

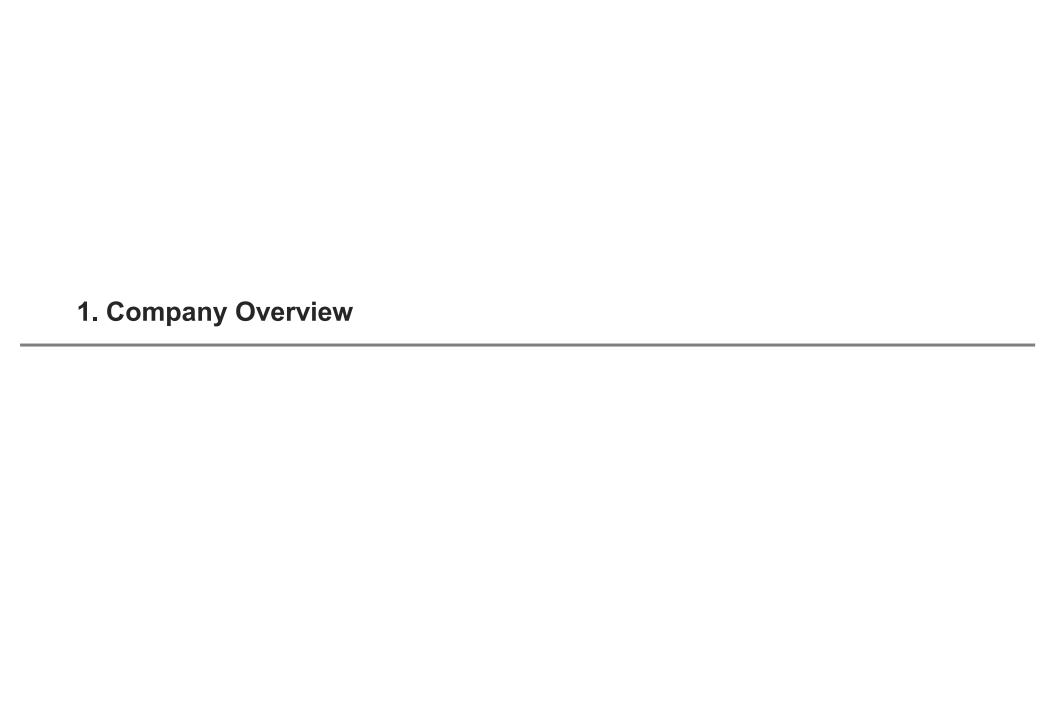
# Q2 of Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023 Materials for Financial Results Presentation

BASE, Inc. (Tokyo Stock Exchange Growth: 4477) August 3, 2023

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## **Mission**

# Payment to the people, Power to the people.

BASE provides a platform in which individuals can transmit their thoughts, sensitivities and talents to any and all that are in need of them. Our hope is that our service gives way to new projects, ideas and activities, as well as fair compensation for our valued merchants.

Means of payment should be available to everyone in the world and beyond. As a company, we aim to provide each and every individual with the opportunity to freely transform their potential into value.

Creating an economy for People through the Power of Payment.

#### **Service Outline**



BASE Group's services aimed at empowering **individuals and small teams**, **startups**, as well as **purchasers** 



For Individuals and Small Team Shops



Payment Support /
Online Shop Creation Support

Online shop creation service enabling anyone to easily create storefront-type online shops at no cost



**For Startup Merchants** 



**Payment Support** 

Online payment service for developers to easily integrate credit card payments to web services



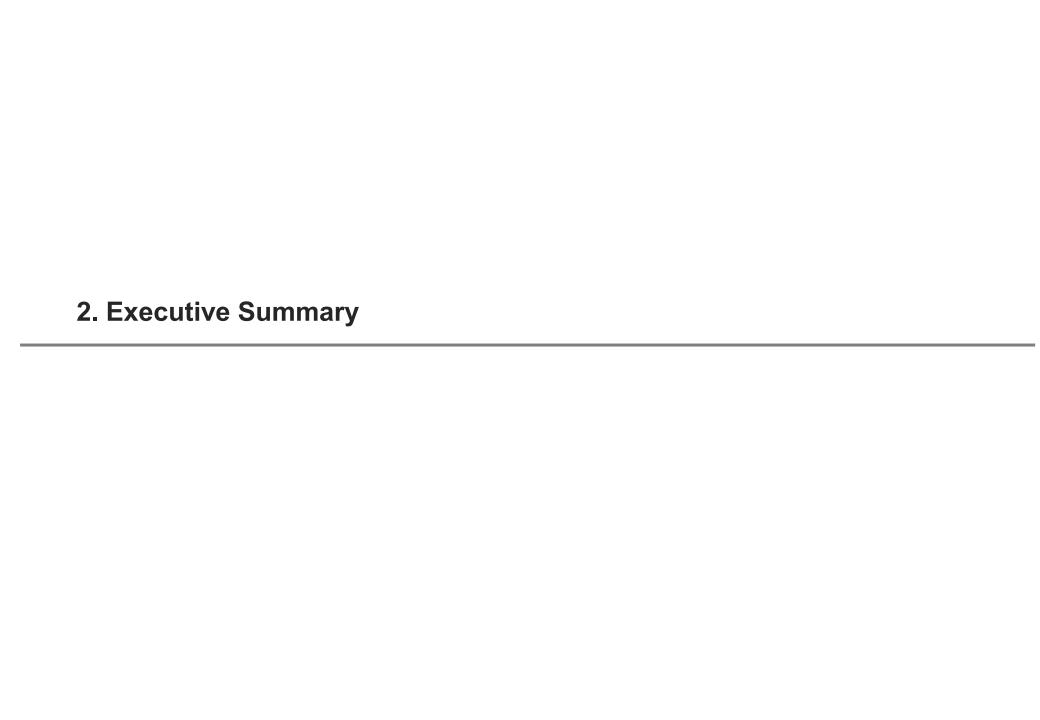
**For Purchasers** 





Payment ID / Shopping App

Shopping service providing smoother payment experiences including BNPL and helping to build relationships with purchasers



# **Executive Summary**



# Highlights

- ✓ Group GMV surpassed 65 billion yen due to both the BASE and PAY.JP Businesses' growth
- ✓ FY2023 H1 progressed largely as expected, with full-year results expected to fall within the company forecast
- ✓ Continuing efforts to increase gross profit growth and strengthen financial structure in order to achieve operating profitability in FY2025

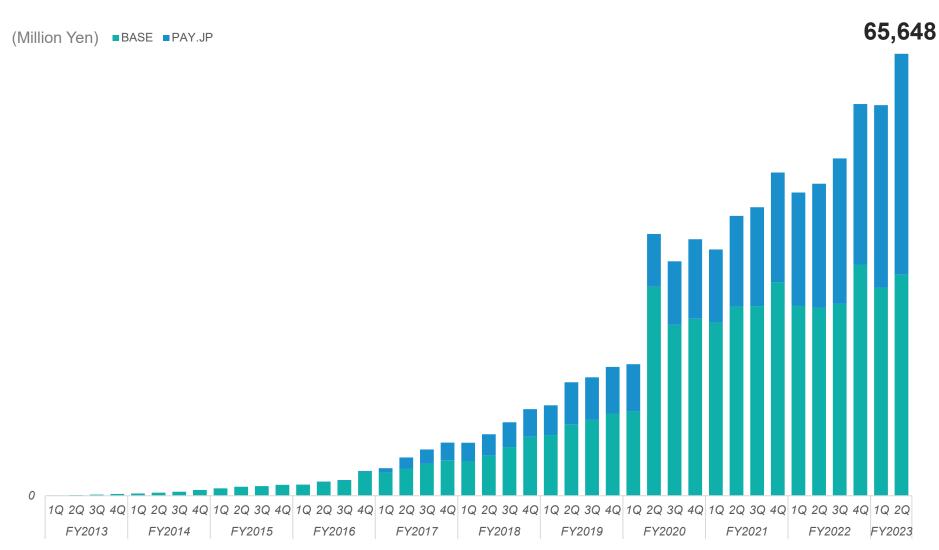
#### FY2023 Q2 Results

- ✓ YoY growth for consolidated net sales and consolidated gross profit turned positive due to the increase in Group GMV
- ✓ GMV for the BASE Business increased +17.6% YoY largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan and the recovery of the business environment
- ✓ GMV for the PAY.JP Business continued to increase significantly at +77.9% YoY due
  to contribution from both existing and new large merchants

