

## Regarding the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) Lancers

We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to those who have been affected by Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to those who have been socially impacted during this difficult time.

We would also like to express our gratitude to healthcare workers and governmental authorities, who have been involved in stopping the spread of the infections.

With our vision of "creating a society where everyone can work in their own way with technology", we are determined to contribute to society by providing reliable services to freelancers who have been working through our platform and to our clients who have been placing orders through our services.

### Lancers' Approach to COVID-19 Pandemic



#### **Support for freelancers**

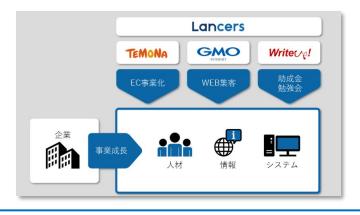
Providing "Cancellation Certificate" function that can issue necessary information in writing when applying for subsidies

[Important]
Information regarding application of subsidies for freelancers due to COVID19 pandemic
(For freelancers / clients)



#### **Support for SMEs**

Launched "COVID-19 Countermeasures Business Continuity Support Program" jointly with partners



#### Cross-industry efforts to maintain employment

Welcoming employees from ASOVIEW Inc. for "network sharing" at challenging times



#### Internal efforts to encourage remote work

Achieved a telework rate of 97.5%\* by formulating and implementing "Smart Management 5 principles / Remote Work Way"



<sup>\*)</sup> Includes members working at home and co-creating with us as freelancers.

## Vision / Company profile



Our Mission

## **Empowerment of Individuals**

Our Vision

## We will create a world where anyone can live their own workstyle, with the power of technology



Compan	Company name	LANCERS, INC.
	Business contents	Platform business
Profi		Yosuke Akiyoshi
	Establishment	April, 2008
	Staff	Approx. 200 employees*

<sup>\*)</sup> Employees include full-time employees (excluding those who are seconded to outside the Group, but including those seconded to the company within the Group) and temporary workers(part-time workers)

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- 1 Company profile / Market trends
- Full-year and forth-quarter results for the year ended March 2020
- 3 Strategy for the year ending March 2021
- 4 Impacts from COVID-19 pandemic
- Forecast for the year ending March 2021



## Providing matching services for freelancers since 2008

## Clients

(Employers)



#### Benefits

- Being able to secure the necessary resources whenever needed
- Order can be placed for relatively low fees and shorter time



Lancers

#### Freelancers

(Contractors)

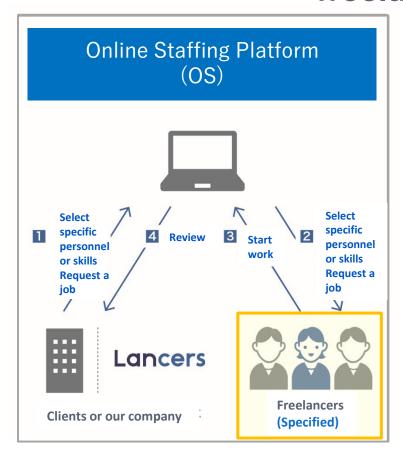


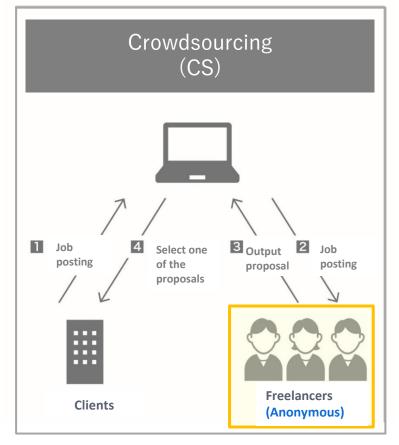
#### Benefits

Being able to

- choose projects that fit their skills
- work whenever & wherever they want
- Increase income

CS can access to a large number of anonymous freelancers for work. OS can match with specified freelancers





#### We offer more than 270 kinds of services



Handling various work from system development to back office

#### Expanding

System development /Web Designs

#### System Development



Web development/ programming Modifying functions, business tools, settings,



etc iPhone/iPad app

App development and modification, etc

#### Web Designs



Creating homepage Design new homepage, modify homepage, etc



Making CMS/ Introducing WordPress

Creating WordPress websites, renewal, plug-in, etc

#### Vriting



Article writing for blogs Articles for owned media,

blogs, introducing items,



DM/mail magazines

Creating step mails, FAXDM, mail magazines, etc Writing

Creative

#### Other Designs



Creating logos
Designing logos, etc



Creating business cards

Designing business cards, etc

#### Image/Videos/Narrations



Video production

Editing YouTube videos, promotion videos, advertising, etc



Image editing/assets

Retouch, clipping background, subtitles etc

#### Tasks



Data entry/create lists

Collecting URLs, corporate and item research, etc



Monitoring questionnaires

Gathering data from questionnaires, etc

Tasks

**Expanding** 

**Back Office** 

#### Consulting



Business consulting

Entrepreneurship, corporate analysis, planning, etc



Web/IT consulting

Attracting customers, SEO consulting, KPI etc

#### Administration



Creating PowerPoint Marketing materials.

Marketing materials, manuals, designs, etc



Excel designs

Data entry, create lists,
input data, etc

#### Translation



English translation

Translating contracts, pamphlets, manuals, etc



Chinese translation

Translating contracts, pamphlets, manuals, etc

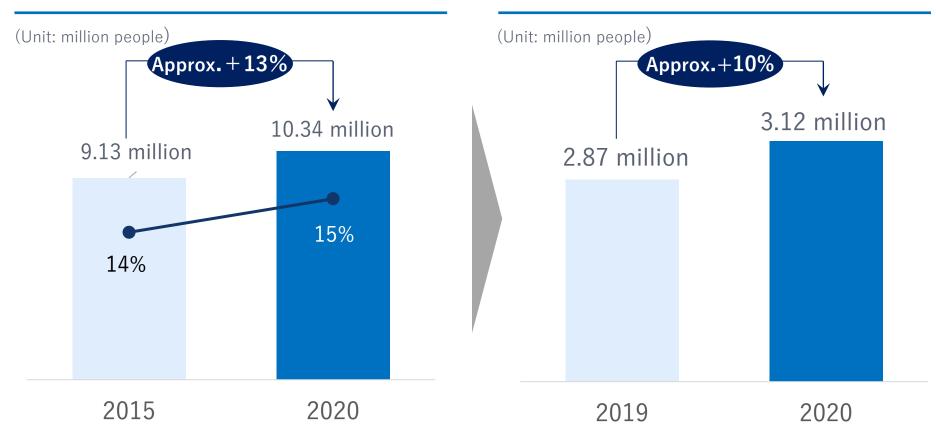


#### Changes in Labour Market for New Working Styles Lancers

## Population of freelancers is 10.34 million, approx.15% of the working population, with 3.12 million started freelancing within a year.

