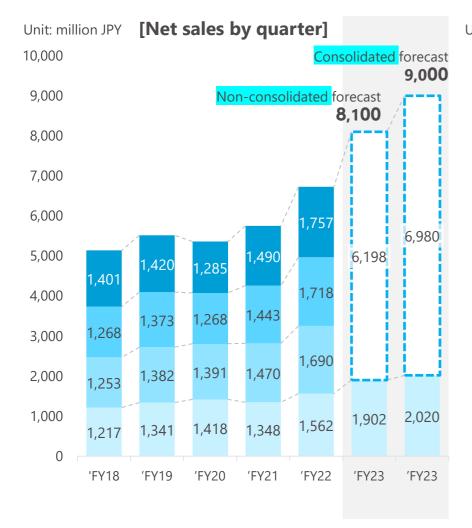
- Expanded sales channels and reinforced the customer base through active capital and business alliances and business alliances
- Steady growth in projects for DX of life insurance companies and projects for medical care
- All-in contracts increased in security-related projects for social infrastructure
- The Solutions Business gave momentum to our growth, driven by a paperless work environment, telework, the revised Preservation of Electronic Records Act, and the invoice system

Accounts	Amount Unit: million JPY	YoY(%)	Profit ratio (%)	Notes
Net sales	2,020	129.3%	_	
Operating profit	248	145.6%	12.3%	Amortization of M&A goodwill 12 million JPY
Ordinary profit	249	137.9%	12.4%	
Profit attributable to owners of parent	167	133.4%	8.3%	

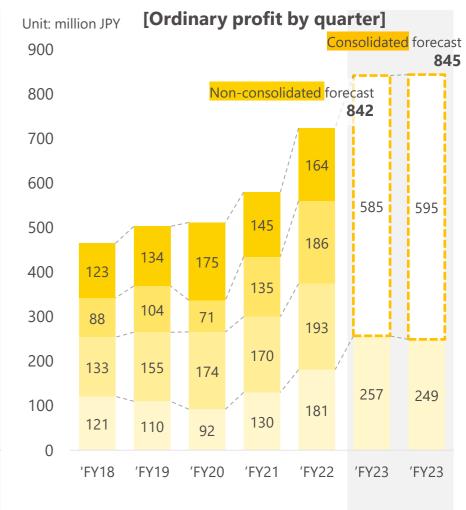
# 1.2) Trends/comparison by FY



Quarterly net sales, operating profit, and ordinary profit reached new highs since establishment even on a non-consolidated basis





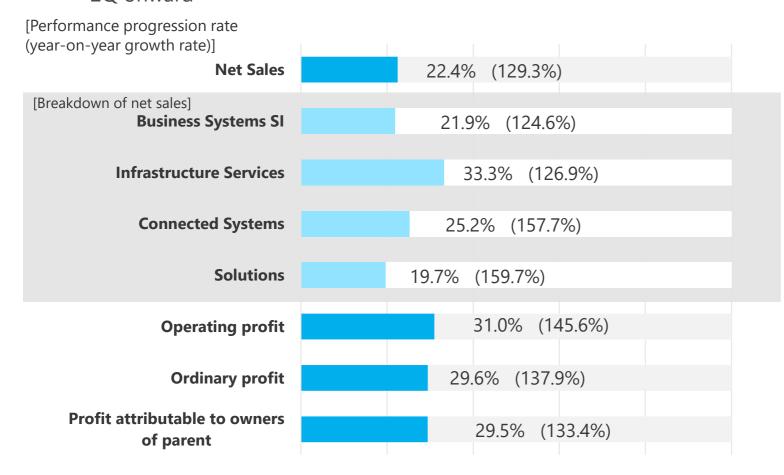


## 1.3) Performance progression rate, growth Rate



## Secured high growth rate year-on-year of 124% to 159% (YoY) in all services

- Progression rate of net sales is 22.4%, expecting expansion from 2Q onward
- Profit progressing rapidly at a ratio of 34% to 37%, and upward revision of results will be considered depending on the situation in 2Q onward



### **Business Systems SI**

**Progression rate** 21.9 %, **Growth rate** 124.6% Steady growth has been seen due to growth in projects for life insurance companies and the addition of sales from a newly consolidated subsidiary.

#### Infrastructure Services

**Progression rate** 33.3 % **Growth rate** 126.9 % All-in contracts increased in security-related projects for social infrastructure.

### **Connected Systems**

**Progression rate** 25.2 % **Growth rate** 157.7 % We have continued stable development for projects for medical care.

### Solutions

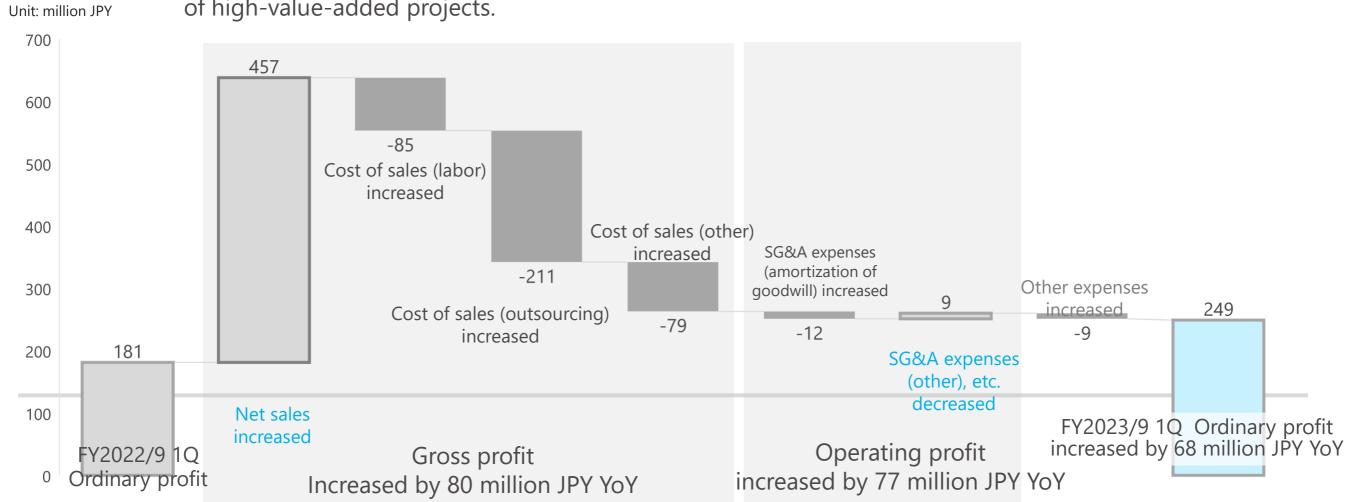
**Progression rate** 19.7 % **Growth rate** 159.7 % Invoice PA, a unique solution for expense management, and RPA remained strong. We aim to further expand the business in the next fiscal year by introducing new solutions.