# **Group GMV Growth**



#### Group GMV surpassed 65 billion yen due to both the BASE and PAY.JP Businesses' growth





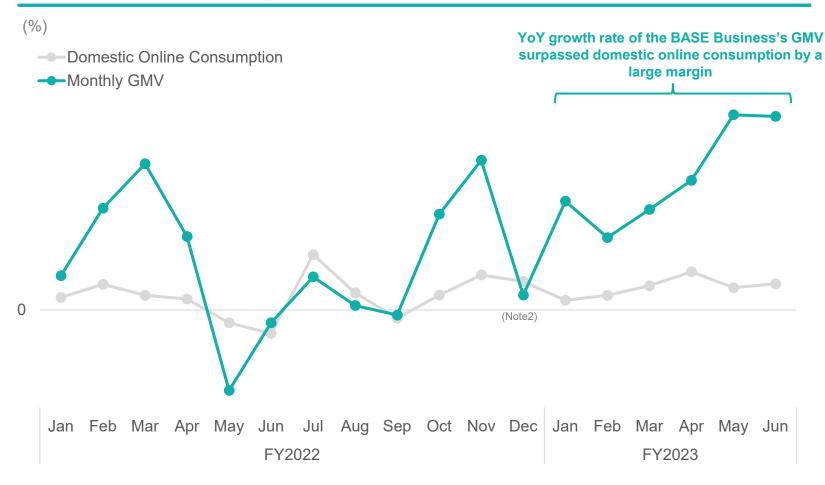
# **Strong GMV Growth Rate**



YoY growth rate of the BASE Business's Monthly GMV surpassed domestic online consumption by a large margin

Largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan, the number of existing shops that continue to use the service increased, leading to an accumulation of GMV. Additionally, the acquisition of new merchants with larger sales than before also increased, resulting in a YoY increase of +17.6% in FY2023 Q2

#### YoY Growth Rate of Monthly GMV and Domestic Online Consumption (Note1)



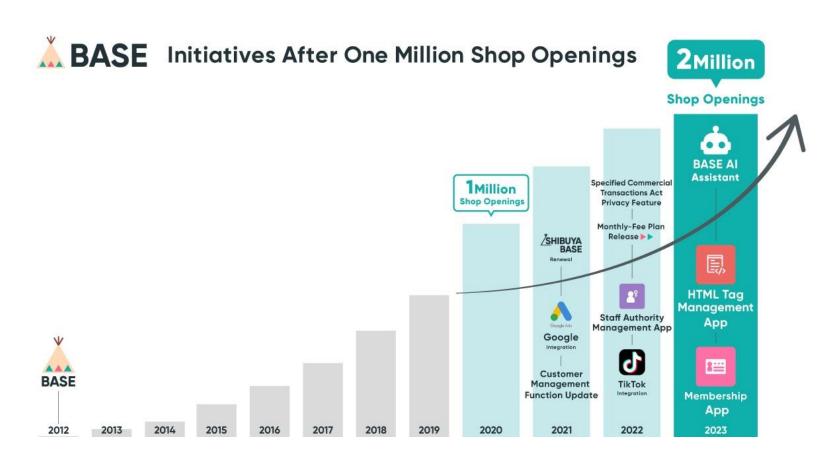


# **Cumulative Shop Openings Exceeds Two Million**



Cumulative shop openings exceeded two million in June 2023

Since surpassing the one million shop milestone, responded to the expansion of "BASE" merchants' sales volume by strengthening functions such as third-party integration and CRM, while also releasing the Monthly-Fee Plan



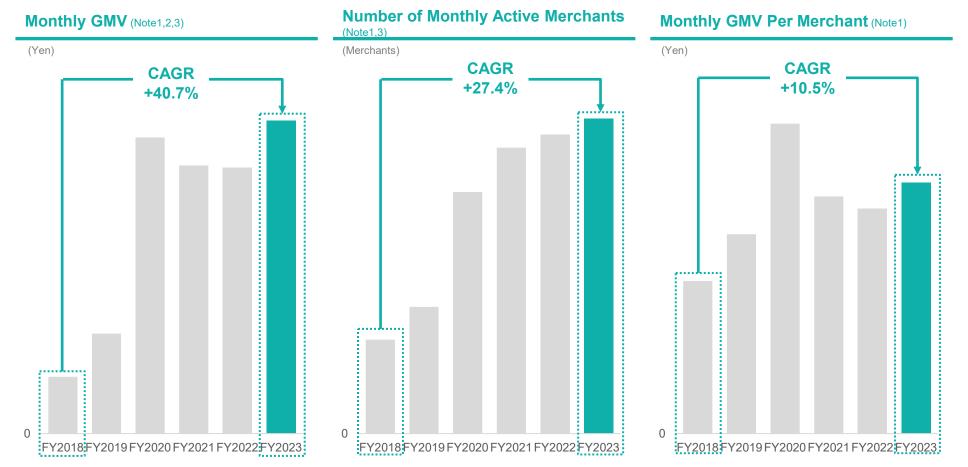
# Trends in GMV (Q2 Comparison)



#### Monthly GMV continues to increase in the long term at a +40.7% CAGR

Even after the rapid increase following the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of Monthly Active Merchants increased as new merchants accumulated largely due to a rise in recognition, and more existing merchants continued to use the service largely due to the release of the Monthly-Fee Plan

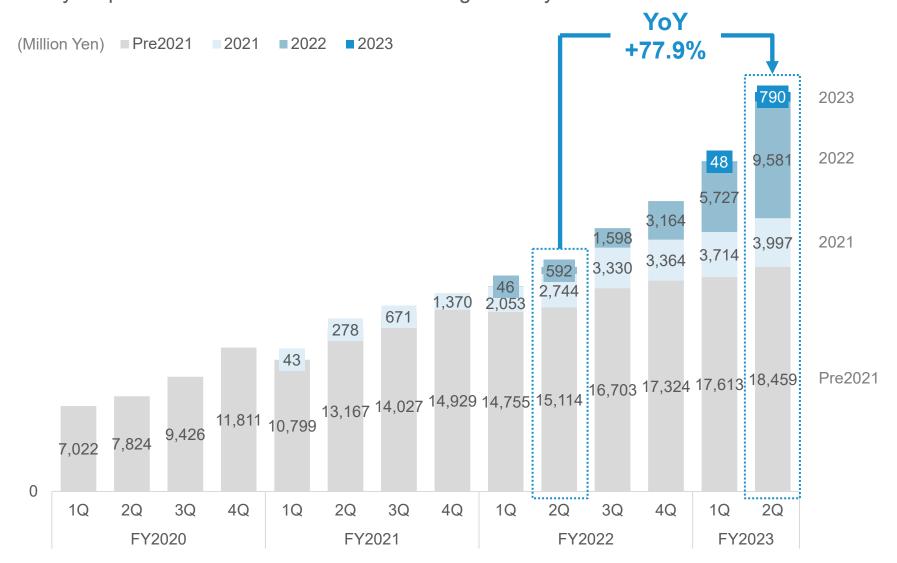
Monthly GMV Per Merchant growth turned positive despite declining trends in the past due to the reopening headwinds



### **GMV Growth**



Existing merchants, especially those acquired in 2022, continued to drive GMV growth GMV of newly acquired merchants also accumulated significantly



#### **FY2023 Forecast**



**Due to strong trends in GMV during FY2023 H1** driven by large merchants for both the BASE and PAY.JP Businesses, **consolidated gross profit for the full year is expected to fall within the forecast range** 

SG&A expenses are expected to be weighted towards the second half of the fiscal year. Since progress in the first half was largely as expected, operating profit/loss is also expected to fall within the forecast range

		FY2023	FY2022		
(Million Yen)	H1 Total	Full-Year Forecast	Progress (Note1)	Full-Year Results	YoY
Net Sales	5,360	10,300 ~10,800	52.0%	9,739	+5.8% ~+10.9%
Gross Profit	2,314	4,650 ~4,850	49.8%	4,737	-1.8% ~+2.4%
SG&A	2,601	6,250 ~6,500	41.6%	6,245	+0.1% ~+4.1%
Operating Profit	-287	-1,850 <b>~</b> -1,400	n/a	-1,508	-
Ordinary Profit	-280	-1,850 ~-1,400	n/a	-1,495	-
Net Income Attributable to Owners of Parent	-372	-1,900 <b>~</b> -1,450	n/a	-1,732	-
GMV (BASE Business)	63,751	125,000 ~130,000	51.0%	118,932	+5.1% ~+9.3%
GMV (PAY.JP Business)	59,917	105,000 ~110,000	57.1%	80,762	+30.0% ~+36.2%

