December 23, 2021

### Presentation Material for Our Business Plan and Growth Potential

AXXZIA Inc.

AXZIA

### Agenda

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- Experienced Management Team
- Awards
- Management Philosophy
- Operating Results

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# 1. Corporate Information

### **Company Overview**

## AXXIA

AXXIA

Creating things and experiences that amaze people.

### **Company Overview**

[Establishment]	December 21, 2011
[Capital]	2,109 million yen (As of end of July 2021)
[Location]	Tokyo, JAPAN
[Office]	Tokyo Head Office
	Tokyo 2nd Head Office
	Osaka Sales Office
	Fukuoka Sales Office
	AXXZIA GINZA SIX
[Business Activities]	Manufacturing / sales of cosmetics and supplements
[Market]	TSE Mothers (4936)

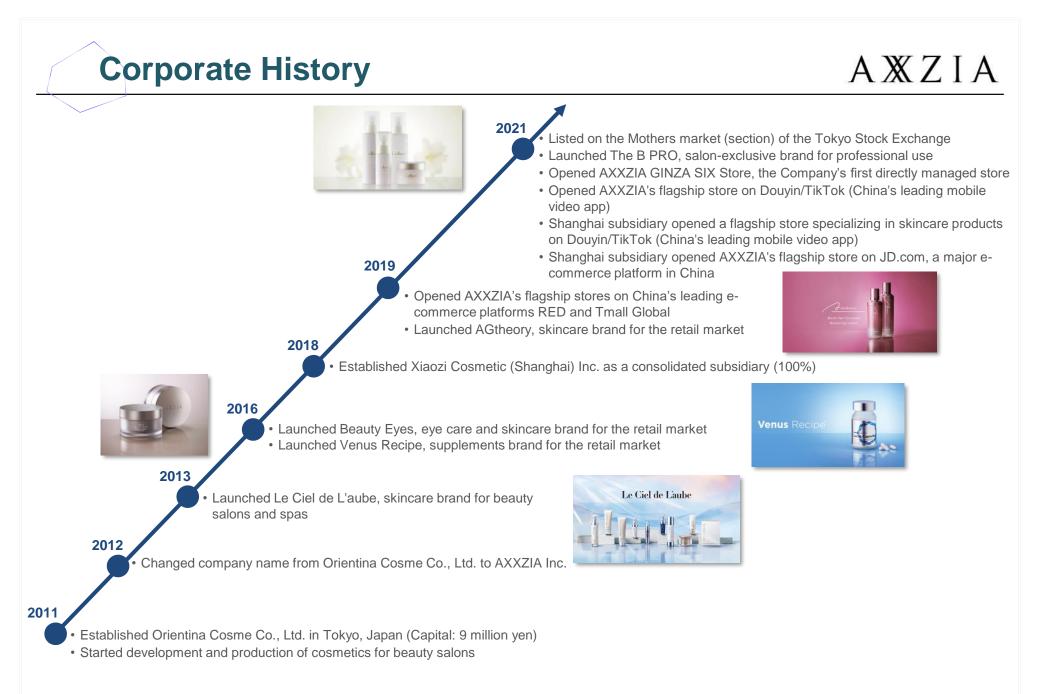
#### **Board of Directors**

President Executive Vice President Managing Director Managing Director Director Director Outside Director Outside Director Corporate Auditor Outside Corporate Auditor Outside Corporate Auditor

Dan Taku Xiaowei Amano Wu Jun Zhang Hui Masahiro Yoshida Yasuhito Fukui Yujiro Arakawa Reiko Akemine Masahiro Miyajima Kenji Shimizu Kuninobu Okuda

### **Consolidated Subsidiaries**

Xiaozi Cosmetic (Shanghai) Inc.



### **Experienced Management Team**

## AXXIA



Dan Taku

President

Dan Taku, originally from China, completed graduate school in Japan and worked for a publicly listed company before starting his own business in 2003. He ran his own beauty salons and imported and exported beauty equipment before moving to the current structure of AXXZIA in 2011. His philosophy is to "present Asian beauty from Japan to the world."



Xiaowei Wang (Xiaowei Amano) Executive Vice President

Xiaowei Wang graduated from university and then worked on branding and media strategy as the Head of Strategy and Marketing for Europe, the US, and China. After AXXZIA was established, she gathered information from around the world and oversaw domestic and international marketing strategies and new product design, while also being responsible for creative development.



Zhang Hui

Managing Director

Zhang Hui, originally from China, graduated with a Master of Law degree from a Chinese university. After visiting Japan, he also went to graduate school in Japan, and joined AXXZIA after graduation. Currently, he serves as Director of Domestic and Overseas Sales and is responsible for the overseas distribution network connecting AXXZIA products with the rest of the world, with a focus on Asia.



Masahiro Yoshida Director

Masahiro Yoshida graduated from university and then worked for a major general trading company, where he was involved in the trading of life science-related chemicals. He then launched a Japanese subsidiary of a foreign cosmetics brand. Since joining AXXZIA, he has been using his experience and insight to replicate the steps that lead to brand development, growth in Japan, and growth in the Asian market.

### Awards in Japan

## AXXIA

2016	Awarded 2016 Best of Venture Award by Beauty and Healthcare News Inc.	
2017	Ranked 1st Place in Rakuten Research Ranking in the Cosmetics Popular Among Adult Women category	EW/ FAST 2016
	Awarded 2017 Growth Company Brand by Beauty and Healthcare News Inc.	2016 Best of Venture 2 Award
	Awarded 2018 Monde Selection Bronze Award Awarded product: Venus Recipe AG Drink Plus	
2018	Awarded Smile Award, Glitter Award, and Happy Award in Girls Happy Style Selection 2018 (selected by Japanese TV program Girls Happy Style) Awarded product: AGtheory Clarifying Essence, Venus Recipe AG Drink Plus	成長企業銘柄 2017 <sup>美容異界在未引する金成長企業 2017</sup> (共容紙送新期間社-週出) 2017 Growth Companies
	Ranked 1st Place in selection by JMRO, Inc. in Cosmetics Popular Among Adult Women category Survey overview: November 2018 image survey	
2019	Ranked 3rd Place in @cosme word-of-mouth ranking in the Skincare Beauty Appliances category Survey period: May 1, 2019 to July 31, 2019 (three months) Awarded product: MATE FOR EYES	Girls Happy Style Selection 2018, Smile Award, Glitter Award, Happy Award
2021	Ranked 1st Place in selection by JMRO, Inc. in the Eye Care Cosmetics Recommended by Beauty Professionals category According to JMRI, Inc.'s survey Survey overview: February 2021 brand image survey Survey period: January 19, 2021 to February 2, 2021	Eye Car Recommer Profe



2017 Popular Cosmetics Among Adult Women



2018 Monde Selection Bronze Award



2018 Popular Cosmetics Among Adult Women

2021 Eye Care Cosmetics Recommended by Beauty Professionals No. 1 in Category

UHUAN

### **International Awards**

### AXXIA



Tmall

Supplement Category W11 Rapid Growth Award





Tmall 2020 Emerging Company of the Year Award

单越价值品牌

AXXZIA 設書



Japan Buyers Community 2020 Outstanding Strategic Alliance Enterprise Award

Japan Buyers Community Excellent Value Brand Award

2019	Winner of 医药保健双11-新店成长奖 (Winner of Supplement Category W11 Rapid Growth Award by Tmall)
2020	Winner of 财年新锐奖 (Winner of 2020 Emerging Company of the Year Award by Tmall)
2021	Winner of 优质战略合作品牌方 (Winner of 2020 Outstanding Strategic Alliance Enterprise Award by Japan Buyers Community)
	Winner of 卓越价值品牌 (Winner of Excellent Value Brand Award by Japan Buyers Community)
	Winner of 2021小红书美护趋势品牌 (Winner of 2021 RED Skincare Trends Brand Award)



2021 RED Skincare Trends Brand Award

The name AXXZIA symbolizes the "beauty of the female chromosome" (XX) and the desire to transmit the "beauty of Asia" (AZIA). With innovation and passion, we will continue to propose beauty from Japan to the world.

#### VISION

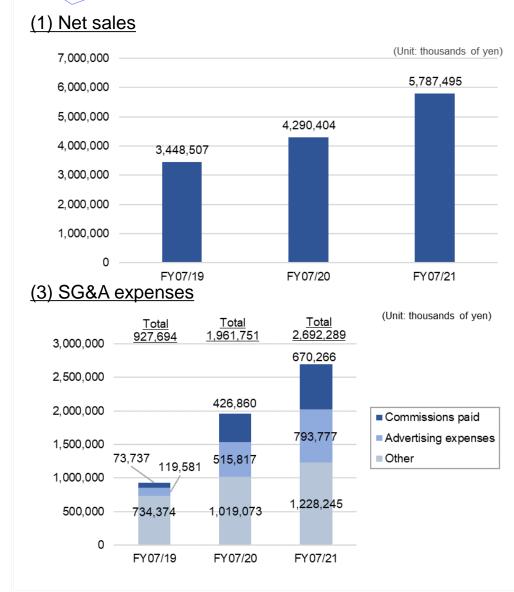
- **1** To be a trusted global beauty company that continues to create value.
- **2** To be a group of professionals who meets high expectations.
- S To make everyone beautiful and happy by continuing to propose advanced and innovative beauty products with speed and flexibility.

#### CODE OF CONDUCT

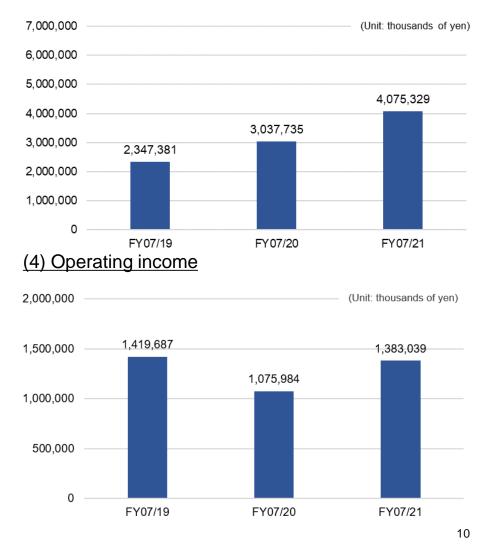
- 1 Take action first and think outside the box.
- **2** Be considerate and humble.

