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Securities code: 6203

June 8, 2022

To Our Shareholders

Takahiro Tsukamoto, President, Managing Director **Howa Machinery, Ltd.** 1900-1, Sukaguchi, Kiyosu-shi, Aichi, Japan

# **Notice of the 184th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders**

You are cordially invited to attend the 184th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders of Howa Machinery, Ltd. (the "Company"), which will be held as indicated below.

As an alternative to attending the meeting in person, you may exercise your voting rights in one of the ways noted below. Please review the attached Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders before exercising your voting rights.

Exercising Voting Rights in Writing:

Use the enclosed Voting Rights Exercise Form to indicate "for" or "against" for each of the proposals and return the form to us so that it arrives no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2022 (JST).

Exercising Voting Rights Using Electromagnetic Method (via the Internet, etc.):

Access the voting website specified by the Company (https://www.web54.net) and follow the prompts on the screen. Enter your votes "for" or "against" each of the proposals no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 27, 2022 (JST). If exercising your voting rights via the internet, please see the "Instructions for exercising voting rights by electromagnetic method (via the Internet, etc.)" (in Japanese only).

- **1. Time and date** 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 28, 2022 (JST)
- 2. Venue Conference Room #5, 3rd Floor, Nagoya Chamber of Commerce & Industry

2-10-19 Sakae, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi

## 3. Agenda of the Meeting

## Matters to be Reported

- 1. The Business Report, Consolidated Financial Statements, and the audit reports of the Accounting Auditor and the Audit & Supervisory Committee regarding the Consolidated Financial Statements for the 184th fiscal year (April 1, 2021 March 31, 2022)
- 2. The Non-Consolidated Financial Statements for the 184th fiscal year (April 1, 2021 March 31, 2022)

### Matters to be Resolved

**Proposal No. 1** Appropriation of Surplus

**Proposal No. 2** Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation

**Proposal No. 3** Election of Four Directors (excluding Directors Who Are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members)

# 4. Other Matters Concerning the Meeting

If exercising your voting rights by proxy, you may appoint one Company shareholder with voting rights to attend the meeting as your proxy. Please note, however, that written proof of their right of proxy must be submitted.

- · If attending the meeting in person, please present the enclosed Voting Rights Exercise Form at the venue's reception desk. In order to conserve resources, please bring this copy of the convocation notice with you to the meeting.
- The reception desk is scheduled to open at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting.
- · On the day of the meeting, the dress code for Company staff will be business casual (no neckties). Shareholders are also requested to attend the meeting in business casual attire.
- · No commemorative gifts will be provided to shareholders attending the meeting. Your understanding is appreciated.
- In accordance with the provisions of relevant laws and regulations and Article 17 of the Company's Articles of Incorporation, among the documentation that should be provided in connection with this notice, the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes to Non-consolidated Financial Statements are provided on the Company's website (https://www.howa.co.jp/) and

therefore do not accompany this notice. The Consolidated Financial Statements and Non-consolidated Financial Statements included in the documentation accompanying this notice are part of the Consolidated Financial Statements and Non-consolidated Financial Statements that the Accounting Auditor and Audit & Supervisory Committee audited when they prepared the accounting audit report and audit report.

· If there are revisions to the Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders, the Business Report, the Consolidated Financial Statements, or Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, such revisions will be posted on the Company's website (https://www.howa.co.jp/).

### Notice About Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 on the Day of the Meeting

- · Company executives and staff will be wearing masks.
- · Shareholders who attend are requested to wear masks indoors and take a body temperature scan.
- · Seats will be spaced a certain distance apart to prevent congestion and this will result in a decrease in available seats.
- · We plan to cover the agenda of the meeting in a short amount of time.
- Any individuals who are suspected of having contracted COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter the venue.
   Regardless of the above, we may implement measures to prevent infections considering factors such as the state of infections.
   Additionally, if any major changes to our hosting of the General Meeting of Shareholders are required due to future changes in the pandemic, we will post a notice on the Company website and ask that you check this ahead of time.

## Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders

## **Proposal No. 1** Appropriation of Surplus

The Company proposes the appropriation of surplus as follows:

## Year-end dividends

The Company engages primarily in build-to-order manufacturing of machine tools and these orders are influenced by capital expenditures that fluctuate due to economic conditions inside and outside Japan. Our basic policy is to pay a dividend that is stable and continual, from a medium- to long-term perspective, given that Company performance can vary widely from year to year.

Dividends for the current fiscal year are as indicated below, based on a comprehensive consideration of fiscal-year performance, the economic environment surrounding the Group, retained earnings necessary for future business development, and the maintenance of a stable dividend.

- (1) Type of dividend property Cash
- (2) Allotment of dividend property and its aggregate amount \$\\\\\$20 per common share of the Company Total dividends: \$\\\\\$240,675,620
- (3) Effective date of dividends of surplus June 29, 2022

## **Proposal No. 2** Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation

### 1. Reasons for amendments

Since the revised provisions provided for in the proviso to Article 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Act Partially Amending the Companies Act (Act No. 70 of 2019) are to be enforced on September 1, 2022, the Company proposes to make the following changes to its Articles of Incorporation in preparation for the introduction of the system for providing informational materials for the general meeting of shareholders in electronic format.

- (1) Article 17, paragraph (1) in "Proposed amendments" below will stipulate that the Company shall take measures for providing information that constitutes the content of reference documents for the general meeting of shareholders, etc. in electronic format.
- (2) Article 17, paragraph (2) in "Proposed amendments" below will establish the provision to be able to limit the scope of the items to be stated in the paper-based documents to be delivered to shareholders who requested the delivery of paper-based documents.
- (3) Since the provisions for Internet Disclosure and Deemed Provision of Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders, Etc. (Article 17 of the current Articles of Incorporation) will no longer be required, they will be deleted.
- (4) Accompanying the aforementioned establishment and deletion of provisions, supplementary provisions regarding the effective date, etc. will be established.

#### 2. Details of amendments

The details of the amendments are as follows.

(Underlined sections have been amended.) Current Articles of Incorporation Proposed Amendments (Internet Disclosure and Deemed Provision of Reference (delete) Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders, Etc.) Article 17 When the Company convenes a general meeting of shareholders, if it discloses information that is to be stated or presented in the reference documents for the general meeting of shareholders, business report, financial statements and consolidated financial statements through the internet in accordance with the provisions prescribed by the Ministry of Justice Order, it may be deemed that the Company has provided this information to shareholders. (Newly established) (Measures, etc. for Providing Information in Electronic Format) (1) When the Company convenes a general meeting of shareholders, it shall take measures for providing information that constitutes the content of reference documents for the general meeting of shareholders, etc. in electronic format. (2) Among items for which the measures for providing information in electronic format will be taken, the Company may exclude all or some of those items designated by the Ministry of Justice Order from statements in the paper-based documents to be delivered to shareholders who requested the delivery of paper-based documents by the record date of voting rights.

#### Current Articles of Incorporation

Supplementary Provisions

(Transitional Measures Concerning Exemption of Audit & Supervisory Board Members From Liability)

The Company may, by the resolution of the Board of Directors, exempt the liability for damage claim due to breach of duty of an Audit & Supervisory Board Member (including a person who was an Audit & Supervisory Board Member) before the transition to a company with Audit & Supervisory Committee to the extent provided by laws and regulations.

(Newly established)

## Proposed Amendments

**Supplementary Provisions** 

(Transitional Measures Concerning Exemption of Audit & Supervisory Board Members From Liability)

#### Article 1

The Company may, by the resolution of the Board of Directors, exempt the liability for damage claim due to breach of duty of an Audit & Supervisory Board Member (including a person who was an Audit & Supervisory Board Member) before the transition to a company with Audit & Supervisory Committee to the extent provided by laws and regulations.