# 1.4) Ordinary profit analysis



Operating profit increased 45.6% year-on-year and ordinary profit increased 37.9% year-on-year, showing strong growth

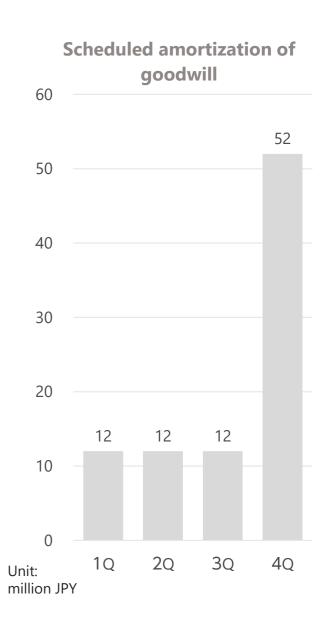
Gross profit increased by 80 million JPY (+21.6% year-on-year) due to increased orders and acquisition of high-value-added projects.



# 1.5) Profit & loss statement



	FY2022/9 1Q Financial Results		FY2023/9 1Q Financial Results				
Unit: million JPY	Result	Net Sales	Result	<b>Net Sales</b>	Year-on-year		
Net sales	1,562	-	2,020	-	129.3%	22.4%	9,000
Business Systems SI	1,195	76.5%	1,490	73.8%	124.6%	21.9%	6,818
Infrastructure Services	167	10.7%	212	10.5%	126.9%	33.3%	639
Connected Systems	40	2.6%	63	3.1%	157.7%	25.2%	251
Solutions	158	10.2%	253	12.6%	159.7%	19.7%	1,288
Gross profit	373	23.9%	454	22.5%	121.6%	-	-
amortization of goodwill	-	-	12	0.6%	-	-	-
others	202	13.0%	192	9.5%	95.1%	-	-
SG&A expenses	202	13.0%	205	10.2%	101.5%	-	-
Operating profit	171	10.9%	248	12.3%	145.6%	31.0%	801
Non-operating profit	10	0.7%	1	0.1%	15.3%	-	-
Non-operating expenses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	451.4%	-	-
Ordinary profit	181	11.6%	249	12.4%	137.9%	29.6%	845
Share of loss (profit) of entities accounted for using equity method	-	-	0	0.0%	-	-	-
Profit attributable to owners of parent	125	8.0%	167	8.3%	133.4%	29.5%	567



# 1.6) Balance sheet



Equity ratio is 71.8% (5.6pts decrease from the end of FY2022/9 on a non-consolidated basis)

*Selection of significant entries only		FY2022/9	FY202	3/9 1Q
Un	it: million JPY	Result	Result	Year-on-year
	Cash and deposits	2,609	2,295	-313
	Accounts receivable - trade and contract assets	1,163	1,389	226
	Prepaid expenses	72	41	-30
	Others	0	-1	0
	Total current assets	3,844	3,725	-119
	Buildings, net	29	28	0
	Software	81	76	-5
Ass	Software in progress	3	8	5
Assets	goodwill	-	390	390
	Investment securities	236	228	-8
	Shares of subsidiaries and associates	107	54	-53
	Defferred tax assets	136	147	11
	Leasehold and guarantee deposits	83	85	1
	Insurance funds	76	76	0
	Other	9	20	10
	Total non-current assets	764	1,116	352
Total assets		4,608	4,841	233

*Selection of significant entries only		FY2022/9	FY202	3/9 1Q
Unit: million JPY		Result	Result	Year-on-year
	Accounts payable - trade	213	491	277
	loans	-	20	20
	Accounts payable - others	150	216	66
	Accrued corporate tax, etc.	180	99	-81
_	Accrued consumption taxes	90	131	41
Liabilities	Deposits received	44	142	98
ities	Provision for bonuses	343	185	-158
O,	Others	15	16	0
	Total current liabilities	1,038	1,302	264
	loans	-	43	43
	other	-	14	14
	Total non-current liabilities	0	57	57
Tot	al liabilities	1,038	1,360	322
	Share capital	908	908	0
E	Legal capital surplus	764	764	0
Equity	Retained earnings brought forward	2,072	1,983	-89
	Treasury shares	-200	-200	0
	Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities	24	19	-5
	al net assets al liabilities and net assets	3,570 4,608	3,480 4,841	-89 233
101	ai liabilities and net assets	4,608	4,841	233



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# 2.1) Transition to consolidated accounting



# Transition to consolidated accounting from October 2022 with Needs Well's inclusion of subsidiaries and an equity-method affiliate



**Needs Well Inc.** 

Business Systems SI, Infrastructure Services, Connected Systems, Solutions

[Consolidated subsidiaries]







Zeroichi Production Co., Ltd.

Contract development for construction sector, MVNO-related business

BO STUDIO Inc.

Web design, consulting, digital marketing

KOMSOFT Inc.

Financial system & web-related system development

[Equity-method affiliate]



Souken-sys Inc.

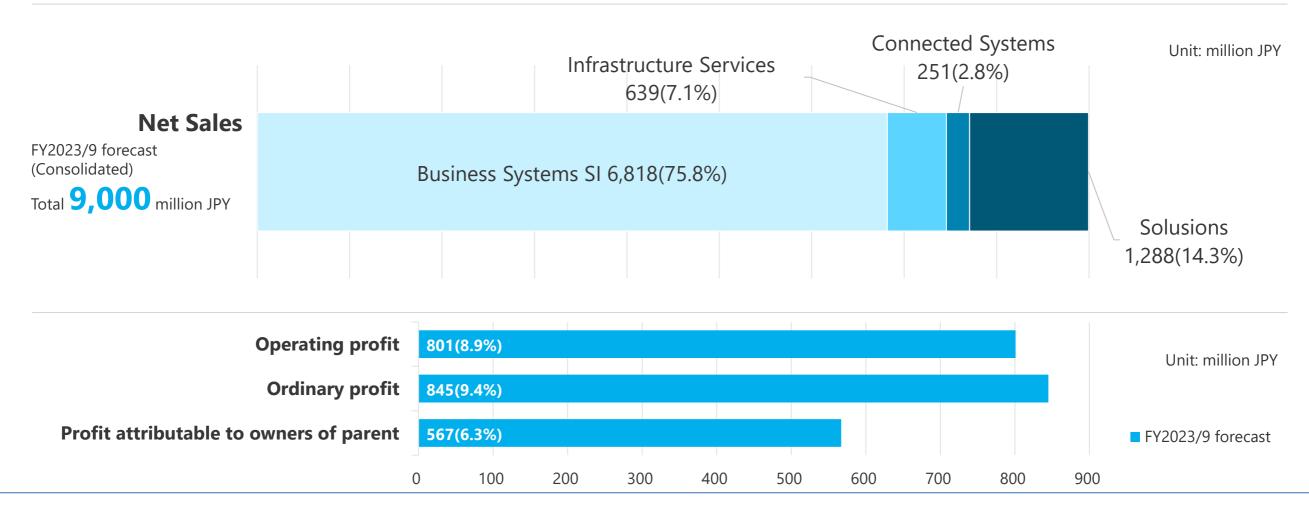
Core system, app, e-commerce site & cloud-based development