# **Future Policy**

Increase of Added Value

(Take Rate)

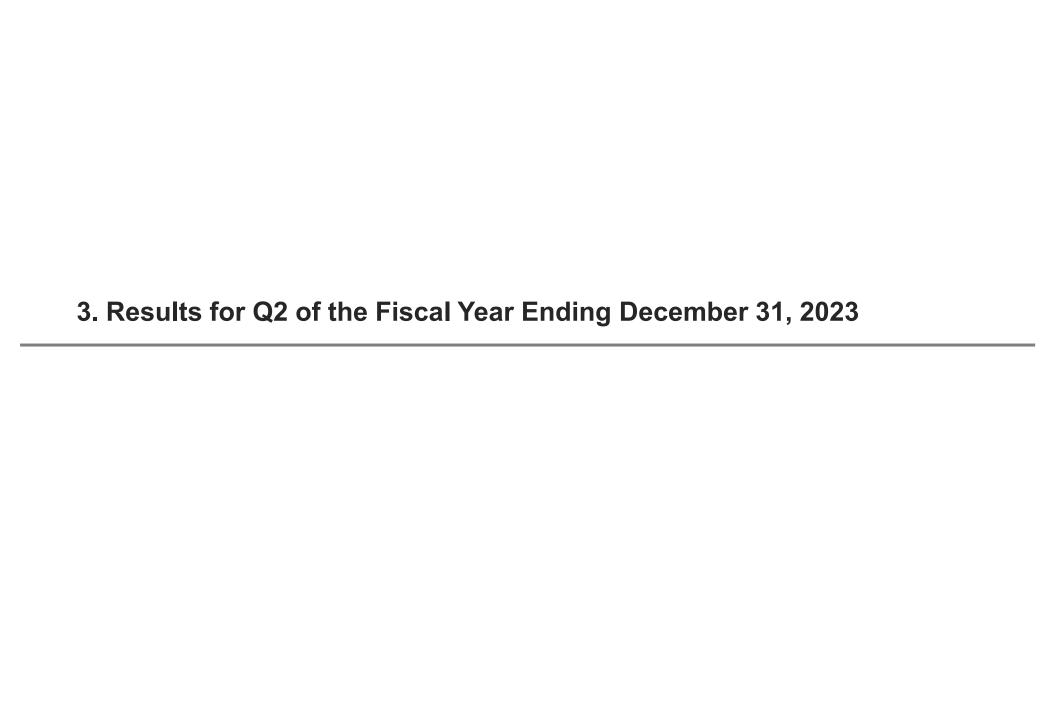


**Aiming to achieve operating profitability in FY2025** by continuing efforts to increase gross profit growth and strengthen financial structure in FY2024 and onwards

In addition to continuing to achieve **GMV growth** through the Monthly-Fee Plan, **will improve take rate** by providing functions with high added value

# **BASE Group's Value Creation Objective New Areas** YELL BANK Support **Finance Expansion to Products Other than "BASE"** Merchant Growth **PayID** Payment ID/Shopping App **BASE PAY**JP **Support Merchant New Areas** Access to Payment **Payment/Online Shop Creation Payment**

**Expansion of Merchant Base (GMV)** 





## Financial Highlights for FY2023 Q2 Results



#### Consolidated

YoY growth for consolidated net sales and consolidated gross profit turned positive due to the increase in Group GMV

Due to the increase in consolidated gross profit and suppressed SG&A expenses, **operating loss** contracted significantly YoY and QoQ

With SG&A expenses expected to be weighted towards the second half of the fiscal year, progress in the first half was largely as expected

#### **BASE Business**

GMV<sub>(Note)</sub> **increased +17.6% YoY** largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan and the recovery of the business environment

YoY growth of net sales turned positive due to the increase in GMV

#### **PAY.JP Business**

GMV (Note) **continued to increase significantly at +77.9% YoY** due to contribution from both existing and new large merchants

Net sales and gross profit increased significantly YoY at +75.9% and +61.9% respectively due to GMV growth

### FY2023 Q2 Results



YoY growth for consolidated net sales and consolidated gross profit turned positive due to the increase in Group GMV

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	FY2023 Q2 (Apr. 2023 to Jun. 2023)					FY2023 H1 (Jan. 2023 to Jun. 2023)			FY2023	
(Million yen)	Results	YoY (vs. FY2022 Q2)		QoQ (vs. FY2023 Q1)		H1 Total	FY2022 H1		Full-Year	Progress
		Results	Change	Results	Change	H1 Total	Results	Change	Forecast	(Note1)
Net Sales	2,841	2,294	+23.8%	2,518	+12.9%	5,360	4,807	+11.5%	10,300 ~10,800	52.0%
Gross Profit	1,248	1,124	+11.1%	1,065	+17.2%	2,314	2,506	-7.7%	4,650 ~4,850	49.8%
Gross Profit Margin	43.9%	49.0%	-5.1pt	42.3%	+1.6pt	43.2%	52.1%	-9.0pt	-	-
SG&A	1,263	1,721	-26.6%	1,337	-5.5%	2,601	3,376	-23.0%	6,250 ~6,500	41.6%
Operating Profit	-15	-597	n/a	-271	n/a	-287	-869	n/a	-1,850 <b>~</b> -1,400	n/a
Ordinary Profit	-10	-591	n/a	-269	n/a	-280	-858	n/a	-1,850 ~-1,400	n/a
Net Income Attributable to Owners of Parent	-14	-622	n/a	-358	n/a	-372	-921	n/a	-1,900 <b>~</b> -1,450	n/a
GMV (BASE Business)	32,821	27,898	+17.6%	30,929	+6.1%	63,751	56,097	+13.6%	125,000 ~130,000	51.0%
GMV (PAY.JP Business)	32,821	18,444	+77.9%	27,096	+21.1%	59,917	35,293	+69.8%	105,000 ~110,000	57.1%



### **Balance Sheet**



**Maintains a strong financial foundation** with cash and deposits at 21,723 million yen as of June 30, 2023 Operating deposits increased from December 31, 2022 due to the PAY.JP Business's significant GMV growth

(Million Yen)	As of Jun. 30, 2023	As of Dec. 31, 2022	Change
Current assets	32,468	30,946	+4.9%
(of which, cash and deposits)	21,723	22,344	-2.8%
(of which, trade accounts receivable) (Note1)	10,024	7,977	+25.7%
Non-current assets	359	332	+8.0%
(of which, Investment securities)	33	39	-13.8%
Total assets	32,828	31,278	+5.0%
Current liabilities	19,535	17,720	+10.2%
(of which, trade accounts payable) (Note2)	10,855	11,771	-7.8%
(of which, operating deposits) (Note3)	8,122	5,468	+48.5%
Non-current liabilities	58	57	+3.3%
Total liabilities	19,594	17,777	+10.2%
Capital Stock	8,662	8,614	+0.6%
Capital surplus	4,927	7,424	-33.6%
Retained earnings	-372	-2,545	-
Valuation difference on investment securities	16	6	+148.3%
Total net assets	13,234	13,501	-2.0%

<sup>(</sup>Note1) Trade accounts receivable: The unpaid portion of the settlement amount to be paid to our company by the settlement service company

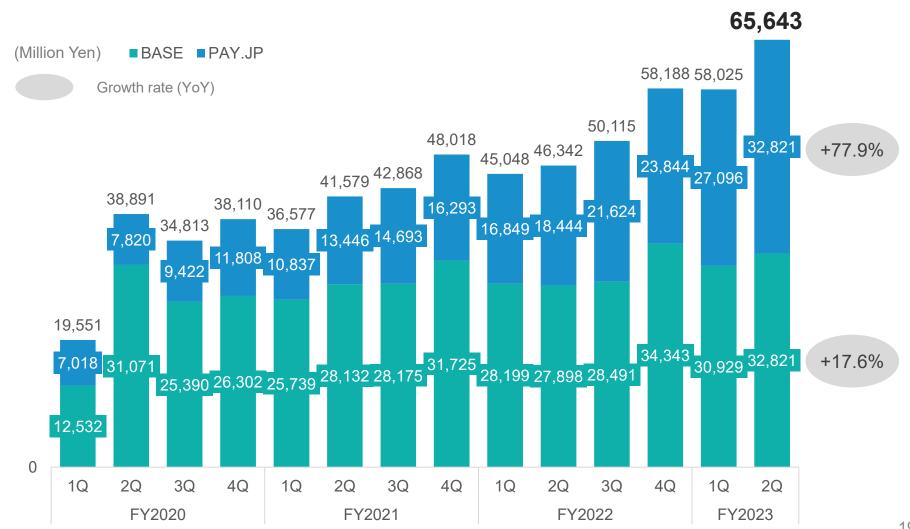
<sup>(</sup>Note2) Trade accounts payable: In the BASE Business, outstanding amount of settlement to be paid by our company to merchants