(Transitional measures for electronic provision measure, etc.) Article 2

- (1) The deletion of Article 17 (Internet Disclosure and Deemed Provision of Reference Documents for the General Meeting of Shareholders, Etc.) in the preamended Articles of Incorporation and the establishment of the new Article 17 (Measures, etc. for Providing Information in Electronic Format) in the post-amended Articles of Incorporation shall be effective from September 1, 2022, which is the date of enforcement of the revised provisions provided for in the proviso to Article 1 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Act Partially Amending the Companies Act (Act No. 70 of 2019) (hereinafter referred to as the "Date of Enforcement").
- (2) Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph,

  Article 17 of the pre-amended Articles of Incorporation
  shall remain effective regarding any general meeting of
  shareholders held on a date within six months from the
  Date of Enforcement.
- (3) Article 2 of these Supplementary Provisions shall be deleted on the date when six months have elapsed from the Date of Enforcement or three months have elapsed from the date of the general meeting of shareholders in the preceding paragraph, whichever is later.

**Proposal No. 3** Election of Four Directors (excluding Directors Who Are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members)

Since four Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members) will reach the end of their terms at the conclusion of this meeting, the Company is requesting the appointment of four Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members).

The Audit & Supervisory Committee has deemed that all of the candidates for Director (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members) in this proposal are suitable candidates.

The candidates for Director (excluding Director who is an Audit & Supervisory Committee Member) are as follows:

G III			Attendance at		
Candidate	Name	Current position & responsibility in the	Board of Directors		
No.		Company	meetings in the		
			current fiscal year		
1	Takahiro Tsukamoto	President, Managing Director	100%	Reappointment	
1		Head of Business Division	10070		
		Managing Director, Head of General			
		Administration Division, and responsible		Reappointment	
2	Hiromitsu Ishihara	for promoting the establishment of business	100%		
	Thromesu isimiaru	critical system and appropriate time			
		management			
		Director			
		In charge of technical development of			
		Business Division, General Manager of			
3	Masahiro Yoshida	Windows & Doors Department, General	100%	Reappointment	
		Manager of Engineering Department, and			
		responsible for increasing output and			
		promoting environment and DX			
		Director		Reappointment	
		General Manager of Machinery			
4	Kenji Watanabe	Department and General Manager of	100%		
		Industrial Equipment Department			
		Promotion Office			

Reappointment: a Director candidate being reappointed

Candidate No.	Name (Date of birth)		Career summary, position, and responsibility in the Company (Significant concurrent positions outside the Company)				
1	Takahiro Tsukamoto (July 27, 1954) Gender: male Reappointment Attendance at Board of Directors meetings 9/9	Nov. 1978 June 2003 Dec. 2003 May 2004 June 2005 June 2007 June 2011 June 2015 June 2016 Apr. 2017	Joined the Company General Manager of Sales Group, Machinery Department President of Howa Machinery Singapore Pte. Ltd. (current position) General Manager of Machine Tools Group, Machinery Department Director, General Manager in charge of sales, Machine Tools Group, Machinery Department Director, General Manager of Machinery Department Managing Director, Head of Business Division, and General Manager of Machinery Department Senior Managing Director and Head of Business Division President, Managing Director, Head of Business Division President, Managing Director, Head of Business Division, and General Manager of Sweepers & Special Vehicles Department President, Managing Director, Head of	owned 19,070			
	Business Division (current position)  Special interest with the Company There is no special interest between Mr. Tsukamoto and the Company.						
	Reason for nomination as a candidate for Director  Mr. Tsukamoto is judged to be qualified to continue his role as Director due to his involvement mainly in sales-related tasks for the Business Division since joining the Company, his service as President of Howa Machinery Singapore Pte.  Ltd., and his possession of knowledge and abundant experience related to global business operations.  Note: The Company currently has a Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance Agreement with an insurance company, which is stipulated in Article 430-3, paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. An overview of the Insurance Agreement is given on page 23 of the Business Report (in Japanese only). If Mr. Tsukamoto is reappointed and takes office as Director, he will continue being an insured party under this Insurance Agreement.  When this Insurance Agreement is next renewed, the Company plans to renew it with the same coverage.						