## 2.2) Forecast (Consolidated)



# Toward achieving the Medium-Term Management Plan Targets of Net sales: 10.0 billion JPY & Ordinary profit: 1.0 billion JPY

Needs Well will continue efforts throughout FY2023/9 to expand existing businesses and conclude M&A contracts at a pace that exceeds forecasts



## 2.3) Medium-Term Management Plan: Present situation & measures



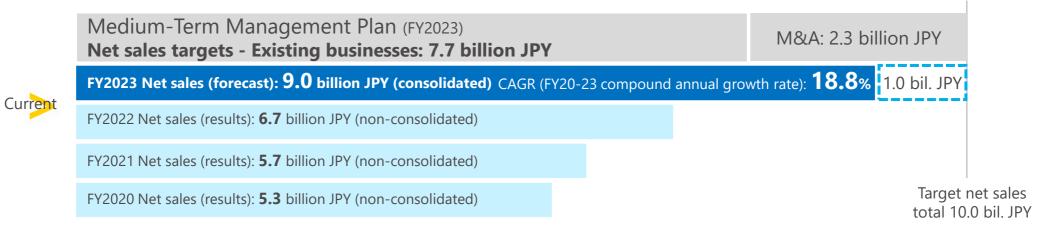
## **Medium-Term Management Plan Targets for FY2023/9**

# Net sales: 10.0 billion JPY Ordinary profit: 1.0 billion JPY

Present situation

While existing businesses are steadily expanding to exceed the target of 7.7 billion JPY, we are facing issues in the scale of concluding M&A contracts

With current FY2023 forecast for net sales of **9.0 billion JPY**, measures necessary to cover gap in relation to Medium-Term Management Plan target for net sales of **10.0 billion JPY** 



Measures & revisions

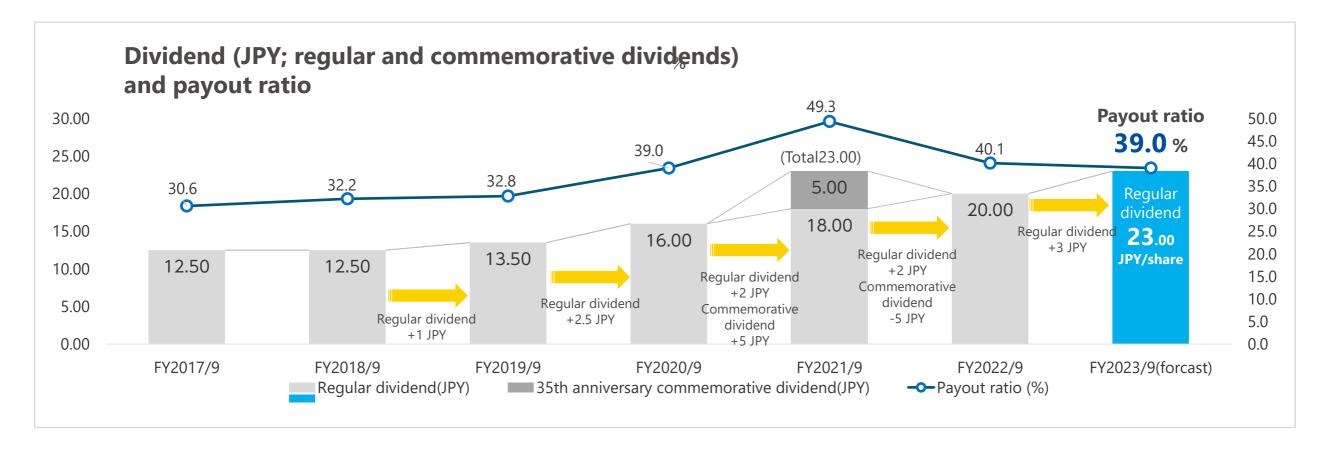
- 1) Cover delays in M&A by increased sales from capital and business alliances / business alliances
- 2) Continue to explore M&A projects that have the potential for synergies. Now working on evaluating the value of several projects
- 3) If a large amount of additional funding is required, consider bank loans instead of fund-raising through the issuance of new shares

## 2.4) Dividends and shareholder returns



FY23/9 forecast Dividend per share: 23.00 JPY/share 3 JPY increase in regular dividend

In addition to shareholder returns, we will work to increase employee salaries and bonuses in seeking economic growth and securing talent.



<sup>\*</sup> The Company plans to pay a commemorative dividend of 5.00 JPY in addition to a regular dividend of 18.00 JPY in commemoration of the Company's 35th anniversary for the fiscal year 2021/9.

<sup>\*</sup> Needs Well conducted stock splits on April 1, 2018 at a ratio of 2 shares per share, and on January 1, 2019 at a ratio of 2 shares per share. Past annual dividends per share have been retrospectively adjusted based on these stock splits.



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## 3.1) Growth strategy



- 1 Promote improvement of corporate value
  - Expand Logistics Businesses

Focus points

- 3 Expand Al Business
  - Expand nearshore development
- 5 Establish business foundation
- 6 Expand Solutions Business

Increase direct sales to end users

# 3.1) 1 Promote improvement of corporate value i

Net sales 10.0 billion JPY (FY2023/9)

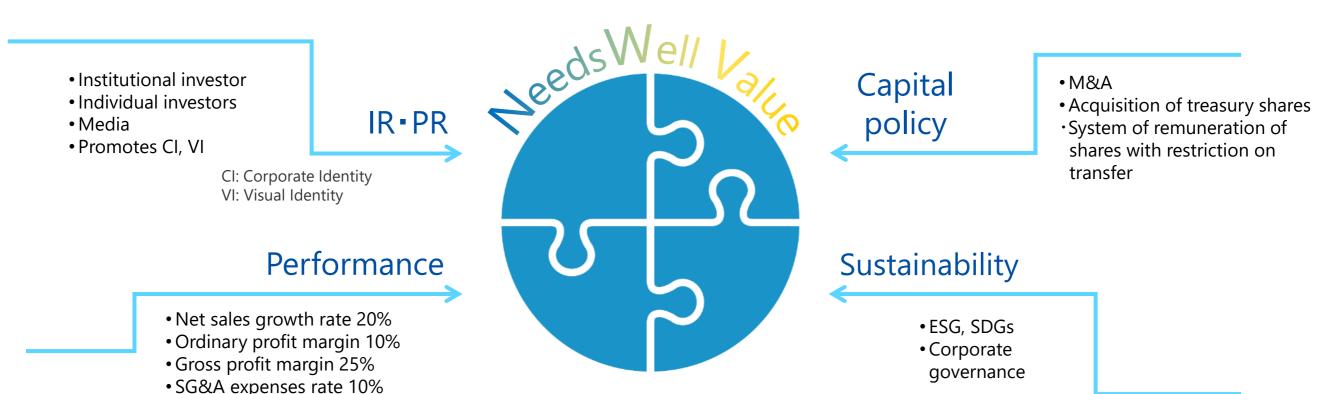
• EPS 60 JPY, PER 30

• M&A

Liquidity – market capitalization 10.0 billion JPY(FY2023/9)