### AXXIA

### **Operating Results (Consolidated)**

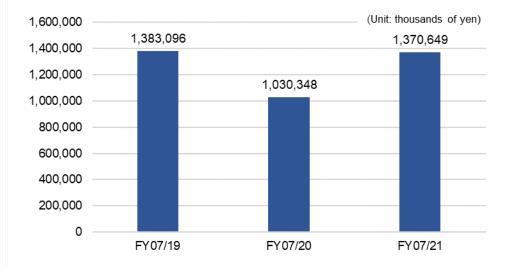


### (2) Gross profit



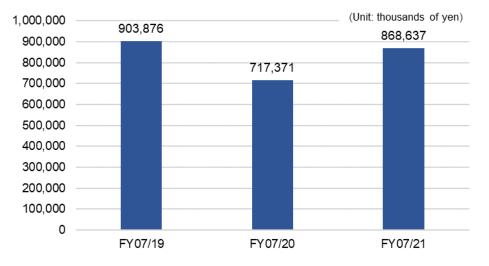
Copyright © AXXZIA Inc. All rights reserved.

### **Operating Results (Consolidated)**



(5) Ordinary income

### (6) Profit attributable to owners of parent



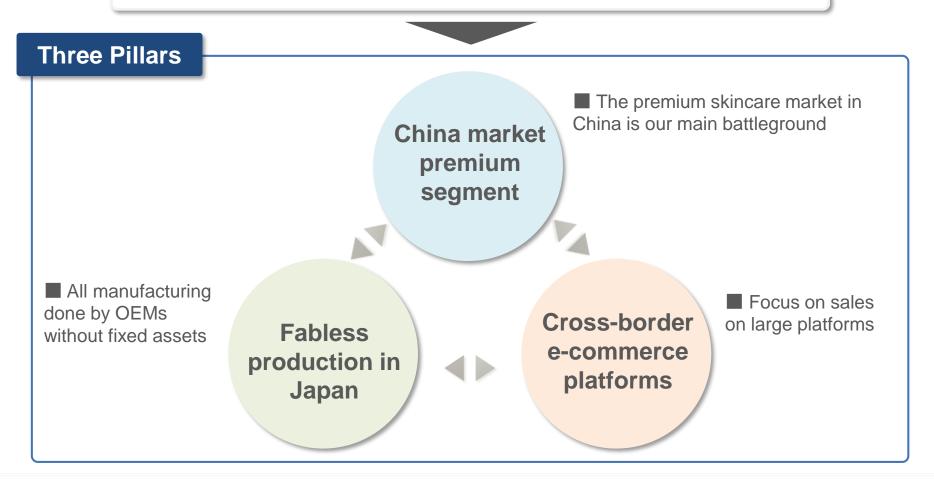
# 2. Concept / Vision

### **Three Characteristics**

AXXIA

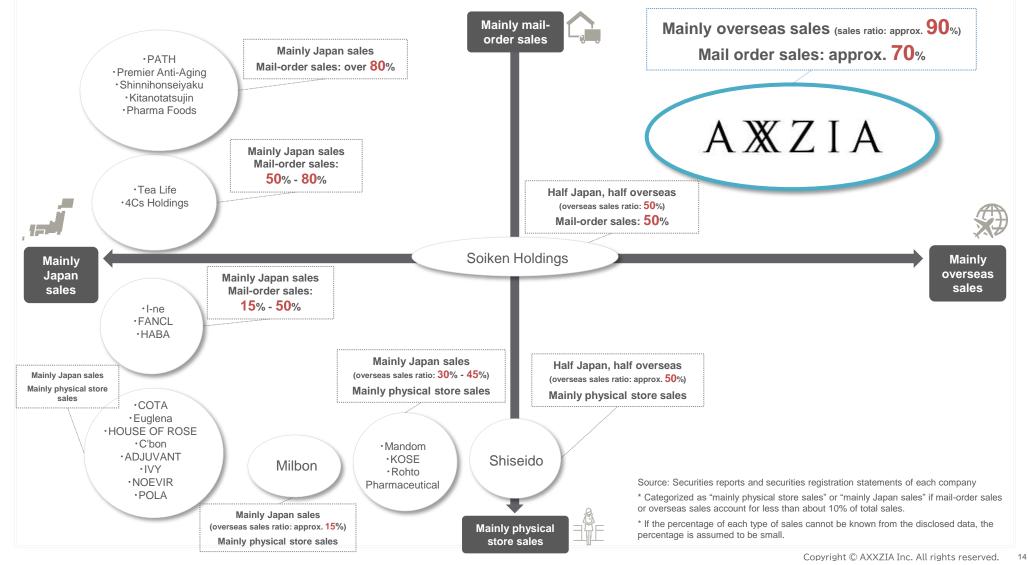
### Concept

As a nicher, we will invest our management resources in segments where we can leverage our strengths and aim for highly efficient management to become the No. 1 local brand.



## Positioning Among Japanese Cosmetic Companies A X Z I A

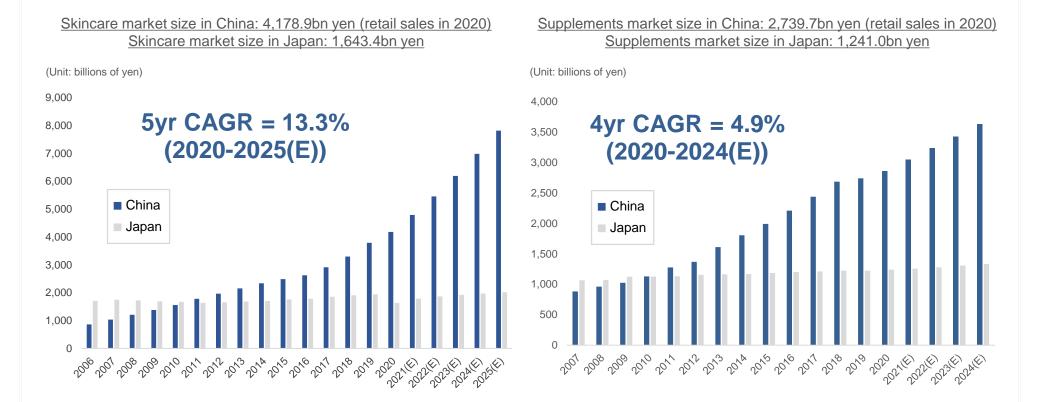
We are the only cosmetics company that sells primarily through e-commerce, with most sales in China.
 Even when looking at other retail sales companies, there are no other companies in the same position as us.



# 3. Market Environment

### Trends in the Chinese Market (Our Target Market) A X Z I A

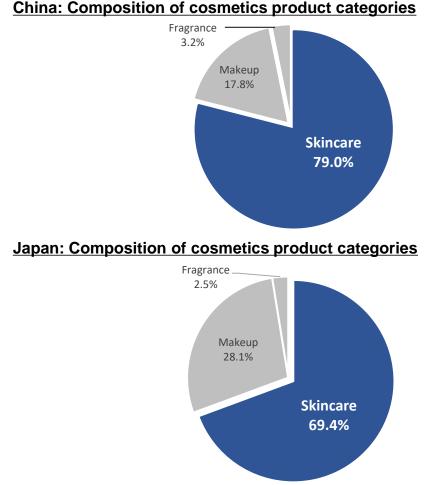
The skincare market (which accounts for most of the Chinese cosmetics market that we target) is growing sharply due to rising income levels associated with economic growth and an increase in cosmetics users.



Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Beauty and Personal Care 2021 edition, retail value RSP, fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 8 October 2021 Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Consumer Health 2021 edition, retail value RSP, fixed 2021 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 8 October 2021

### Premium Skincare Market Trends (Cosmetics in China) A X Z I A

- Compared to Japan, skincare accounts for a higher share of the cosmetics market in China, at about 80%.
- The premium segment is growing rapidly in the Chinese skincare market, and its share of the total market is on the rise.



Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Beauty and Personal Care 2020 edition, retail value RSP fixed 2019 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 30 November 2020

#### (Unit: billions of yen) 5,000 4,500 **5yr CAGR = 20.1%** 4.000 (2020-2025(E)) 3.500 3,000 China 2,500 Japan 2.000 1,500 1.000 500 2020 2021/1022/11 2023(1) 2024(1)

\*Premium = high-end cosmetics. Luxury lineup for customers who are highly conscious of beauty and are willing to spend more money on beauty products and services. Positioned as a series exclusively for premium channels such as department stores and directly-managed shops.

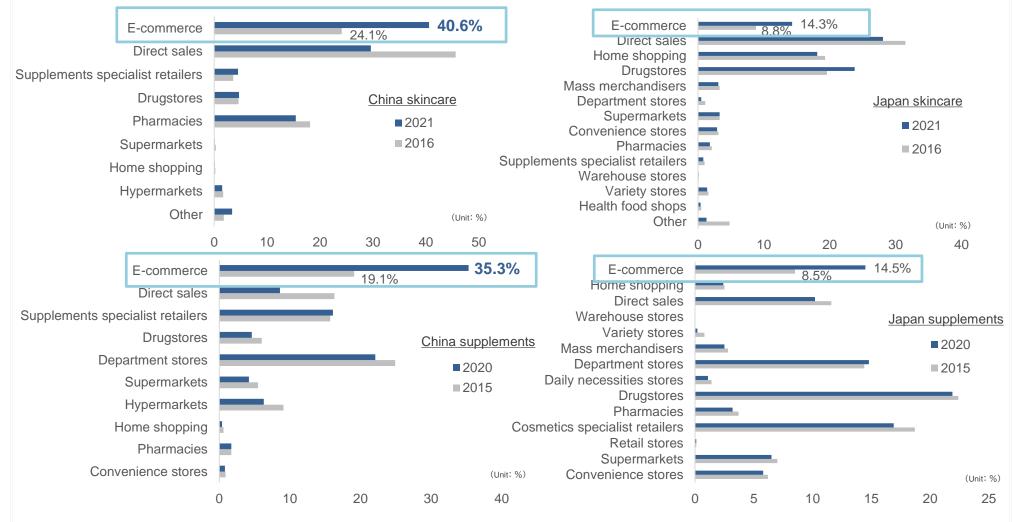
Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Beauty and Personal Care 2021 edition, retail value RSP, fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 8 October 2021

#### Skincare premium market in China and Japan

### **E**-commerce Trends in the Chinese Market

AXXIA

In the last five years, the share of e-commerce in Chinese skincare distribution channels has risen from 24.1% to 40.6% (19.1% to 35.3% for supplements). Unlike Japan, where drugstores are the main channel, e-commerce purchases are becoming common.



Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Beauty and Personal Care 2021 edition, retail value RSP fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 8 October 2021 Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Consumer Health 2021 edition, retail value RSP, fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices, data extracted on 8 October 2021

### Differences and Advantages over Other Brands Entering the Chinese Market

■ In the Chinese market, only a few players focus on high-end skincare products.