Candidate No.	Name (Date of birth)		amary, position, and responsibility in the Company cant concurrent positions outside the Company)	Number of Company shares owned			
		Apr. 1981 June 2003	Joined the Company General Manager of Human Resources				
		June 2007	Department Director, General Manager of Human Resources Department				
		Apr. 2008	Director, Head of General Administration Division and General Manager of Human Resources Department				
		June 2008	Director, Head of General Administration Division and General Manager of General Administration Department and Human Resources Department				
	Hiromitsu Ishihara (January 15, 1959) Gender: male	June 2013	Managing Director, Head of General Administration Division, and General Manager of General Administration Department				
	Reappointment	May 2017	Chairman, Howa (Tianjin) Machinery Co., Ltd. (current position)	13,018			
	Attendance at Board of Directors meetings 9/9	July 2017	Managing Director, Head of General Administration Division, General Manager of General Administration Department and Legal Department				
2		July 2018	Managing Director, Head of General Administration Division, and General Manager of Legal Department				
		Jan. 2020	Managing Director, Head of General Administration Division, and General Manager of Legal Department and New Business Critical System Promotion Office				
		July 2021	Managing Director, Head of General Administration Division, and responsible for promoting the establishment of business critical system and appropriate time management (current position)				
	Special interest with the Company						
	There is no special interest between Mr. Ishihara and the Company.						
	Reason for nomination as a candidate for Director  Mr. Ishihara is judged to be qualified to continue his role as Director due to his involvement mainly in general administration, human resources, and legal-related tasks since joining the Company, and currently, as Head of the						
	General Administration Division, is supervising administration and possesses abundant experience in this regard.  Note: The Company currently has a Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance Agreement with an insurance company, which is stipulated in Article 430-3, paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. An overview of the Insurance Agreement is given on page 23 of the Business report (in Japanese only). If Mr. Ishihara is						
	reappointed and takes office as Director, he will continue being an insured party under this Insurance Agreement.  When this Insurance Agreement is next renewed, the Company plans to renew it with the same coverage.						

Candidate No.	Name (Date of birth)		Career summary, position, and responsibility in the Company (Significant concurrent positions outside the Company)				
		Apr. 1981	Joined the Company				
		July 2004	General Manager of Production Group,				
			Machinery Department				
		June 2007	Director, General Manager of Production				
			Group, Machinery Department				
		June 2009	Resigned as Director				
			Executive Officer, General Manager of				
			Production Group, Machinery Department				
		May 2010	Executive Officer and Manager of SM Division and QC Division of Machinery Department				
	Masahiro Yoshida	June 2011	Director, Manager of CE Division, Machinery				
	(March 12, 1959)		Department, and Supervisor of Engineering				
	Gender: male		Department				
		June 2015	Director, in charge of design in Business				
	Reappointment		Division, and Supervisor of Technology	11,344			
			Department				
	Attendance at Board of	July 2017	Director, General Manager of Windows &				
	Directors meetings		Doors Department and in charge of				
	9/9		technological development of Business Division				
3		Nov. 2020	Director, General Manager of Windows &				
			Doors Department, in charge of technological				
			development of Business Division, and General				
			Manager of Engineering Department				
		July 2021	Director, in charge of technical development of				
			Business Division, General Manager of				
			Windows & Doors Department, General				
			Manager of Engineering Department, and responsible for increasing output and promoting				
			environment and DX (current position)				
	Special interest with the Compa	nv	en a nominent una 271 (eurient position)	1			
	There is no special interest between Mr. Yoshida and the Company.						
	Reason for nomination as a candidate for Director						
	Mr. Yoshida is judged to be qualified to continue his role as Director due to his involvement mainly in design,						
	production management, and quality control-related tasks since joining the Company, as well as his broad-based						
	knowledge and abundant professional experience in overall manufacturing technology.						
	Note: The Company currently has a Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance Agreement with an insurance						
	company, which is stipulated in Article 430-3, paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. An overview of the						
	Insurance Agreement is given on page 23 of the Business Report (in Japanese only). If Mr. Yoshida is						
	reappointed and takes office as Director, he will continue being an insured party under this Insurance						
	Agreement.  When this Insurance Agreement is next renewed, the Company plans to renew it with the same coverage.						
	When this Insurance Ag	greement is next	renewed, the Company plans to renew it with the sai	me coverage.			