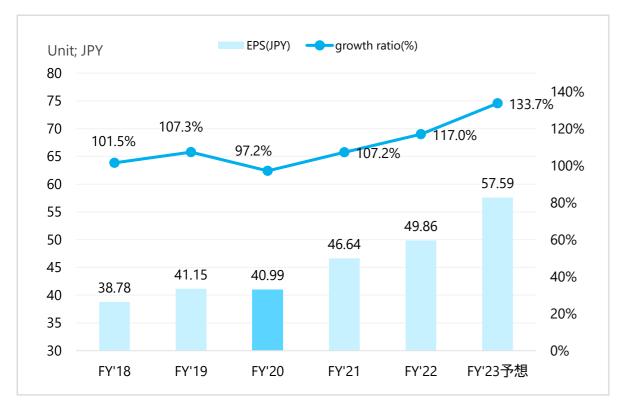
Promote our management philosophy of "Contributing Broadly to the Economy and Society" through improvement of the NeedsWell Value



# 3.1) 1 Promote improvement of corporate value ii



1 Net sales growth rate and EPS (Earnings Per Share) are on an upward trend year after year



- 3 Starting this fiscal year, place emphasis on dialogue with institutional investors in addition to dialogue with individual investors.
  - -Expand opportunities on a one-on-one basis

Proactively pursue M&A, capital and business alliances, and the development of collaborative relationships Expanding sales channels, orders, products, and engineers for further growth

Feb. 2020	Capital and business alliance	ITFOR Inc.
Mar.2020	Core partner	Meiji Yasuda Life Insurance Company, Meiji Yasuda System Technology Limited
Dec. 2020	Collaboration	Logi Revo Co., Ltd. Office FA.com Co., Ltd.
Mar.2021	Capital and business alliance	Souken-sys Inc.
Jul. 2021	Capital and business alliance	Canon IT Solutions Inc.
Sep. 2021	Business alliance	CONEXIO Corporation
Oct. 2021	Share acquisition	Zeroichi Production Co., Ltd.
Nov.2021	Business alliance	Ascentech K.K.
Feb. 2022	Capital and Business alliance	Ascentech K.K.
Jul. 2022	Equity investment	Souken-sys Inc.
Jul. 2022	Business alliance	Sakura Information Systems Co.,
Sep. 2022	Business alliance	Sumitomo Mitsui Card Co., Ltd.
Oct. 2022	Equity investment	BO STUDIO Inc.
Oct. 2022	Equity investment	KOMSOFT Inc.
Oct. 2022	Business alliance	PB Systems, Inc.

# 3.1) 2 Expand Logistics Businesses



Increased rate of online shopping has expanded needs for advanced logistics warehouses



- **Expand sales** of SmartWMS by collaborating with logistics hardware manufacturers
- **Store development** for ordered SmartWMS
- Develop SmartWMS for other industries, e.g., convenience stores, etc.

## Manpower-saving, paperless system

- Improvement of operations at worksites with the use of handy terminals
- Elimination of paper from a series of tasks in warehouses
- Work with robots

# Visualization of issues

- · Productivity improvement with advanced analytical functions
- Optimization of staffing in warehouses
- Improve the loading rate of delivery vehicles

Easy-to-operate system

- Uniform operability to prevent input errors
- · Search items can be freely set by each person in charge

## 3.1) 3 Expand Al Business



## Expand AI Business by expanding the Work AI lineup



\* Work AI is a general term for industry-specific AI solutions developed to support corporate DX by utilizing know-how in integration for AI, RPA, etc.



Al comparison of information with top performing models to provide feedback on points needing improvement.
Al automation of rough estimation of parts and materials
Detection of normality and abnormality of objects acquired by camera using image recognition AI (deep learning).
Predictive AI is used to analyze data acquired from various center data to improve the quality of the manufacturing process.
Predictive AI is used to predict various abnormalities and prevent breakdowns and failures before they occur.
Interactive AI chatbot provides solutions FAQ, searches for documents Simple-to-use process of sending text to chatbot from browser or chat tool, allowing sought-after information to be instantly retrieved.

# 3.1) 4 Expand nearshore development



Nagasaki Development Center aims to maintain 100 employees in FY2024/9

Utilize nearshore bases to acquire highly competent personnel and provide solutions for labor shortages

### **Nearshore utilization**

- Expand nearshore development system by accepting orders for out-of-office projects
- Promote transition from dispatch and residential styles while standardizing nearshore development
- Build secure remote development environments over short periods

## **Personnel acquisition**

 Recruiting and training highly competent engineers who seek local employment
 Recruiting from local universities

Recruiting U-turn and I-turn personnel

### **Expansion plan**

June 2023 Relocate and increase floor space to expand development structure

Now	30 employees	205 m <sup>2</sup>
September 2023	70 employees	453 m <sup>2</sup>
September 2024	100 employees	Same as above



## 3.1) 5 Establish business foundation 1



# Establishing a business foundation for stable development into the future as a listed company

## Business Systems SI

- Expand into the financial sector by accumulating business knowledge and training highly-skilled engineers
- New development into the logistics sector
- Expand as stock business by extending contracts for system maintenance and development, operation, etc.
- Promote projects in collaboration with business alliance partners
- Expand orders for IT outsourcing, N help, and quality test-related projects to receive stable orders
- Expand orders for public sector projects (government, electric power, gas, etc.)
- Strengthen competitiveness using low-code development tools

## Infrastructure Services

- Coordinate with Business Systems SI for total orders
- Expand orders for cloud-related projects

## **Connected Systems**

 Strengthen connected technology for IoT and ICT in addition to specialization in automobiles and medical equipment ▶▶▶ Service line composition