		European/ American brands	Korean brands	Chinese brands
Main sales channel	Focused on e-commerce	<ul> <li>Department stores and cosmetics specialty stores in major cities</li> <li>Mass brand on e-commerce</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Department stores and cosmetics specialty stores in major cities</li> <li>Mass brand on e-commerce</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mass retailers in regional cities mainly selling low-end products</li> <li>E-commerce</li> </ul>
Main products	Skincare Makeup High-end Mid- range Low-end	Skincare Makeup High-end Mid- range Low-end	Skincare Makeup High-end Mid- range Low-end	SkincareMakeupHigh-endMid- rangeLow-end

- Japanese brands are popular for their high quality and reliability. Since they target the same Asian users, products based on the concept of "transparency and luster" tend to have an advantage over European and American brands.
- The strength of Korean brands is that they communicate well with consumers and their prices are more affordable than those of Western and Japanese brands. However, due to the worsening political relationship between China and South Korea, the number of Korean brands has decreased.
- High-end cosmetics, the main battleground for Japanese brands, are mostly sold in department stores, but there are many major European and American brands in department stores, so competition is fierce. Considering exhibition fees and fixtures, sales in department stores are unprofitable unless they reach a certain sales scale.
- Major foreign brands and Japanese brands that have already established sales channels in physical stores are at a disadvantage in selling high-end products through e-commerce due to concerns over cannibalization and opposition of existing channels.

# 4. Business Model

### **Our Business Model and Advantages**

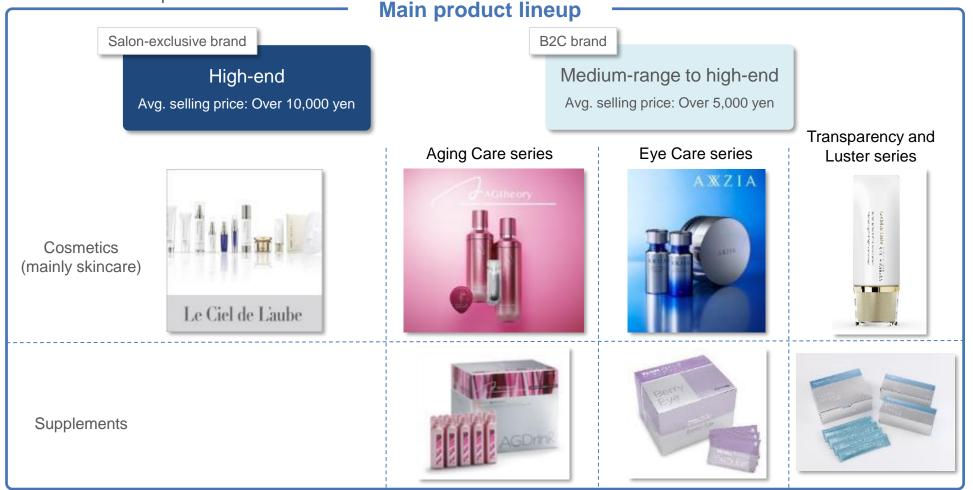
- We have built a system that is acceptable to Chinese users, from product development to manufacturing, sales, and after-sales support.
- Our company has many unique and differentiating factors that make it possible for us to expand into China, as described below. <Characteristics of our business expansion in China>

Product development Manufacturing Sales After-sales support Online and offline •Test marketing on Taobao, etc. (mainly high-end products) ·Made in Japan Extensive customer service (via KOL and local beauty salons) (highly favored in China) • Promotion through both top-down •Efforts to maintain brand ·High-paced product release cycle and bottom-up approaches

<our th="" unique<=""><th>ness and differentiating facto</th><th>rs supporting business expans</th><th>sion in China&gt;</th></our>	ness and differentiating facto	rs supporting business expans	sion in China>
Building our own business model Rapid product development by cultivating the Chinese market on our own	Background of management team Building a manufacturing system that leverages the strengths of both Japan and China	Cooperation with Tmall Global Utilizing Tmall Global's big data through a strategic business alliance	Efforts to maintain brand Implementing security verification and traceability systems
Since we are <b>expanding into the</b> <b>Chinese market on our own</b> by participating in exhibitions and selling our products at beauty salons, etc., we can listen to the voices of users firsthand and translate that to rapid product development.	President Dan Taku, who is from China, has lived in Japan for many years and has long been engaged in the development of professional products for beauty salons. He has <b>built a system that is acceptable to</b> <b>Chinese users.</b>	Under the strategic business alliance, we can analyze Tmall Global's big data and implement effective promotions and product development. We will continue to strengthen our ties with major Chinese online distributors to further enhance our e-commerce sales capabilities.	We have introduced security verification and traceability systems using QR codes to foster a sense of security for our products in the Chinese market, where a large share of our products are sold through e-commerce channels.

### **Product Features**

- AXXZIA is involved in the planning, manufacturing, and sale of high-end (premium) and medium-range cosmetics and supplements.
- Cosmetics are generally divided into three categories: skincare, makeup, and fragrance. At AXXZIA, we mainly handle skincare products.



### Main Brands: AXXZIA Series

## AXXIA

#### Our main retail brand consisting mainly of eye care cosmetics products.

- Succeeded in turning Essence Sheet into a hero product.
   (Grew sales by approx. 2.5x to 706mn yen in Q4 FY07/21 from 274mn yen in Q4 FY07/20)
- Greater brand awareness also leads to awareness of the Company, because the brand carries the company name.





#### Milestones for sustainable growth

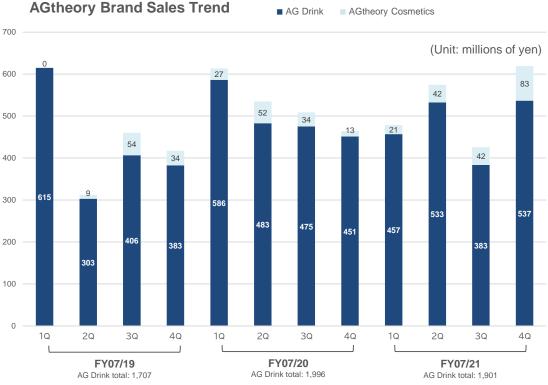
- > Released a product series based on Essence Sheet.
- > In December 2020, we launched Essence Sheet Premium Edition and sales are progressing favorably.
- > In the spring of 2022, we plan to add a new sunscreen product to the series and turn it into a second growth driver.

### Main Brands: AGtheory Series

#### Second main retail brand consisting of the core AG Drink product and cosmetics products based on the same concept.

- Created a brand series that combine AG Drink (hero product) with AGtheory cosmetics (based on the same concept) to target the existing loyal users of AG Drink.
- AG Drink sales have increased steadily to 537mn yen in Q4 FY07/21 from 451mn yen in Q4 FY07/20.
- Expanding sales of AGtheory cosmetics based on AG Drink





Milestones for Growth

- > In March 2021, we released a renewed 5th-generation AG Drink. Sales have been steady around 10,000 units/month.
- In October 2021, we will expand the AGtheory cosmetics series to include facial cleanser and face wash products, completing the full lineup.

# **Up-and-Coming (Whitening Appeal) Series**

# AXXIA

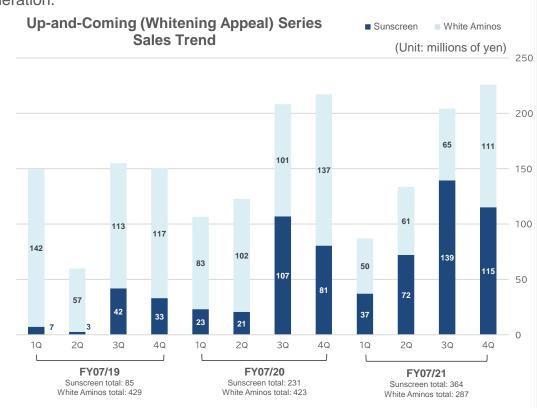
We position beauty supplements (White Aminos) and sunscreens as up-and-coming products, which we hope to turn into our third major brand.

- Both White Aminos and sunscreens (UV Veil EX) have become mid-sized hit products. (Sales of each product exceeded 100mn yen in Q4 FY07/21)
- Developing these items into product series is under consideration.



Milestones for turning into main series

- The following plans are underway for the full-scale launch starting in the spring of 2022.
- Release of a renewed White Aminos drink with a unique container.
- Release of AXXZIA's first cosmetics series (quasi-drugs) with skin whitening features.



### Salon-Exclusive (Professional) Series

## AXXIA

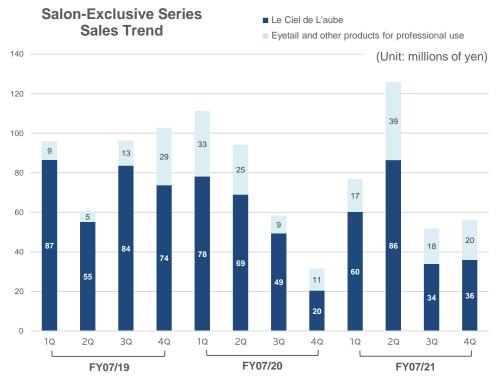
#### Salon-exclusive products have been AXXZIA's strength and distinctive business area since its establishment.

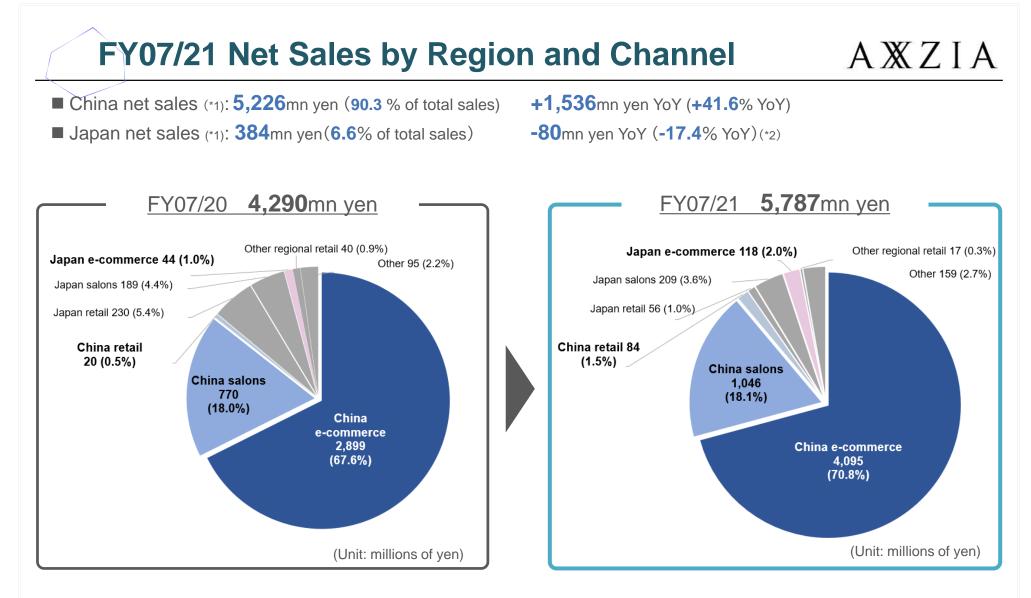
- In addition to Le Ciel de L'aube, a long-selling brand available since AXXZIA's founding, we offer a range of special cosmetics (Eyetail Series) for professional use.
- We were one of the first companies to register cosmetics in China and launched a business targeting Chinese salons with made-in-Japan cosmetics, contributing to the success of our Shanghai subsidiary.



