

The Three-Month Period Ended June 30, 2023

Earnings Briefing

July 31, 2023 Securities code: 2148 Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market





This document has been translated from the Japanese original for reference purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this translation and the Japanese original, the original shall prevail.

- Forward-looking statements, such as earnings outlooks, are based on information available when the material was created and include uncertainties. Actual earnings may substantially differ from the forecasts due to changes in various factors and business conditions.
- > Items that could impact the Company's earnings are listed in the "Business Risk" section of the Securities Report (*Yukashokenhokokusho*) for the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2023. It should be noted that factors that could impact earnings are not limited to those listed in the Business Risk section. Risks and uncertainties include the possibility of future events that may have a serious and unpredictable impact on the Company.
- > The information included in this material has been carefully prepared, but readers should be aware that we do not guarantee the accuracy or certainty of that information.
- > This material is not intended to solicit investments. We shall advise you to make your final investment decision at your own risk.
- > The unauthorized use of this material and data is strictly prohibited.
- > The Company voluntarily applied International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) starting with the 1Q FY16.
- For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020, Knowledge on Demand Inc. was classified as a discontinued operation because of the transfer of shares. Income and losses arising from discontinued operations are given separately from continuing operations in the Condensed Interim Statement of Income. Revenue and operating income are the monetary amount of continuing operations. We have applied this classification to the Condensed Interim Statement of Income for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2019.

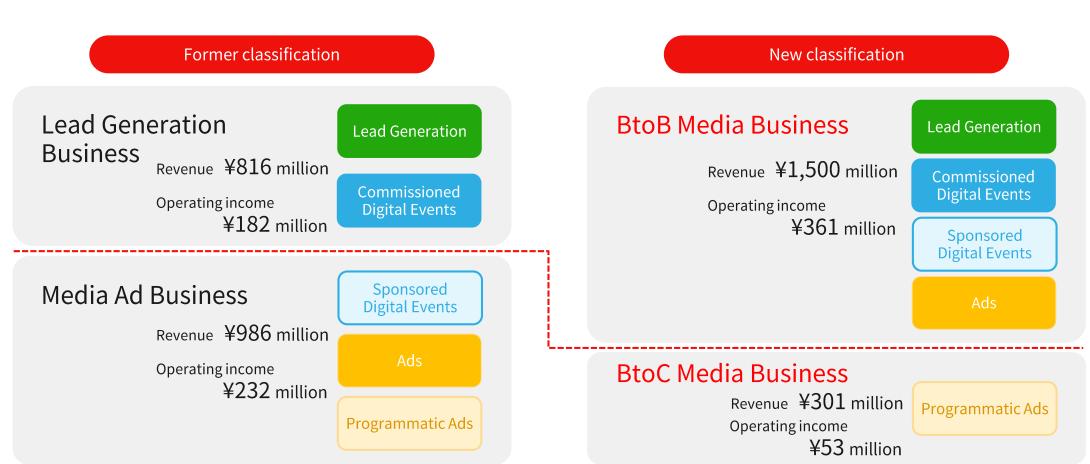


### Reclassification of Reportable Segments Effective from FY2023

Lead Generation Business Media Ad Business



BtoB Media Business BtoC Media Business





#### **BtoB Media Business BtoC Media Business** Revenue model Programmatic Ad revenue Lead Generation revenue Digital Event revenue Ad revenue Commissioned **Sponsored** Provide sales leads Sales of ad slots Revenue format Ad networks Supporting **Sponsor** Provide intent data etc. Tie-up plans events revenue Strong content media Revenue sources **KPIs** Number of members PVs Value **Customer acquisition** Raise awareness provided One of Japan's largest sales networks, focusing on specialized targets Sales resources not required Sales format Sales by partners with • Integrated proposal of wide-ranging solutions as a digital marketing consultant Principal customer segments: BtoB (IT/business, industrial technology fields) superior ad technology



#### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview

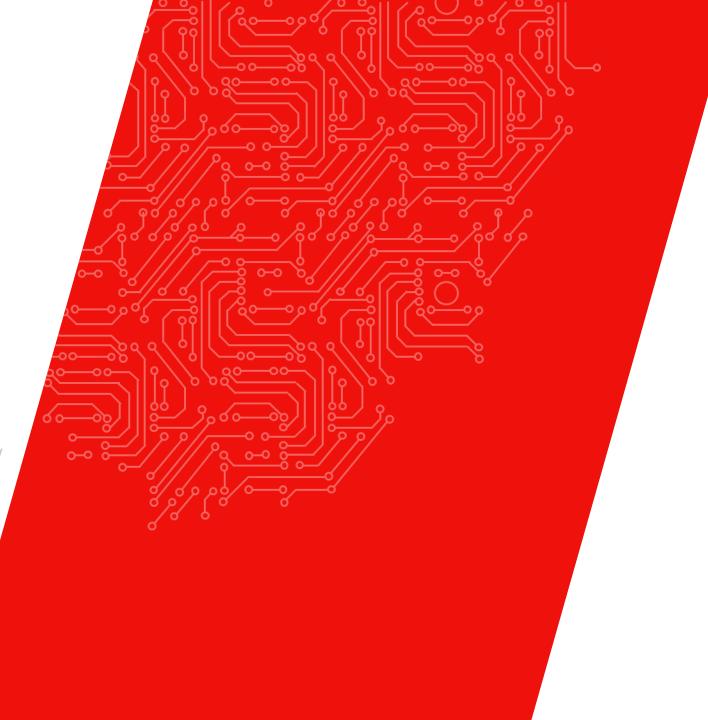
BtoB Media Business

BtoC Media Business

FY23 Earnings Forecast

Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy

Shareholder Return & Sustainability





Decreased revenue and profit in Q1. Uncertain external environment worse than expected Impact is expected to last throughout the current period

#### Earnings

#### External Environment & Overview

# Q1 actual

#### Decreased revenue and profit

Revenue ¥1,802 million (-9%)

• Lead Generation revenue +0%

• Digital Event revenue -17%

• Ad revenue -11%

• Programmatic Ad revenue -14%

Operating income ¥414 million (-34%)

# Impact of market conditions surrounding the Company increased in the short term

U.S. technology market declined

Ad placements by foreign companies slowed down

There was a return to in-person activity due to the expected end of the pandemic

 Demand for digital events, especially from Japanese companies, slowed down

Programmatic Ad market declined more than expected

Traffic decay occurred on some search engine algorithms

# Earnings forecast

Slowdown is expected to peak in the first quarter Impact is expected to last throughout the current period

Revenue ¥8,320 million (-5%)

Operating income ¥2,400 million (-18%)

We will repurchase common shares

#### Market conditions are expected to remain bearish

U.S. technology market expected to decline

Expected to improve in the second half onward

There will be a return to in-person activity due to the expected end of the pandemic

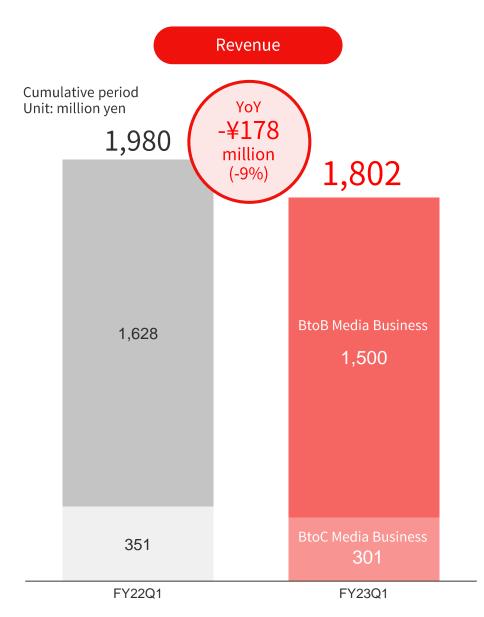
• This return is expected to peak in the first half

Programmatic Ad market

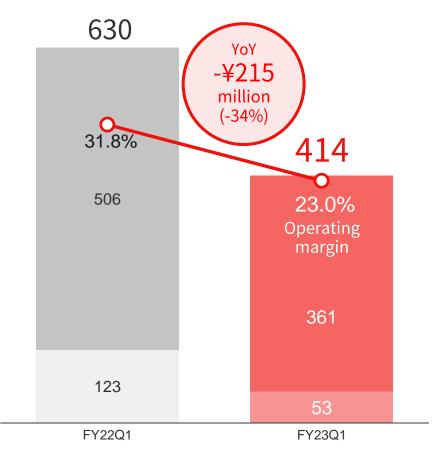
Moderate improvement is expected

#### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview | Earnings





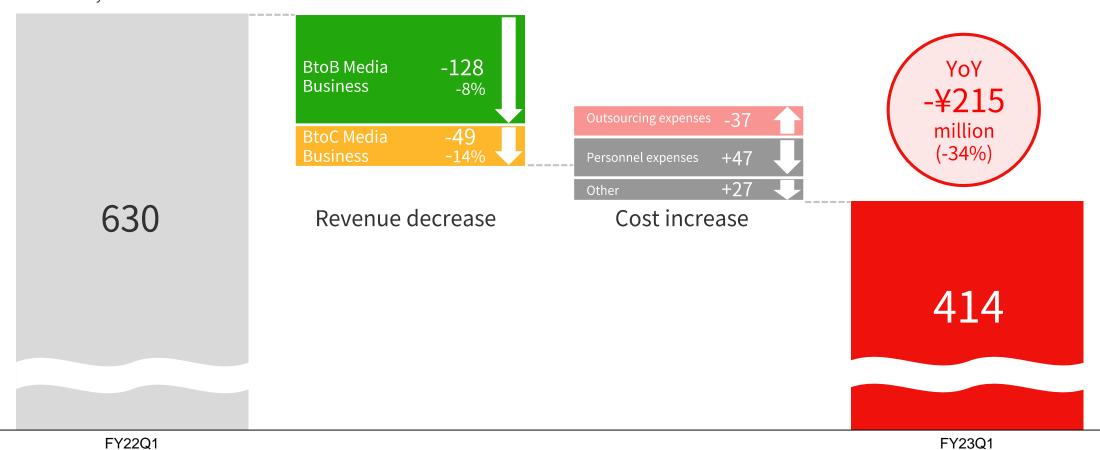
Operating income





Decreased revenue and profit.
Personnel expenses increased while we curbed outsourcing expenses.

