## SEPTENI HOLDINGS (4293)

| Consolidated Fiscal Year (Million Yen) |  | Sales | OP | RP | NP | $\begin{aligned} & \text { EPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FY09/2013 |  | 45,982 | 1,593 | 1,752 | 1,207 | 47.9 | 7.0 | 300.3 |
| FY09/2014 |  | 54,345 | 2,259 | 2,362 | 1,549 | 61.2 | 9.0 | 361.9 |
| FY09/2015CoE |  | 64,110 | 2,701 | 2,897 | 2,518 | 97.5 | 14.0 | - |
| FY09/2014 | YoY | 18.2\% | 41.8\% | 34.8\% | 28.3\% |  |  |  |
| FY09/2015CoE | YoY | 18.0\% | 19.5\% | 22.6\% | 62.5\% | - | - | - |
| Consolidated Quarter (Million Yen) |  | Sales | OP | RP | NP | $\begin{aligned} & \text { EPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BPS } \\ & \text { (Yen) } \end{aligned}$ |
| Q1 FY09/2014 |  | 12,532 | 682 | 737 | 413 | - | - | - |
| Q2 FY09/2014 |  | 14,246 | 611 | 642 | 375 | - | - | - |
| Q3 FY09/2014 |  | 13,580 | 410 | 399 | 398 | - | - | - |
| Q4 FY09/2014 |  | 13,985 | 555 | 582 | 361 | - | - | - |
| Q1 FY09/2015 |  | 14,026 | 429 | 480 | 1,034 |  |  |  |
| Q2 FY09/2015 |  | 15,495 | 616 | 714 | 432 | - | - | - |
| Q3 FY09/2015 |  | 16,588 | 755 | 802 | 481 | - | - | - |
| Q4 FY09/2015CoE |  | 18,000 | 900 | 900 | 570 | - | - | - |
| Q1 FY09/2015 | YoY | 11.9\% | (37.1\%) | (34.9\%) | 150.2\% |  | - | - |
| Q2 FY09/2015 | YoY | 8.8\% | 0.9\% | 11.3\% | 15.1\% | - | - | - |
| Q3 FY09/2015 | YoY | 22.1\% | 84.1\% | 100.7\% | 20.6\% | - | - | - |
| Q4 FY09/2015CoE | YoY | 28.7\% | 61.9\% | 54.4\% | 57.8\% | - | - | - |

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

### 1.0 Executive Summary (2 September 2015)

## Driven by "In-Feeding Type" Advertising

SEPTENI HOLDINGS, being involved with sales of Internet advertising as the key earnings pillar, is seeing accelerating growth rates in sales and earnings. In May 2015, "Yahoo! J apan", one of the media on which the Company is running own Internet advertising, has newly introduced advertising slot to be displayed between articles, which is called "in-feeding type", in line with reformation of the Smartphoneedition top page. As far as we could gather, the Company is starting to see surging sales stemming from here. At the same time, the Company is seeing expenses as well, due to aggressive frontloaded investments in manga content to be future earnings sources, but this is far more than compensated for by increasing earnings from sales of Internet advertising, i.e., the current earnings pillar. Meanwhile, the Company has come up with a target to quickly "double earnings", as own management policy, since November 2013. When based on operating profit $¥ 1,593 \mathrm{~m}$ in $F Y 09 / 2013$, the Company is now going for 1.7 times in two years, i.e., $¥ 2,701 \mathrm{~m}$ in FY09/2015.

In Q3 FY09/2015, sales came in at $¥ 16,588 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $22.1 \%$ YoY), operating profit $¥ 755 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $84.1 \%$ ) and operating profit margin $4.6 \%$ (up $1.5 \%$ points). By business segment, Internet Marketing Business, basically comprising sales of Internet advertising, saw sales $¥ 15,910 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $32.1 \%$ ), segment profit $¥ 981 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $77.0 \%$ ) and segment profit margin $6.2 \%$ (up $1.6 \%$ points). Given a fact that this business segment accounted for
$115.7 \%$ of collective segment profit $¥ 847 \mathrm{~m}$ of the Company as a whole, it should be concluded that this business segment is effectively the only driver for overall earnings of the Company. In regards to Internet Marketing Business, the Company discloses sales trends of three domains, i.e., a) mobile (Smartphones), b) social and c) global, while it is the case that a) mobile, holding high share of sales, is most substantially contributing to the strengths with surging sales. Sales in here increased 1.7 times over the year and accounted for $66.1 \%$ of total versus $51.0 \%$ over the year. This has a lot to do with above-mentioned in-feeding type advertising, which is also called "native" advertising.