<sup>(</sup>Note3) Operating deposits: Outstanding amount of settlement to be paid by our company to member merchants in the PAY.JP Business

# Trends in GMV (Gross Merchandise Volume)



Group GMV increased significantly YoY due to both the BASE and PAY.JP Businesses' growth



### **Trends in Net Sales**



YoY growth for consolidated net sales turned positive due to the increase in Group GMV



# Trends in Net Sales Ratio by Business



Net sales ratio for the BASE Business decreased QoQ due to the PAY.JP Business's net sales growth

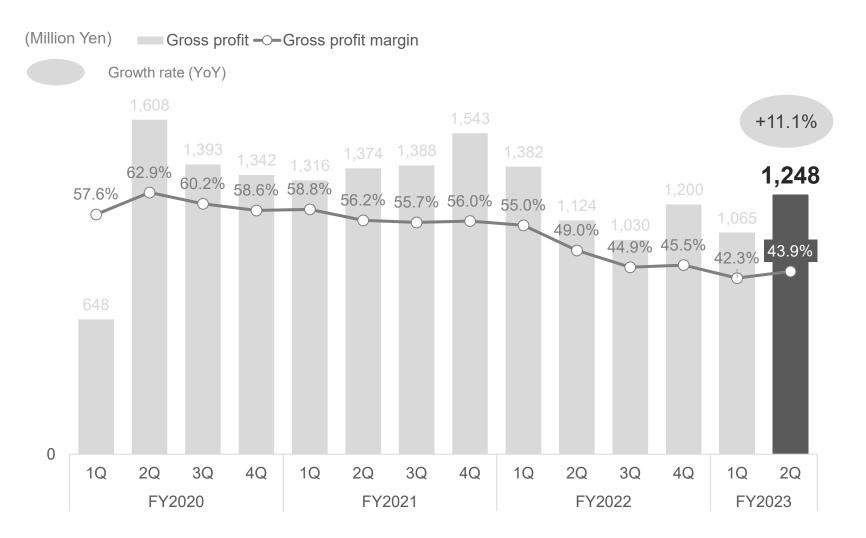


### **Trends in Gross Profit**



### YoY growth for consolidated gross profit turned positive due to the increase in Group GMV

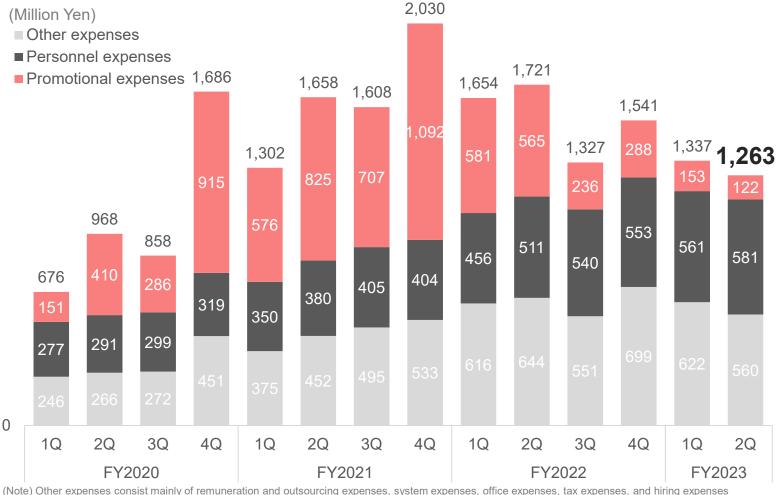
Consolidated gross profit margin increased QoQ due to the BASE Business's improved gross profit margin



# Trends in SG&A Expenses



- SG&A expenses decreased QoQ due to a decline in promotional expenses and other expenses
- Promotional expenses decreased QoQ due to the continued optimization of marketing
- QoQ increase in personnel expenses was incremental due to disciplined hiring

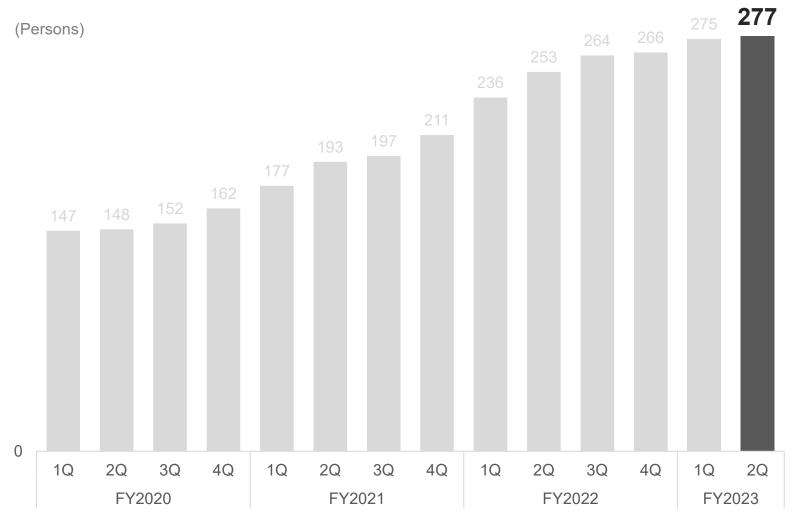


# **Trends in Number of Employees**



### Headcount increased by 24 persons YoY (+9.5% YoY)

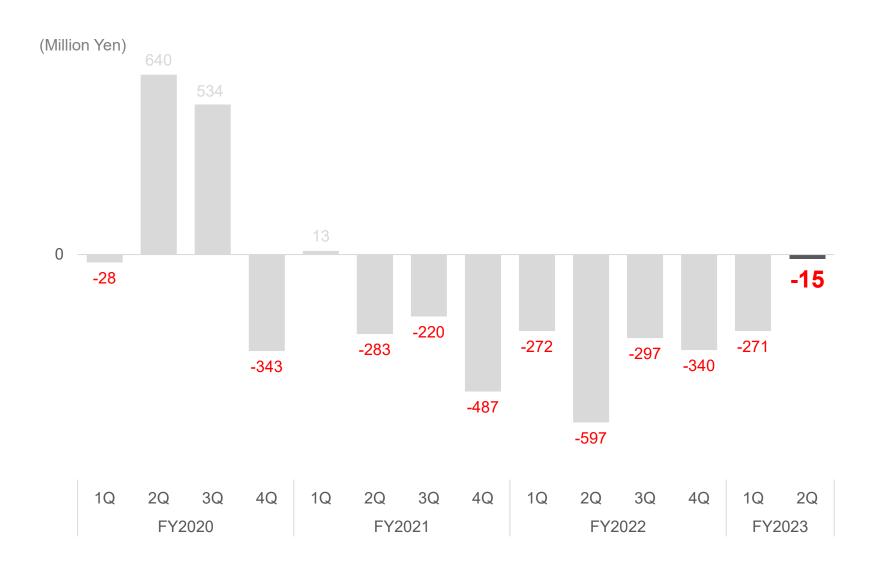
Continuing disciplined hiring policy



# **Trends in Operating Profit/Loss**



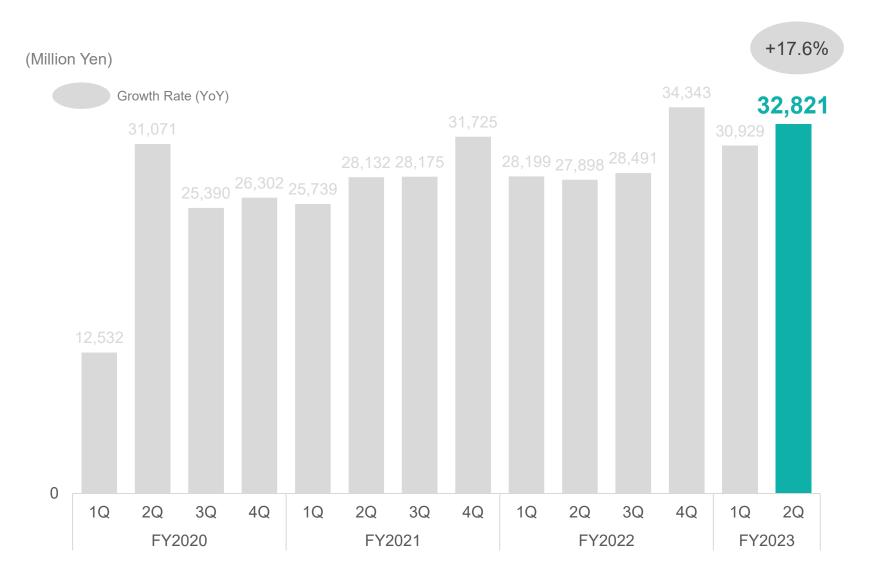
Due to the increase in consolidated gross profit and suppressed SG&A expenses, **operating loss** contracted significantly YoY and QoQ