Cumulative period Unit: million yen





	FY2	22Q1	FY2	3Q1		
Cumulative period Unit: million yen	Amount	As % of revenue	Amount	As % of revenue	Increase	% change
Revenue	1,980	100.0%	1,802	100.0%	(178)	(9.0)%
Total cost	1,349	68.2%	1,387	77.0%	+37	+2.8%
(of which are personnel expenses)	730	36.9%	777	43.1%	+47	+6.4%
EBITDA	693	35.0%	482	26.7%	(211)	(30.5)%
Operating income	630	31.8%	414	23.0%	(215)	(34.2)%
Income before income tax	629	31.8%	417	23.2%	(212)	(33.7)%
Net income	428	21.6%	280	15.6%	(147)	(34.5)%
Net income attributable to owners of parent	428	21.6%	280	15.6%	(147)	(34.5)%

<sup>\*</sup> EBITDA: Operating income + depreciation + amortization on intangible assets + impairment loss + stock-based compensation expenses - other one-time revenue + other one-time expenses

## FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview | Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows



Cumulative period Unit: million yen	FY22Q1	FY23Q1	Change
Cash flows from operating activities	77	148	+71
Cash flows from investing activities	(5)	(125)	(119)
Cash flows from financing activities	(273)	(301)	(27)
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(201)	(277)	(75)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	6,815	7,978	+1,162
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	6,613	7,701	+1,087

Main items of operating CF	
Net income (loss) before income tax	+417
Depreciation and amortization	+67
Decrease in trade and other receivables	+243
Decrease in trade and other payables	(93)
Income taxes paid	(472)

Main items of investing Cr	
Purchase of property, equipment, and intangible assets	(113)

Main items of financing CF	
Dividends paid	(268)
Payments of lease liabilities	(34)

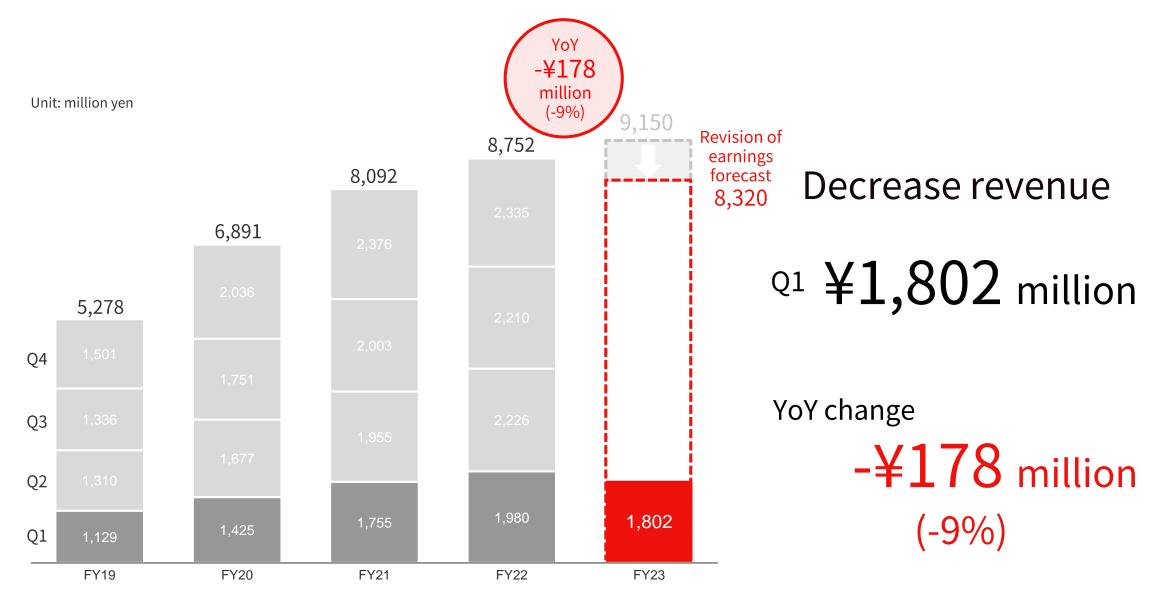
### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview | Consolidated Statement of Financial Position



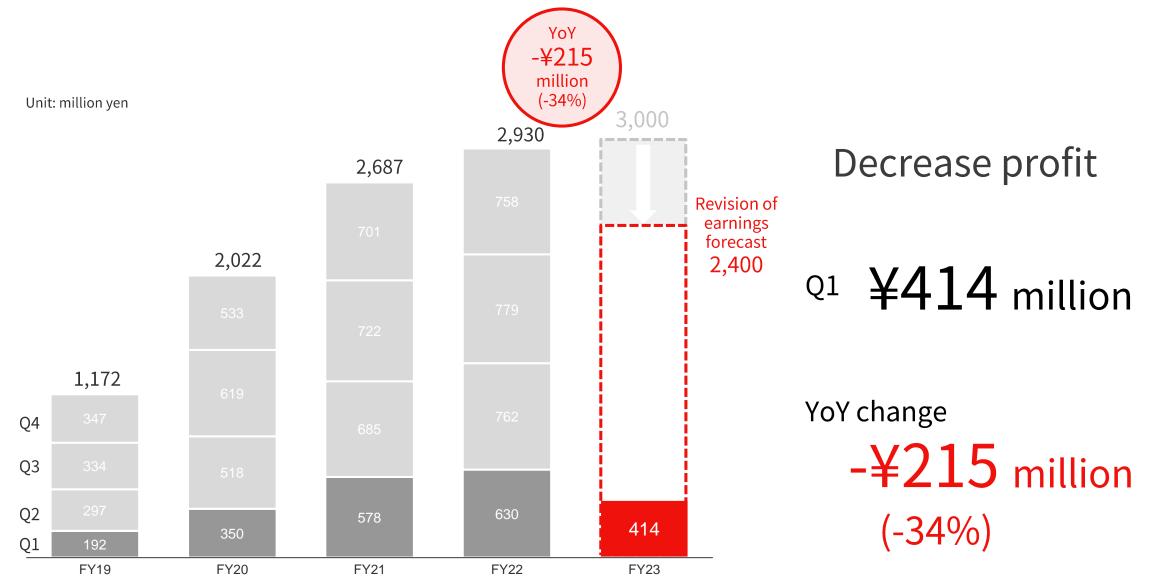
Unit: ı	million yen	At the end of March 2023	At the end of June 2023	Change
	Current assets	9,996	9,450	(546)
Assets	Non-current assets	1,161	1,395	+234
S	Total assets	11,158	10,845	(312)
	Current liabilities	1,668	1,254	(413)
Liabilities	Non-current liabilities	60	156	+95
ies	Total liabilities	1,729	1,411	(317)
	Share capital/capital surplus	3,969	3,971	+1
	Retained earnings	6,603	6,607	+3
_	Treasury stock	(1,144)	(1,144)	_
Equity	Accumulated other comprehensive income	-	0	+0
	Total equity attributable to owners of parent	9,429	9,434	+5
	Total equity	9,429	9,434	+5
	uity attributable to owners of rent per share	¥476.37	¥476.55	+¥0.18
Ratio of equity attributable to owners of parent to total assets		tio of equity attributable to		+2.5pt

Total assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	(277)
Trade and other receivables	(243)
Other current assets	(23)
Right-of-use assets	+224
Total liabilities	
Trade and other payables	(169)
Lease liabilities	+214
Income tax payable	(335)
Other current liabilities	(27)
Total equity	
Retained earnings	+3
Of which is net income	+280
Of which are dividends from retained earnings	(277)
5	









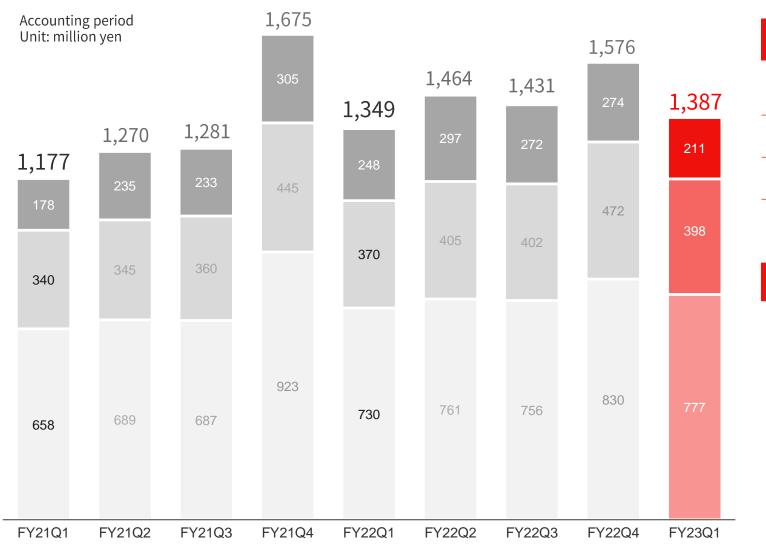


# Q1: Profit decline accelerated in comparison to revenue decline due to a large proportion of fixed costs



#### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview | Cost Breakdown by Quarter





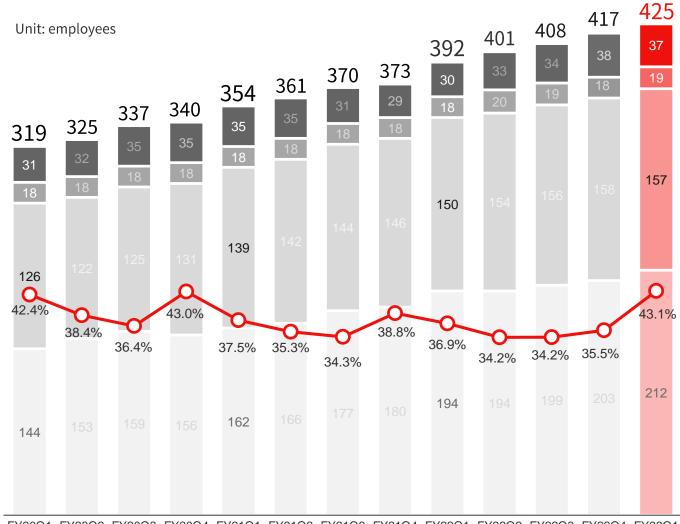
Q1	YoY change	As percent of total
Total	+2.8%	100%
Outsourcing expenses	-15.0%	15.2%
Other	+7.5%	28.8%
Personnel expenses	+6.4%	56.0%

#### Main factors behind year on year change

- Personnel expenses: +47
- Increase in the number of employees (hired in the previous fiscal year)
- Six new graduates joined the Company in the current fiscal year
- Outsourcing expenses: -37
- Curtailed, especially for digital events
- Other: +27
- Business environment, system

#### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview | Employee Breakdown by Quarter





EV2001	FY20Q2	EV2003	EV2004	EV2101	EV2102	EV2102	EV2104	EV2201	EV22O2	EV22O2	EV2204	EV2201
<b>FT/(//ノ</b> )	<b>ロエノいリノ</b>	L 1 / いいろう	<b>FT/()() 1 4</b>	$\Gamma$ $I$ $I$ $I$ $I$ $I$	T 1 / 1 ( ) /	L 1 / 1 (7.5)	F 1 / 1 ( ) 4	<b>アイ//</b> (ノ)	<b>ロイノノリノ</b>	<b>ロイノしい</b>	F 1 / / (J4	しょくりい し