FY 09/2015 Company forecasts are going for prospective sales $¥ 64,110 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $18.0 \%$ YoY), operating profit $\neq 2,701 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $19.5 \%$ ) and operating profit margin $4.2 \%$ (up $0.1 \%$ point). In Q4, prospective sales are $¥ 18,000 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $28.7 \%$ YoY), operating profit $¥ 900 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $61.9 \%$ ) and operating profit margin $5.0 \%$ (up $1.0 \%$ point), implying ongoing high growth rates in sales and earnings in the near future, preceded by those in Q3 results. In regards to Internet Marketing Business, prospective sales are $¥ 17,340 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $38.3 \%$ ), operating profit $¥ 1,138$ m (up $60.3 \%$ ) and segment profit margin $6.6 \%$ (up $0.9 \%$ points). Meanwhile, the Company makes it a rule to come up with Company forecasts for the next quarter in line with the release of any quarterly results. As far as the trends through Q1 to Q3 FY09/2015 are concerned, Company forecasts have been well exceeded, i.e., $43.1 \%$ in Q1, $12.0 \%$ in Q2 and $64.1 \%$ in Q3, in terms of operating profit. Thus, Company forecasts in Q4 could be conservative, as well.

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### 2.0 Company Profile

Independent Internet Advertising Company

| Company Name | SEPTENI HOLDINGS CO., LTD. <br> Company Website <br> IR Information <br> Share Price |
| :---: | :---: |
| Established | 29 October 1990 |
| Listing | 9 August 2001: Tokyo Stock ExchangeJ ASDAQ Standard (Ticker: 4293) |
| Capital | $¥ 2,067 \mathrm{~m}$ (As of the end of J une 2015) |
| No. of Shares | 27,696,400 shares, including 1,784,600 treasury (As of the end of J une 2015) |
| Main Features | - Sales of Internet advertising, the mainstay earnings pillar <br> - Competitive advantages on capability to cope with Smartphones and social media, while cultivating markets on a global basis <br> - Started up running specialty website of manga content, while fostering and promoting new artists |
| Businesses | I . Internet Marketing Business <br> II . Media Content Business |
| Top Management | President and Representative Director: Koki Sato |
| Shareholders | Village Seven Co., Ltd. 12.0\%, Mamoru Nanamura 11.5\%, J apan Trustee Services Bank, Ltd. (trust account) 9.3\% (As of the end of March 2015) |
| Headquarters | Shinjuku-ku, TokyoJ APAN |
| No. of Employees | Consolidated: 862 , Member of operations: 1,017 (As of the end of J une 2015) |

## 3．0 Recent Trading \＆Prospects

## Q3 FY09／2015 Results

In Q3 FY09／2015，sales came in at $¥ 16,588$ m（up $22.1 \%$ YoY），operating profit $¥ 755 \mathrm{~m}$（up $84.1 \%$ ），recurring profit $¥ 802 \mathrm{~m}$（up $100.7 \%$ ）and net profit $¥ 481$ m（up $20.6 \%$ ），while operating profit margin $4.6 \%$（up $1.5 \%$ points）．Over the year，net profit came in at $¥ 398 \mathrm{~m}$ versus recurring profit $¥ 399 \mathrm{~m}$ due to one－off factors， while all those factors did not reappear two years in a row．