GMV increased +17.6% YoY largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan and the recovery of the business environment

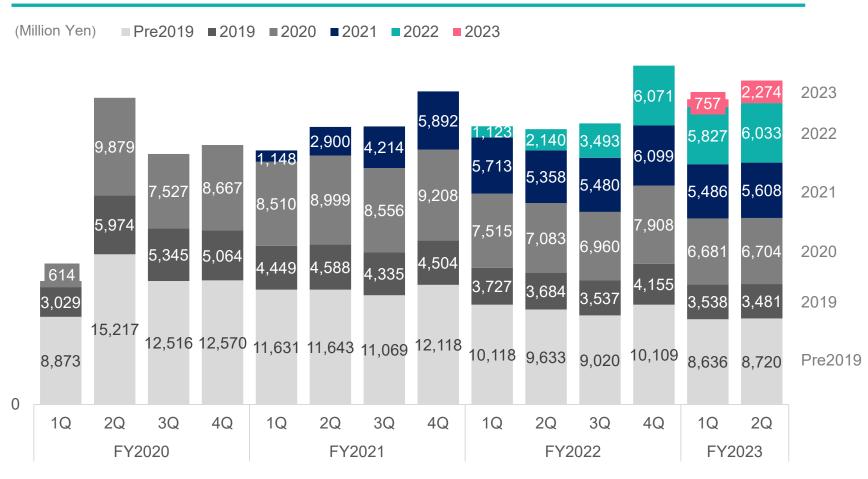






Largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan, the number of existing shops that continue to use the service increased, leading to an accumulation of GMV. Additionally, the acquisition of new merchants with larger sales than before also increased

#### **GMV Trend (By Year of Establishment)**

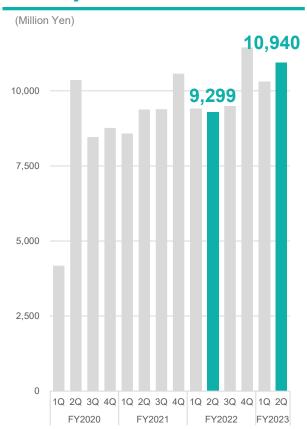




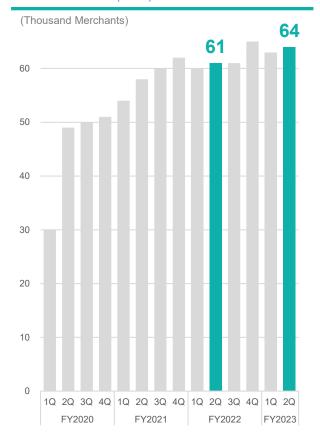
Despite a reduction in promotional expenses, the Number of Monthly Active Merchants increased YoY due to an accumulation of new active merchants

Average Monthly GMV Per Merchant increased largely due to the effects of the Monthly-Fee Plan and the recovery of the business environment

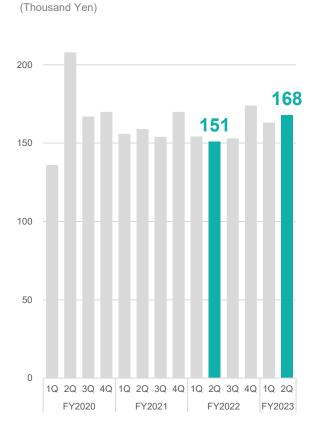
#### Monthly GMV (Note1,2)



# Number of Monthly Active Merchants (Note2)



# Average Monthly GMV Per Merchant



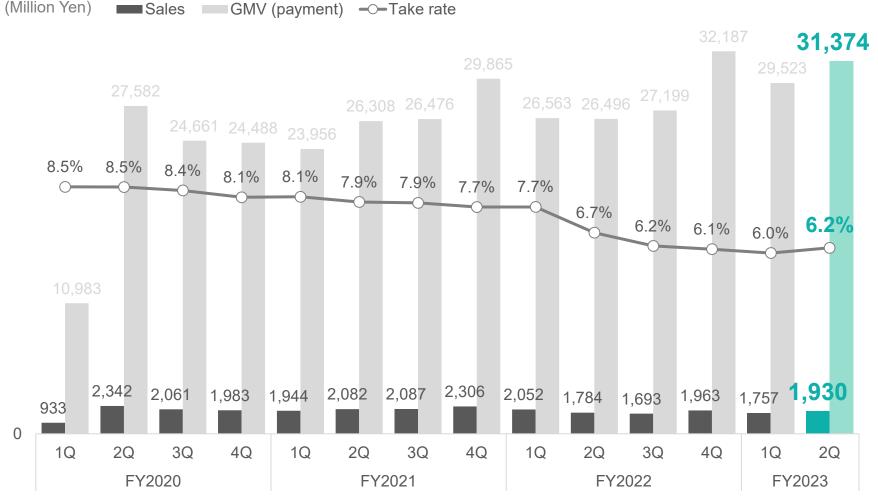


# Trends in GMV (Payment Amount), Take Rate and Net Sales 🛕 BASE



Take rate increased YoY due to one-time factors (Note1)

Excluding one-time factors, take rate decreased slightly (Note2) due to an increase in the GMV mix of the Monthly-Fee Plan

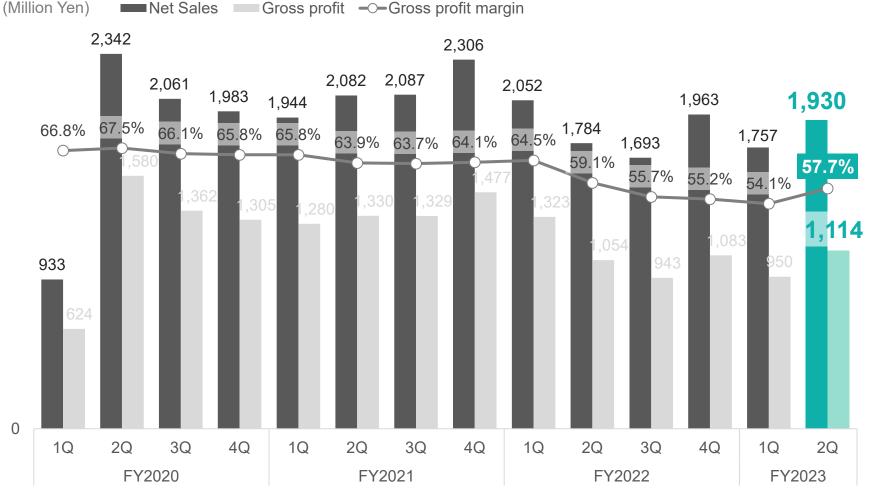


### **Trends in Net Sales and Gross Profit**



YoY growth of net sales turned positive due to the increase in GMV

Even when excluding one-time factors (Note1), **gross profit margin increased QoQ** (Note2) due to pricing optimization as well as the improvement of cost of sales ratio (as a percentage of GMV) (Note3)

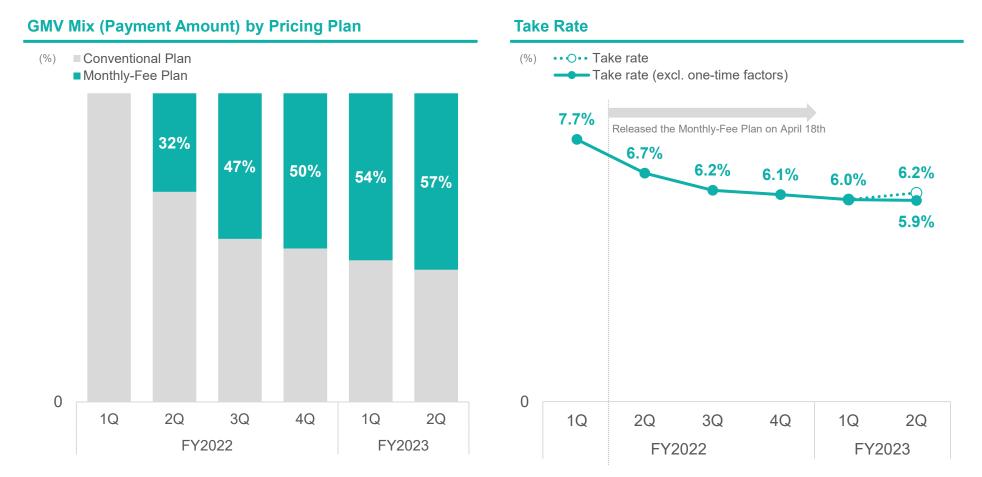


#### **Trends in Take Rate**



Take rate (excluding one-time factors (Note1)) decreased slightly due to an increase in the GMV mix of the Monthly-Fee Plan