+33	8.7%
+7	8.7%
+1	4.5%
+7	36.9%
+18	49.9%
art-time	employees
	art-time

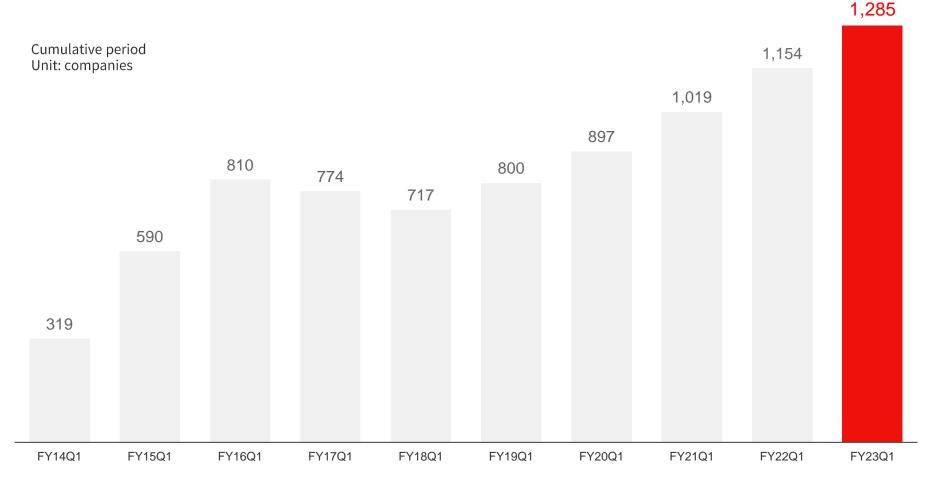
Revenue

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expenses to revenue



# Number of customers increased despite decrease in revenue. Hacchu Navi expanded.



Number of companies to which sales were recorded during the period



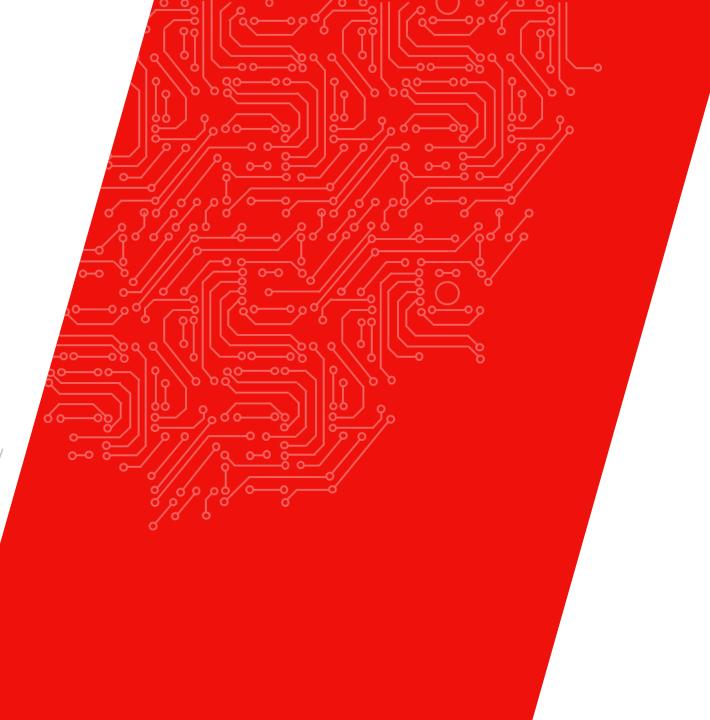
# FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview BtoB Media Business

BtoC Media Business

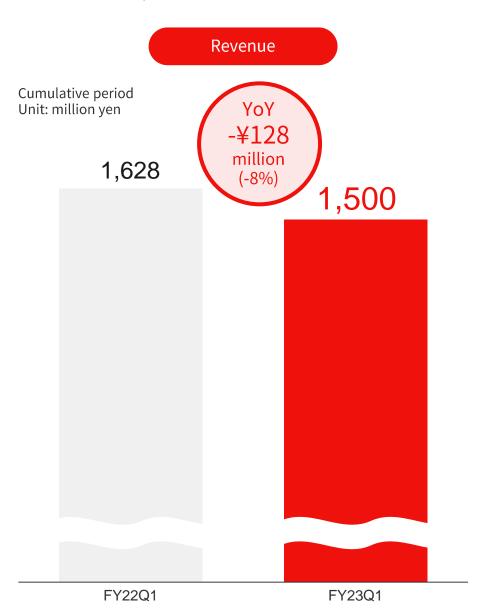
FY23 Earnings Forecast

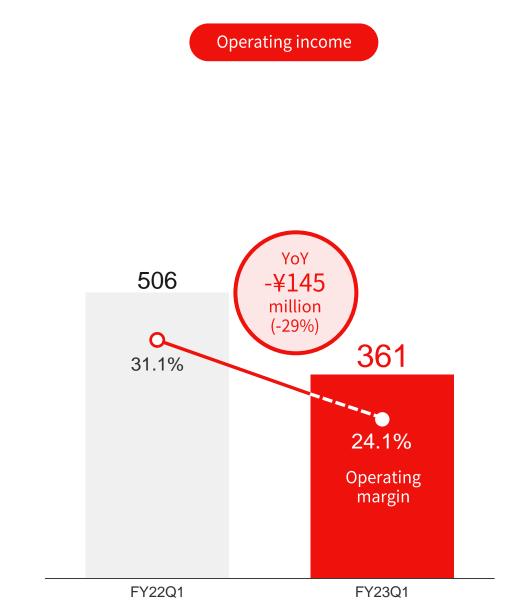
Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy

Shareholder Return & Sustainability

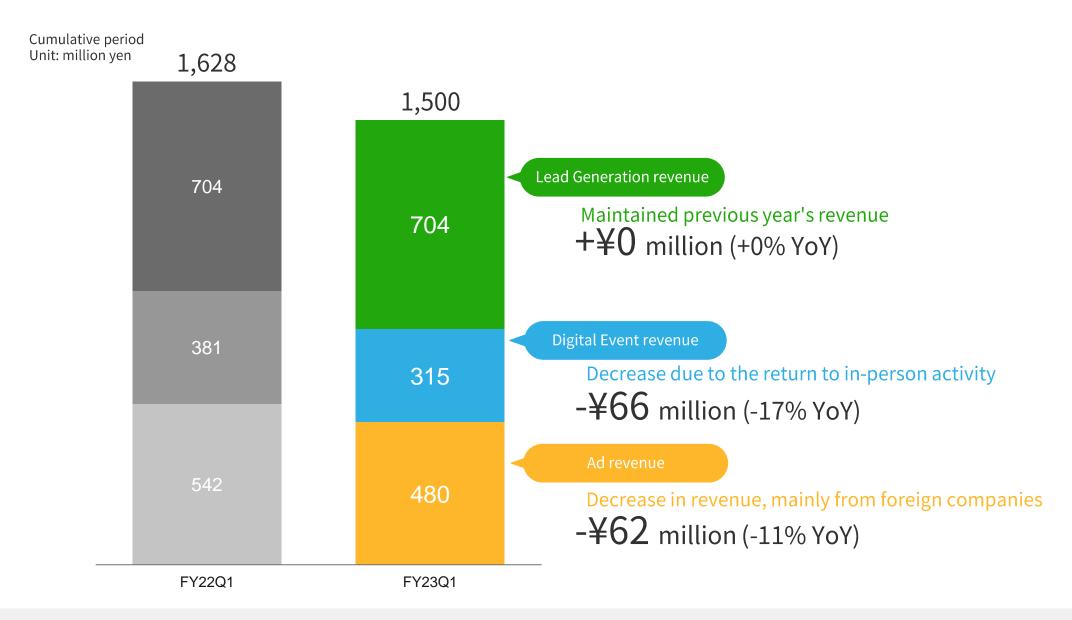






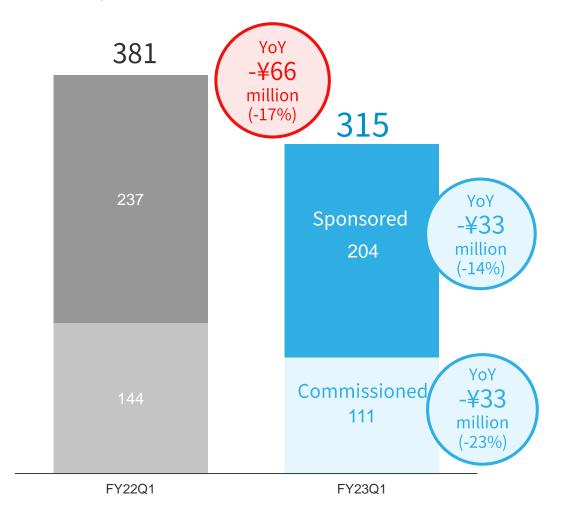








Cumulative period Unit: million yen



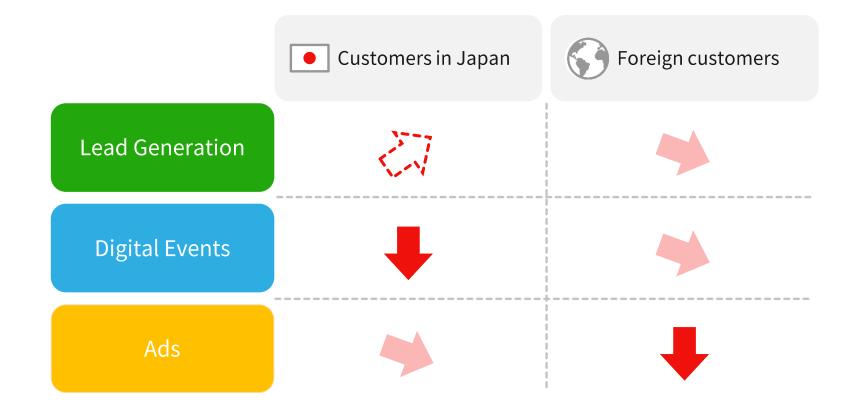
First half expected to be the peak of the return to in-person activity





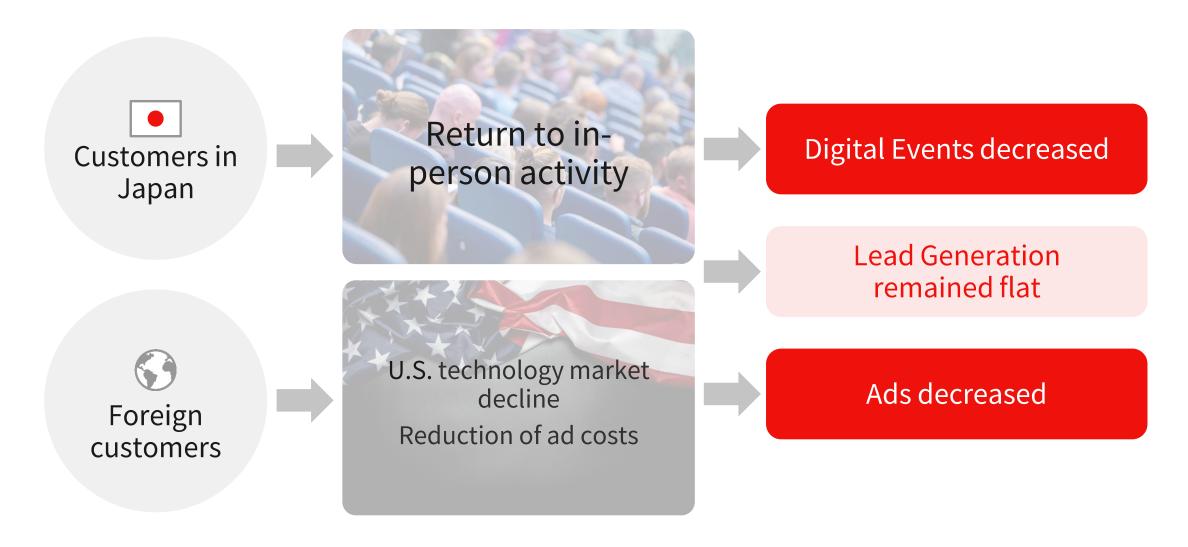
### Reasons for decrease

- Digital Event revenue from customers in Japan
- Ad revenue from foreign customers