Compared with Company forecasts，released in line with the release of Q2 results，sales were exceeded $¥ 788 \mathrm{~m}(5.0 \%$ ），operating profit $¥ 295 \mathrm{~m}$（64．1\％），recurring profit $¥ 332 \mathrm{~m}$（ $70.6 \%$ ）and net profit $¥ 171 \mathrm{~m}$ （55．2\％）．As far as we could gather，the Company saw impacts far better from in－feeding type advertising to have been distributed to Smartphones in Internet M arketing Business．

| Performance by Business Segment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| （Millio 20，000 <br> 10，000 <br> 0 |  | $-\ln$ <br> عLOZ／60人」 $\quad$ ZO | net <br>  |  |  | Sales s <br> ャレース／60人」 20 |  |  |  |  |  | er <br>  |
| （Millio <br> 1，500 <br> 1，000 <br> 500 <br> 0 <br> （500） |  |  | عLOZ／60人」 $\varepsilon 0$ |  |  |  |  |  | $\stackrel{10}{2}$ <br> $\stackrel{N}{8}$ <br> 8 <br>  |  | $\stackrel{1}{2}$ $\stackrel{2}{2}$ $\stackrel{2}{8}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ 0 0 | $\stackrel{0}{0}$ <br> N <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 0 <br> 1 |

At the moment, earnings of the Company heavily hinge on the performance of Internet Marketing Business where the Company is mainly invol ved with sales of Internet advertising. Sales of Media Content Business remain far too smaller, when compared with those of Internet Marketing Business and this business segment has been persistently making operating loss. On top of this, the deal to have sold operations to dispatch direct mails for sales promotions on behalf of customers, included in "Other" by business segment, in October 2014, also increased the Company's exposure to Internet Marketing Business (as the operations used to make money, al beit not much).

In Internet Marketing Business, SE PTENI CO., LTD., i.e., the group's core company, is in charge of running sales of Internet advertising as an independent player for some 1,500 customers and/or advertisers. All those customers comprise financials, real estate, cosmetics, E-Commerce and Internet services (media, telecom, mobile games, etc.) by sector. Most recently, the number of customers remains rather stable, while sales per customer are on the rise, according to the Company.


Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

In Q3, Internet Marketing Business saw sales $¥ 15,910 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $32.1 \%$ ), segment profit $¥ 981 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $77.0 \%$ ) and segment profit margin $6.2 \%$ (up $1.6 \%$ points), while gross profit margin $17.6 \%$ (up $0.6 \%$ points) and SG\&A expenses $¥ 1,812 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $21.1 \%$ ). It appears to us that increasing exposure to sales of a) mobile and b) social, both carrying gross profit margin relatively higher than average, is the key factor to have boosted gross profit margin as a whole, while the Company saw increases reasonably larger in sales than SG\&A expenses.

In regards to Internet Marketing Business, the Company discloses sales trends of three domains, i.e., a) mobile, b) social and c) global, while it is the case that a) mobile, holding high share of sales, is most substantially contributing to the strengths with surging sales. Sales in here increased 1.7 times over the year and accounted for $66.1 \%$ of total versus $51.0 \%$ over the year. On the b) social side, sales increased 2.0 times to $19.2 \%$ from $12.4 \%$, while up 2.4 times to $16.7 \%$ from $9.3 \%$ on the c) global side.

Meanwhile, it has to be mentioned that sales among all those domains do overlap each other. For example, the bulk of advertising on social media, e.g., "Facebook" and "Twitter", is currently viewed through Smartphones and thus the bulk of sales stemming from here are also included in a) mobile on top of b) social by domain.

At the end of the day, we have an impression that the Company holds appropriate and comprehensive knowhow, etc. to aggressively cultivate fast-growing parts of Internet advertising, i.e., a) mobile and b) social by domain, while it has been doing so in reality. Meanwhile, the Company argues that it is competitive due to its flexible management to quickly allocate management resources on fast-growing parts and to its capability to successfully pick up next growth parts earlier than competitors with own insight in the market for Internet where changes are so fast. On top of this, the Company also argues that it does have appropriate human resources as well as capability to efficiently manage them as an organization.

For example, the Company has been accumulating knowhow of advertising on social media, i.e., "Facebook" and "Twitter", taking the lead in in-feeding type advertising on Smartphones by means of having been involved with operations of the advertising since the earliest stages. The strengths in here have a lot to do with own competitiveness in the current operations of in-feeding type advertising for "Yahoo! J apan", as well as for those of news apps, e.g., "Gunosy", "SmartNews", etc., that are to steadily grow, going forward.