Service lines that establish the business foundation

**Business Systems SI** 

Infrastructure Services

**Connected Systems** 

+

Service line that accelerates business expansion and increases added value

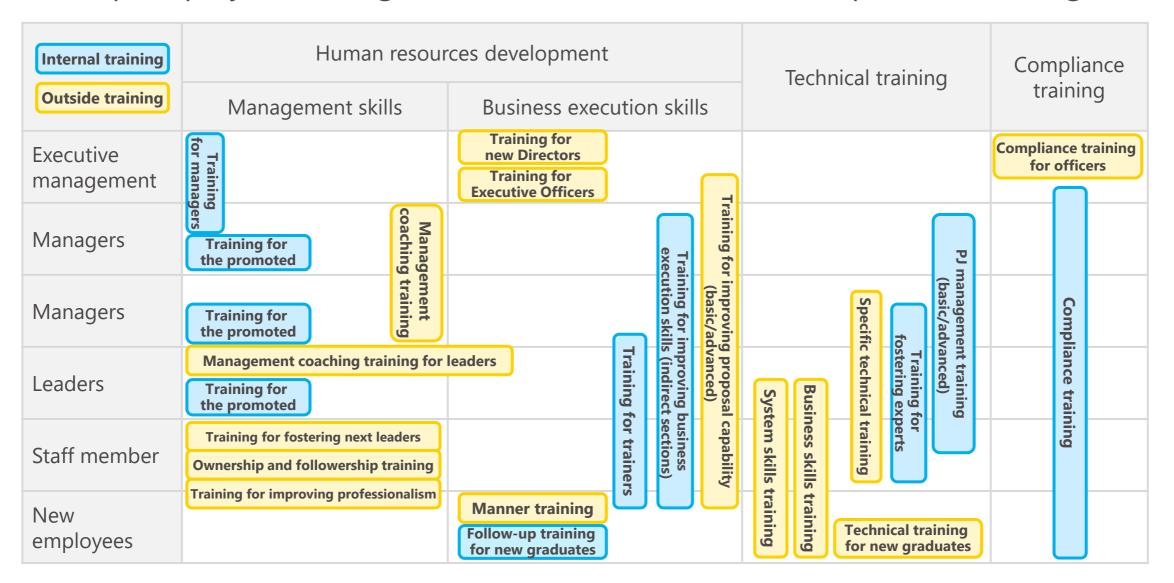
Solutions/Products, etc.

21

## 3.1) 5 Establish business foundation 2



Develop employee training to foster human resources with problem-solving skills

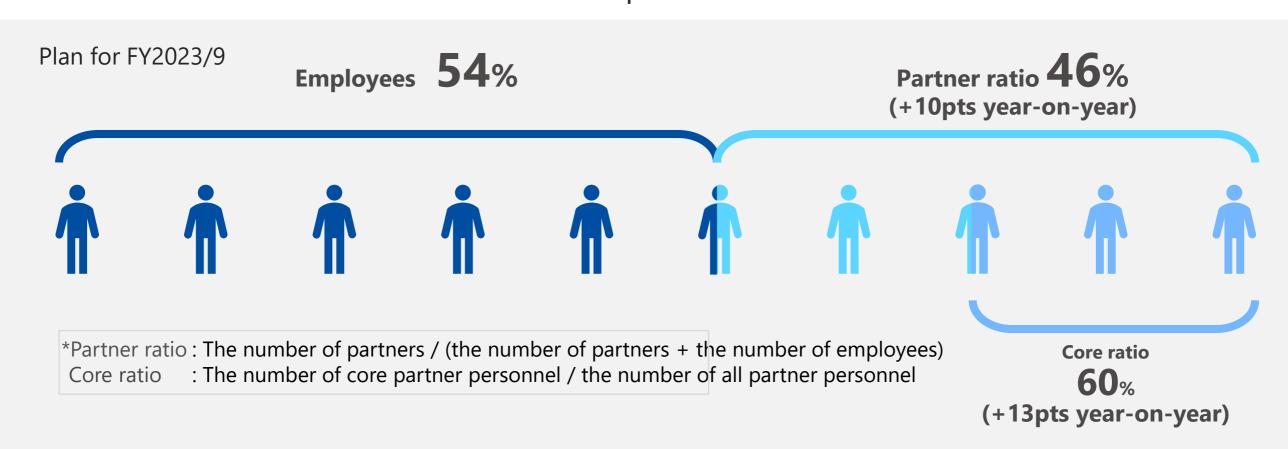


## 3.1) 5 Establish business foundation 3



Enhance cooperation with core partners to pursue development and coexistence and co-prosperity

Strengthen partnerships and increase core ratio up to 60% in the 37th fiscal year Raise core ratio up to 70% in the future



## 3.1) 6 Expand Solutions Business 1





## Purposes

- Enhance corporate value
- Improve capability to receive orders
- Improve profitability / "Transition from increasing unit price to increasing value"





## Guidelines

- Create solutions together with customers, instead of research and development
- Focus on services and improve quality of services
- · Offer added value
- Ongoing support by offering subscriptions

# 3.1) 5 Expand Solutions Business 2



# Expanding the Solutions Business to accelerate business expansion and increase added value

Net sales composition ratio target 15.0% in FY2023/9 (FY2022/9 results: 12.7%)

**Expansion strategy** 



### Provide DX centered on IT Re-Engineering Service solutions from Needs Well

- Improve productivity by introducing electronic contracts and approvals
- Paperless accounting department in preparation for the Revised Preservation of Electronic Records Act
- Improve productivity by making general affairs and year-end tax adjustment work paperless
- Build a secure telework environment
- Improve business efficiency by centralizing user authentication for multiple systems

# Invoice PA Invoice PA ... CoNeCt

**ImPaC** N-Navi N-Bridge Series

### Collaboration solutions SAP Concur

Scheduled to provide versions compliant with the Invoice System and the revised Preservation of Electronic Records Act respectively

### **Chat Director**

N-help

n**elp** IT help-des

**SharePoint utilization Service** 

**Frailty Prevention** 

IT help-desk service

Effective use of cloud storage and data backup functions

QOL for senior citizens in cooperation with local governments

Collaboration solutions RPA tools and business chat tools

## 3.1) 6 Increase direct sales to end users



Stabilize orders and improve profitability, maintain and expand end user direct sales ratio to over 60%

Maintain and expand existing users

- Secure repeat customers
- Train highly skilled engineers and expand the scope of expertise sectors
- Cultivate new sectors of expertise

## Cultivate new users

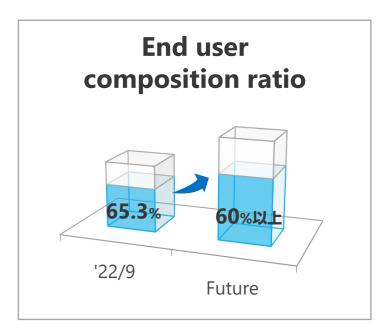
 Horizontal expansion by introducing Needs Well's development results and business know-how to new companies that are similar to existing users

## Develop new users by expanding solutions business

Focus on Solution Business with a high ratio of sales to end users

## Promote online sales activities

 Reached out to new target groups through successful implementation of measures such as seminars, exhibitions, website, and press releases. Inquiries from end users through online tools increased.