Commission rates for select forms of payment were raised as a result of the pricing optimization for "BASE Easy Payment" (Note2)



#### **Business Highlights for FY2023 Q2**

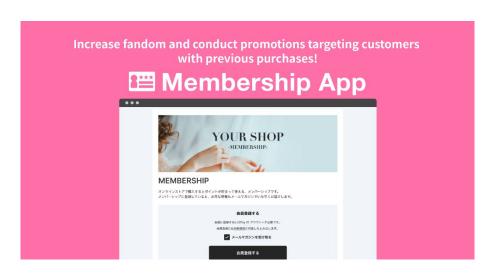


In addition to strengthening sales promotion support and CRM functions that were often requested by merchants with large sales, also strengthened design functions that are expected to be used by merchants mainly in the fashion category (Note)

# **Strengthened Sales Promotion Support** and CRM Functions

Launched the "Membership App" that allows merchants to create their own memberships

Planning to further strengthen sales promotion support and CRM by launching additional functions such as a loyalty points feature



#### **Strengthened Design Functions**

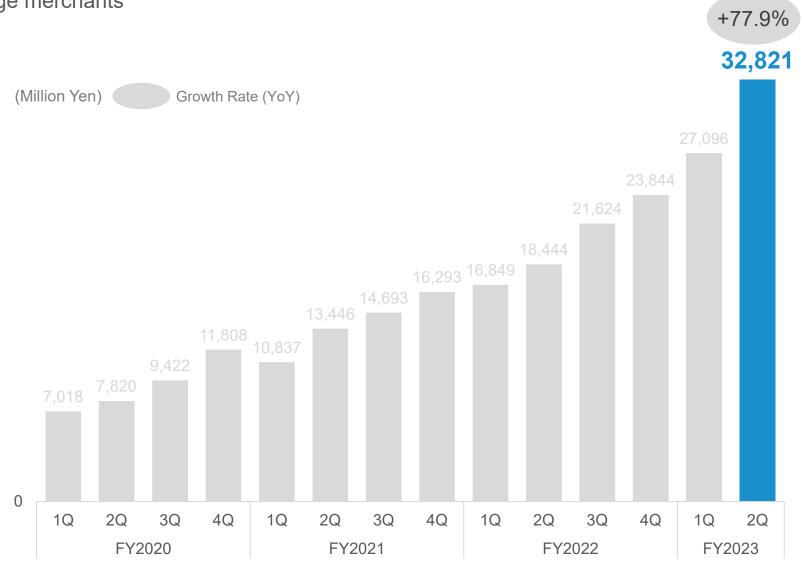
Launched the "LOOKBOOK" function, which allows merchants to create their own product catalogs in which they can introduce their products as a collection

In addition to promoting the free expression by brands, enhancing design features to create opportunities for purchasers to visit online shops for non-purchasing purposes





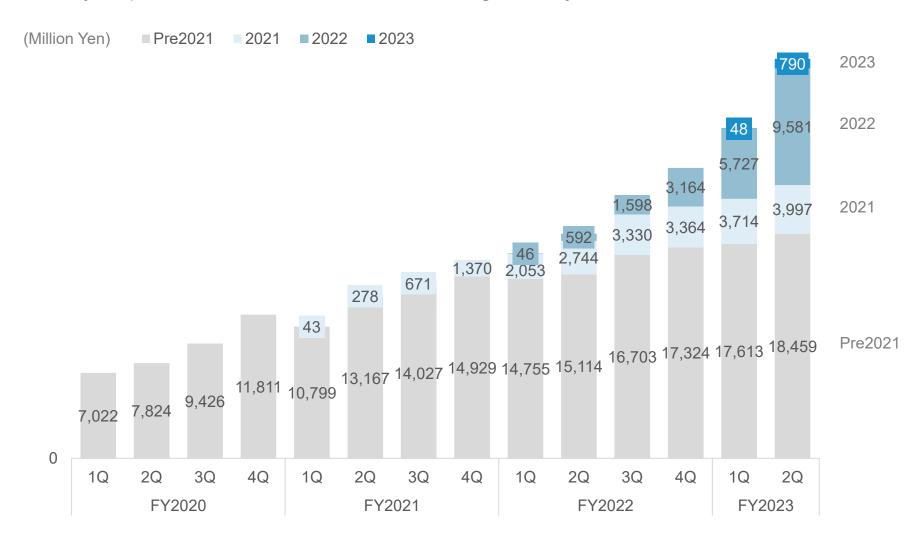
GMV continued to increase significantly at +77.9% YoY due to contribution from both existing and new large merchants







Existing merchants, especially those acquired in 2022, continued to drive GMV growth GMV of newly acquired merchants also accumulated significantly