Meanwhile, in regards to c) global, the Company claims for establishment of cross-border transaction scheme. Currently, the Company runs two bases in Asia (Seoul and Singapore) and two bases in Europe \& America (San Francisco and London), on top of the domestic bases in J apan. The Company's idea is to set up a system to efficiently distribute Internet advertising of own customers locally cultivated to any target regions across the world. The Company suggests that it is rather advanced also on this side among competitors.

In Q3, as discussed earlier, sales of c) global increased 2.4 times over the year. Meanwhile, sales in Q2, just before Q3, were adjusted. Basically, the Company in here is mainly involved with large-scale global sales promotion projects and thus sales of c) global on a quarterly basis could perform with some volatility. In Q3, sales associated with placing advertising by the mainstay U.S. customers for J apan were firm in particular.

The other thing to be mentioned, in regards to sales of c) global, is that net add-ons have been generated, stemming from new consolidation of Internet advertising company based in K orea to have been merged with in J uly 2014, since Q1 FY09/2015. The company is J NJ INTERACTIVE INC., known as a player with cutting edge technology in "Facebook" advertising, while holding local major corporations as main advertisers. Thus, the deal in here gave the Company increasing sales of c) global and those of b) social at the same time.

On the other hand, in Media Content Business, where the bulk of sales is accounted for by those of AXEL MARK INC. (TSE-M others-listed consolidated subsidiary: 54.9\% held by the Company as of the end of Q2 FY09/2015) mainly in charge of developing mobile games, sales came in at $¥ 750 \mathrm{~m}$ (down $14.6 \%$ ), segment loss $¥ 133 \mathrm{~m}$ (segment loss $¥ 104 \mathrm{~m}$ over the year) and segment profit margin negative $17.8 \%$ (down $5.9 \%$ points). This business segment also includes manga content, in which the Company is currently at the stage of carrying out frontloaded investments, having been the key negative factor for the loss in this business segment.

Income Statement (Cumulative, Quarterly)