#### Milestones for sustainable growth

- In March 2021, we launched a new premium version skincare brand called The B. We aim to create a new growth driver by developing and expanding cosmetics catering to special-care needs.
- We will use this series as a leeway for introducing new products that employ novel technologies and ingredients.





\*1 Sales in China and Japan are the total of e-commerce, salon, and retail sales.

\*2 In Japan, increased salon and e-commerce sales offset the decline in retail sales (-174mn yen YoY) due to COVID-19.

# 5. Competitive Advantage

### Advantages in the Chinese Market: Differences from Other Japanese Companies

Other Japanese companies are rolling out products designed for the Japanese market to China. In contrast, we develop and market products that target the Chinese market, and this gives us an advantage.

		AXXZIA	Other Japanese companies
	Marketing method	Marketing that targets the <b>Chinese</b> market	Marketing that targets the Japanese market
Differences	Development and manufacturing	Product development incorporating Chinese preferences	Product development that meets Japanese preferences
ences	Advertising	Simultaneous advertising in Japan and China, with China as main focus	Horizontal deployment in China with Japan as main focus
	Sales	Simultaneous sales in Japan and China, with China as main focus Selling luxury items through e-commerce	Horizontal deployment in China with Japan as main focus Traditionally, luxury items have been sold in person
	Suitability and preference	4P* design based on the <b>voices</b> and needs of Chinese users	4P* for domestic users is the main focus
Advantages	Import registration (NMPA)	Product design that <b>places</b> importance on NMPA-approved ingredients and formulations	Separately consider adjustments to ingredients and formulations for non-NMPA-approved products
Ň	Speed of brand recognition	Comprehensive sales promotion support by each channel in China	Bias toward specific brands

\*4P = Product, Price, Place, and Promotion.

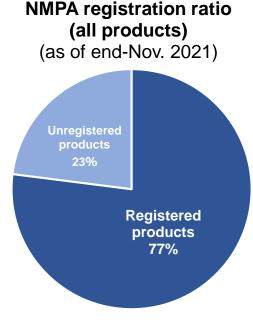
# Acquisition of Import Registration (NMPA)

# AXXIA

AXXZIA's product design emphasizes the use of NMPA-approved ingredients and formulas in order to ensure a smooth approval process.

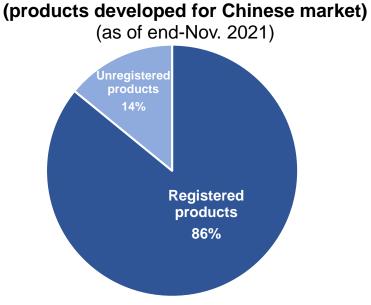
### About NMPA approval\*

- Approx. 77% NMPA\* approval out of the total SKUs of 87 products
- Approx. 86% out of all products developed for the Chinese market



- 100% approval rate in the last two years (generally, other companies average 20%-30%)
- 3-month average application period (generally, other companies average 6 months)

NMPA registration ratio



\*NMPA: National Medical Products Administration. Government agency administering requirements and review permits in China for sales of medical devices, pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical packaging materials, cosmetics, and health foods in the Chinese market. Equivalent to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) certificate (manufacturing and marketing approval certificate) in Japan, the premarket approval (PMA) by the US FDA, and CE marking in the EU. Graph entries relate only to cosmetics as AXXZIA's dietary supplements are sold as general foods and beverages.

\*Figures only apply to cosmetics for which we are applying for NMPA approval as our policy for supplements is to obtain Chinese import approval.

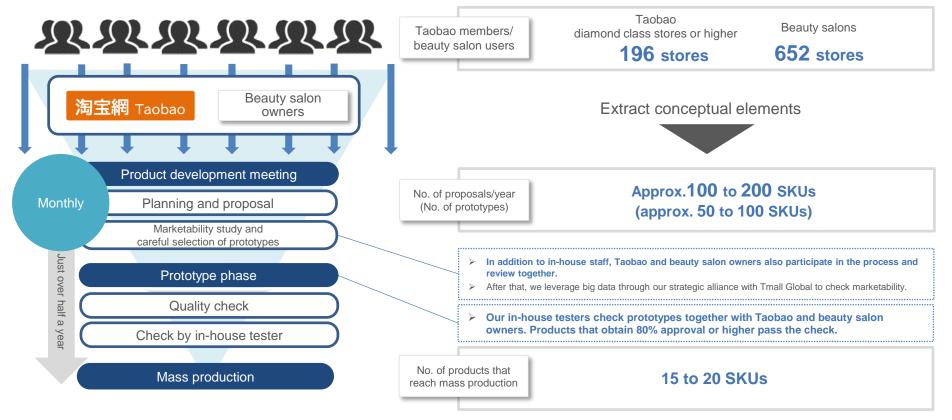
### **Product Development:**

### System for Continuing to Release Hit Products

- We are in constant communication with Taobao owners and salon owners, and are deeply involved in product development and prototype model reviews.
- We have established a system that will allow us to continue to release hit products, as described below.



<Guidelines and targets>

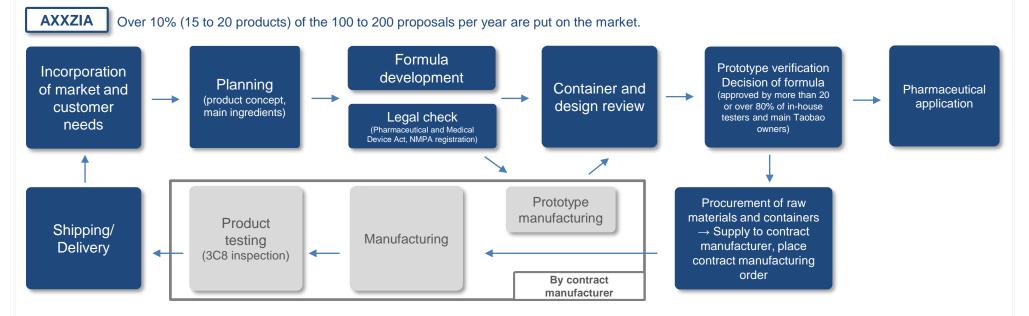


New product development is one of the sources of the Group's competitiveness and growth potential, and we are constantly striving to anticipate market needs, develop new products, and introduce them to the market. We aim to achieve results in short time by formulating annual sales and production plans and focusing on the implementation of marketing and advertising strategies prior to launch. However, if the development of a new product takes a long time, the results may not come out until the following fiscal year or later. In addition, if the results are not achieved as planned, we may be forced to extend the period or increase the overhead costs for the product launch, or we may not be able to commercialize the product after all. Furthermore, even if we are able to commercialize a product, it may not necessarily be accepted by customers due to the uncertainties associated with various factors. The Group continues to withdraw existing brands and products that no longer meet consumer needs. In this manner, failure to achieve the initially intended results may adversely affect the Group's operating results and financial position.

### Manufacturing: High Quality Control Standards

## AXXIA

To differentiate our brand, we plan all ingredients, containers, and outer packaging on our own in line with the voice and needs of Chinese users.
 We provide consumers with safe and secure prestige cosmetic brands by practicing high quality control standards in the production stage at our own factories.



### High quality control standards in the production stage at our own factories

- We are unique in that we plan, design, and procure our own ingredients, containers, and outer packaging, and supply them to contract manufacturers.
- We implement 3C8 (3-step check, 8 items in total) based on a detailed Product Standard with the aim of accumulating manufacturing know-how at our own factories in the future.

#### 1st check

Acceptance inspection of incoming materials such as bulk materials

•1C-(1) Acceptance inspection of bulk materials

•1C-(2) Acceptance inspection of containers and other materials

#### 2nd check

#### Line inspection in manufacturing, filling, and packaging processes •2C-(1) Individual product inspection

**3C8** inspection policy

- •2C-(2) Inner box inspection
- 2C-(3) Inner box inspection

•2C-(4) Collection of items to be stored for 5 years as reference

#### 3rd check

Final quality inspection before shipment

•3C-(1) Finished product inspection

·3C-(2) Pre-shipment quality inspection

### **Sales Channels:** Capturing the High-Growth China Market with an E-Commerce Focus

- We focus on the high growth potential of the Chinese cosmetics market. Our sales are mainly through e-commerce, beauty salon, and physical store channels in China.
- Using the listing on the Mothers section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange as an opportunity, we aim to raise brand recognition in Japan and improve sales through O2O expansion centered on e-commerce.

#### <Chinese market>

#### E-commerce

Tmall Global

China's largest B2C e-commerce platform operated by Alibaba Group.

#### > RED

Social media app for posting product information (word-of-mouth). The introduced products can be purchased directly through the app.

> TikTok (Chinese name: Douyin)

China's leading mobile video app.

The introduced products can be purchased directly through the app.

> Taobao

C2C e-commerce platform operated by Alibaba Group.

#### Beauty salon

- ➢ No. handling stores (as of end-Oct. 2021)
  - ·上海AYAKO东京国际美业商学院

(Shanghai AYAKO Tokyo International Beauty Business School)

·Total of 585 stores (e.g., 若樱(上海Alice)教育科技有限公司; Shanghai Alice Education Technology Ltd.)

#### Retail

- Sephora China, 22 stores
- > 1 department store, 44 retail stores
- > 4 duty-free stores (Shenzhen Airport duty-free stores)

### <Domestic market>

#### Beauty salon

- > No. of handling stores (as of end-Oct. 2021)
  - Socie
  - Total of 679 stores (e.g., Beauty Clinic Kodama)

#### E-commerce

Sales on Amazon, Yahoo, Rakuten and our own ecommerce website.

#### Retail

- Sales at duty-free drugstores such as Matsumotokiyoshi, Sundrug, Daikoku, Cocokara Fine, Sugi Drug, etc.
- Opened store at GINZA SIX in March 2021; sales at dutyfree stores in Haneda, Narita, and other airports.
- > Sales at major department stores such as Takashimaya.
- Sales at a total of 593 cosmetics specialty stores, variety stores, etc. (e.g., @cosme store, LOFT, Tokyu Hands).