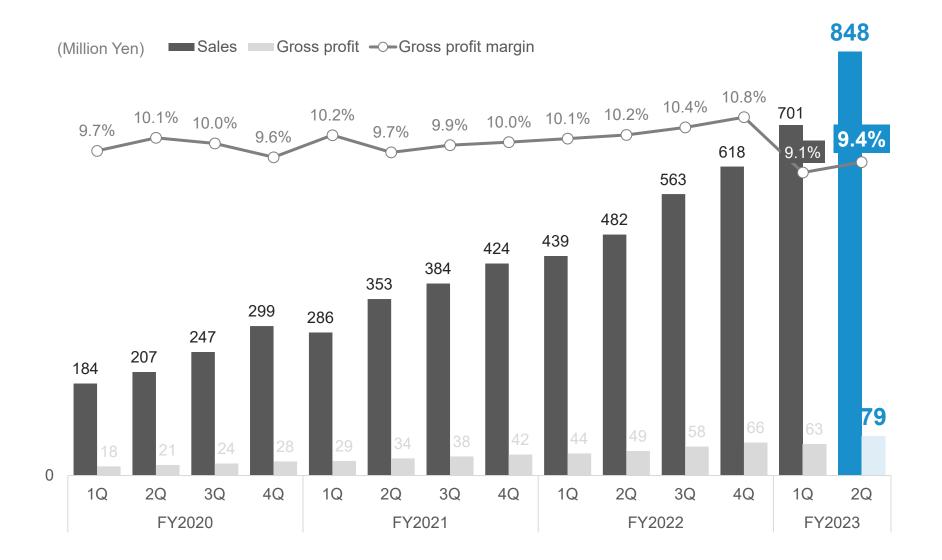


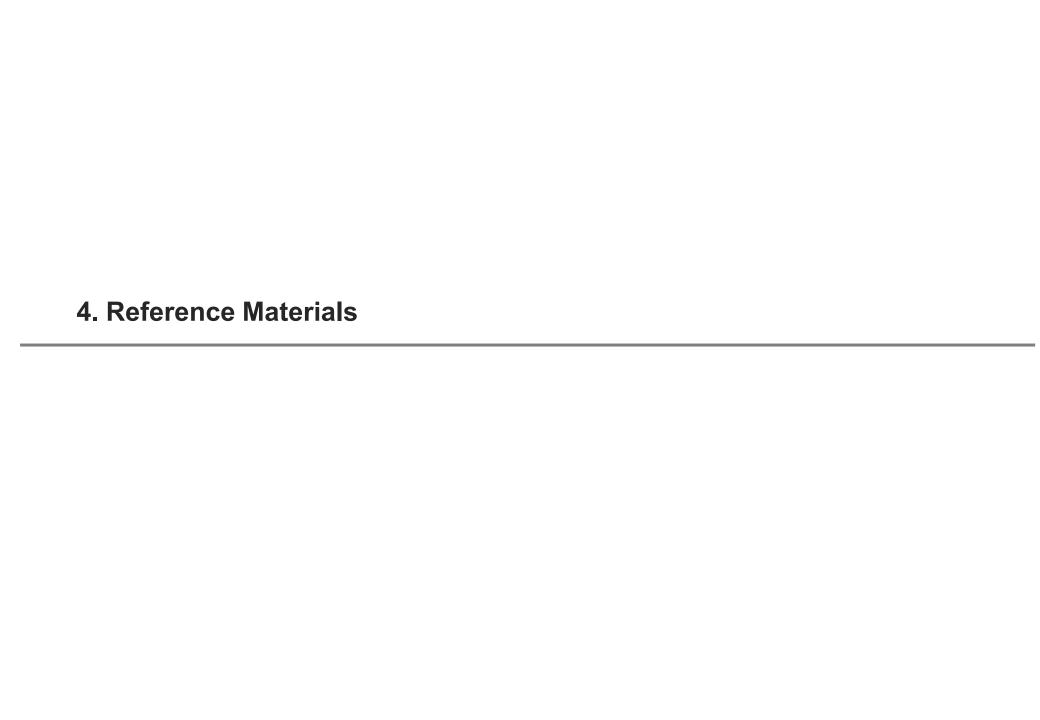


### Trends in Net Sales and Gross Profit



Net sales and gross profit increased significantly YoY at +75.9% and +61.9% respectively due to GMV growth Gross profit margin increased YoY due to improved cost of sales ratio (as a percentage of GMV)





# Medium to Long-Term Policy (Excerpt from FY2022 Q4 Materials)



#### Group Management Policy

- ✓ Due to the progress of business strategies, as well as greater-than-expective reactionary decline in online consumption resulting from reopening, reassessed management policy and have withdrawn the medium term GMV target disclosed during the full year results for FY2021, but maintain the target of achieving operating profitability in FY2025
- √ Aim to achieve Group gross profit growth and maximize value creation
- ✓ In line with the reassessed management policy, suppress SG&A expenses and **aim to transition towards a leaner financial structure**

**BASE** 

- ✓ Maintain the position of being the overwhelming first choice for individuals and small teams
- ✓ Strategically target merchants with high growth potential and work to **construct an updated growth structure** by developing functions that support merchants achieve sales growth
- ✓ Shift focus from sole GMV growth to gross profit growth achieved through the increase of both GMV and take rate

PAY.JP

- ✓ Expand Group merchant base with Group GMV as a growth driver
- ✓ By utilizing unique group assets such as "Pay ID" and "YELL BANK," increase added value for merchants

Pay ID

- ✓ Aims to provide a unique payment network across the Group through the expansion of BNPL functionality
- ✓ Increase added value for Group merchants by supporting the establishment of relationships between merchants and purchasers

Finance

Expand financial services that allow Group merchants to accelerate cash flow

# Policies for FY2023 (Excerpt from FY2022 Q4 Materials)



### Group Management Policy

- ✓ Formulate a medium-term management plan and aim to achieve Group gross profit growth and maximize value creation in the medium to long term
- ✓ In line with a reassessed management policy, **aims to transition towards a leaner financial structure** through suppression of SG&A expenses
- ✓ With the aim of realizing a society in which all people can play an active role, increase accessibility to payment/finance through the growth of each product and focus on initiatives such as D&I promotion

#### **BASE**

- ✓ The business environment is still recovering, and uncertainties persist
- ✓ With consideration to this changing business environment, shift focus from sole GMV growth to gross profit growth
  achieved through the increase of both GMV and take rate
- ✓ Reassess aggressive investment policy that was in line with rapid service growth, and aim to suppress SG&A expenses

#### PAY.JP

- ✓ Continue to achieve strong GMV growth
- ✓ Promote growth of existing merchants and acquisition of new merchants by strengthening product development and customer support as well as improving marketing strategy

#### Pay ID

- ✓ Release BNPL functionality around March 2023 with the aim of providing a unique payment network across the Group
- ✓ Strengthen purchaser membership base and increase added value towards both "BASE" merchants and purchasers

#### Finance

✓ Increase added value towards "BASE" merchants through growth of existing product

# **Sustainability Policy and Initiatives**



Continuing efforts to address environmental issues including climate change

## Policy for FY2023

#### **D&I Promotion**

- ✓ Formulation of Basic Policy for D&I Promotion (Dec. 2022)
- ✓ Creation of workplace that is comfortable for foreign nationals, LGBTQ+
  and persons with disabilities
- ✓ Enhancing web accessibility
- ✓ Realization of diverse lifestyles through cooperation with local governments

#### Initiatives Addressing Environmental Issues including Climate Change

- ✓ TCFD endorsement (March 2023)
- ✓ In addition to waste reduction at the office, initiatives to reduce waste at merchant shops and other business partners
- ✓ Review of banned products for "BASE" with the purpose of biodiversity conservation

## FY2023 Q2 Initiatives Addressing Environmental Issues

As an initiative for environmental preservation, began donations to the Japan International Forestry Promotion and Cooperation Center, proportionate to the number of payments made using "Post Pay (Pay ID)"

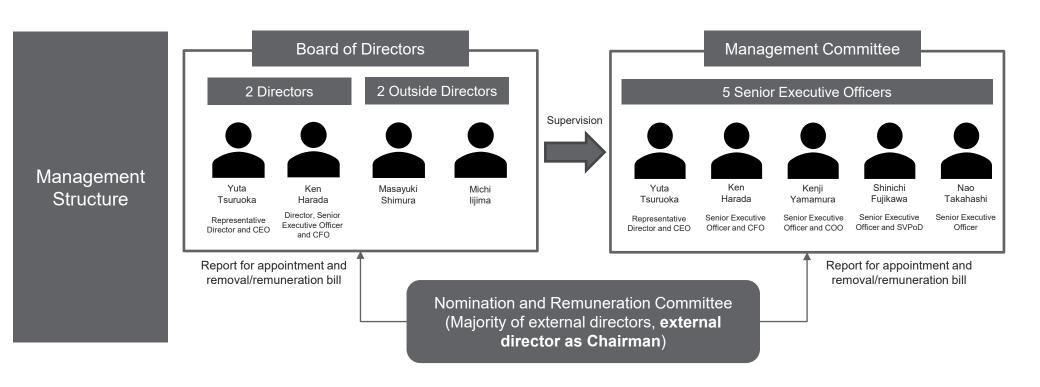


# Governance Structure (Excerpt from FY2023 Q1 Materials)



## Increased the number of senior executive officers and strengthened management structure

Further enhancing corporate governance by conducting assessment on the effectiveness of the board of directors (Note), and making improvements based on the results



# **Management Structure for FY2023**



Aiming to achieve further growth of the entire Group through management structure with diversified skillset (Note)

	Directors /Senior Executive Officers		Outside	Directors	Senior Executive Officers		
	Yuta Tsuruoka	Ken Harada	Masayuki Shimura	Misa Matsuzaki	Kenji Yamamura	Shinichi Fujikawa	Nao Takahashi
Corporate management	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Finance and Accounting		•					
Legal, compliance, and risk management		•	•				
ESG and sustainability	•	•	•	•			
Human resources and organizational development			•	•	•	•	•
Marketing and brand management	•				•		•
IT	•	•				•	
Information security						•	
Industry knowledge	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
International experience			•	•			•

# SG&A Expenses Forecast (Excerpt from FY2022 Q4 Materials)



Reassessed aggressive investment policy that was in line with rapid service growth, aiming to suppress SG&A expenses

#### Aims to transition towards a leaner financial structure

## **Cost Control Policy**

#### Promotional Expenses

✓ Forecasted to decrease YoY due to decline in brand recognition-related marketing for the masses and transition towards a more targeted marketing policy

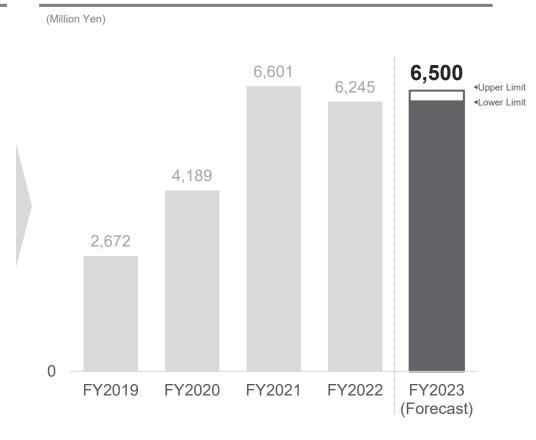
#### Personnel Expenses

- ✓ Forecasted to increase YoY due to the annualization of expenses associated with personnel hired in FY2022
- ✓ Although organization had been aggressively expanding in line with rapid service growth, more disciplined hiring to reduce the pace of headcount growth