Freelance population and ratio to the working population

People who started freelancing withing 1 year

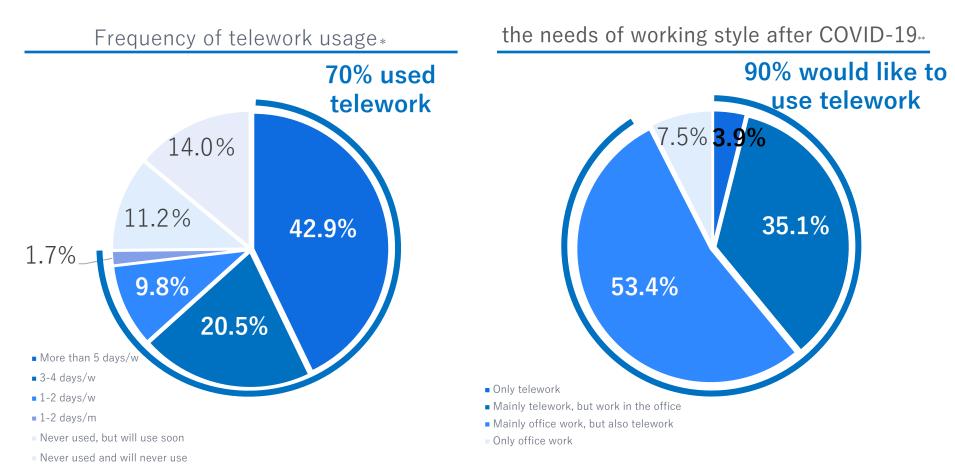


<sup>\*)</sup> This is based on a survey conducted in February 2020 by our group, which commissioned Macromill, Inc. on men and women between the ages of 20 and 69 who received remuneration for their work in the past 12 months, which was compiled from responses from 3,094 people.

<sup>\*\*)</sup>Quoted from "Labour Forces Survey (basic data) March 2020" by the Ministry of International Affairs and Communications.

### Sudden changes and new norms for working styles Lancers

# Rapid (3 months) and forced expansion of telework. Telework becomes a new working standard.

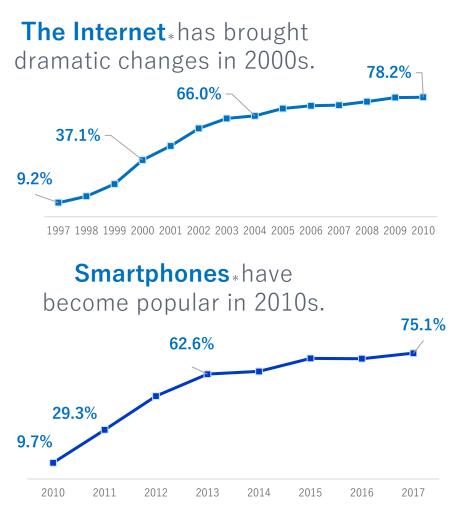


<sup>\*)</sup>Source: Innovation ICT Lab, Nikkei BP Research Institute. Conducted on April 13, 2020 on the internet for Nikkei BP digital media readers and members. "Telework survey regarding COVID-19 countermeasures"

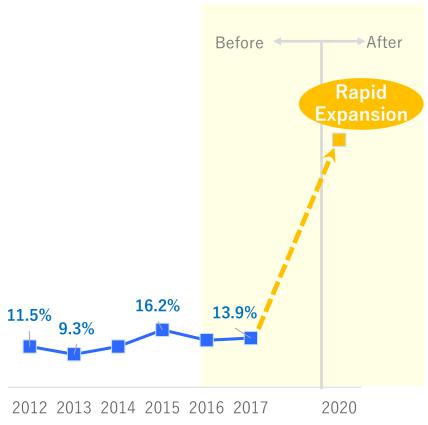
<sup>\*\*)</sup> Source: Nikkei BizGate April 20-29, conducted on the internet for Nikkei BizGate members working all over Japan. Aggregated 1951 valid responses from the age of 20s to 70s.

### Life After COVID-19 Pandemic

## There will be unprecedented changes in ways of work.



Telework\*has become widespread. Work styles will change in 2020s.





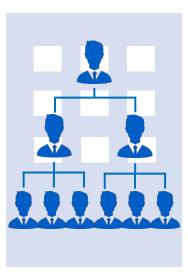
## **Essential Paradigm Shift in Work Style**

#### Lancers

The spread of telework is only a beginning. Changes in the values of fundamental working styles of Japanese companies will be seen.

Before

After

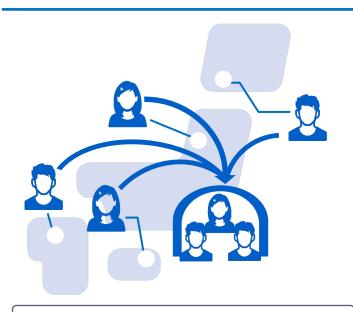


Place = Office work

HR = In-house Fulltime Employees

Organization = Management Control Type

Model = Membership Style



Place = Hybrid Work

HR=Internal and External Resources

Organization=Autonomous Authority Transfer Type

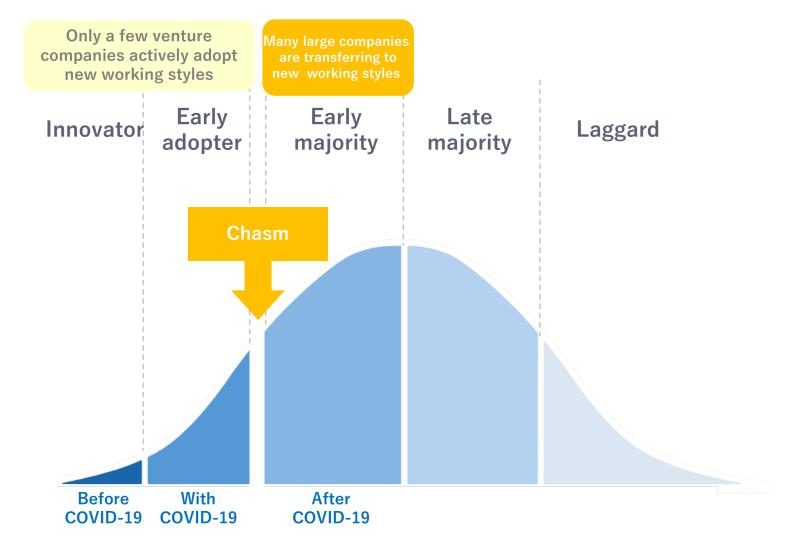
Model = Partnership Style

Surface

Deep

## Paradigm Shift of Corporate Values

### The new working styles will finally exceed the chasm.





## Paradigm Shift of Corporate Values

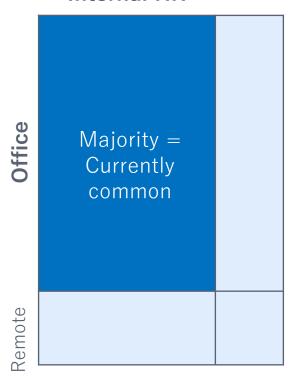
"Office x Internal Human Resources" used to be the mainstream. "Remote x External Human Resources" will be common next.