| Income Statement (Million Yen) |  |  |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Cons. Act } \\ \text { Q1 } \\ 09 / 2015 \end{array}$ | Cons.Act Q1 to Q2 09/2015 | Cons.Act <br> Q1 to Q3 $09 / 2015$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Cons.Act } \\ \text { Q1 to Q4 } \\ 09 / 2015 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | YoY <br> Net Chg. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Q1 | Q1 to Q2 | Q1 to Q3 | Q1 to Q4 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sales | 12,532 | 26,779 | 40,360 | 54,345 | 14,026 | 29,522 | 46,110 | - | +5,749 |
| Cost of Sales | 9,954 | 21,685 | 32,807 | 44,203 | 11,492 | 24,187 | 37,723 | - | +4,915 |
| Gross Profit | 2,578 | 5,094 | 7,552 | 10,141 | 2,533 | 5,334 | 8,386 | - | +833 |
| SG\&A Expenses | 1,895 | 3,800 | 5,848 | 7,882 | 2,103 | 4,288 | 6,585 | - | +736 |
| Operating Profit | 682 | 1,293 | 1,703 | 2,259 | 429 | 1,046 | 1,801 | - | +97 |
| Non Operating Balance | 55 | 86 | 75 | 102 | 50 | 148 | 196 | - | +120 |
| Recurring Profit | 737 | 1,380 | 1,779 | 2,362 | 480 | 1,194 | 1,997 | - | +217 |
| Extraordinary Balance | (6) | (6) | (46) | (46) | 1,170 | 1,170 | 1,199 | - | +1,246 |
| Pretax Profit | 731 | 1,373 | 1,733 | 2,316 | 1,650 | 2,365 | 3,197 | - | +1,463 |
| Tax Charges, etc. | 309 | 560 | 530 | 752 | 654 | 944 | 1,303 | - | +772 |
| Minorities' Interests | 9 | 23 | 14 | 14 | (38) | (46) | (54) | - | (68) |
| Net Profit | 413 | 789 | 1,187 | 1,549 | 1,034 | 1,466 | 1,948 | - | +760 |
| Sales YoY | +15.1\% | +19.2\% | +18.7\% | +18.2\% | +11.9\% | +10.2\% | +14.2\% | - | - |
| Operating Profit YoY | +134.9\% | +67.9\% | +55.8\% | +41.8\% | (37.1\%) | (19.1\%) | +5.7\% | - | - |
| Recurring Profit YoY | +118.2\% | +56.8\% | +45.5\% | +34.8\% | (34.9\%) | (13.4\%) | +12.2\% | - | - |
| Net Profit YoY | +121.4\% | +7.1\% | +30.5\% | +28.3\% | +150.2\% | +85.9\% | +64.0\% | - | - |
| Gross Profit Margin | 20.6\% | 19.0\% | 18.7\% | 18.7\% | 18.1\% | 18.1\% | 18.2\% | - | (0.5\%) |
| SG\&A / Sales | 15.1\% | 14.2\% | 14.5\% | 14.5\% | 15.0\% | 14.5\% | 14.3\% | - | (0.2\%) |
| Operating Profit Margin | 5.4\% | 4.8\% | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 3.1\% | 3.5\% | 3.9\% | - | (0.3\%) |
| Recurring Profit Margin | 5.9\% | 5.2\% | 4.4\% | 4.3\% | 3.4\% | 4.0\% | 4.3\% | - | (0.1\%) |
| Net Profit Margin | 3.3\% | 3.0\% | 2.9\% | 2.9\% | 7.4\% | 5.0\% | 4.2\% | - | +1.3\% |
| Tax Charges etc. / Pretax Profit | 42.2\% | 40.8\% | 30.6\% | 32.5\% | 39.7\% | 39.9\% | 40.8\% | - | +10.1\% |
| Income Statement | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act |  |
|  | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | YoY |
| (Million Yen) | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | Net Chg. |
| Sales | 12,532 | 14,246 | 13,580 | 13,985 | 14,026 | 15,495 | 16,588 | - | +3,007 |
| Cost of Sales | 9,954 | 11,730 | 11,122 | 11,395 | 11,492 | 12,694 | 13,535 | - | +2,413 |
| Gross Profit | 2,578 | 2,516 | 2,458 | 2,589 | 2,533 | 2,801 | 3,052 | - | +593 |
| SG\&A Expenses | 1,895 | 1,905 | 2,048 | 2,033 | 2,103 | 2,184 | 2,297 | - | +249 |
| Operating Profit | 682 | 611 | 410 | 555 | 429 | 616 | 755 | - | +344 |
| Non Operating Balance | 55 | 31 | (10) | 26 | 50 | 97 | 47 | - | +57 |
| Recurring Profit | 737 | 642 | 399 | 582 | 480 | 714 | 802 | - | +402 |
| Extraordinary Balance | (6) | 0 | (39) | 0 | 1,170 | 0 | 29 | - | +69 |
| Pretax Profit | 731 | 641 | 360 | 582 | 1,650 | 714 | 831 | - | +471 |
| Tax Charges, etc. | 309 | 251 | (30) | 221 | 654 | 290 | 358 | - | +388 |
| Minorities' Interests | 9 | 13 | (8) | 0 | (38) | (8) | (7) | - | +1 |
| Net Profit | 413 | 375 | 398 | 361 | 1,034 | 432 | 481 | - | +82 |
| Sales YoY | +15.1\% | +23.2\% | +17.6\% | +16.8\% | +11.9\% | +8.8\% | +22.1\% | - | - |
| Operating Profit YoY | +134.9\% | +27.4\% | +26.7\% | +11.4\% | (37.1\%) | +0.9\% | +84.1\% | - | - |
| Recurring Profit YoY | +118.2\% | +18.5\% | +16.7\% | +10.1\% | (34.9\%) | +11.3\% | +100.7\% | - | - |
| Net Profit YoY | +121.4\% | (31.6\%) | +129.1\% | +21.8\% | +150.2\% | +15.1\% | +20.6\% | - | - |
| Gross Profit Margin | 20.6\% | 17.7\% | 18.1\% | 18.5\% | 18.1\% | 18.1\% | 18.4\% | - | +0.3\% |
| SG\&A / Sales | 15.1\% | 13.4\% | 15.1\% | 14.5\% | 15.0\% | 14.1\% | 13.9\% | - | (1.2\%) |
| Operating Profit Margin | 5.4\% | 4.3\% | 3.0\% | 4.0\% | 3.1\% | 4.0\% | 4.6\% | - | +1.5\% |
| Recuring Profit Margin | 5.9\% | 4.5\% | 2.9\% | 4.2\% | 3.4\% | 4.6\% | 4.8\% | - | +1.9\% |
| Net Profit Margin | 3.3\% | 2.6\% | 2.9\% | 2.6\% | 7.4\% | 2.8\% | 2.9\% | - | (0.0\%) |
| Tax Charges etc. / Pretax Profit | 42.2\% | 39.3\% | - | 38.1\% | 39.7\% | 40.6\% | 43.1\% | - | - |