### <Other retail, etc.>

- > 1 store in Korea (Lotte Duty Free, Shilla airport)
- > 1 store in Singapore (Changi Airport duty-free store)
- E-commerce in Russia, Australia, the US, etc.

### **Sales Channels:** Measures to Improve Customer Loyalty in Chinese E-Commerce

We have an after-sales support system in place to establish our brand and encourage the continued use of our products.



AXXIA

We work to improve customer loyalty by offering services (e.g., provision of product content) to shops (KOLs).

#### After-sales support at our flagship store on Tmall Global

- Alibaba, the operator of Tmall Global, ranks the store owners and Tmall Partners respectively, and matches them according to their rank.
- > We are ranked on par with major Japanese cosmetics companies and can work with Tmall Partners that provide quality customer service.
- In April 2020, we entered into a strategic alliance with Tmall Global (Tmall Global Strategic Collaboration Supplemental Agreement).
   Under this agreement, we can get special support from Tmall Global.

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#### -After-sales support details-AXXZIA ⇒ Shops (KOLs)

- Provision of content (e.g., landing page)
- Provision of Q&A manual for our products
- Sharing of marketing policy information

#### -After-sales support details-Shops (KOLs)⇒ Users

- Q&A support for users
- Spread new product information
- Communicate how to use effectively, etc.

	Store owner		Tmall Partner
Ranking criteria	<ul> <li>Brand recognition</li> <li>Sales performance</li> <li>Growth rate</li> <li>IP management capability</li> <li>Company size</li> <li>Overall evaluation based on sales strategy, etc.</li> </ul>	$\longleftrightarrow$	Four-step evaluation (★3 to ★6) based on the following: •Track record on Tmall Global •Size •Degree of cooperation •After-sales service support
*****	Pola Orbis	$\longleftrightarrow$	★6 partner
*****	A XX Z I A	$\longleftrightarrow$	Guangzhou-based Ruoyuchen (RYC; ★5)
	Shiseido / FANCL	$\longleftrightarrow$	★5 partner
****		$\longleftrightarrow$	★4 partner
***	NARIS	$\longleftrightarrow$	★3 partner

Source: Our online survey on February 27, 2020

Overview of Guangzhou-based RYC and the work we outsource

[Overview]

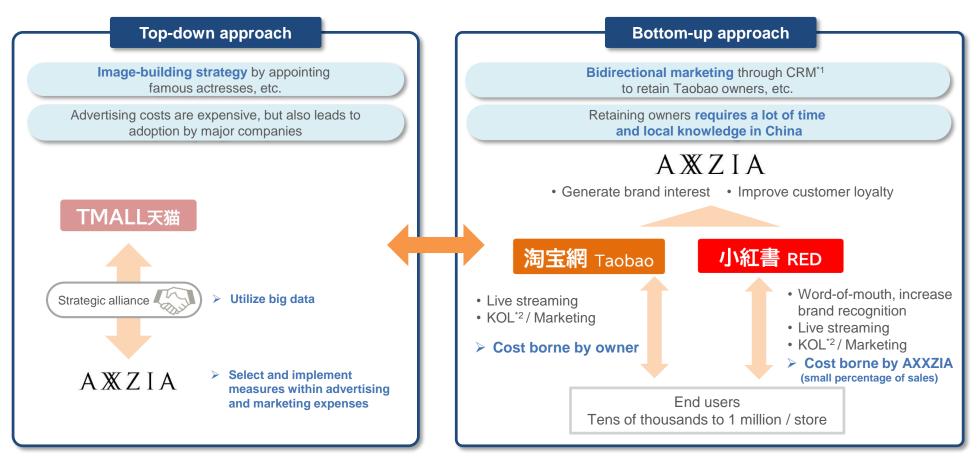
In addition to AXXZIA, RYC also provides customer support services to Unicharm and P&G.

[Details of outsourced work]

Flagship store design, operation, maintenance, customer service, marketing, and sales expansion planning

### Marketing Strategy: Synergies of Bottom-Up and Top-Down Strategies

- We use both top-down and bottom-up approaches to promote sales and advertising activities while focusing our advertising methods on web marketing.
- Through synergy of these approaches, we have succeeded in selling high-end products via e-commerce.



\*1 CRM: Customer Relationship Management.

\*2 KOL: Key Opinion Leader. In particular, a person who has many followers on his/her blog or social media in Greater China, and who disseminates information on products, brands, services, etc. that he/she recommends (also known as a Chinese influencer).

### Anti-Counterfeiting Measures and Brand Maintenance A X Z I A

- To maintain the brand, it is essential to take measures against counterfeit and predatory pricing in the Chinese market.
- To manage the brand, we conduct all packaging, shipping, and inventory management on our own. We focus on measures to prevent overstocking and diversion.

#### Security verification system

We take countermeasures against counterfeit products by **attaching QR code security labels** to all our products. This allows buyers to **verify that the products they purchased are genuine.** 



#### Patrol

An in-house personnel checks if there has been any diversion or counterfeit products **by searching the Internet**, **etc.** 



#### Traceability

All products we manufacture are **always numbered at the time of shipment**, and a system is in place to immediately respond to unfair pricing.



# 6. Growth Strategy

## **Business Environment and Opportunities**

AXXIA

- COVID-19 has had a prolonged impact on the Japanese economy, while the Chinese economy has quickly emerged from the pandemic and has now returned to a normal rate of growth.
- Although AXXZIA is a latecomer to the Chinese market (we only have a few physical stores), we have turned that disadvantage into an advantage by focusing on e-commerce, thereby maintaining a high-margin business.
- Our strategy is to steadily increase the number of supporters (core fans) of our high-end brands in the Chinese and Japanese cosmetics markets. Although this is a highly saturated market (red ocean), we aim to grow while maintaining high profitability through our unique positioning.

	Environment		Opportunities	
Japan	<ul> <li>Noticeable shift to e-commerce</li> <li>Sluggish sales at physical stores have weighed on overall earnings</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Build a stronger sales base by raising brand awareness in China by taking our IPO as an opportunity</li> <li>Build an OMO business model</li> </ul>	
China	<ul> <li>Recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic early on</li> <li>The mid-to low-end cosmetics market is a red ocean</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Efficient business execution using the existing network we built in China</li> <li>Increase the number of core fans of our brand</li> </ul>	
Skincare business	<ul> <li>Increased demand for cosmetics designed to be worn underneath masks/face coverings.</li> <li>More time spent at home; must respond to diversifying preferences</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Promote the value of our brand</li> <li>Increase recognition of existing brands (eye, anti-aging, skin luster)</li> </ul>	

## **Medium- to Long-Term Plan**

- We aim to grow and expand while maintaining brand strength, and to ensure increased profits from higher sales through cost control.
- (1) Brand strategy: Expand mainstay products and nurture products within existing brands.
- (2) Marketing strategy: Further cultivate the Chinese market and diversify sales channels.
- (3) Business alliances / M&A: Strengthen product development capabilities and reinforce the domestic market.



## Medium-Term Management Plan (3-Year)

- Assumptions of the Medium-Term Management Plan -
- We expect the premium skincare market in China, our main battleground, to continue to grow at an annual rate of around 20%.
- ⇒ We will capture the organic growth of the Chinese market, which accounts for 90% of our sales.
- The e-commerce ratio at the time of purchase in the Chinese skincare and supplements market is 30% to 40%, and we expect the ratio to continue to grow.
- ⇒ We will diversify our sales channels (platforms) to capture the growth of the e-commerce market. In addition to our cross-border e-commerce flagship stores, we will also open e-commerce flagship stores in China.
- We expect the operating margin to rise due to a decrease in the fixed cost ratio on higher sales, while advertising and commissions paid for Chinese e-commerce platforms are variable costs.

(Unit: millions of yen)

	FY07/22 Forecast	FY07/24 Target (Final year of 3yr period)	Growth rate
Net sales	7,117	11,200	1.57x
Operating income	1,466	2,800	1.91x
Operating margin	20.6%	25.0%	+4.4ppt

## Strengthen Management Base to Support Growth

We are making the following investments to strengthen the management base that will support our robust growth over the medium term.



- Build R&D structure
- Develop new products using new technologies and ingredients
- [30 million yen for each fiscal year from FY07/23]



- Renew backbone system (to be operated from 2022)
- · Improve business processing capacity and productivity
- Strengthen security

[50 million yen in FY07/22]



- Optimize R&D and manufacturing efficiency by using both factories and OEMs
- At the time of our IPO, we stated that 2 billion yen in proceeds will be allocated to the construction of our plant. However, we are now also considering M&A, given that constructing a plant will take time, and from the perspective of reducing risks until the plant is operational. However, whether we execute on the plan will depend on the details of the deal, so we are considering M&A in parallel with constructing our own plant. [The timing of operation will vary depending on the status of construction or M&A; the size of investment is expected to be around 2 billion yen]



- Hire talented personnel (mid-career, new graduates) by taking advantage of the increased name recognition of our brand as a result of listing on the Mothers section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
- Revise personnel system and establish an education & training system.
- Manage personnel and promote diversity without regard to nationality or gender.
   [Increase the no. of employees (consolidated) from 97 in FY07/21 to 150 in FY07/24].

# Basic Policy in the Medium-Term Management Plan (3-Year)

## Brand Strategy

Marketing Strategy

**2** Business Alliance / M&A

AXXIA

## Brand Strategy

We will continue our efforts to enhance the overall value of our brand under the following three strategic policies that have been in place since our founding.

### Strategy to launch branch series and develop hero products (hit products)

Introduce brands and series that meet a wide range of beauty needs (i.e., have a product lineup comparable to that of major companies), and achieve sustainable growth of brands and series as a whole by raising awareness through the development of hero products.



Brand protection and credibility building strategy /
 IP and anti-counterfeiting measures cultivation strategy

Ensure healthy brand growth and build trust by thoroughly implementing measures against counterfeit products by registering IP (trademarks, designs) and introducing a security labeling system in major markets.