Before COVID-19

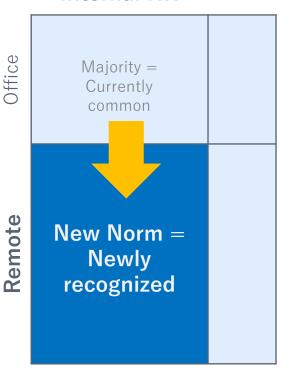
With COVID-19

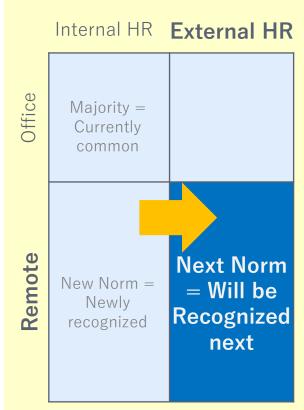
After COVID-19

#### Internal HR External HR



#### Internal HR External HR



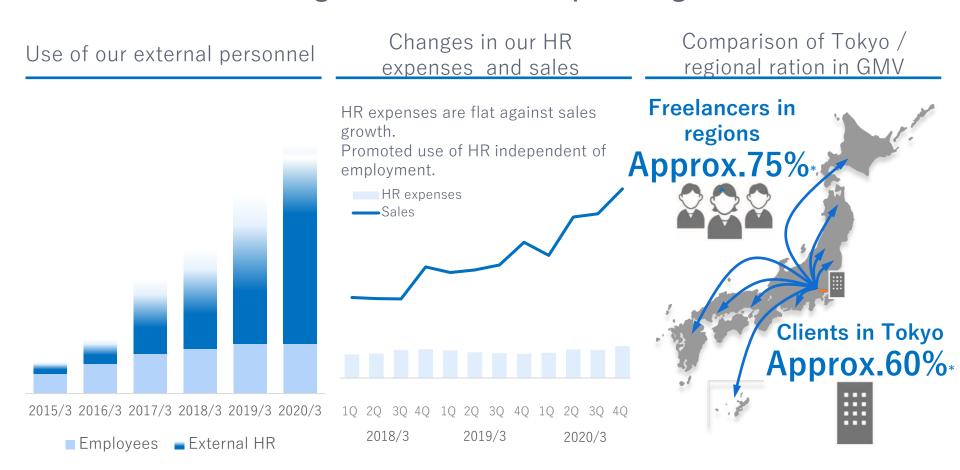




## Infiltration of Smart Management in Japanese Companies



We are defining new working styles as "smart management" and encouraging it for a few years. We offer a solution for Japanese companies to resolve their management issues with rapid changes.

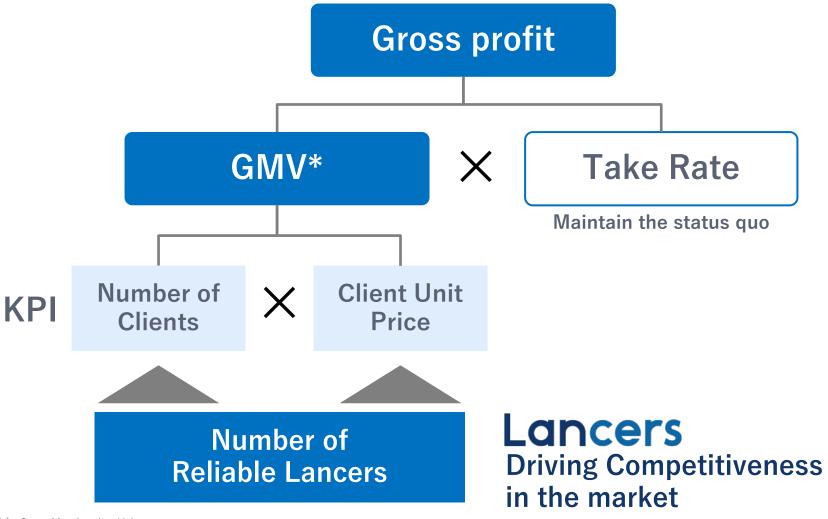


<sup>\*)</sup> Percentage of Gross Merchandise Value of clients located in Tokyo out of total of Gross Merchandise Value of Lancers (non-consolidated) (Jan – Mar, 2020)

<sup>\*\*)</sup> Percentage of Gross Merchandise Value of freelancers located outside Tokyo out of total of Gross Merchandise Value of Lancers (non-consolidated) (Jan – Mar, 2020)

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Emphasizing expansion of GMV and Gross profit representing our added value



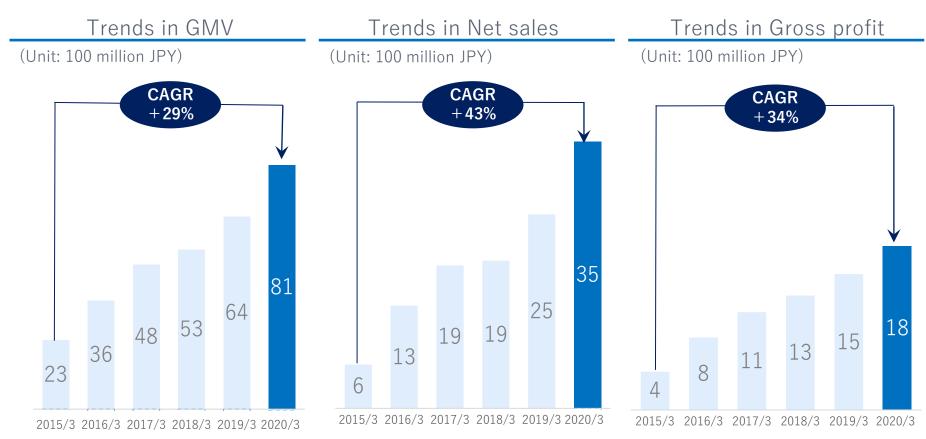
<sup>\*)</sup> Gross Merchandise Value

- Gross Merchandise Value up 26% from the previous year, Net sales up 38%, and Gross profit up 21%.
   These are record high.
- Despite COVID-19 pandemic in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, Gross Merchandise Value up 25%, Net sales up 39%, Gross profit up 20% compared to the previous year.
- It was a profitable year excluding investments centred on marketing and sales in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.
- Client unit price, which is a driving force of growth for the current term, increased by 24% from the previous year.

### **Trends in Performance (Consolidated)**



# GMV, Net sales and Gross profit grew by approximately 30%



#### Financial Results of Fiscal Year Ended March 2020Lancers

- 1 GMV, Net sales and Gross profit are growing steadily.
- 2 All of them achieved most of the forecasted sales figures.
- 3 1Q and 4Q increased by 24.5% from the previous year as a result of investments such as strengthening marketing and sales.

(Unit : Million JPY)	FY2019	FY2018 (year on year)		FY2019 (full-year forecast) ※Released on Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	
	Results	Results	% change	Forecast	% achievement
Gross Merchandise Value	8,114	6,451	+26.0%	8,055	100.7%
Net sales	3,474	2,522	+37.7%	3,441	100.9%
Gross profit	1,794	1,485	+20.8%	1,819	98.6%
Selling, general and administrative expenses (SG&A)	2,102	1,688	+24.5%	2,330	90.2%
Operating loss	△307	△202	_	△510	_
Ordinary loss	△328	△93	_	△549	_
Current loss	△353	△17	_	△565	_

## 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Results for the Fiscal Year Ended March 2020 (Quarter)

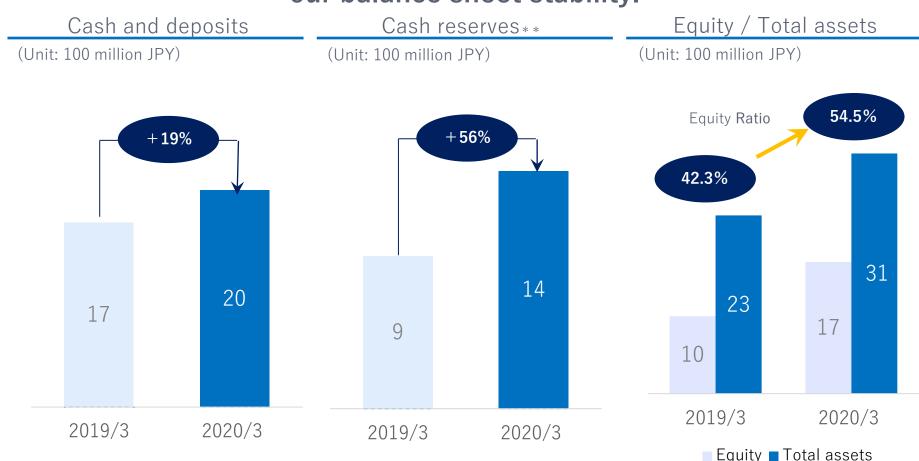


- 1 Gross Merchandise Value, Net sales and Gross profit are record highs, steadily increasing from the previous year.
- 2 SG&A expenses increased 40.4% YoY, due to investment to acquire clients.