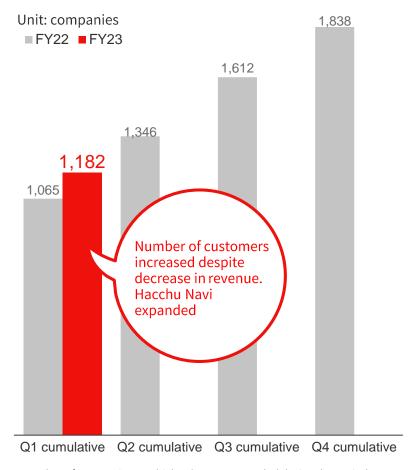
## Impact of market conditions surrounding the Company increased in the short term







#### Number of customers



 $Number\ of\ companies\ to\ which\ sales\ were\ recorded\ during\ the\ period$ 

<sup>\*1.</sup> Members eligible for Lead Generation service because of ITmedia ID, common member platform



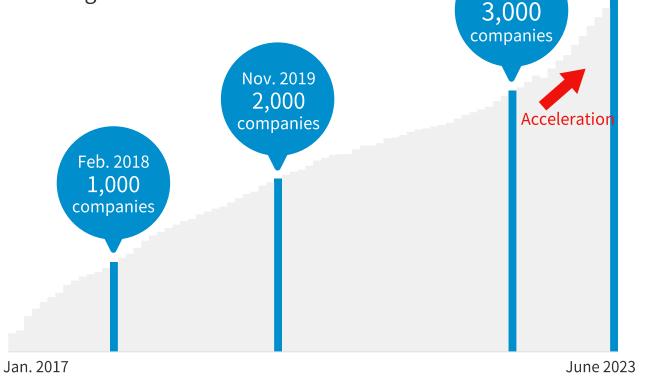


☑ BtoB Media Business subsidiary

☑ Specialized for system development companies

☑ Subscription-type Lead Generation services

☑ Expands the number of member companies through freemium model



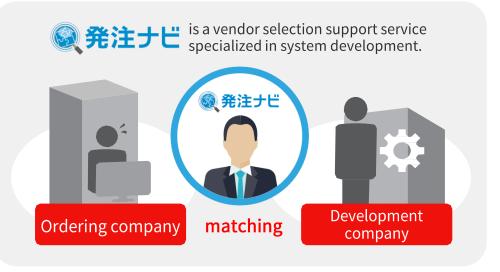


June 2023

4,000

companies

May 2022





#### FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview

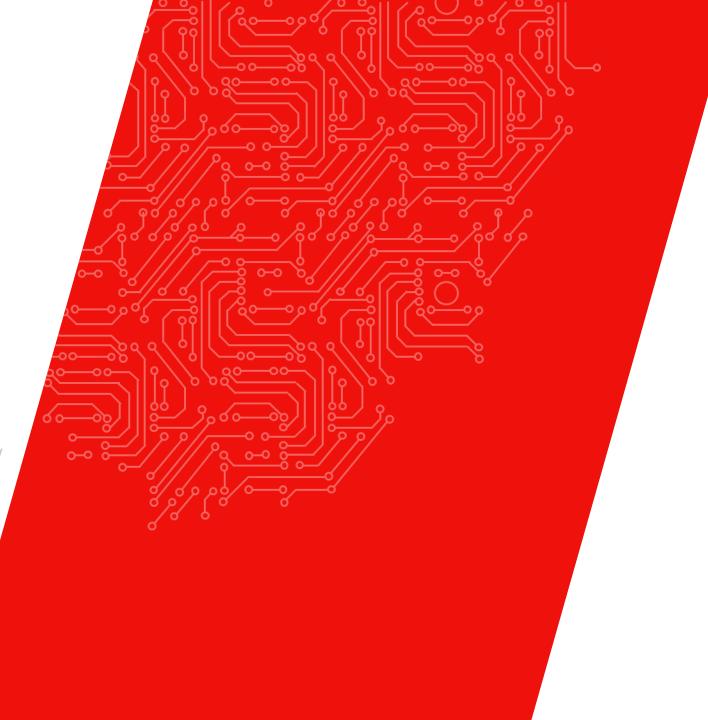
BtoB Media Business

**BtoC Media Business** 

FY23 Earnings Forecast

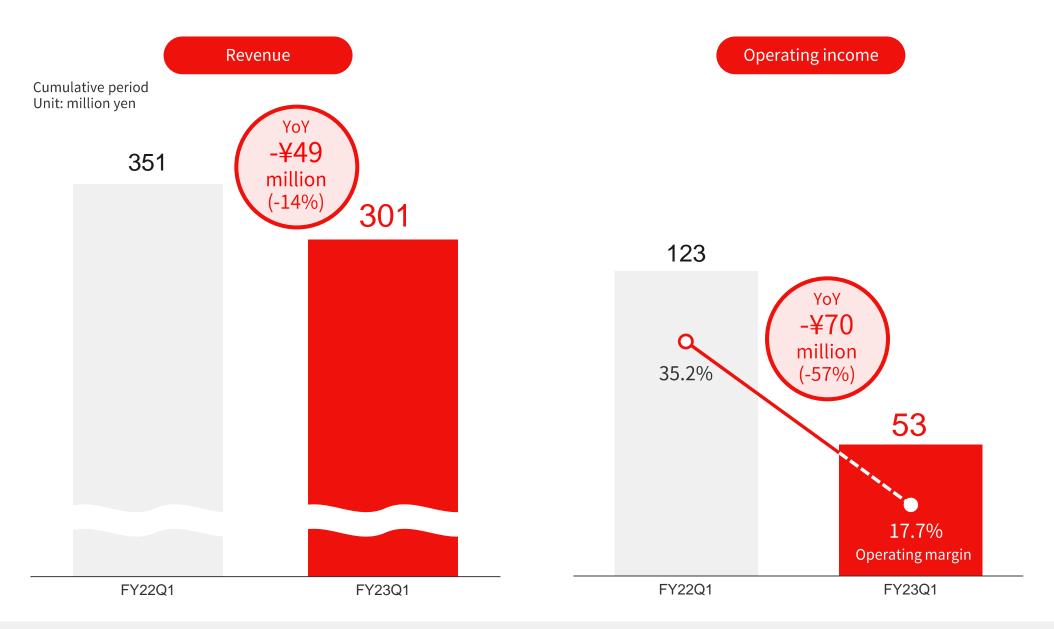
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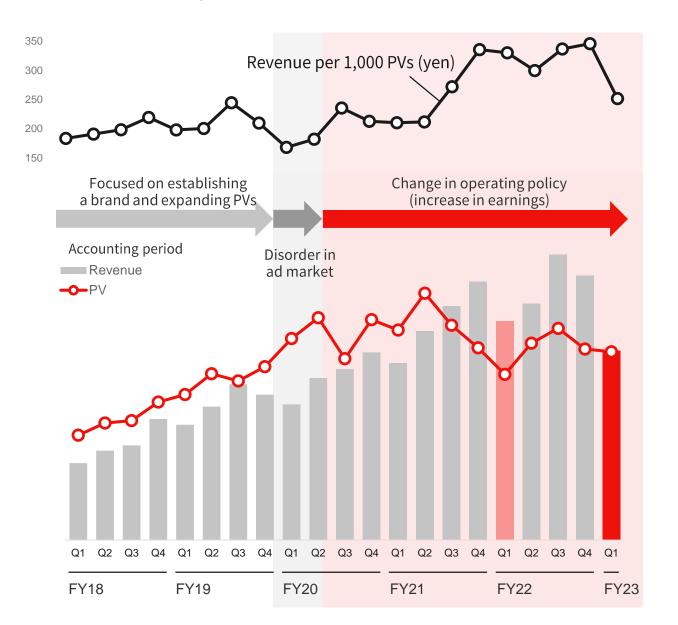


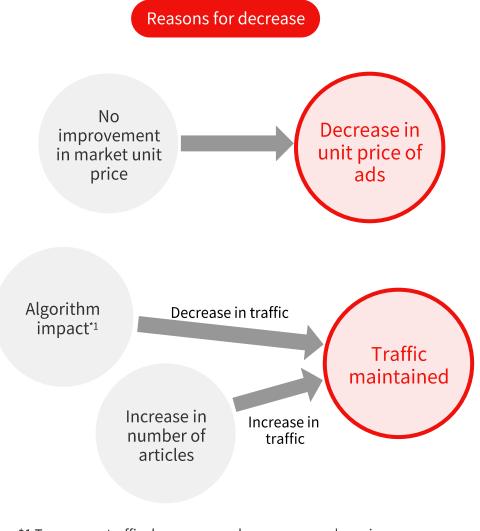


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\*1 Temporary traffic decay occurred on some search engine algorithms like Google's



FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview

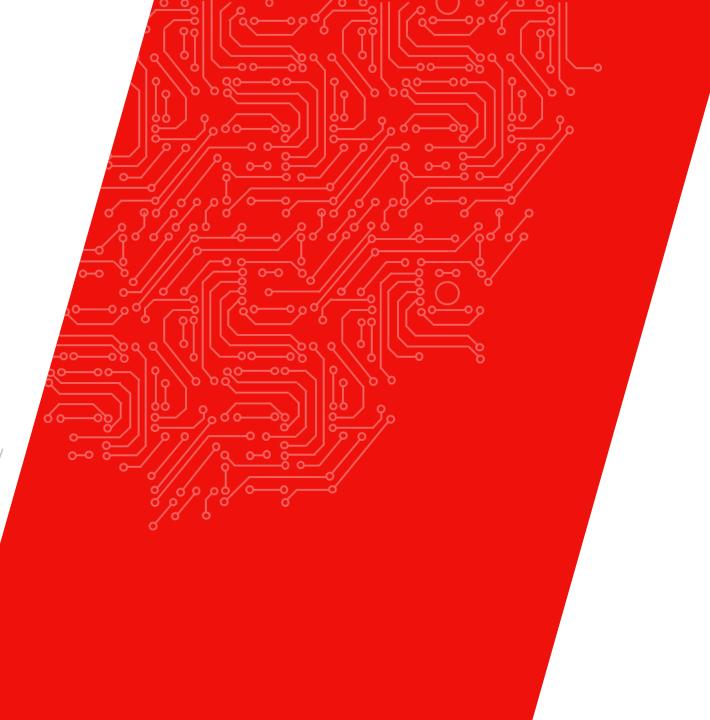
BtoB Media Business

BtoC Media Business

### FY23 Earnings Forecast

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#### FY23 Earnings Forecast | Forecasts from the Beginning of the Period



Risks expected to emerge within predicted scope. Situation expected to continue, particularly during first half.