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# 4.1) Company profile



As of September,2021

				, ,	
Company Name	Needs Well Inc.		Representative	President and CEO Kozo Funatsu	
Established	October 1, 1986		Stock Listing	Tokyo Stock Exchange, Prime Market (3992)	
Paid-in Capital	908 million JPY		Net sales	6,730 million JPY	
Number of Employees	570		Fiscal year end	September	
Head Office	13F, New Otani Garden Court, 4-1 TEL: +81-3-6265-6763 FAX: +8			l.com	
Office	<ul> <li>Shinjuku Office: 5F, South Tower, 13-15 Tomihisa-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, 162-0067 Japan</li> <li>Nagasaki Office: 5F, Meijiyasudaseimei Nagasakikozenmachi building, 2-21 Kozen-machi, Nagasaki-shi, Nagasaki, 850-0032 Japan</li> </ul>				
Qualification	Worker dispatch business ISO2	27001 (ISMS) Certified	, Privacy mark ISC	09001 (QMS) Certified	
Board of Directors As of November 30,2022	Executive Director  Executive Director  Hajim	Funatsu masa Goto e Matsuoka Wakano abata	Director Hideaki Sa Director Mamoru Ya Audit & Supervisory Bo Audit & Supervisory Bo	Agawa (E) (I) Asuoka (E) (I) Asuoka (E) (I) Asuoka (E) (I) Asard Member Kazuhiko Kato Asard Member Kotaro Niwa (E) (I) Asard Member Shigeru Sato (E) (I)	
グループ体制	BO KO	roichi Production Co., L STUDIO Inc. (Head Offi MSOFT Inc. (Head Office uken-sys Inc. (Head Offi	ce: Shibuya-ku, Tokyo P e: Toshima-ku, Tokyo Pı	obara-shi, Tochigi President and CEO: Hiroyuki Waki) President and CEO: Keiho Akiyama) resident and CEO: Nobumasa Goto) President and CEO: Tamotsu Shimizu)	

# 4.2) Management philosophy



Management philosophy

Contributing Broadly to the Economy and Society

Business slogan

Try & Innovation

Constantly evolving,

Needs Well continues to contribute broadly to the economy and society with challenges and innovations.