(Unit : Million JPY)	FY2019 4Q	FY2018 4Q (year on year)		FY2019 3Q (quarter on quarter)	
,	Results	Results	% change	Results	% change
Gross Merchandise Value	2,201	1,761	+ 25.0%	2,120	+4.0%
Net sales	1,031	740	+39.2%	895	+15.1%
Gross profit	497	414	+20.1%	463	+7.2%
Selling, general and administrative expenses (SG&A)	634	451	+40.4%	419	+51.2%
Operating profit / loss	△136	△37	_	44	△180
Ordinary profit / loss	△137	61	+ 198	27	△164
Net income / loss	△148	△178	_	21	△169

## **Stability of Balance Sheet**

Financed ¥1.07 billion equity through IPO and secured ¥560 million for debt.\* Our current High Equity Ratio and Cash reserves show our balance sheet stability.

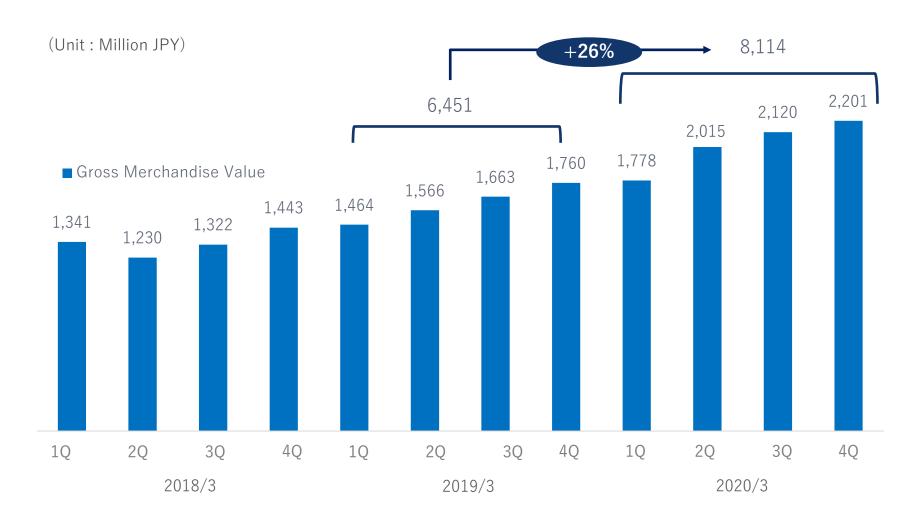


<sup>\*)</sup> Uncommitted overdraft

<sup>\*\*)</sup> Cash reserves= cash and deposits - interest bearing debt - deposits



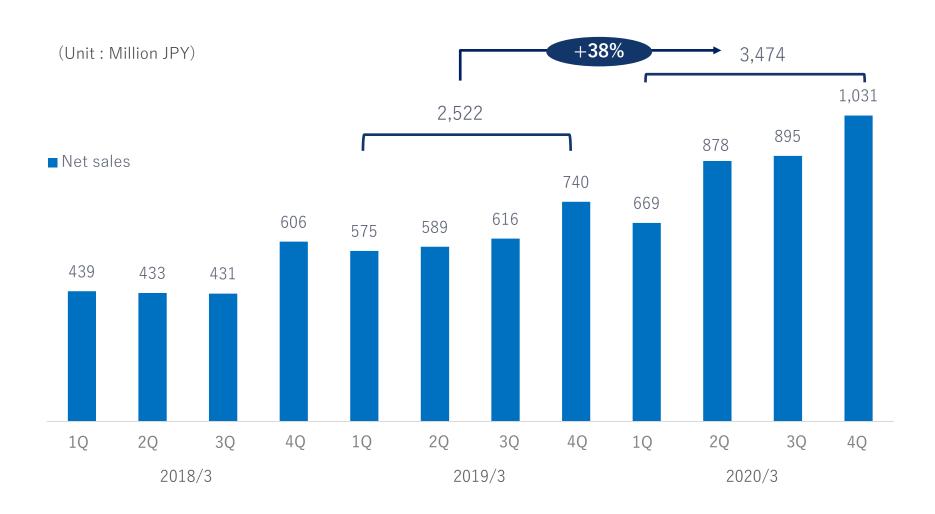
#### Gross Merchandise Value up 26% from the previous year.



#### **Trends in Net sales (Consolidated)**

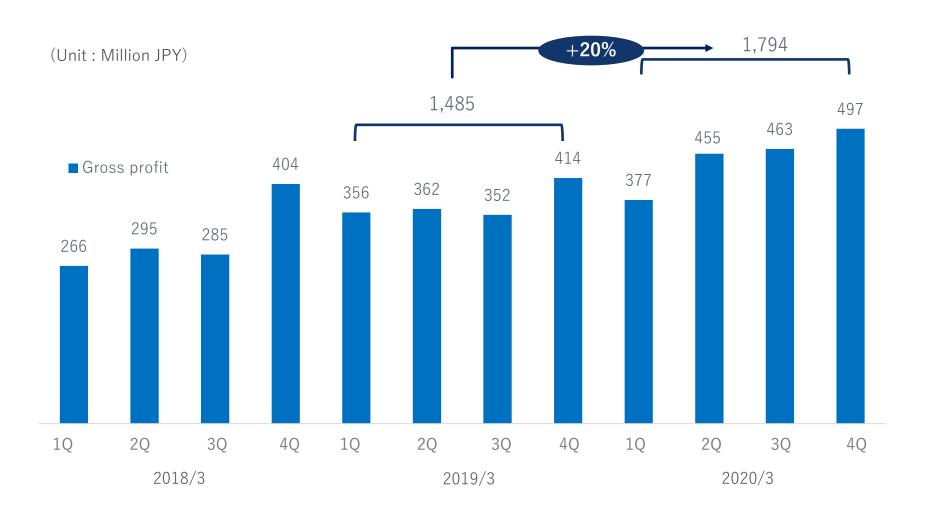


## Net sales up 38% from the previous year.





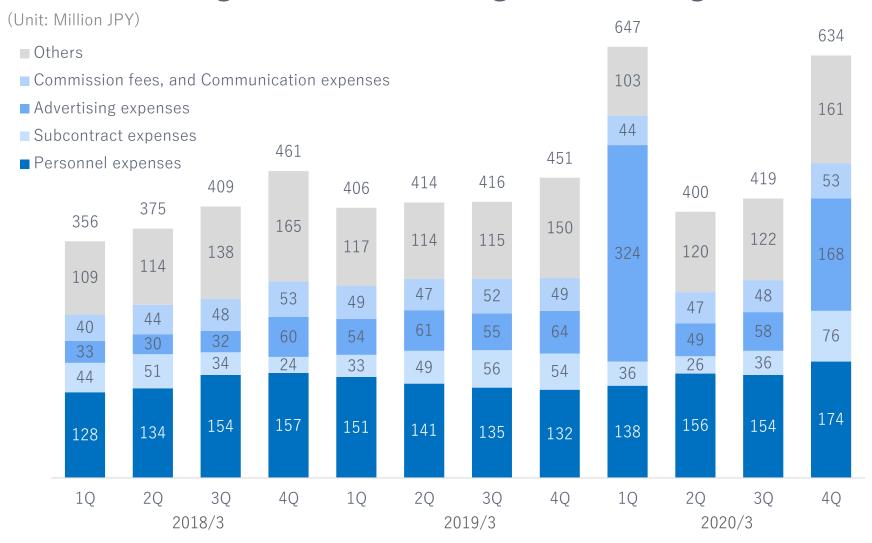
### Gross profit up 20% from the previous year.