COVID-19

Situation in Ukraine

FX rate fluctuations Concerns over inflation Downturn, financially instability, particularly in US

Forecast for FY22 second half

Situation in FY22Q4

Forecast for FY23

Negative

Growing short term unpredictability, particularly among overseas clients

Temporary slow down in Digital Event business

Growing downturn in US

Growing expectation over the end of the COVID-19 pandemic

Situation continues, particularly during first half

Positive

Continuing digital shift within marketing

Maintain growth in the Lead Generation Business

Digital shift within marketing will continue



Worse than initially expected. Improvement is expected after bottoming out in Q1, but the impact will remain throughout FY23





# Worse than initially expected. Improvement is expected after bottoming out in Q1, but the impact will remain throughout FY23

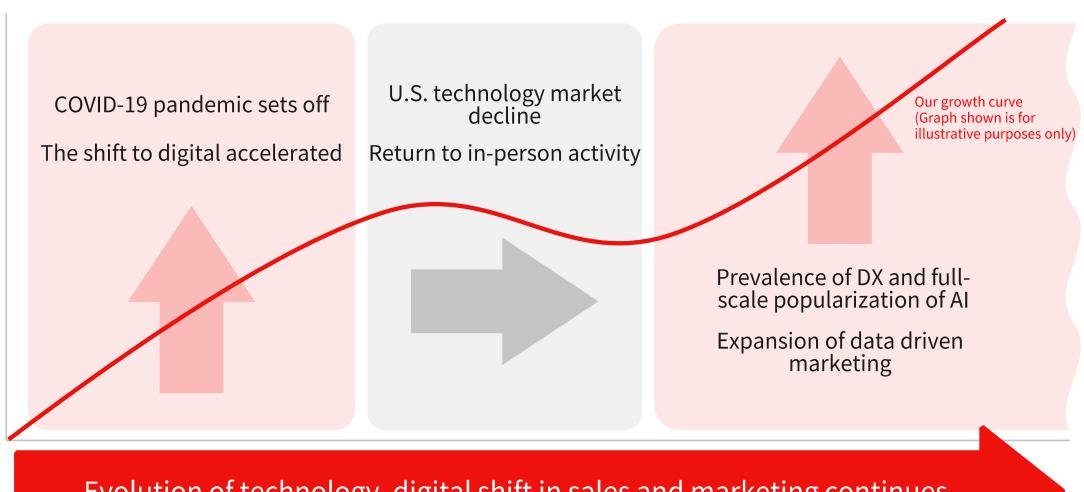
Unit: million yen First half	Revenue	Operating income	Quarterly net income attributable to owners of parent
Revised forecast	3,960	1,100	740
YoY change	[-5.9%]	[-21.0%]	[-21.8%]
Previous forecast	4,210	1,210	820
Revised increase/decrease	[-250]	[-110]	[-80]
FY22, 1st half (actual)	4,206	1,392	946

Full year	Revenue	Operating income	Net income attributable to owners of parent
Revised forecast	8,320	2,400	1,620
YoY change	[-4.9%]	[-18.1%]	[-18.0%]
Previous forecast	9,150	3,000	2,020
Revised increase/decrease	[-830]	[-600]	[-400]
FY22, full year (actual)	8,752	2,930	1,974

Forward looking comments noted above, such as earnings outlooks, are based on information available when the material was created and certain assumptions deemed rational and the Company does not guarantee they will occur. Actual earnings may substantially differ due to various factors.



### Despite slowdown, medium- to long-term growth scenario remains unchanged



Evolution of technology, digital shift in sales and marketing continues



FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview

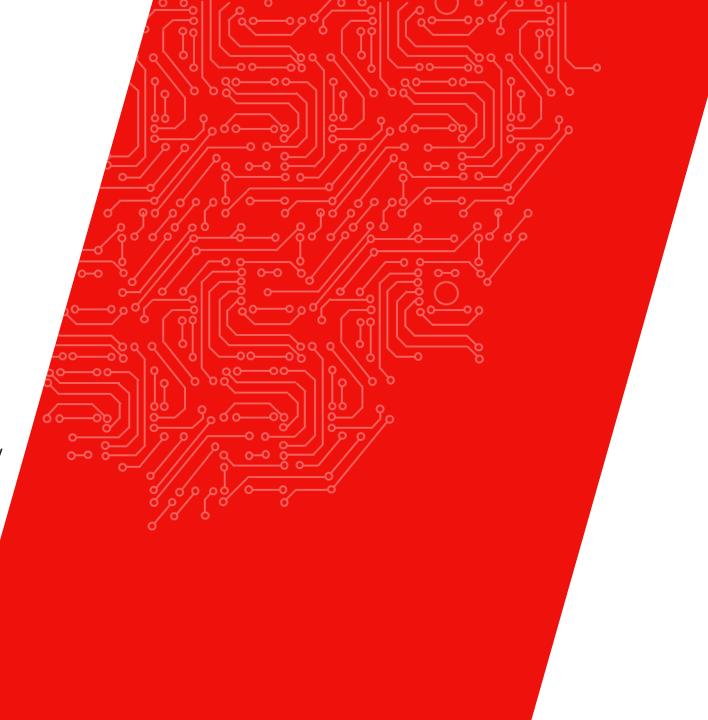
BtoB Media Business

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#### **Our Mission**

# Contribute to Information Revolution by Innovating Professional Media

- We believe profession makes media reliability
- Technology leads conventional media to innovation
- Providing media community as a social knowledge platform







#### Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy | One of Japan's Largest Digital Media Content Providers





7,000 companies



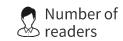
Media/data scale

(Sellers)
Number of customers

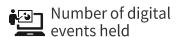
2,000 companies



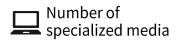
1.2 million people



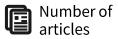
25 million people 50 million UB



200 times/year



30 media

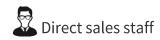


6,000 articles/month



400 million PVs

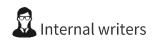
#### Staff



100 people



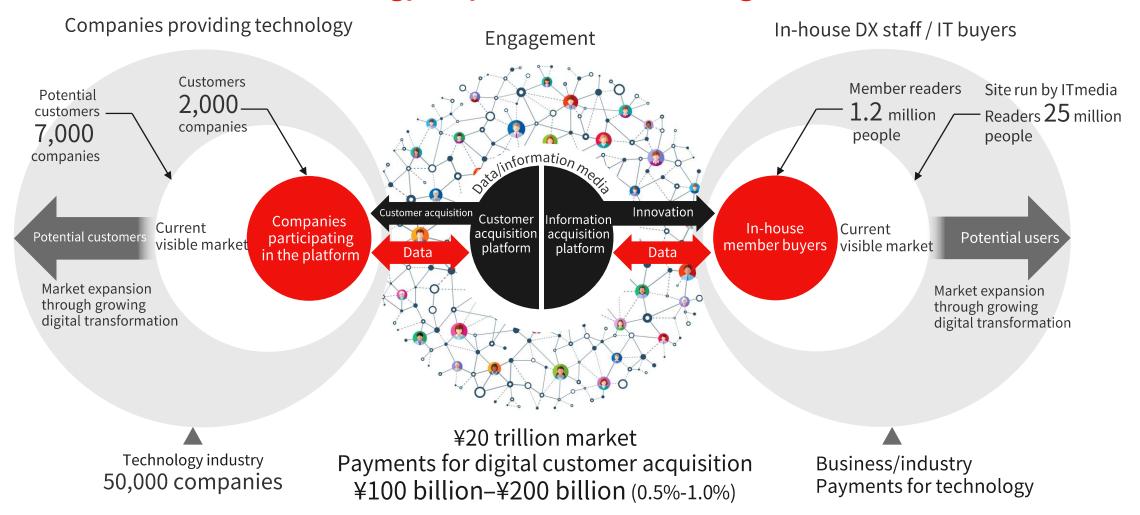
**1,000** writers



100 writers

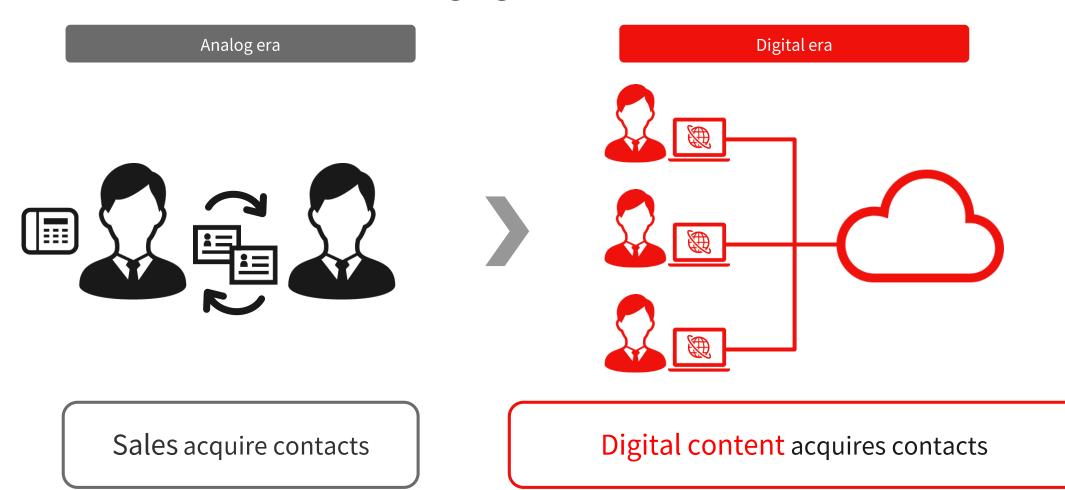


# One of the largest holders of data in Japan that brings technology buyers and sellers together



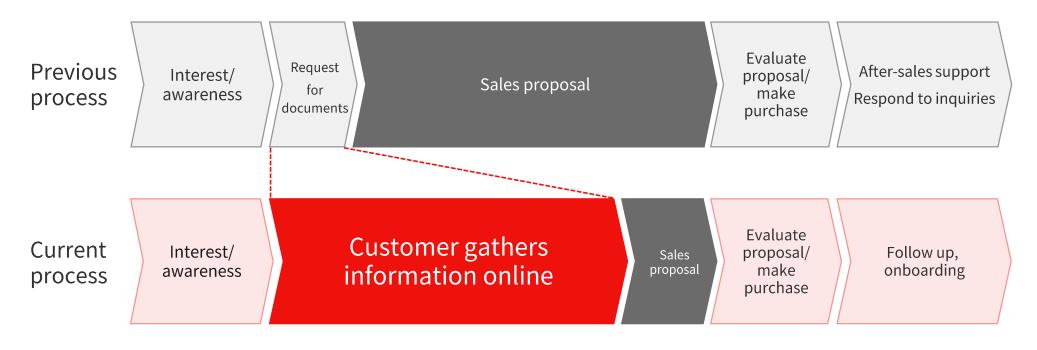


# Service that allows digital media and content to perform sales functions (exchanging business cards)





Major changes in BtoB purchasing processes
The availability of specialized information online has removed the sales side's information advantage



Digital media content now fulfills the role of sales





One of Japan's largest technology-focused digital media content provider



Monthly

400 million PVs

Total number of members

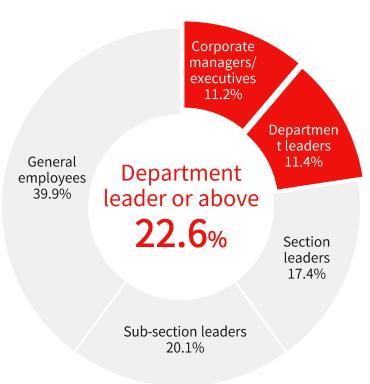
1.2 million people

Number for new monthly articles 6,000 articles



<sup>\*</sup> User information collected by the company's own site. First-party data is more liable and provides greater added value than standard third-party data.