### Multi-channel strategy in China (our main market) / Cosmetics registration (NMPA) strategy

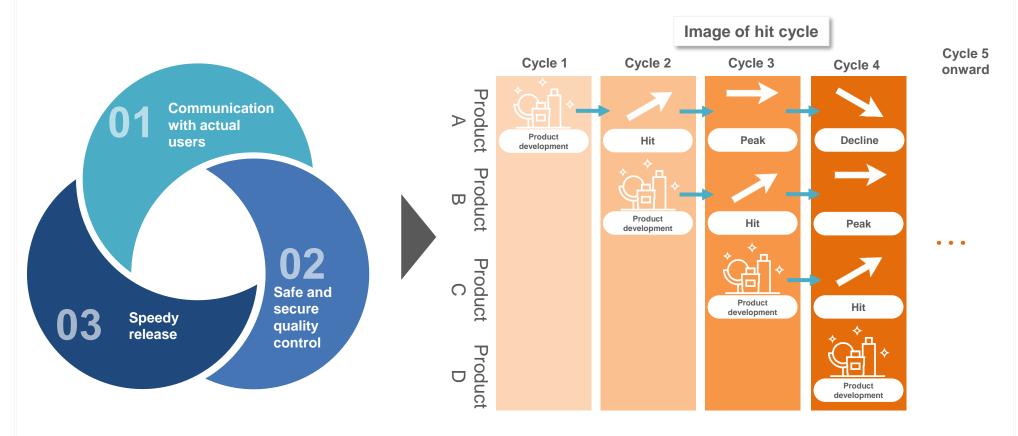
Implement multi-channel sales for the Chinese market through product development premised on Chinese cosmetics registration (NMPA registration).

Enable cross-border e-commerce business + physical retail sales in mainland China. (49 cosmetic products registered with NMPA as of end-November 2021)

## Hit Cycle Leveraging Our Product Development Capabilities $A \bigotimes Z \mid A$

"Communication with actual users" is one of the strengths of our product development.

By combining safe and secure quality control and speedy release, we will constantly develop and nurture products ahead of time in preparation for the peak out of existing products.



Basic Policy in the Medium-Term Management Plan (3-Year)

## Brand Strategy

## **Arketing Strategy**

**2** Business Alliance / M&A

AXXIA

## **Marketing Strategy**

AXXIA

■ We will focus on the growing Chinese market to build a solid position.

#### **1** Diversify e-commerce channels in China

We will expand into e-commerce platforms where we have not yet opened stores in the Chinese e-commerce market to further expand brand recognition and gain new customer segments.



#### **2** Further cultivate e-commerce channels in China

We will foster the brand through bottom-up approaches (word-of-mouth, social media, live commerce). We will target new customer segments by analyzing customer segments using big data.



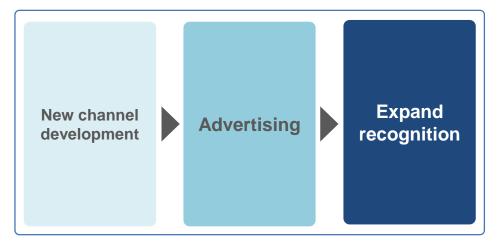
#### **③** Achieve omni-channelization

We will achieve omni-channelization across the three existing sales channels (beauty salon, retail, and e-commerce) by providing a seamless experience for customers.

## Diversification of E-Commerce Channels in China $A \times Z I A$

## Strategies in the Chinese Market

- Further expand recognition and sales in the Chinese market, which accounts for 90% of sales.
  - Further cultivate the market by diversifying e-commerce channels

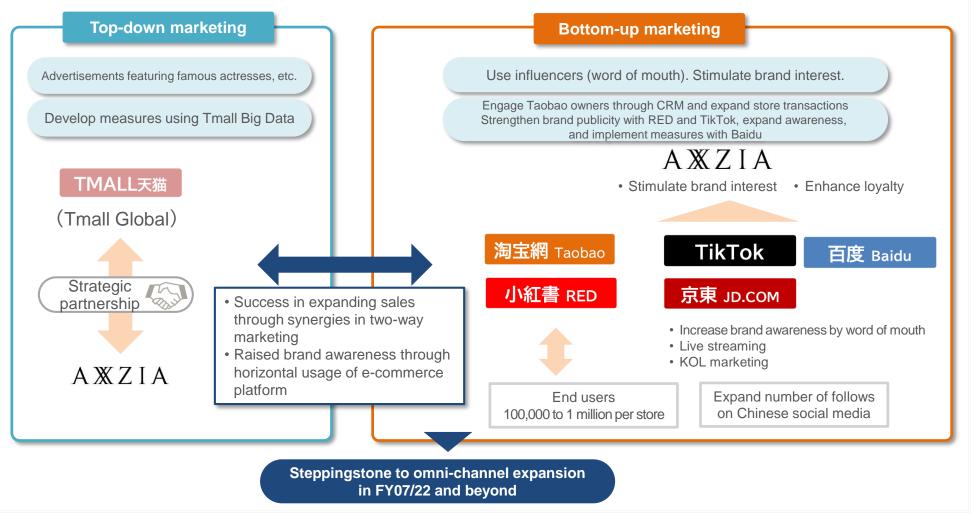


Туре	Existing channels	Newly developed channels
Cross-border e-commerce sales expansion channels	∙Tmall Global ∙Taobao	Develop as appropriate (FY07/23 onward)
Cross-border e-commerce advertising channels	·RED	•TikTok (July 2021)
China domestic e-commerce channels	_	<ul> <li>JD.com (October 2021)</li> <li>Tiktok domestic (October 2021)</li> <li>Tmall domestic (FY07/23 onward)</li> </ul>

## **Cultivate E-commerce Channels in China**

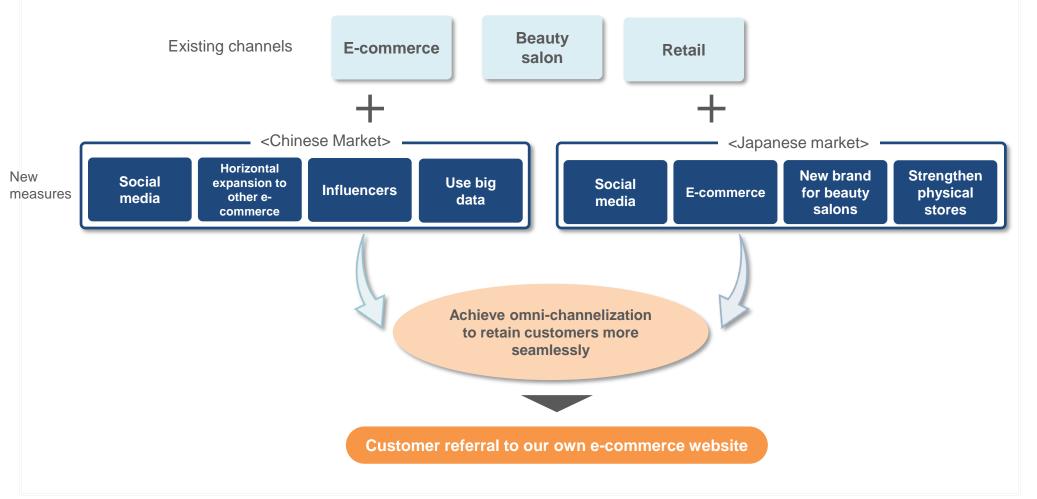
AXXIA

- We implemented a two-way marketing strategy (top-down and bottom-up) to promote our high-end products. As a result, we were able to successfully expand sales while controlling advertising costs.
- We aim to increase sales through our TikTok flagship store and JD (Jingdong) in addition to expanding sales on Tmall Global, RED, and Taobao.



## Vision - Omni-Channelization -

- We aim to achieve omni-channelization by implementing new measures for each of the three existing sales channels and increasing the touchpoints with customers.
- We will open physical stores in Japan (4-5 stores) and translate that to mutual referral of customers with e-commerce platforms.



Basic Policy in the Medium-Term Management Plan (3-Year) A X Z I A

## **O** Brand Strategy

## 2 Marketing Strategy

**2** Business Alliance / M&A

## Synergies Brought About by Alliances / M&A A X Z I A

- We will expand domestic sales to 30% of the total by creating synergies through alliances and M&A. (Expecting approx. 4 to 5 billion yen in sales)
- We will use alliances and M&A as steppingstones to achieve omni-channelization.

Assumptions for alliances / M&A

	Pattern A	Pattern B	Pattern C	Pattern D
Туре	M&A	M&A	M&A	Alliance
Target companies	E-commerce site operator	E-commerce site operator	OEM manufacturer for cosmetic companies	Raw material manufacturer (e.g., bio-venture)
Expected effects	Expand customer base in the subscription delivery business	Expand name recognition and awareness by acquiring e-commerce members	Speed up prototype development	Reduce costs through in-house production of products

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## **Three Growth Strategies**

## AXXIA

#### Brand Strategy

- Launch brand series and develop hero products (hit products)
- Brand protection and credibility building strategy / IP and anti-counterfeiting training
- Multi-channel strategy in China (our main market) / cosmetics registration (NMPA) strategy

#### **2** Marketing Strategy

- Diversify Chinese e-commerce channels
- Further cultivate Chinese e-commerce channels
- Achieve omni-channelization

#### **③** Business Alliance / M&A

Create synergies through alliances to develop new technologies and ingredients.

### 1 Brand Strategy

3 Business Alliance I M&A

Marketing Strategy

## ESG: Balancing Business Objectives and Results $A \times Z I A$

- Our management philosophy is "transmitting the beauty of Asia from Japan to the world."
- Our raison d'etre is to make both social contributions and deliver business results through our cosmetics business.

### **Environmental / Social / Governance**

(as of end-luly 2021)

#### **Transmitting beauty**

We will contribute to the creation of an affluent society by introducing the beauty of Asia from Japan to the world.

**Diversity** 

We will put diversity into practice. Diversity, regardless of nationality, is the source of our growth potential.

			_
	Total	Female	
Total number of employees *1	115	73	
Managers *2	45	22	
Number of foreign employees	53	40	



\*1 Entire Group (Headquarters and overseas subsidiaries), including directors \*2 Job titles of director, general manager, section chief (including deputy chief) and above

#### **Regional contribution**

We will contribute to society through active donations and fundraising activities to help those affected by disasters and the spread of COVID-19.