## **Trends in SG&A Expenses (Consolidated)**

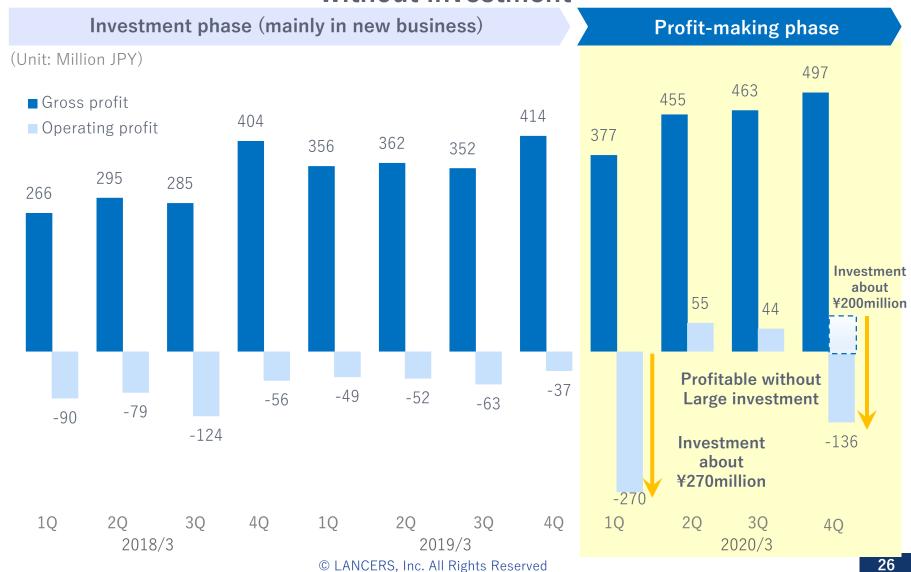


SG&A expenses in previous years remained constant against sales, excluding investment to strengthen marketing and sales.



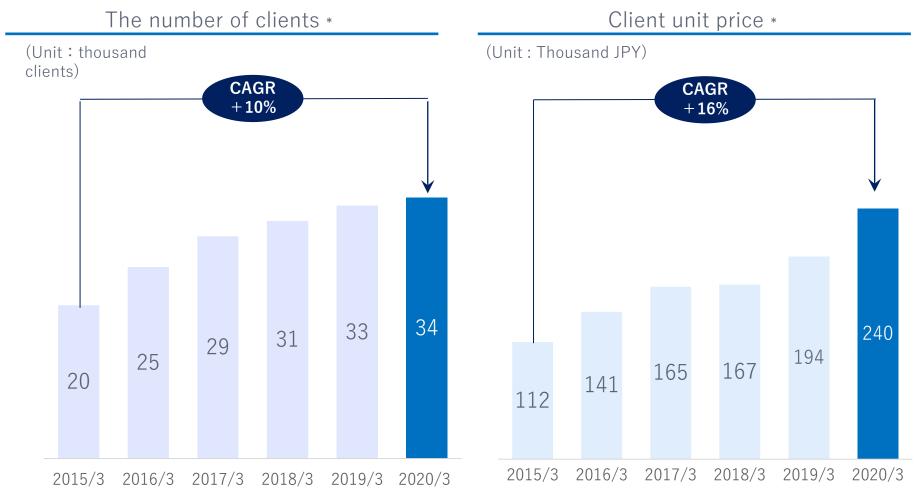
#### Trends in Gross Profit and Operating Profit (Consolidated) Lancers

Invested about ¥500 million for the full year, and it is in the black without investment



#### Increases in the Number and Unit Price of Clients Lancers

# The number of clients and unit price are growing steadily. In particular, client unit price is on the rise.



<sup>\*)</sup> This graph includes online staffing platform and crowdsourcing. Others such as "Lancers AREA PARTNER" and "sharefull" are not included.

#### Increase in the Number of OS Clients

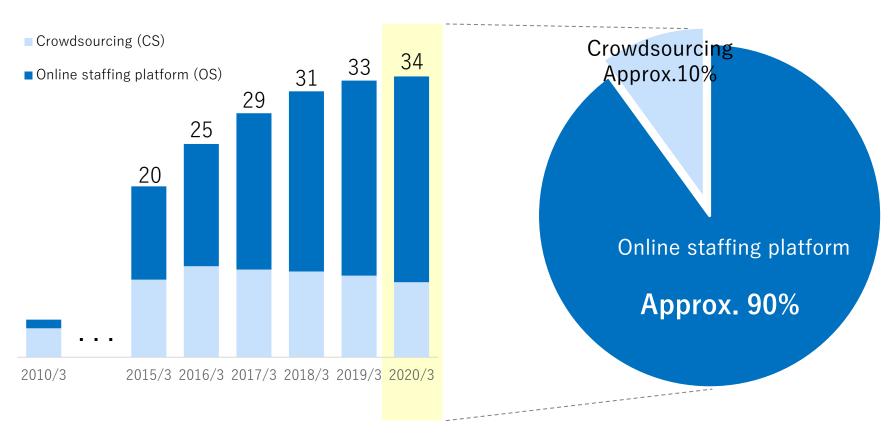


## High-priced online staffing platform -based work is increasing

Changed in OS/CS clients

Percentage of GMV in OS/CS (2020/3)

(Unit: Thousand clients)



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## **Strategy for This Year**



Strengthen sales to large companies and improve client unit price

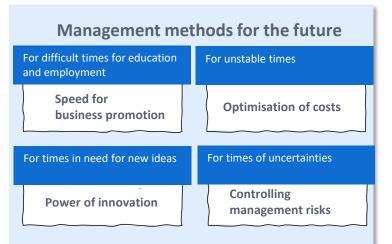
Previous Strategy This year's Strategy Promote awareness of **Expansion of** Lancers' brand "smart management" Increase the recognition as a service concept Renew\ number of clients Strengthen targeted Continue to strengthen sales Focus on acquiring large marketing and sales Improve clients' companies by Enterprise Continue unit price service Strengthen account sales to existing companies **Develop new services Create further** to meet the needs of profit New clients as the market constantly changes



#### We will infiltrate the awareness of smart management to attract clients

How smart management works

Example of smart management



Anytime anywhere x comprehensive implementation fees = Crowd-employees (like fulltime) Power of innovation Speed for business →Improved eNPS promotion Injecting external knowledge →More inventiveness Introduce policies for variable costs Location independent →Fasy to invest for a challenge →Assigned to people around the world · Not dependent on employment →Fast assignment Controlling · Allows to assign people with experience Optimisation →Education fees not necessary Management of costs · Location independent -> Less space for office Not dependent on employment → Avoid excess personnel and lower unemployment risks Significant expansion of areas where fixed costs can be converted into variable costs

"Team structures with diverse members based on business characteristics" Work speed has been increased by unified contracts. Example of LIFULL Co., Ltd.