# 4.3) Medium-Term Basic Policy

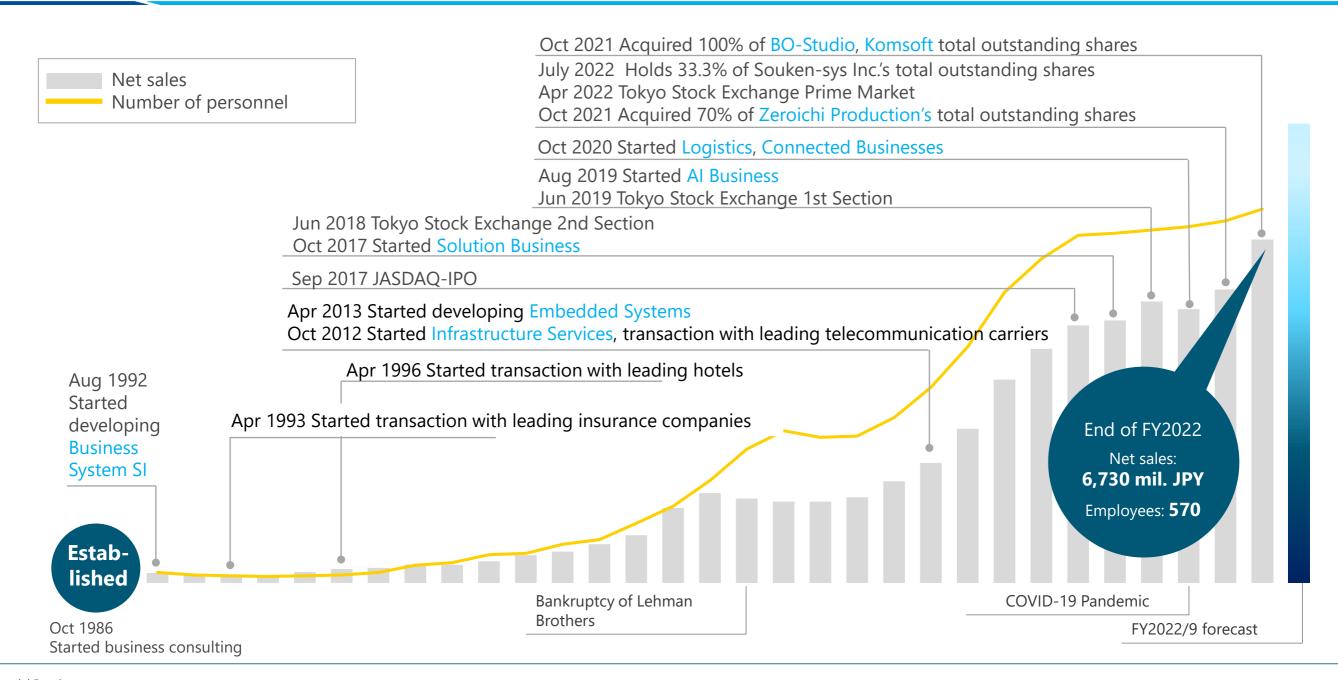


Breaking away from the dispatch business,

becoming a true system integrator

## 4.4) Growth track

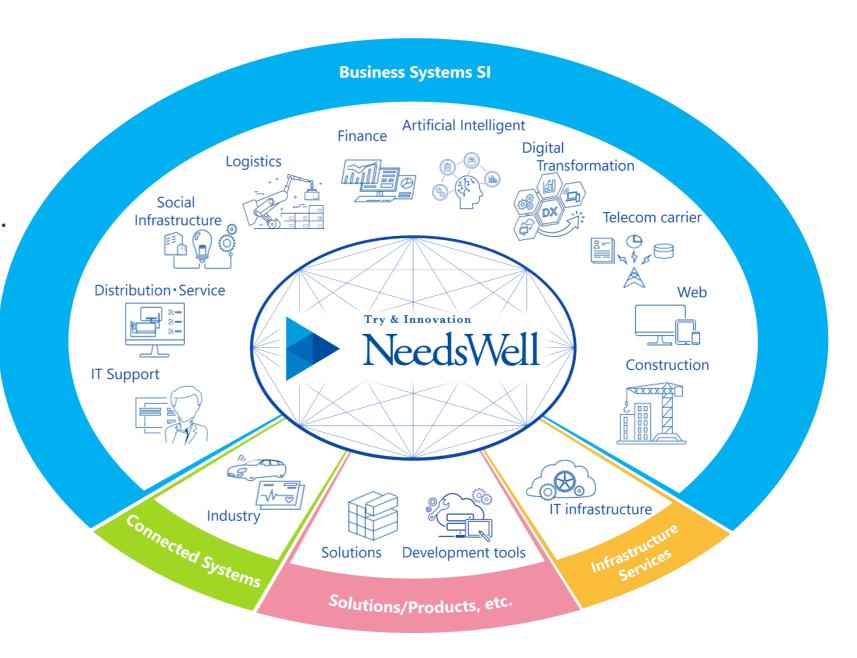




## 4.5) Business fields

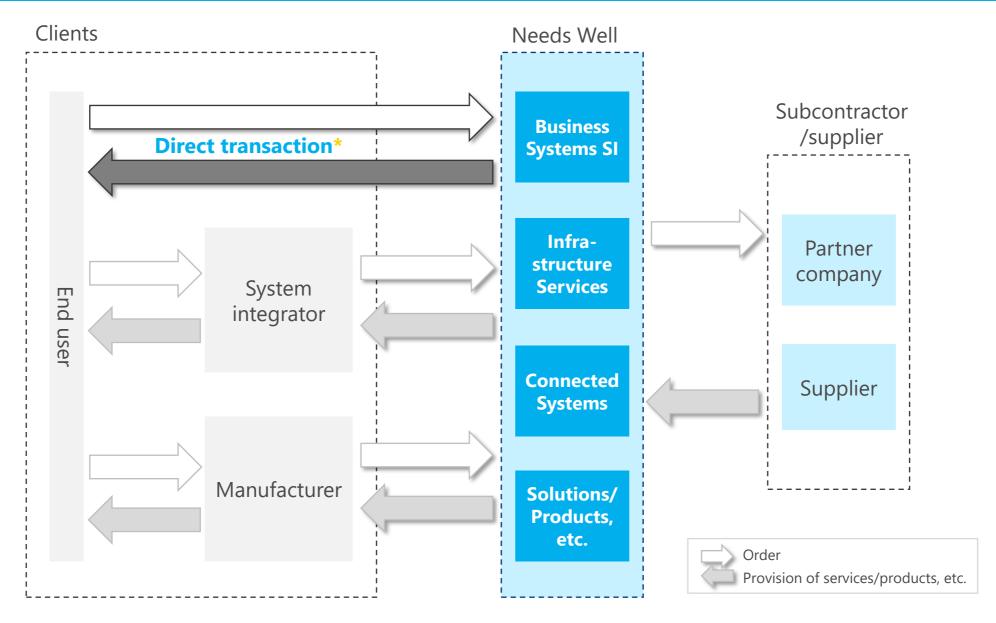


Needs Well provides total IT services through four services focused on Business Systems SI for finance.



# 4.6) Business system diagram





\* High level of direct transactions with end users (approx. 65.3% of all sales)

## 4.7) Our three strengths



Capacity for financial system development

Financial sector accounts for 50% of net sales in main service line, Business Systems SI.

Particularly advanced in life insurance and accident insurance sectors.

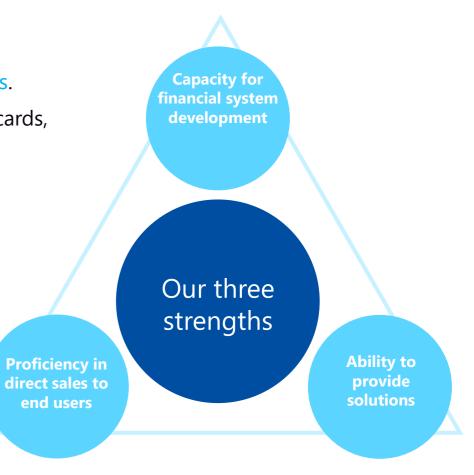
Strong performance record in developing systems for banks, credit cards, and securities.

Proficiency in direct sales to end users

High level of direct transactions with end users such as life insurance companies, leading hotels, telecommunications carriers, etc., composing over 50% of sales.

Ability to provide solutions / Al

Provides solution services optimized for each customer's business objectives through 5G, Al, RPA, remote work, etc.



# 4.8) 2 Promotion policies: Sales growth



### Market scale (our forecast)

Logistics IoT software solutions market (WMS, etc.)

2023

103.0 bil. JPY



2020

80.0 bil. JPY

Smart cities market

2023 **1,200.0** bil. JPY



2020

680.0 bil. JPY

Al's major markets\*

2023

64.0 bil. JPY



32.0 bil. JPY

## Logistics Business

Logistics industry is facing a serious labor shortage as the selection of diversifying needs continues to increase. There is urgent demand for immediate investment in streamlining, improving quality, and reducing environmental burden through the use of AI, IoT, etc.

### **Connected Business**

Proceed to engage in connected technologies to enrich lives, such as smart cities which utilize IoT and AI to make the entire neighborhood more efficient and convenient, etc.

### **Solutions Business**

Demand for investment is high due to structural reform for DX. Introduce unique and differentiated products with integration functions that utilize AI and RPA

#### M&A

Expand the scale of existing technologies and strengthen/introduce new technologies. Focus on logistics, connected functionality, AI, IoT, web, etc.

\* Al's major markets: Image recognition, speech recognition, speech synthesis, language analysis, search and retrieval, translation

\* \* Please refer to page 12 for an analysis of the present situation and measures & revisions to be implemented.



Unit: billion JPY

+1.2

+0.3

+0.9

+2.3

Existing businesses

M&A

FY2023/9



<sub>4</sub>4.7

billion JPY

#### [Breakdown]

- Existing businesses
- 2.4 bil. JPY 2.3 bil. JPY
- M&A

5.3 billion JPY

FY2020/9

# 4.9) 1 Initiatives directly linked to business



Aim for sustainable management through business strategies that incorporate the perspectives of SDGs, ESG, and CSR

# Nearshore Development Promotion: Nagasaki Development Center to maintain 100 employees by 2024

Promote development by committing to QCD (quality, cost, and delivery) through remote development system that utilizes nearshore bases.

Aim to maintain 100 employees at the Nagasaki Development Center by 2024 and contribute to prosperous urban development through the development of an industrial foundation, technological innovation, and creating employment opportunities by utilizing highly competent local human resources.

Certified as the first registered business operator of the Nagasaki Prefecture SDGs Registration System.

Participated in the "SDGs Public-Private Partnership Platform for Regional Revitalization" established by the Cabinet Office.

Participated in the Cabinet Office's "Public-Private Partnership Platform for Regional Revitalization SDGs"

## **Development of new solutions to assist DX**

Assist client companies in realizing and promoting DX to overcome the "2025 Digital Cliff" by building platforms using AI technology, providing systems, analyzing data, saving labor through RPA integration, etc.

Contribute to building the industrial foundation of a digital society.

## **Collaboration with partner companies**

Promote partnerships with contractors and suppliers and aim to establish a structure for continuing to develop together over a long period of time.