# 7. Risk Information

Main risks	Evaluation	Risk overview	Measures
Business activities in China	Likelihood of occurrence: Medium Period of likelihood of occurrence: Long term Impact: Medium	<ul> <li>Operational risks such as unpredictable and opaque policy management, inadequate or revised legal systems, revision of preferential treatment for foreign capital, and labor problems</li> <li>Risks such as anti-Japanese protests, deterioration of public safety, outbreak of terrorism or war, and social disorder due to infectious disease outbreaks</li> <li>Risk of being affected by changes in the management policies or business conditions of Alibaba Group</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>We will strive to understand the local situation and implement early workaround measures for risk management.</li> <li>We have been strengthening our sales capabilities in mainland China from early on. We will take additional steps such as building our own branding and marketing system in mainland China.</li> </ul>
Impact from inbound demand	Likelihood of occurrence: High Period of likelihood of occurrence: Short term Impact: Medium	<ul> <li>Risk of sluggish demand due to factors such as unpredictable changes in local economic conditions, changes in policies, deterioration in Japan-China relations, and spread of infectious diseases</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>We are closely monitoring inbound trends, and depending on the nature of these trends, we will flexibly hold Board of Directors' meetings and take measures.</li> </ul>
Dependence on specific brands and products	Likelihood of occurrence: Medium Period of likelihood of occurrence: No specific period Impact: Medium	<ul> <li>Risk of sluggish sales of the current mainstay brands (AGtheory and AXXZIA) due to some factors</li> <li>Risk of not achieving initially intended results since performance is subject to uncertainties caused by various factors, given the nature of business activities to increase the number of brands and product lines</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>We are closely monitoring inbound trends, and depending on the nature of these trends, we will flexibly hold Board of Directors' meetings and take measures.</li> </ul>

Main risks	Evaluation	Risk overview	Measures
Inventory	Likelihood of occurrence: Medium Period of likelihood of occurrence: No specific period Impact: Medium	• Risk of slow-moving inventory due to deviations in demand and sales forecasts from actual conditions caused by factors such as changes in the market environment due to revisions in laws and regulations in Japan and overseas, changes in consumer needs, and competition with competitors' products	•We will conduct monthly inspections of inventory holdings and monthly reviews of production plans, including ordering plans for parts and materials. In addition, we will plan and implement sales promotion measures as needed for products for which there is concern about slow-moving inventory.
Intensifying competition	Likelihood of occurrence: Medium Period of likelihood of occurrence: No specific period Impact: Medium	•Risk of unpredictable moves by competitors	<ul> <li>We will invest in the development of new brands and products.</li> <li>We will actively invest in securing intellectual property rights.</li> <li>We will take various measures, such as obtaining first-mover advantage in niche markets and creating unique packaging and shape, in order to prevent competitors from developing similar products.</li> </ul>
Compliance with laws and regulations	Likelihood of occurrence: Medium Period of likelihood of occurrence: No specific period Impact: Medium	<ul> <li>Risk of temporary restrictions on the Group's activities due to changes in laws and regulations or the establishment of unpredictable new laws and regulations</li> <li>Risk of incurring expenses for compliance with laws and regulations, etc.</li> </ul>	•We will establish and operate compliance management regulations, check with the ministries and agencies that have jurisdiction over various laws and regulations as necessary, disseminate the regulations to officers and employees, and conduct training sessions.

\*The above is an excerpt of the main risks that we recognize as having the potential to significantly impact the realization of growth and our business plan among those described in the "Business and Other Risks" section of the Annual Securities Report. \*For other risks, please refer to "Business and Other Risks" in the Annual Securities Report.

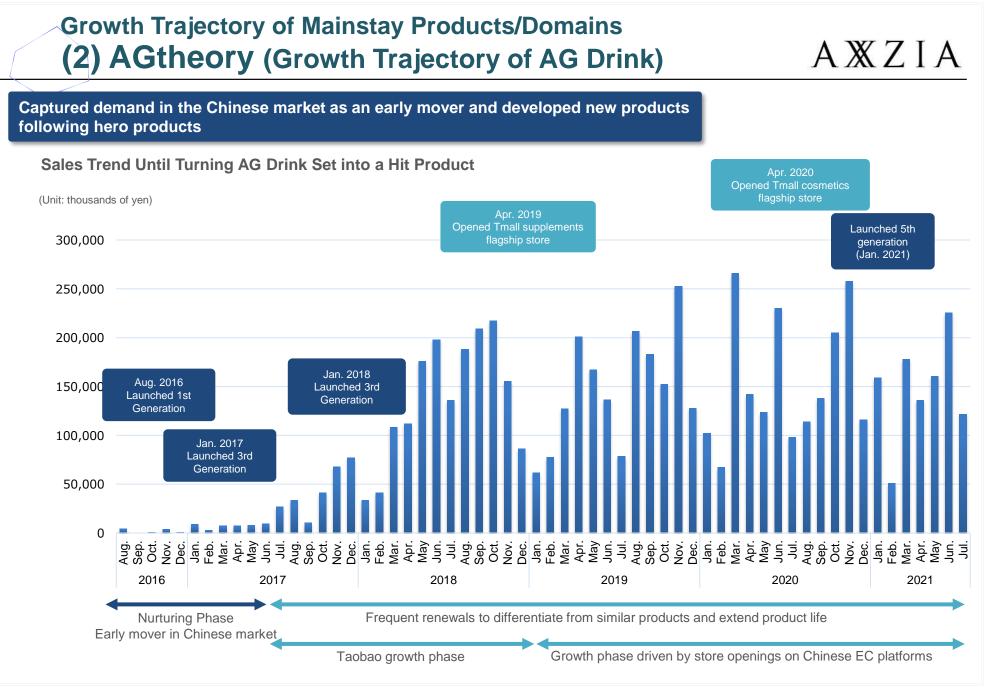
# 8. Appendix

# Growth Trajectory of Mainstay Products/Domains (1) AXXZIA (Growth Trajectory of Essence Sheet)

## AXXIA

Growth model based on first building recognition and trust in the Japanese market and then expanding into the Chinese market

Sales Trend Until Turning Essence Sheet into a Hit Product (Unit: thousands of yen) 300.000 Jun. 2018 Debuted product at Yokohama Takashimaya 250,000 Sep. 2018 Debuted product at Nihonbashi **Opened Tmall Cosmetics** 200.000 Takashimaya flagship store Feb. 2019 **Opened RED** flagship store 150,000 Aug. 2016 Launched product and Apr. 2019 started selling via TV **Opened Tmall** shopping supplements flagship 100.000 Mar. 2017 Debuted product at Shinjuku 50,000 Takashimava 0 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2016 Building period of name recognition and trust in the Japanese market Growth phase driven by store openings on Chinese cross-border e-commerce platforms Booming period of inbound travel



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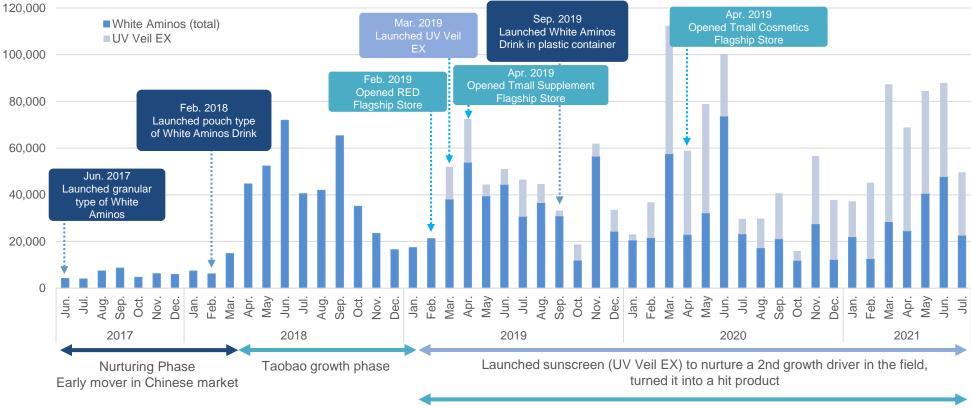
#### **Growth Trajectory of Mainstay Products/Domains**

(3) Up-and-Coming: Skin Whitening (Growth Trajectory of Two Main Products) A X Z I A

Captured demand in the Chinese market as an early mover and developed a growth model supported by frequent upgrades

#### Sales Trend Until Turning Growth Fields (Skin Whitening) into Hit Products

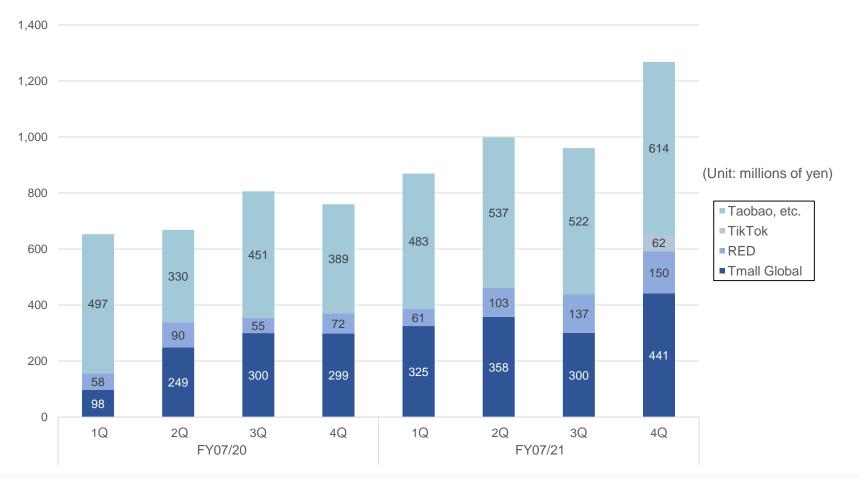
(Unit: thousands of yen)



Growth phase driven by store openings on Chinese cross-border e-commerce platforms

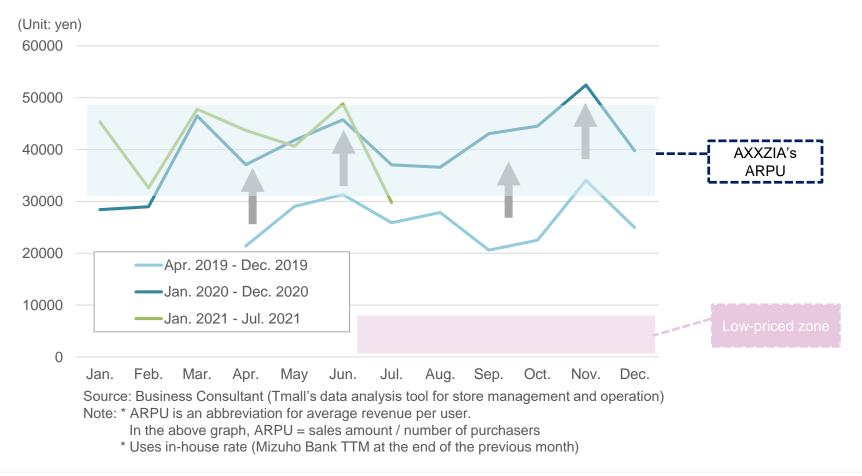
## Ref: China E-commerce Sales Trend (Quarterly, FY07/20-21) A X Z I A

- In the increasingly competitive Chinese e-commerce channel, quarterly sales via Alibaba platforms (Tmall Global, Taobao) and RED grew steadily. In May 2021, we opened a new TikTok flagship store.
- FY07/21 sales of 4,095mn yen was up 1,196mn yen YoY (+41.3% YoY) from 2,899mn yen in FY07/20.
- Our sales promotion strategy of utilizing both top-down and bottom-up approaches to marketing has been successful.