2020-02-26

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## Strategy for This Year 2

## We will strengthen account sales to existing companies and aim to upsell, while attracting large companies by Enterprise service.

#### Example of Enterprise service

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"Relying on freelancers raises success rate of new business creation." Example of Honda R & D Co., Ltd.

2020-04-06



- Honda R&D Co., Ltd. conducts research and development in the fields of motorcycles, automobiles, energy, and robotics that are indispensable to our daily lives.
- Started using Lancers' services within the team of new business creation program launched in 2019.
- By using Lancers' services, problems such as "lack of personnel necessary for creating new business" and "securing speed" have been solved.

We will continue to develop and release new services to meet new clients' needs accompanying changes in work styles.

Release of new service "Lancers Assistant Telephone Substitution Plan"



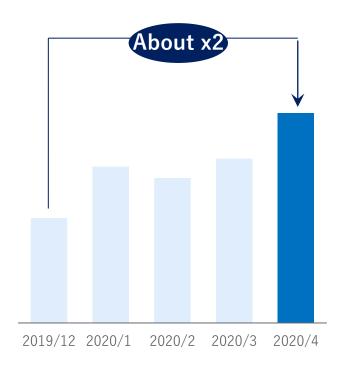
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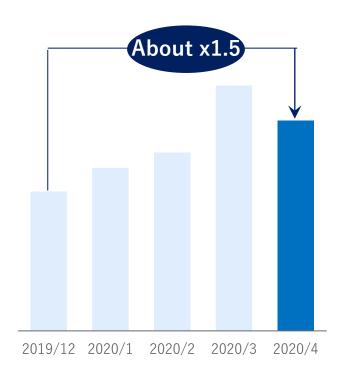
## **Short-Term Impact on Our Group Services**

The number of freelance registrants\* and the number of inquiries from clients regarding our group services have increased.

Changes in freelance registrants\*\*

Number of order inquires from clients \*\*

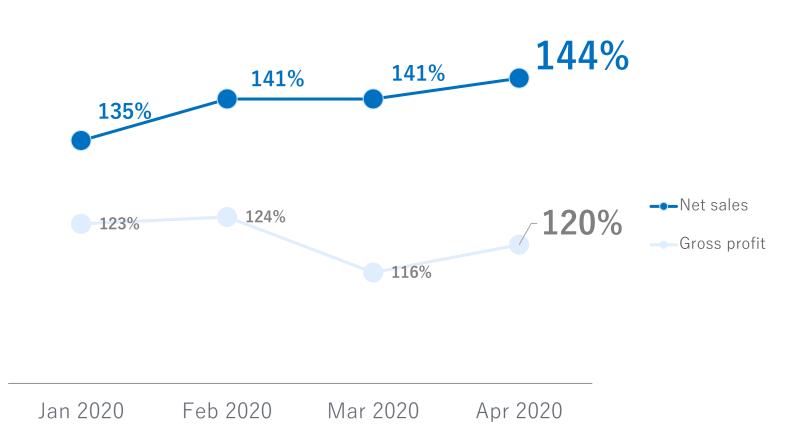




<sup>\*)</sup> The number of registered freelancers includes freelancers in a broad sense. "Freelance in a broad sense" refers to "full-time freelance" who is paid without belonging to a specific company but has not been a full-time freelance but has been paid as a freelance in the last year. Indicates a group that includes people (general office workers doing side \*\*) The number of freelance registrants and the number of inquiries from clients are trends in the rate of increase, assuming 100% as of December 12, 2019.

## Steady growth in April 2020 after restrictions were in place. However, some downsides are expected in the future.

(Reference) Year-on-year change / monthly change



There is large potential due to infiltration of telework in mid-long term. We are concerned about some impacts due to the reduction of economic activities of clients.

## Mid- to long-term impacts (upsides)

- (+) Market development potential through infiltration of smart management
- (+) Creation of new needs associated with different work styles

## **Short-term impacts (upsides / downsides)**

- (-) Reduction of orders from existing clients due to reduction of corporate activities in specific industries
- (-) Inefficiency in sales activities due to the inability to perform physical sales (phone/face-to-face)
- (+) Expansion of clients and freelancers through infiltration of telework

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- Even under the influence of COVID-19 pandemic, we aim for a growth rate similar to the previous year by capturing profitability and upside opportunities for the full year ending March 2021.
- However, upsides and downsides currently coexist, and we are experiencing difficult times as the restrictions are still in place.
- In this situation, the full-year business forecast for the fiscal year ending March 2021 is "undecided" as it is extremely difficult to make an appropriate and rational decision.
- Disclosure of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter earnings forecast based on the assumptions
  - Economic activities in specific industries will continue to shrink.
  - As short-term, mid-long-term upside needs lead time before sales, it is assumed that it will not be included in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

### Forecast for the 1Q of the Fiscal Year Ending March 2021



- 1 Considering the impacts of COVID-19, it will be down compared to the assumption.
- (2) Net sales will continue to grow steadily at +24% from the previous year.
- (3) Will continue strategic investment profitable for the year, operating loss expected in 1Q

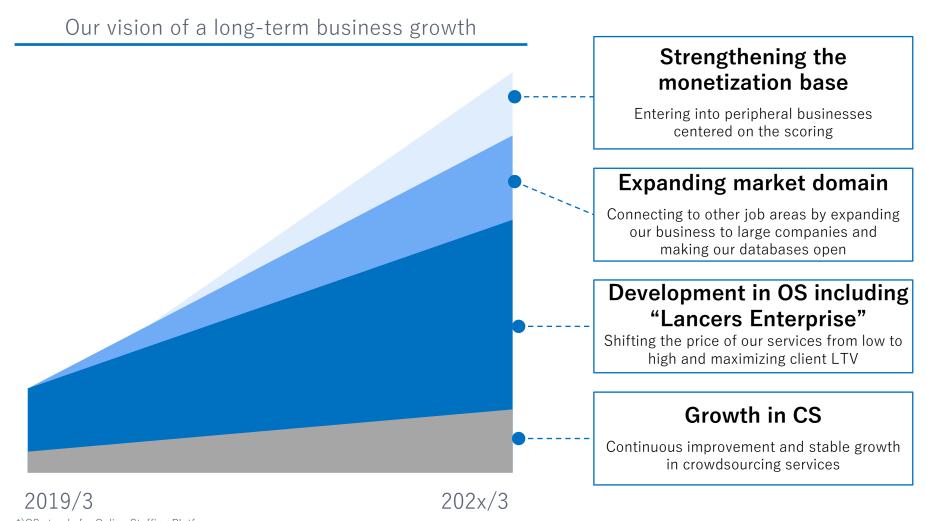
	FY2020 1Q			FY2019 1Q	
(Unit : Million JPY)	Adjusted for impacts COVID-19	Before impacts*		(year on year)	
	Prediction	As planned	Changing rates	Results	% change (vs prediction)
Net sales	830	913	△9.2%	669	+ 24.0%
Gross profit	400	457	△12.6%	377	+5.9%
Selling, general and administrative expenses (SG&A)	460	502	△8.5%	647	△29.0%
Operating loss	△60	△45	_	△270	_
Ordinary loss	△60	△44	_	△267	_
Quarterly net loss	△70	△52		△269	_

<sup>\*)</sup> Our company's 1Q forecast for the fiscal year ending Mar 2021 before the spread of COVID-19.