# Other Expenses

✓ Outsourcing expenses forecasted to increase YoY in order to achieve product development required to execute growth strategy

## **SG&A Expenses Forecast**



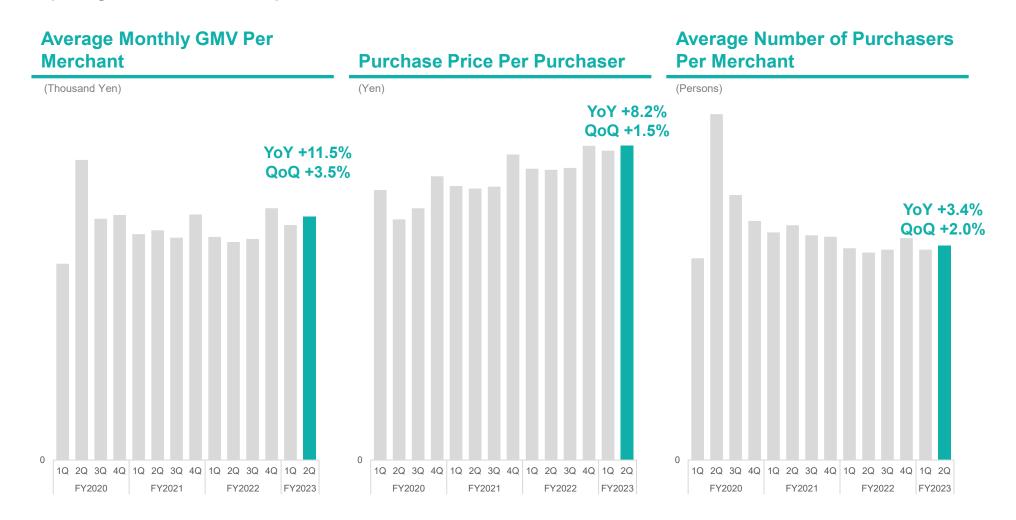


# **Trends in Average Monthly GMV Per Merchant**



Purchase Price Per Purchaser continued to increase YoY

**Growth of Average Number of Purchasers Per Merchant**, which had been on a downward trend due to reopening headwinds, **turned positive** 



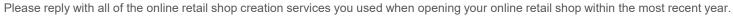


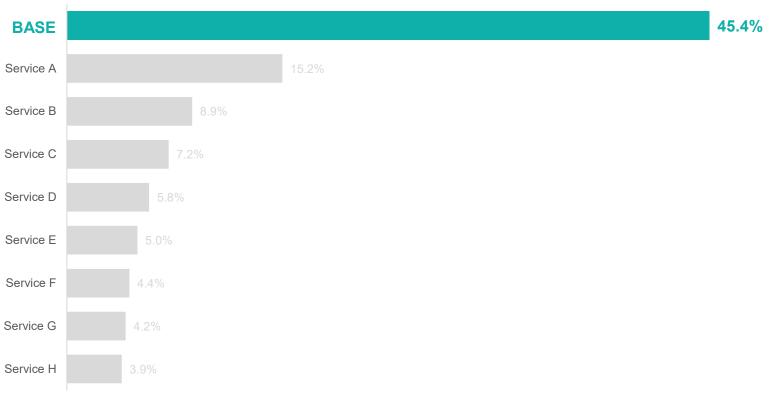
## Overwhelming First Choice for Individuals and Small Teams



Placing focus on empowering individuals and small teams since its inception, BASE has realized a solid position in the longtail market

## Survey on use of storefront online shop creation services





<sup>\*</sup> Research from Macromill, Inc. (actual results from March 2023)

# **Profit and Loss Statement (By Segment)**



(Million Yen)		FY2021			FY2022				FY2023		
		1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	1Q	2Q
Net Sales	BASE	1,944	2,082	2,087	2,306	2,052	1,784	1,693	1,963	1,757	1,930
	PAY.JP	286	353	384	424	439	482	563	618	701	848
	Other	7	10	20	23	20	28	35	57	59	63
	BASE	1,280	1,330	1,329	1,477	1,323	1,054	943	1,083	950	1,114
Gross Profit	PAY.JP	29	34	38	42	44	49	58	66	63	79
	Other	7	10	20	23	14	20	27	50	51	54
	BASE	102	-207	-167	-431	-178	-481	-234	-256	-175	66
Segment	PAY.JP	-18	-17	-6	3	-4	-3	-4	-33	-9	3
Profit	Other	-15	-18	-12	-5	-13	-15	-8	6	-14	-23
	Corporate Expenses	-54	-41	-33	-52	-76	-96	-49	-57	-72	-61
Operating Profit	Entire Company	13	-283	-220	-487	-272	-597	-297	-340	-271	-15

# **KPI Trends in the BASE Business**



Year	Month	Quarterly GMV (Million Yen) (Note1)	Monthly GMV (Million Yen)	Monthly Active Merchants (# of Merchants)	Average Monthly GMV Per Merchant (Yen)	Quarterly GMV (Payment amount) (Million Yen) (Note2)
2020	March	12,532	4,177	30,658	136,262	10,983
	June	31,071	10,357	49,715	208,330	27,582
	September	25,390	8,463	50,553	167,417	24,661
	December	26,302	8,767	51,558	170,051	24,488
2021	March	25,739	8,579	54,742	156,734	23,956
	June	28,132	9,377	58,833	159,392	26,308
	September	28,175	9,391	60,856	154,329	26,476
	December	31,725	10,575	62,049	170,431	29,865
2022	March	28,199	9,399	60,672	154,927	26,563
	June	27,898	9,299	61,455	151,322	26,496
	September	28,491	9,497	61,883	153,468	27,199
	December	34,343	11,447	65,516	174,736	32,187
2023	March	30,929	10,309	63,226	163,064	29,523
	June	32,821	10,940	64,820	168,785	31,374

<sup>(</sup>Note 1) BASE's GMV is based on the order date (order amount)

# **KPI Trends in the PAY.JP Business**



2021 March 1  June 1  September 1  December 1  2022 March 1  June 1	7,018 7,820
September           December         2021           March         1           June         1           September         1           December         1           2022         March         1           June         1	7,820
December         2021         March         1           June         1           September         1           December         1           2022         March         1           June         1	
2021       March       1         June       1         September       1         December       1         2022       March       1         June       1	9,422
June 1 September 1 December 1 2022 March 1 June 1	11,808
September 1  December 1  2022 March 1  June 1	0,837
December 1  2022 March 1  June 1	3,446
2022 March 1	14,693
June 1	6,293
	6,849
0 1 1	8,444
September 2	21,624
December 2	23,844
2023 March 2	27,096
June 3	

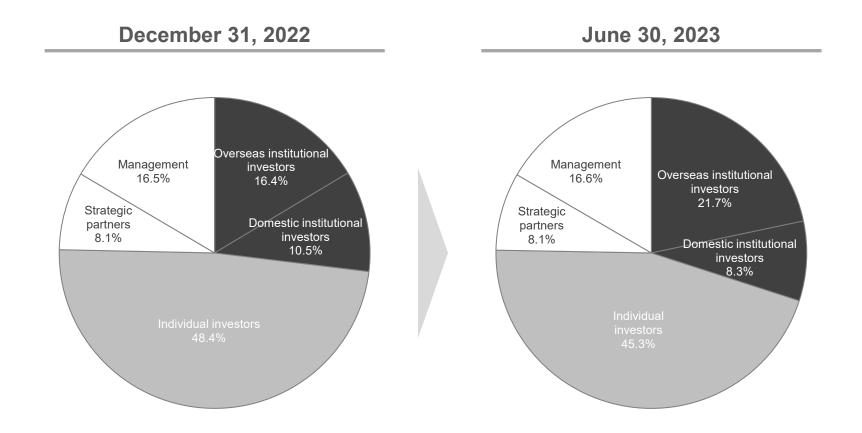
(Note) GMV is based on the payment date (payment amount)



## **Shareholder Structure**



Ratio of institutional investors increased due a rise in the number of overseas institutional investors Continuing IR activities targeting a wide variety of investors



# **Ratio of Dilutive Shares**



(Shares)		FY2023
Stock Options	Beginning balance	3,368,000
	Granted	0
Exercised		-346,000
	Renounced	0
	Ending balance	3,022,000
Number of is (including tre	sued shares easury shares)	114,301,823
Ratio of diluti	ive shares sued shares)	2.6%

# **Handling of these Materials**



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