# 4.9) 2 Initiatives supported by systems and activities



## Work style reform & personnel development

- Promote a healthy work-life balance by incentive dates for paid leave, Premium Friday (leaving work early on the last Friday of the month), reducing overtime work, etc.
- Expand selection of employees eligible for remote work
- System for encouraging skill improvement and motivation

## **Increase ratio of female employees and managers**

Target female manager ratio: 30%, target female employee ratio: 30%

## Al education for students

Arrange AI programming experiences and 5 day/3 week internships for students
Conduct programming classes on apps for submitting electronic applications and creating interactive AI chatbots, WinActor (RPA) to improve efficiency of school operations, taste data analysis, etc. (2020 - 2022)

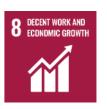
## **Donate to assistance programs for repaying student loans**

Contribute to projects by Nagasaki Prefecture for assisting young adults in the repayment of their student loans Develop leaders who will establish themselves and play central roles in the local community

## **Support for V-Varen Nagasaki of the Soccer J League**

Concluded a sponsorship agreement to support the promotion of sports culture and revitalization of the local community

Please view the following link for other initiatives and more information: <a href="https://www.needswell.com/ir/sdgs">https://www.needswell.com/ir/sdgs</a>









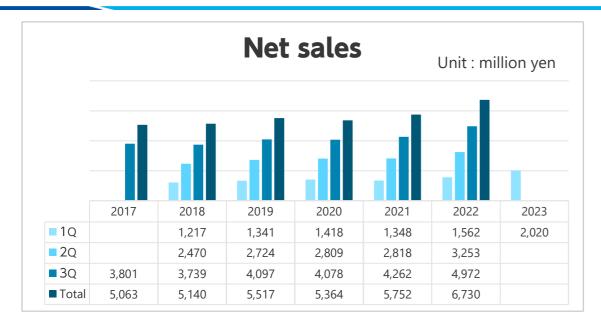




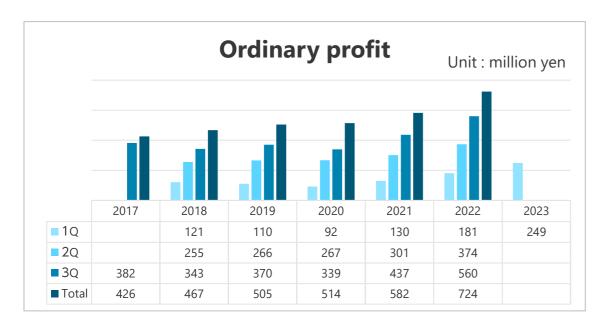


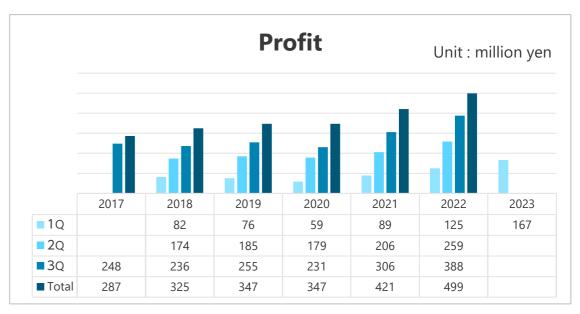
# 4.10) Business results 1





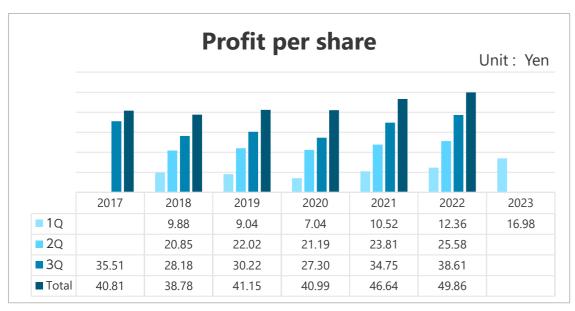






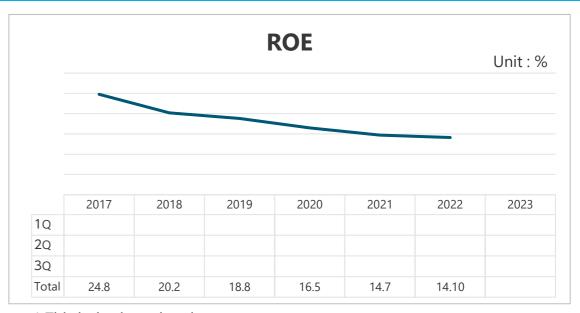
## 4.10) Business results 2



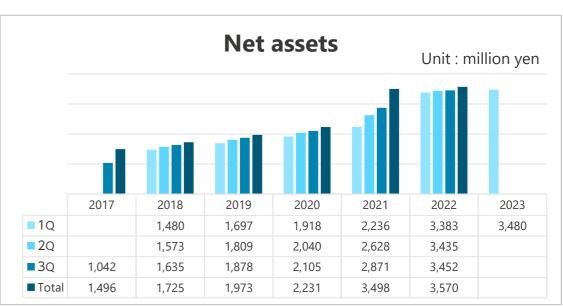


<sup>\*</sup> Figures are after sprit adjusted as of May 12, 2017 ratio of 100 shares per share, as of Apr 1, 2018 ratio of 2 shares per share, as of Jan 1, 2019 ratio of 2 shares per share.



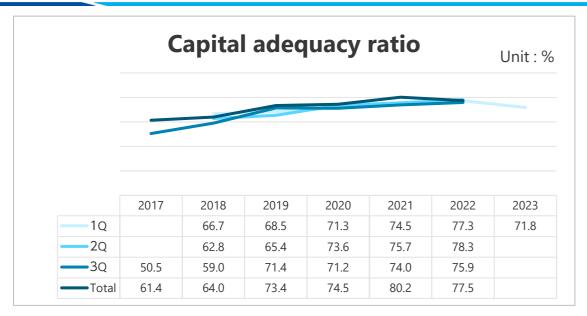


<sup>\*</sup> This index is updated every year

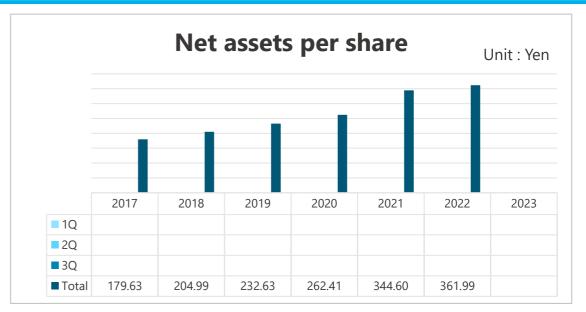


# 4.10) Business results 3





<sup>\* 2</sup>Q is total of 1Q and 2Q



<sup>\*</sup> Figures are after sprit adjusted as of May 12, 2017 ratio of 100 shares per share, as of Apr 1, 2018 ratio of 2 shares per share, as of Jan 1, 2019 ratio of 2 shares per share.

<sup>\*</sup> This index is updated every year



<sup>\* 3</sup>Q is total of 1Q to 3Q



- All statements described herein have been prepared by Needs Well based on the currently available information.
- Actual results may differ from forecasts due to various factors in the future.

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