## Mid to Long-Term Strategy



## We aim to innovate Japanese working styles by introducing OS services as a core business structure



<sup>\*)</sup>OS stands for Online Staffing Platform \*\*) CS stands for Crowdsourcing.

# Empowerment of Individuals

Lancers empowers individuals by maximizing the possibilities of the internet to help provide ease, freedom, personality and smiles people.

We contribute to make a better society through providing values and growth opportunities, and by revolutionizing the work-style and lifestyle of individuals.



## **APPENDIX**



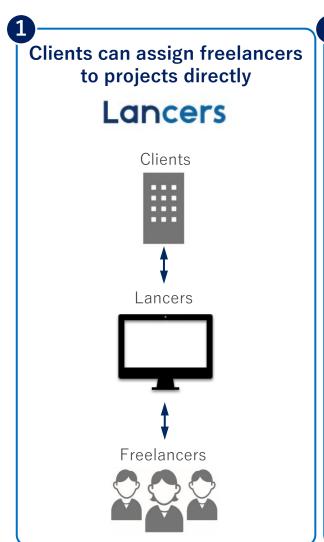
## Introduction of Lancers' Services

Lancers' Strength

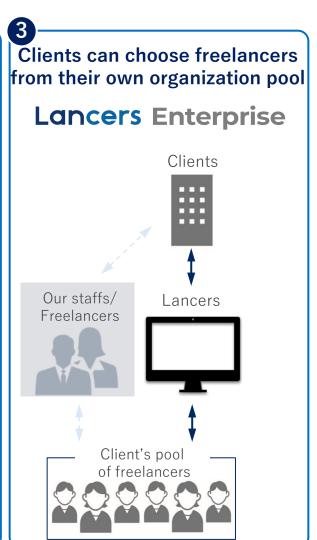
**Consolidated Statement** 

Marketing & Sales

## We provide several services to meet our clients' needs







## **Accounting Method for Each Service**

## Lancers

## We offer multiple services with different sales accounting standards

Direct order

2 Through a third party

Using both services

### Main **Services**

### Lancers

### **Lancers Agent Lancers Outsourcing**

### **Lancers** Enterprise

Sales

Handling fees associated with the client's requested amount

Gross profit

Various costs deducted from handling fees

Client's request amount ≒ Fees +Lancer's reward



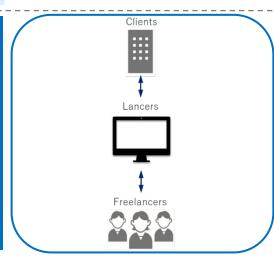
Lancer's reward and various costs deducted from the client's request amount

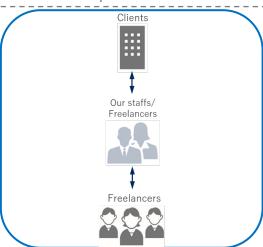
Monthly system usage fees and handling fees associated with client's request amount

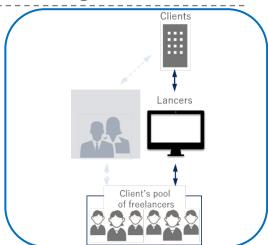


Various costs deducted from system usage fees and handling fees

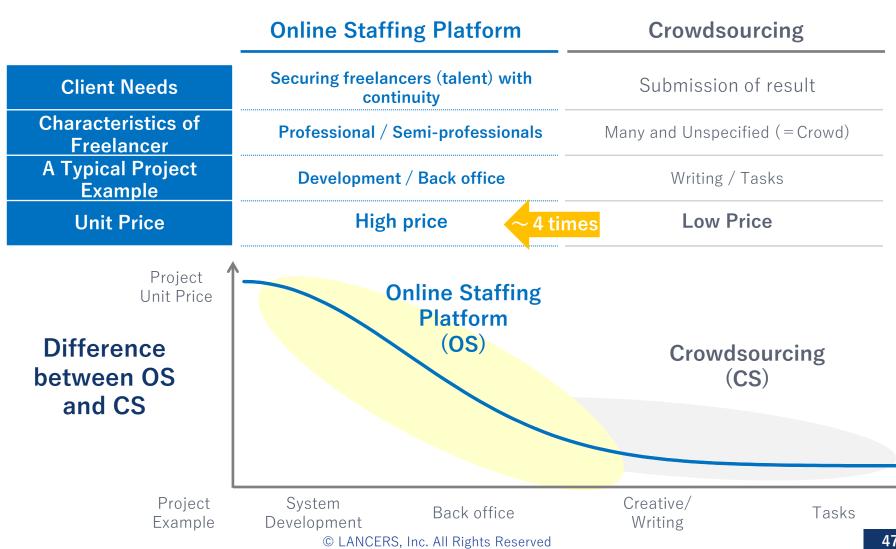








## Characteristics of projects and unit prices differ between OS and CS





Introduction of Lancers' Services

Lancers' Strength

**Consolidated Statement** 

Marketing & Sales

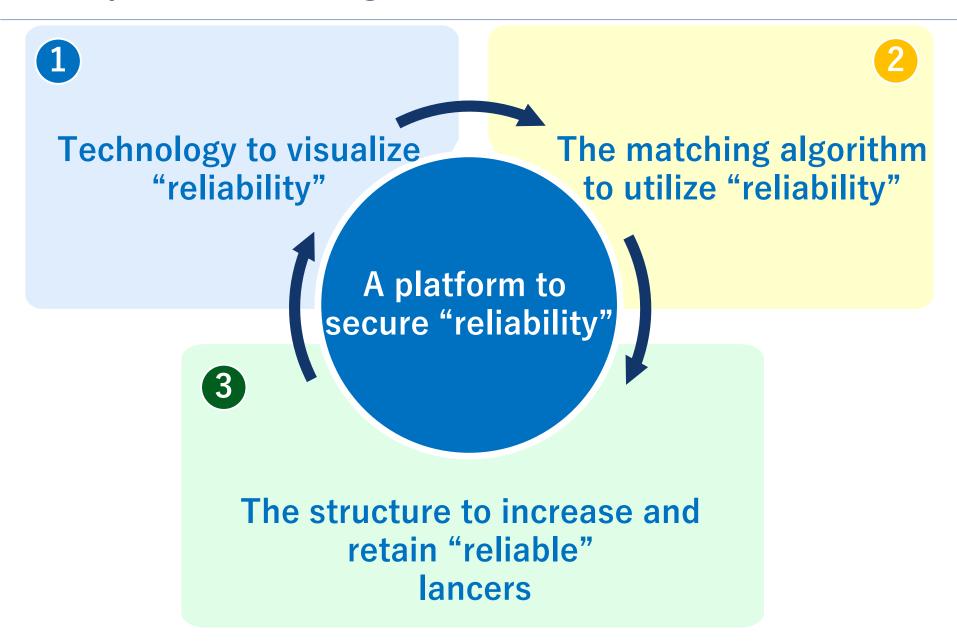
6th "Lancer of the Year" to celebrate freelancers. Switched to be held online due to COVID-19 pandemic.



「自分らしい働き方」の答えを見つける1日



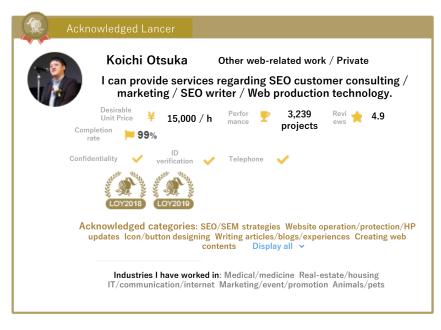






## 1 Technology to visualize "reliability"

## We recommend a real-name system to enhance reliability



#### About myself

[Received Lancer of the Year 2018 & 2019] [Featured in the Nikkei] Started freelancing in earnest in Jan 2017.