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Segmented Information (Cumulative, Quarterly)

| Segmented Information (Million Yen) | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Cons.Act } \\ \text { Q1 } \\ 09 / 2014 \end{array}$ | Cons.Act Q1 to Q2 09/2014 | Cons.Act Q1 to Q3 09/2014 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Cons.Act } \\ \text { Q1 to Q4 } \\ 09 / 2014 \end{gathered}$ | Cons.Act <br> Q1 <br> 09/2015 | Cons.Act Q1 to Q2 09/2015 | Cons.Act Q1 to Q3 09/2015 | Cons.Act Q1 to Q4 09/2015 | Net Chg. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Internet Marketing Business | 11,044 | 23,685 | 35,733 | 48,271 | 13,299 | 27,915 | 43,825 | - | +8,092 |
| Media Content Business | 873 | 1,729 | 2,609 | 3,458 | 794 | 1,747 | 2,498 | - | (110) |
| Other | 671 | 1,482 | 2,198 | 2,867 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Elimination | (56) | (117) | (180) | (251) | (68) | (141) | (214) | - | (33) |
| Sales | 12,532 | 26,779 | 40,360 | 54,345 | 14,026 | 29,522 | 46,110 | - | +5,749 |
| Internet Marketing Business | +21.8\% | +24.4\% | +23.1\% | +22.3\% | +20.4\% | +17.9\% | +22.6\% | - |  |
| Media Content Business | (7.1\%) | (5.7\%) | (4.2\%) | (6.9\%) | (9.1\%) | +1.1\% | (4.2\%) | - |  |
| Other | (26.4\%) | (9.1\%) | (5.5\%) | (1.9\%) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sales (YoY) | +15.1\% | + $19.2 \%$ | +18.7\% | +18.2\% | +11.9\% | +10.2\% | +14.2\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 87.7\% | 88.1\% | 88.1\% | 88.8\% | 94.4\% | 94.1\% | 94.6\% | - |  |
| Media Content Business | 6.9\% | 6.4\% | 6.4\% | 6.4\% | 5.6\% | 5.9\% | 5.4\% | - | - |
| Other | 5.3\% | 5.5\% | 5.4\% | 5.3\% | - | - | - | - |  |
| Sales (Composition) | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 793 | 1,476 | 2,030 | 2,740 | 691 | 1,521 | 2,502 | - | +472 |
| Media Content Business | (42) | (77) | (181) | (277) | (155) | (274) | (407) | - | (225) |
| Other | 36 | 97 | 147 | 186 | - | - | - | - |  |
| Segment Profit | 788 | 1,495 | 1,996 | 2,650 | 535 | 1,247 | 2,095 | - | +98 |
| Elimination | (105) | (202) | (292) | (390) | (105) | (201) | (294) | - | (1) |
| Operating Profit | 682 | 1,293 | 1,703 | 2,259 | 429 | 1,046 | 1,801 | - | +97 |
| Internet Marketing Business | +87.3\% | +48.9\% | +41.5\% | +35.9\% | (12.9\%) | +3.1\% | +23.3\% | - |  |
| Media Content Business | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | (7.1\%) | + 15.5\% | + 17.7\% | +16.5\% | - | - | - | - | - |
| Segment Profit YoY ) | +121.5\% | +60.2\% | +47.0\% | +35.3\% | (32.1\%) | (16.6\%) | +4.9\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 100.7\% | 98.7\% | 101.7\% | 103.4\% | 129.1\% | 122.0\% | 119.5\% | - |  |
| Media Content Business | (5.4\%) | (5.2\%) | (9.1\%) | (10.5\%) | (29.1\%) | (22.0\%) | (19.5\%) | - |  |
| Other | 4.6\% | 6.5\% | 7.4\% | 7.1\% | - | - | - | - | - |
| Segment Profit (Composition) | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 7.2\% | 6.2\% | 5.7\% | 5.7\% | 5.2\% | 5.5\% | 5.7\% | - | +0.0\% |