From registration information on Lead Generation members



### Improving sales productivity is a major social problem for Japanese companies



Reason why sales productivity in Japan is lower than global standards \*1

#### LOW net sales per sales employee is low

- The role of the sales employee is unclear and inefficient
- There are numerous tasks of responding to customers outside of the sales approach (handling complaints, etc.)
- There are many miscellaneous tasks outside of sales activities

#### LOW sales efficiency (= high sales cost component)

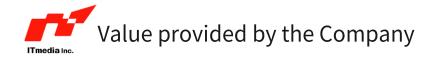
- Slowness in transitioning to digital-based sales
- Room for cost-cutting in areas across multiple businesses

#### High personnel expenses per sales employee

 Inefficient salary systems and incentive designs amid a lack of clarity in skill requirements and evaluation systems



Companies want digital-based solutions



#### Concentration on core operations

 Enabling sales reps to concentrate on approaches to the prospective customers by having our services supporting lead (potential-customer) acquisition and lead nurturing

# Optimization through CRM and other digital processes, and improving efficiency

- Switching to digital-based sales processes by combining digital tools with our data. Enabling efficient sales that are not personnel oriented
- Specifying sales priorities based on data, such as companies to approach. Improvement in order efficiency
- · Better quality of business administration using process visualization

#### ROI clarification in marketing investment

- Services that make customer prioritization and ROI analysis of marketing and sales easier.
- Proposals by sales reps to customers of optimal marketing mixes

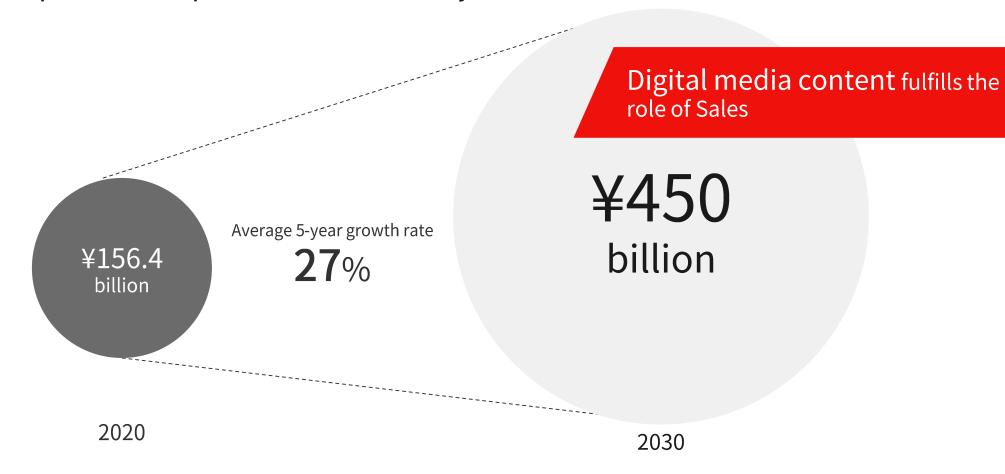


<sup>\*1</sup> Reference: McKinsey & Company "Why is Japan sales productivity so low?" (February 2021) https://www.mckinsey.com/jp/~/media/McKinsey/Locations/Asia/Japan/Our%20Insights/Why%20is%20Japan%20sales%20productivity%20so%20low%20Japanese.pdf

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Our company engages in the digital transformation of Sales and Marketing Market expected to expand  $2.9\times$  over 10 years

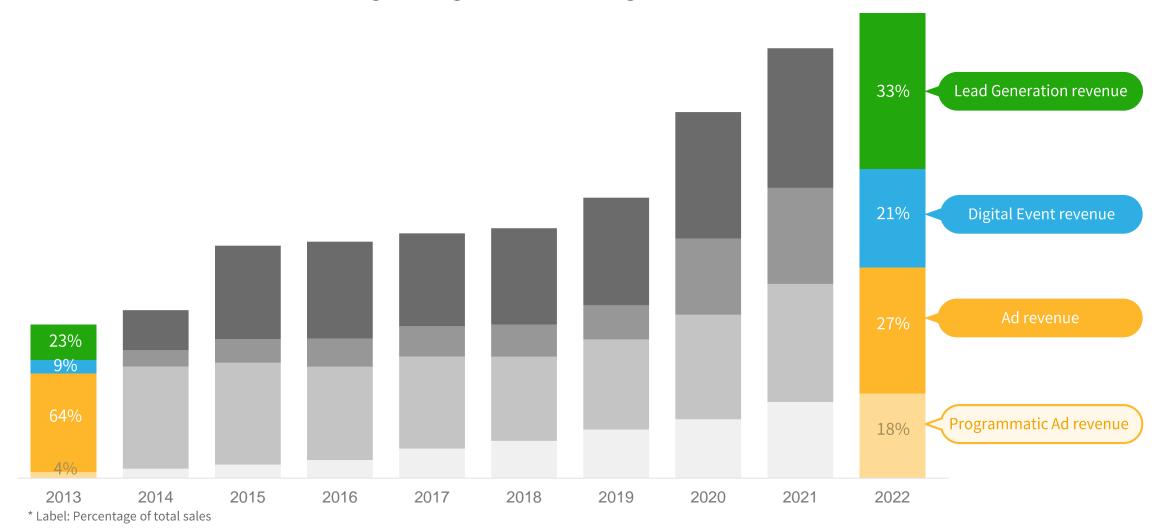


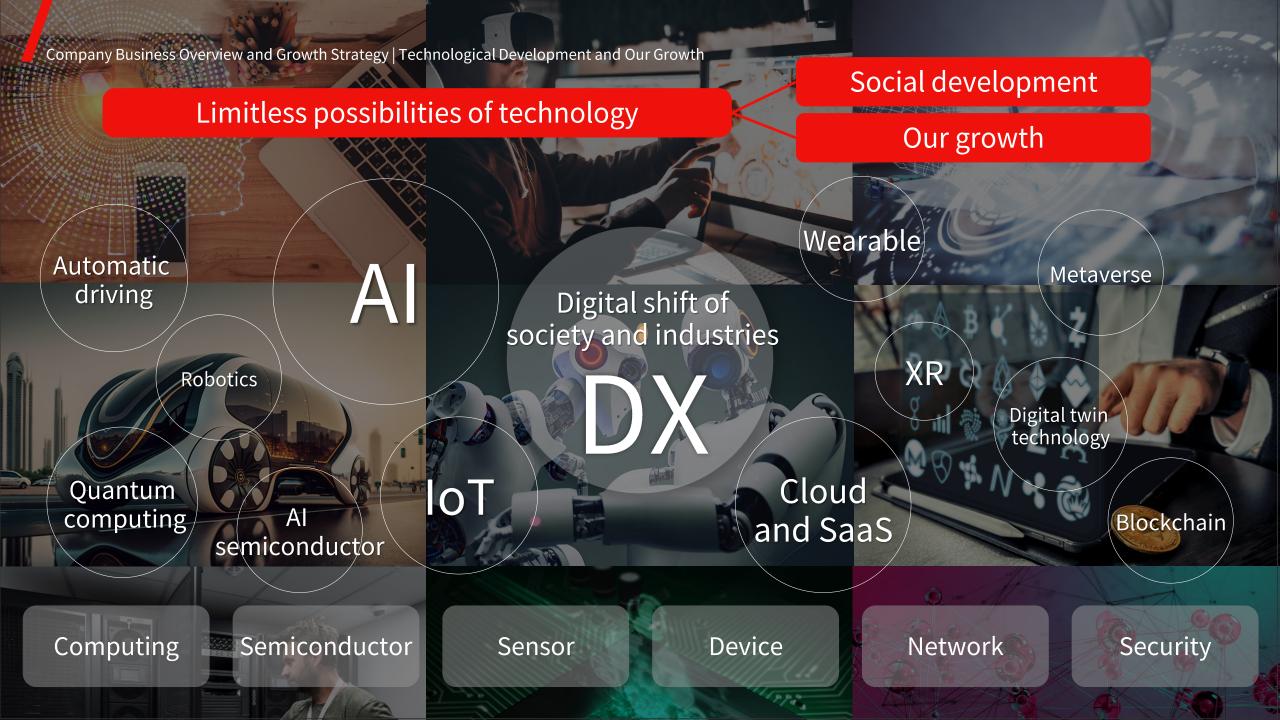
"Future outlook for the digital transformation market; market edition/vendor strategy edition" summary (published March 15, 2022, number 22025) Fuji Chimera Research Institute, Inc. https://www.fcr.co.jp/pr/22025.htm

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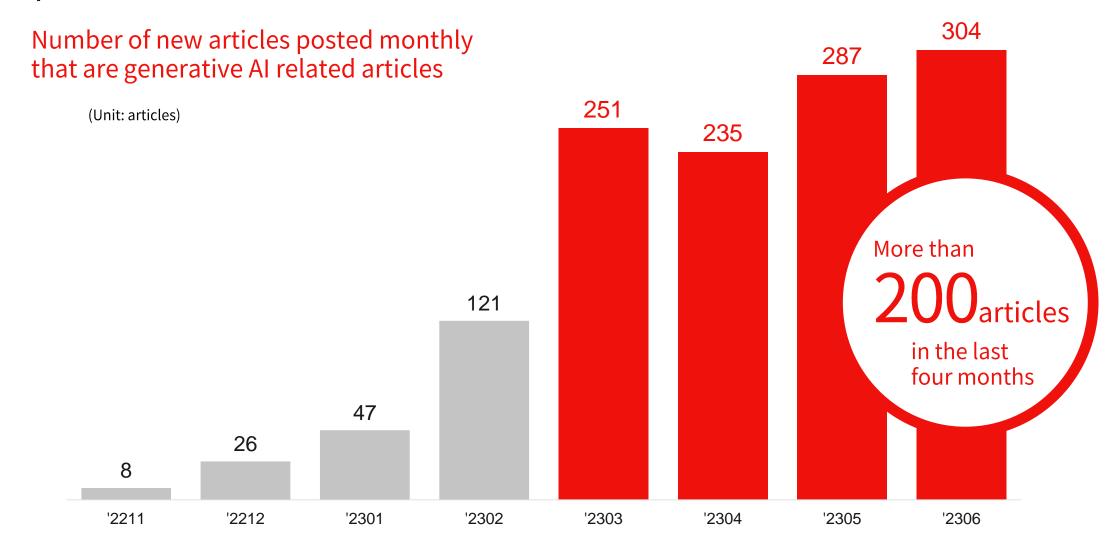
Transformation from being advertising centric to being centered on services close to customer acquisition using lead generation, digital events, etc.