I was first in overall ranking in Sep 2017.

I am still first in SEO/SEM customer division, but these achievements are not only my own performance, but also my loyal clients who continue to come back for me.



#### About myself

I have been No.1 in EXCEL/VBA development division in Lancers' ranking for 12 consecutive months, and have come third in system development/operation division in Dec 2019.

I have also been nominated for the "Lancer of the Year 2019".

I offer inexpensive and high-quality systems.

Please ask me anything for Macro development using EXCEL/ACCESS.



## The matching algorithm to utilize "reliability"

## Lancers

## Prioritize and display reliable lancers, and match them up with clients

Match lancers with clients with high affinity



### Register reliable data

## Request projects at appropriate prices





- Best prices
- Fair prices Difference from Market price





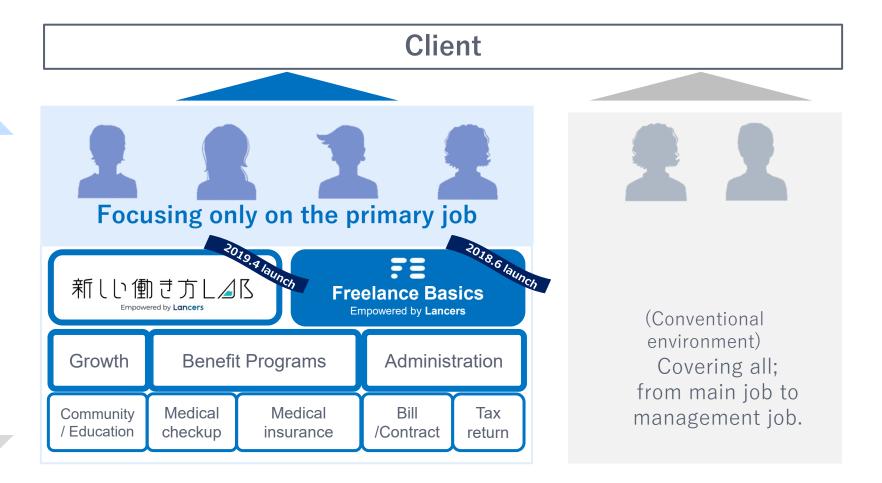
Main Job

Management Job

## The structure to increase and retain "reliable" lancers

## Lancers

## Creating an environment where they can focus on their work





Introduction of Lancers' Services

Lancers' Strength

**Consolidated Statement** 

Marketing & Sales

## **Consolidated Statements of Income**



(Unit: Million JPY)	2018/3	2019/3	2020/3
Net sales	1,910	2,522	3,474
Gross profit	1,251	1,485	1,794
Selling, general and administrative expenses (SG&A)	1,602	1,688	2,102
Operating loss	△350	△202	△307
Ordinary loss	△351	△93	△328
Net loss	△354	△17	△353

## **Consolidated Balance Sheet**



(Unit: Million JPY)	2018/3	2019/3	2020/3
Current assets	2,062	2,242	2,777
Cash and deposits	1,568	1,708	2,032
Non-current assets	319	105	368
Total assets	2,381	2,348	3,145
Current liabilities	1,370	1,354	1,424
Non-current liabilities	_	_	6
Equity	1,010	993	1,714
Total liabilities and equity	2,381	2,348	3,145

## **Consolidated Cashflow Statement**



(Unit : Million JPY)	2018/3	2019/3	2020/3
Cash flow from sales activities	△100	△156	△359
Cash flow from investment	△112	96	△225
Cash flow from financial activities	709	150	902
Increase / decrease in cash and cash equivalents	496	90	323
Balance of cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	1,638	1,728	2,052



Introduction of Lancers' Services

Lancers' Strength

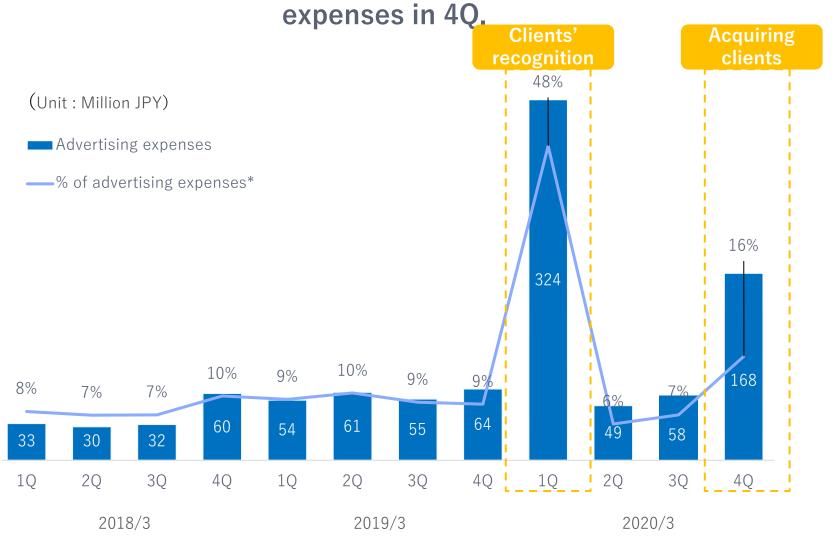
**Consolidated Statement** 

Marketing & Sales

## **Trends in Advertising Expenses (Consolidated)**

Lancers

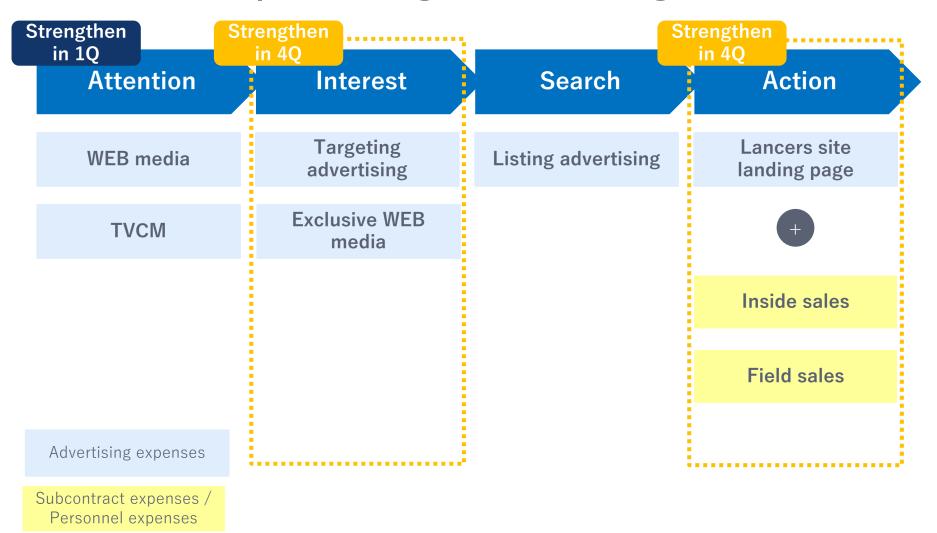
Investment focused on advertising expenses in 1Q to accelerate growth. Allocation and distribution of advertising expenses and outsourcing



<sup>\*)</sup> Proportion of advertising expenses in sales.



## To "acquire" clients, develop more targeted marketing and sales.



## Disclaimer



#### Handling of this material

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## Lancers