Candidate No.	Name (Date of birth)		Career summary, position, and responsibility in the Company (Significant concurrent positions outside the Company)				
4	Kenji Watanabe (September 15, 1957) Gender: male Reappointment Attendance at Board of Directors meetings 9/9	Apr. 1981 June 2005 June 2008 June 2011 June 2015 July 2019 Apr. 2020 July 2020 July 2021	Joined the Company Manager of Machine Tools Group, Machinery Department General Manager of Machine Tools Sales Group, Machinery Department Executive Officer and Manager of CP Division of the Machinery Department Director, General Manager of Machinery Department Director, General Manager of Machinery Department and Industrial Equipment Department Preparation Office Director, General Manager of Machinery Department and Industrial Equipment Department Preparation Office, and Manager of Industrial Equipment Group Director, General Manager of Machinery Department and General Manager of Industrial Equipment Department Preparation Office Director, General Manager of Industrial Equipment Department Proparation Office (current position)	owned 10,444			
	Special interest with the Company There is no special interest between Mr. Watanabe and the Company.  Reason for nomination as a candidate for Director Mr. Watanabe is judged to be qualified to continue his role as Director due to his involvement in sales, planning, and production management-related tasks mainly in the machine tools division since joining the Company, as well as his advanced knowledge and abundant professional experience as an expert in the machine tools business.  Note: The Company currently has a Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance Agreement with an insurance company, which is stipulated in Article 430-3, paragraph (1) of the Companies Act. An overview of the Insurance Agreement is given on page 23 of the Business Report (in Japanese only). If Mr. Watanabe is reappointed and takes office as Director, he will continue being an insured party under this Insurance Agreement.  When this Insurance Agreement is next renewed, the Company plans to renew it with the same coverage.						

(Reference)

Skill Matrix of Directors

If Proposal No. 3 is passed as proposed, the main expertise and experience of the Company's Directors will be as follows.

ionows.									
		Expertise and experience							
Category	Name	Finance & accounting	Corporate manage- ment	Legal affairs, compli- ance, risk manage- ment	Interna- tional business	Sales & marketing	R&D, ICT, DX	Human resources and labor Human resources develop- ment	ESG, sustain- ability, SDGs
	Takahiro Tsukamoto	•	•		•	•	•		
D: .	Hiromitsu Ishihara	•	•	•				•	•
Director	Masahiro Yoshida		•			•	•		•
	Kenji Watanabe		•		•	•			
Director	Yasuji Makino	•							
(Audit &	Ippei Watanabe			•					
Supervisory	Senpo Kongo	•	•	•	•				
Committee Member)	Masako Tanaka		•	•				•	•

Policies and procedures for the appointment of Director candidates

• Method and procedures for the appointment of Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members)

Fair and highly agreeable evaluations are carried out for Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members), following the procedures below.

- Evaluation through regular interviews with the President, Managing Director
- Evaluation through interviews with the Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members
- Evaluation by Nomination and Compensation Advisory Committee, a majority of whose members are outside Directors

In appointing Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members), President, Managing Director has proposed to the Board of Directors the group of subsequent Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee members) after considering the advisability of the reappointment of each Director (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members) based on these evaluations and, in the case of appointing new Directors (excluding Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members), after considering candidates from the pool of senior executives, which includes executive officers.

Method and procedure for the appointment of Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members
 In appointing Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee Members, President, Managing Director
 proposes to the Board of Directors the group of subsequent Directors who are Audit & Supervisory Committee
 Members after considering candidates based on the evaluations of the Nomination and Compensation Advisory
 Committee.

The following are the required qualities so that management is properly audited and supervised.

Parties who possess high expertise in the field of corporate management, or finance, accounting, legal affairs, and similar fields