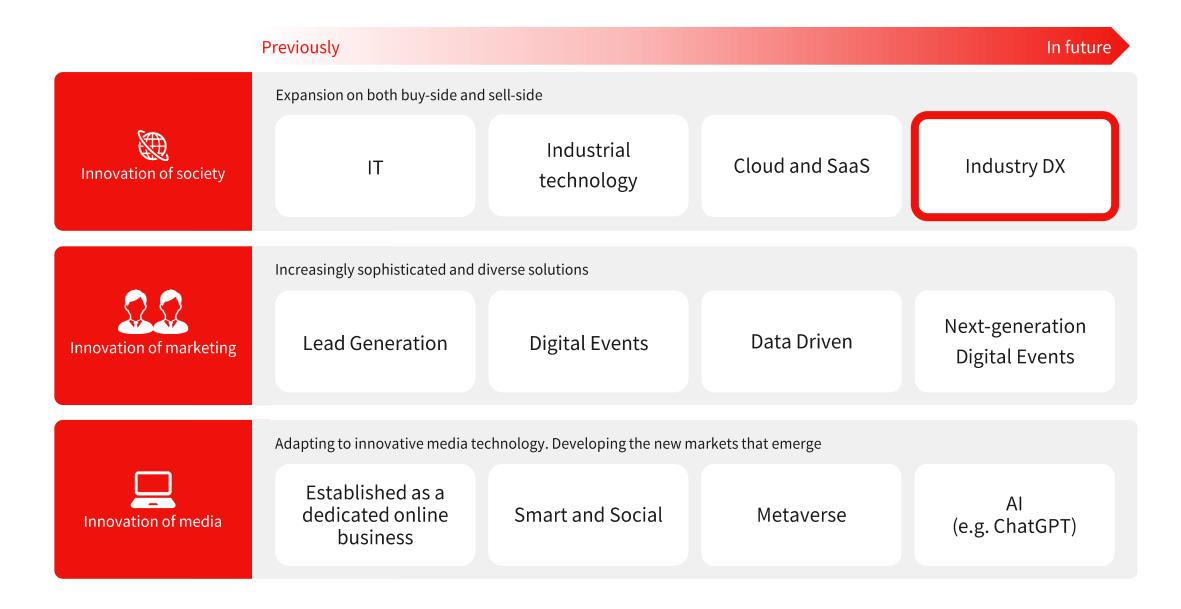


## Response to information needs for ChatGPT



#### Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy | Engage with Growth Vectors









Our Mission

Contribute to information revolution by innovating professional media

### Partnership





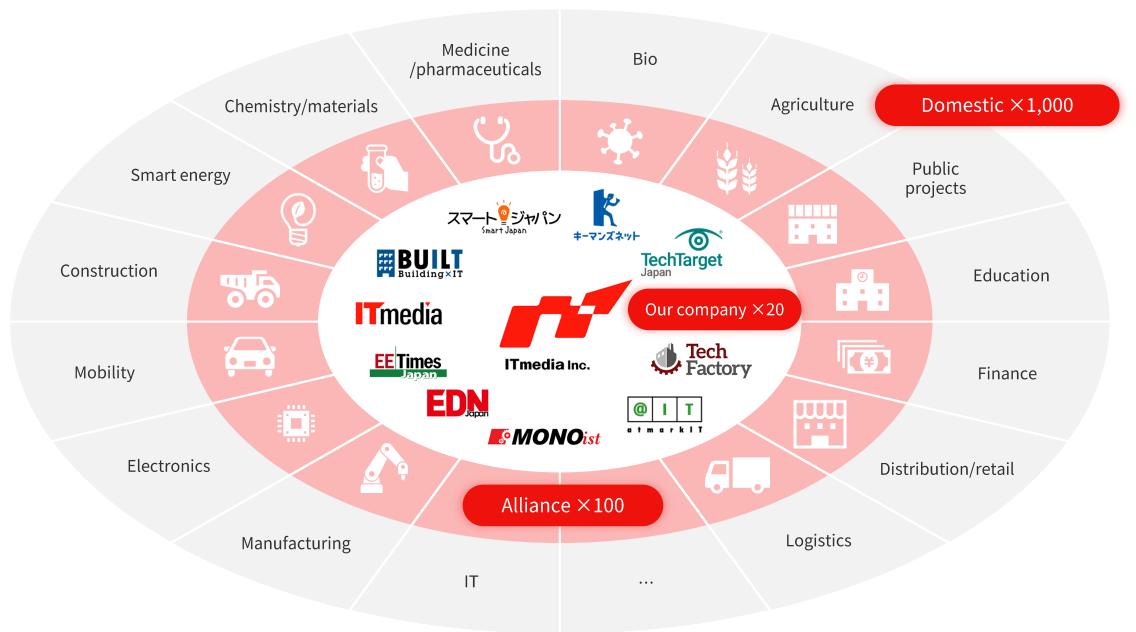
Multiple specialist media corporations in various industries

Cooperating to provide edification on digital transformation in each industry

Contributing to the media industry

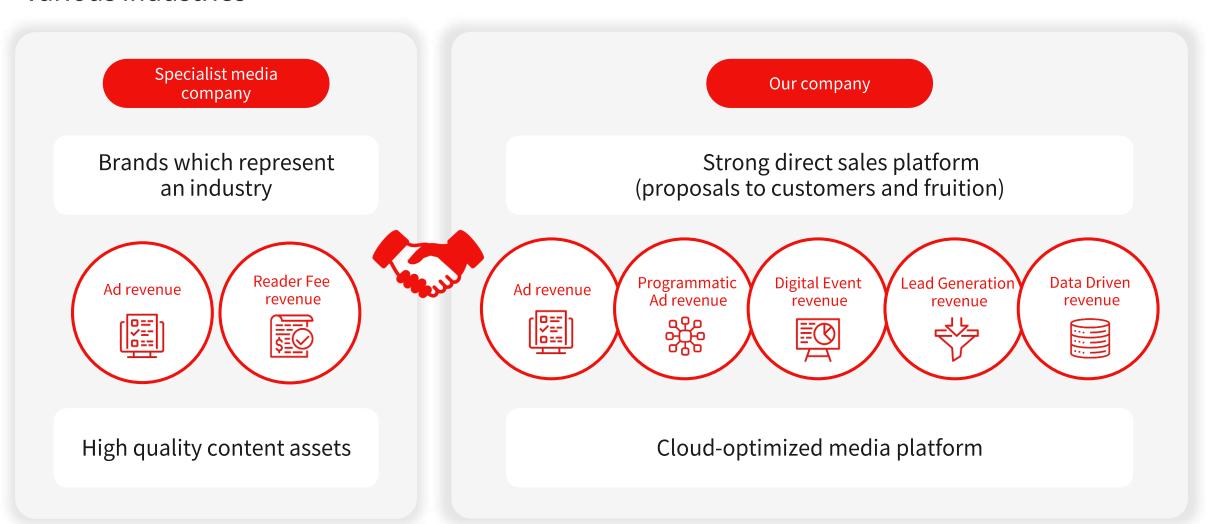
#### Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy | New Initiatives: Image of Industrial DX







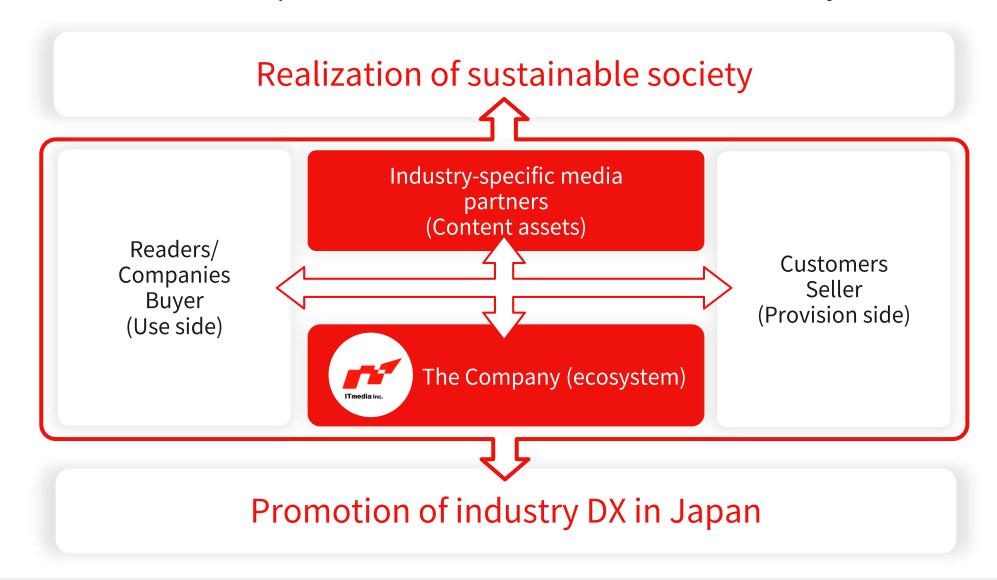
Expansion of mutual revenue opportunities through alliances with specialist media of various industries



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## Contributions to media companies: Promotion of DX awareness in society





Preemptively form alliances with some specialist media companies for digital event collaboration





Preemptively form alliances with some specialist media companies for digital event collaboration