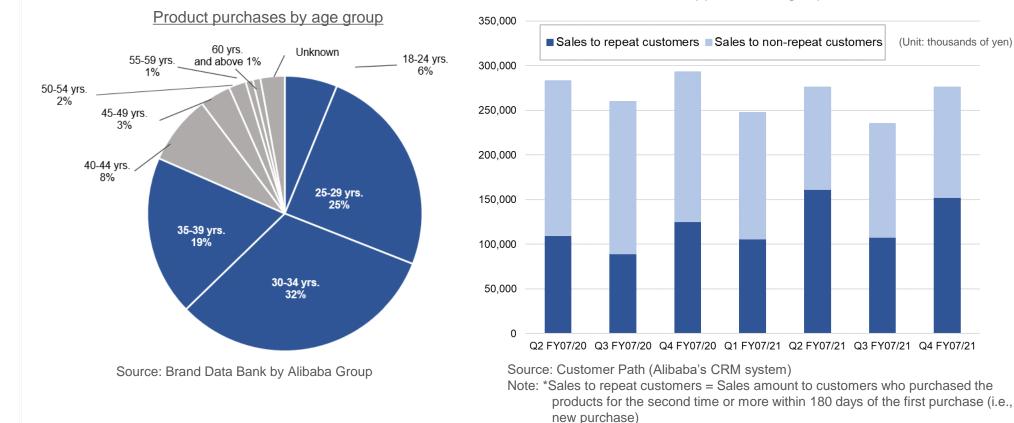
# Ref: China E-Commerce ARPU Growth Through<br/>Cross-Selling Strategy (Monthly, FY07/20–21)A X Z I A

- Promoted cross-selling of AGtheory (supplements) and AXXZIA brands (cosmetics) at our Tmall flagship store.
- ARPU increased significantly compared to FY07/19 when the store was first opened, despite the high price range of the products. The cross-selling strategy is progressing favorably.
- Maintained a high level of ARPU by steadily increasing the number of core fans of brands and products (repeat customers in the mid- to high-price range) without being caught in a price competition.



#### **Ref: Tmall Global Flagship Store** AXXIA **Customer Attributes/Status of Repeat Sales**

- Our target users are young, between ages 18 and 39. There is much room for future growth by converting them to core fans.
- Repeat sales at the Tmall Supplement Flagship Store accounted for 1/3 to 1/2 of total sales despite selling mid- to highpriced products.
- Sales are progressing steadily from a medium- to long-term perspective; we aim to increase the number of core fans of our brands who will continue to patronize us for a long time.



Ratio of Sales to Repeat Customers to Total Sales (%) at Tmall Supplement Flagship Store

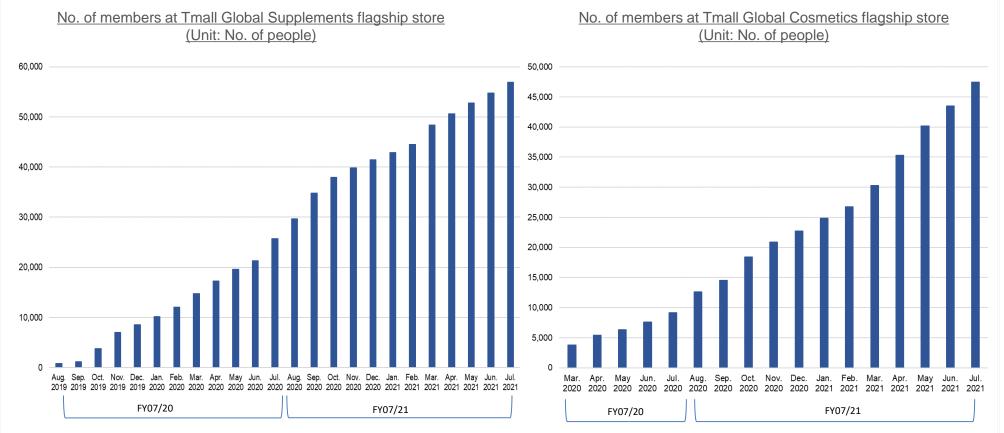
\* Uses in-house rate (Mizuho Bank TTM at the end of the previous month)

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(Unit: thousands of yen)

### Ref: No. of Members at Tmall Global Flagship Stores in China E-commerce (Acquisition of Core Fans of Our Brands) A X Z I A

- Steady increase in the number of members at Tmall Global flagship stores (2 stores).
- Strategy with a focus on increasing brand supporters (core fans) our brand to promote sales of mid- to high-end products. Building a strong customer base in the Chinese cosmetics e-commerce channel.
- Implemented cross-selling measures at Cosmetics flagship store and Supplements flagship store, including the distribution of gift certificates. ARPU increased as a result.



Source: Customer Path (Alibaba's CRM system) \*No. of members = People who have registered as members of our Tmall flagship stores.

## Ref: Brand Recognition in Tmall's Supplements Category $A \boxtimes Z \ I \ A$

Since November 2019, we have been competing with Company B for the Top 3 spot in the international beauty supplements category on Tmall.

Tmall International Beauty Supplements Category

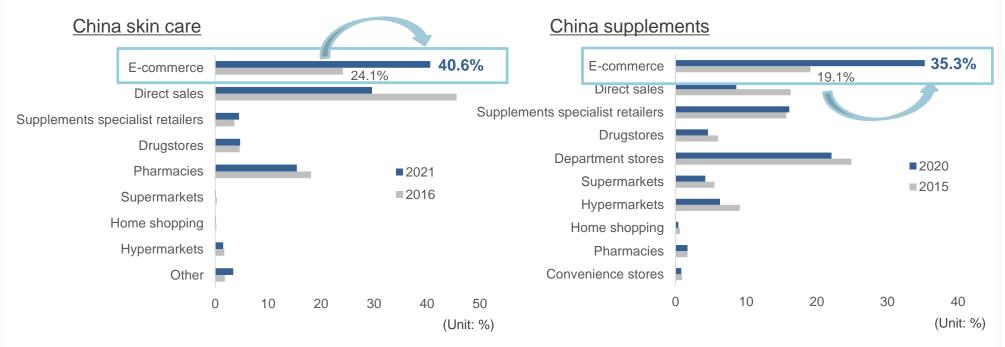
Top 3

Store ranking	TOP1 🍟	TOP2	ТОРЗ 🍟
2020/11	Company B	AXXZIA	Company C
2020/12	Company B	AXXZIA	Company M
2021/1	Company B	AXXZIA	Company H
2021/2	Company B	Company R	Company C
2021/3	Company B	AXXZIA	Company C
2021/4	AXXZIA	Company B	Company C
2021/5	Company C	Company B	AXXZIA
2021/6	Company B	Company C	AXXZIA
2021/7	Company B	Company C	AXXZIA
2021/8	Company C	AXXZIA	Company B
2021/9	Company C	Company B	Company D
2021/10	Company C	Company I	Company B

\*Source: Business Consultant (Tmall's data analysis tool for store management and operation)

## Sales Channels: Why We Focus on E-Commerce in China

- We focus on e-commerce in China for the following two reasons:
- In the last five years, the share of e-commerce in Chinese skincare distribution channels has risen from 24.1% to 40.6% (19.1% to 35.3% for supplements).
- Unlike in Japan, where drugstores are the main distribution channel, e-commerce purchases have become common in China.



Composition of major distribution channels of China's skincare and supplements market

Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Beauty and Personal Care 2021 edition, retail value RSP fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices (data extracted on 8 October 2021) Source: Euromonitor International Limited, Consumer Health 2021 edition, retail value RSP, fixed 2020 exchange rates, current prices (data extracted on 8 October 2021) AXZIA

### **Ref: Performance of Shanghai Subsidiary**

## (Horizontal Expansion into Chinese Beauty Salon and Retail Channels) A X Z I A

- Steady business expansion since opening in Mar. 2019. (Net sales increased from 770mn yen in FY07/20 to 1,046mn yen in FY07/21).
- Sales growth was driven by expanding the number of beauty salons in China that handle AXXZIA's salon-exclusive brand (Le Ciel de L'aube). (No. of beauty salons handling the brand increased from 590 in FY07/20 to 680 in FY07/21).
- In the retail channel, AXXZIA's brands were sold at 21 stores in China's SEPHORA store network and on the SEPHORA online store.

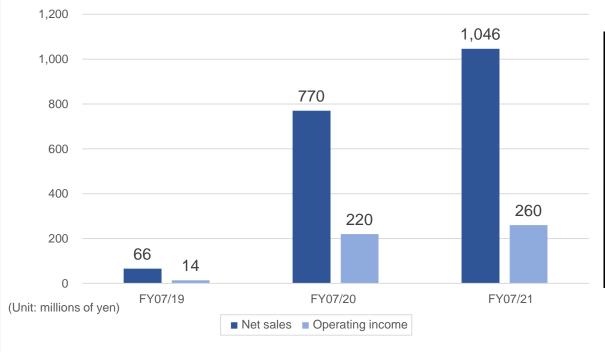




Image of SEPHORA store

#### Xiaozi Cosmetic (Shanghai) Inc. Earnings Trends

## **Ref: Domestic Sales Channels**

- Building a foundation for domestic sales channels for the new normal.
- We will implement the following measures in Q3 and Q4 FY07/21 to raise brand awareness as well as strengthen and expand our sales base, taking advantage of our IPO on the Mothers section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange in February 2021.



- 1) Sales to beauty salons: Increase the number of salons carrying Axxzia's products (currently 679 stores).
- 2) Domestic e-commerce channel: Strengthen in-house website.
  - $\rightarrow$  Bolster marketing activities on social media (deliver Essence Sheet info, utilize influencers).
- 3) Open physical stores with GINZA SIX as the domestic flagship store.
- 4) Offer commemorative shareholder benefits to individual investors to create an opportunity for them to pick up and try our brand and products.

## Disclaimer and notes regarding the future outlook $A \times Z I A$

- This document is intended solely to provide information about AXXZIA Inc., and is not intended to solicit investment in securities issued by the Company. AXXZIA Inc. does not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, validity, etc. of the numerical figures, information, opinions, and other statements in this document, and will not pay any compensation for any damages, losses, or consequences resulting from use of or reliance on these numerical figures, information, opinions, or any other statement.
- Information provided in this document and this presentation includes forward-looking statements. These statements are based on current expectations, forecasts, and assumptions with a degree of risk, and therefore include some uncertainties that could lead to substantially different results.
- These risks and uncertainties include general Japanese and international economic conditions, such as general industry and market conditions, interest rates, and currency exchange fluctuations.
- We plan to disclose an update to this material around September after the end of this fiscal year.



Creating things and experiences that amaze people.

[Contact]

AXXZIA Inc. (Securities code: 4936) Management department E-mail:axxzia-ir@axxzia.co.jp URL :https://axxzia.co.jp/en/