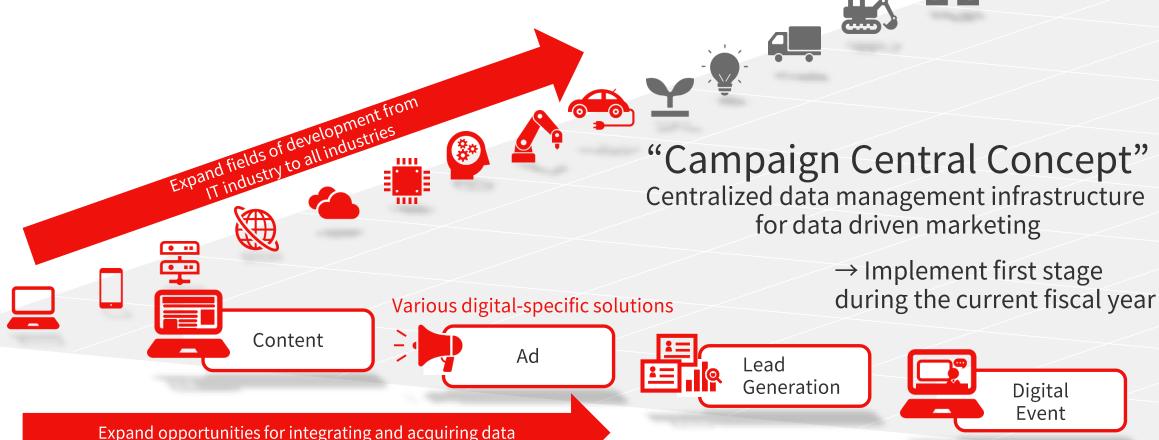


## The largest BtoB holders of data that brings buyers and sellers together from all industries











FY23 Q1 Earnings Overview

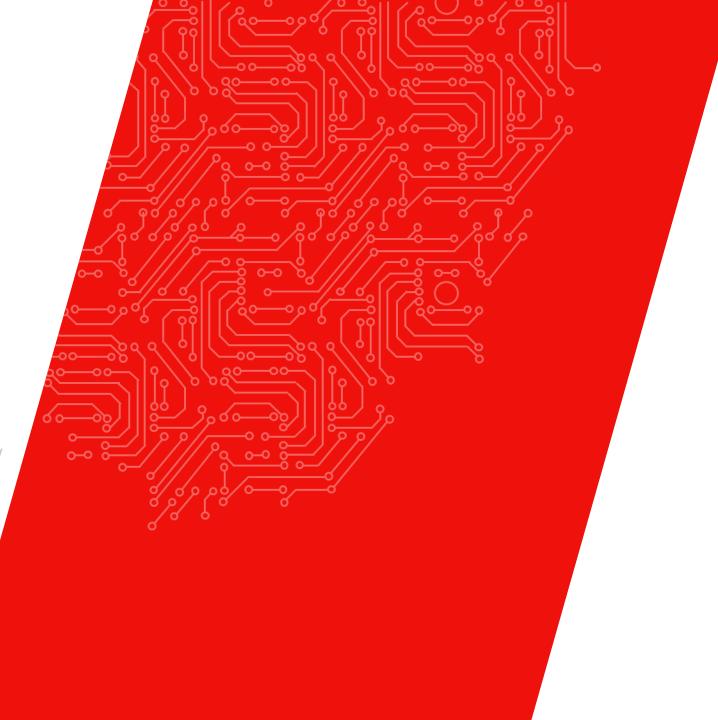
BtoB Media Business

BtoC Media Business

FY23 Earnings Forecast

Company Business Overview and Growth Strategy

Shareholder Return & Sustainability



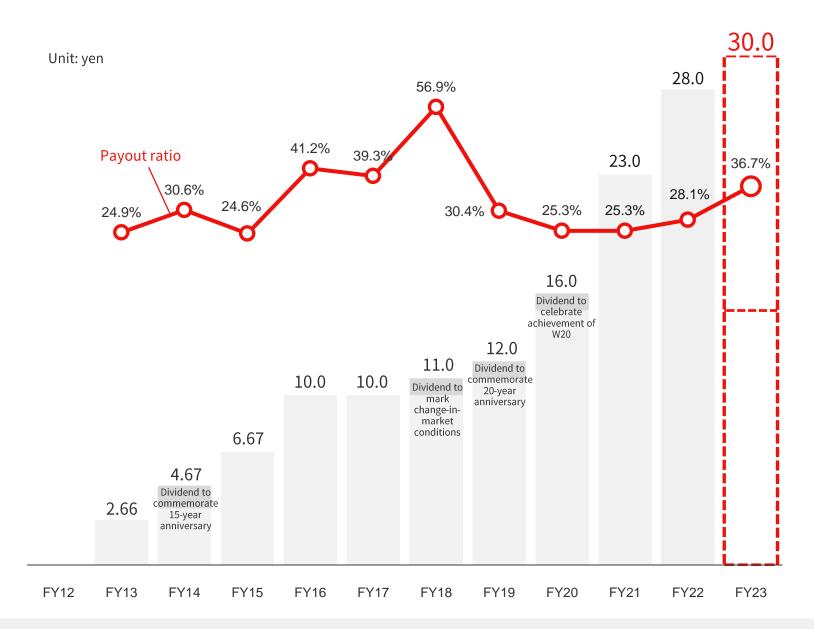


We determined today to purchase own shares to allow us to bolster shareholder return and implement agile capital strategy as required for the changes in the business environment

Class of shares to be purchased	Common shares of the Company
Purchasing period	From August 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023
Total shares that can be purchased	500,000 shares (maximum)
	(Ratio to the total number of issued shares excluding treasury stock: 2.5%)
Total value of share purchase	¥0.65 billion (maximum)
Method of purchase	Market purchase by discretionary trading

Please see the news release "Notice of Decision on Matters Related to Purchase of Own Shares," which was released today.





¥2 dividend increase

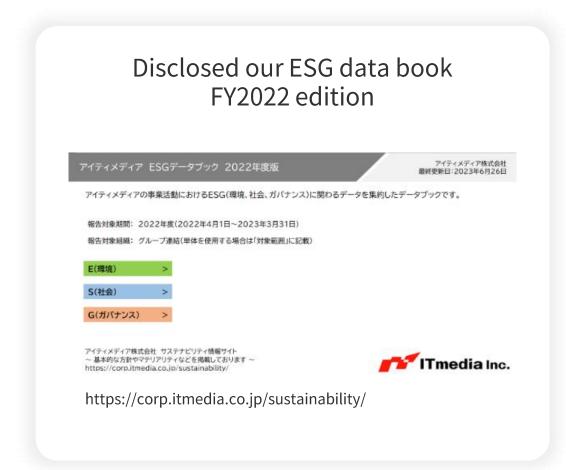
For full fiscal year

¥30

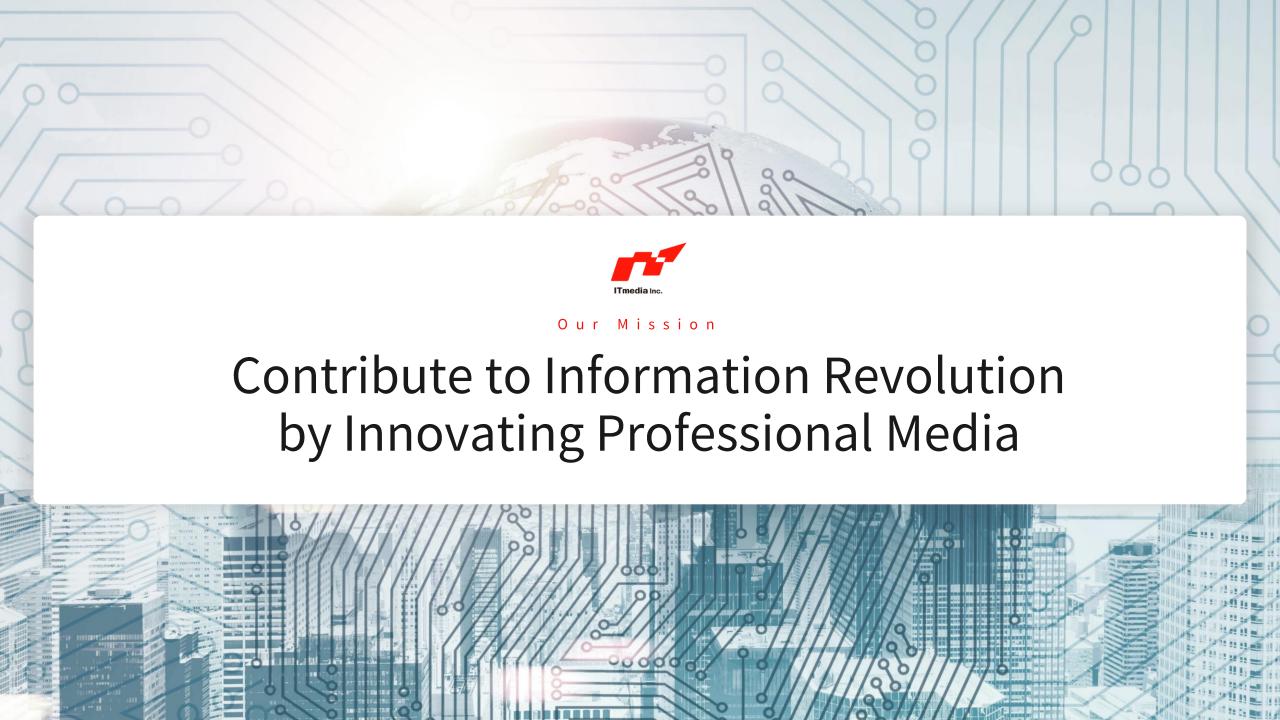
Payout ratio 36.7%

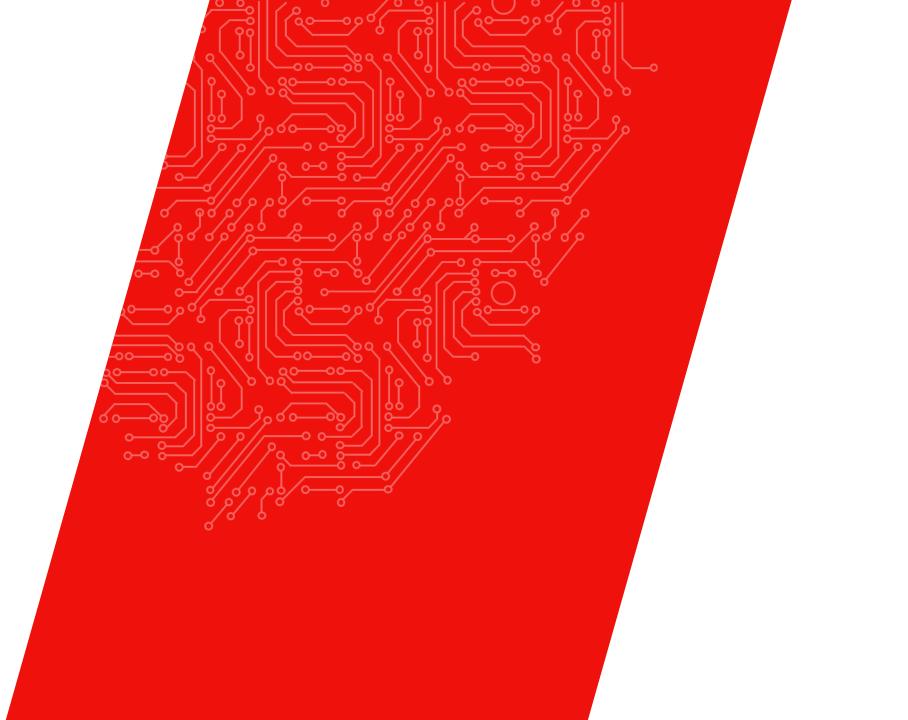


## Here is a description of our quarterly progress











#### Inquiries

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