| Media Content Business | (4.8\%) | (4.5\%) | (7.0\%) | (8.0\%) | (19.6\%) | (15.7\%) | (16.3\%) | - | (9.3\%) |
| Other | 5.4\% | 6.5\% | 6.7\% | 6.5\% | - | - |  | - |  |
| Elimination | (0.8\%) | (0.8\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.8\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.6\%) | - | +0.1\% |
| Operating Profit Margin | 5.4\% | 4.8\% | 4.2\% | 4.2\% | 3.1\% | 3.5\% | 3.9\% | - | (0.3\%) |
| Segmented Information | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act |  |
|  | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | YoY |
| (Million Yen) | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | Net Chg. |
| Internet Marketing Business | 11,044 | 12,641 | 12,048 | 12,538 | 13,299 | 14,615 | 15,910 | - | +3,862 |
| Media Content Business | 873 | 855 | 879 | 849 | 794 | 953 | 750 | - | (128) |
| Other | 671 | 811 | 715 | 668 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Elimination | (56) | (61) | (62) | (71) | (68) | (72) | (73) | - | (10) |
| Sales | 12,532 | 14,246 | 13,580 | 13,985 | 14,026 | 15,495 | 16,588 | - | +3,007 |
| Internet Marketing Business | +21.8\% | +26.8\% | +20.7\% | +20.1\% | +20.4\% | +15.6\% | +32.1\% | - | - |
| Media Content Business | (7.1\%) | (4.3\%) | (1.1\%) | (14.2\%) | (9.1\%) | +11.4\% | (14.6\%) | - | - |
| Other | (26.4\%) | +12.9\% | +2.8\% | +12.2\% | - | - | - | - |  |
| Sales (YoY) | +15.1\% | +23.2\% | +17.6\% | +16.8\% | +11.9\% | +8.8\% | +22.1\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 87.7\% | 88.3\% | 88.3\% | 89.2\% | 94.4\% | 93.9\% ${ }^{-}$ | 95.5\% | - |  |
| Media Content Business | 6.9\% | 6.0\% | 6.4\% | 6.0\% | 5.6\% | 6.1\% | 4.5\% | - | - |
| Other | 5.3\% | 5.7\% | 5.2\% | 4.8\% | - | - | - | - |  |
| Sales (Composition) | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 793 | 682 | 554 | 709 | 691 | 830 | 981 | - | +426 |
| Media Content Business | (42) | (35) | (104) | (95) | (155) | (118) | (133) | - | (29) |
| Other | 36 | 60 | 50 | 39 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Segment Profit | 788 | 707 | 500 | 653 | 535 | 712 | 847 | - | +347 |
| Elimination | (105) | (96) | (90) | (97) | (105) | (95) | (92) | - | (2) |
| Operating Profit | 682 | 611 | 410 | 555 | 429 | 616 | 755 | - | +344 |
| Internet Marketing Business | +87.3\% | +20.2\% | +24.9\% | +22.1\% | (12.9\%) | +21.7\% | +77.0\% | - | - |
| Media Content Business | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other | (7.1\%) | +35.4\% | +22.0\% | +12.1\% | - | - | - | - |  |
| Segment Profit ( YoY ) | +121.5\% | +22.5\% | +17.8\% | +9.0\% | (32.1\%) | +0.6\% | +69.4\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 100.7\% | 96.4\% | 110.7\% | 108.6\% | 129.1\% | 116.6\% | 115.7\% | - | - |
| Media Content Business | (5.4\%) | (5.0\%) | (20.8\%) | (14.6\%) | (29.1\%) | (16.6\%) | (15.7\%) | - | - |
| Other | 4.6\% | 8.6\% | 10.1\% | 6.0\% | - | - | - | - | - |
| Segment Profit (Composition) | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | 100.0\% | - | - |
| Internet Marketing Business | 7.2\% | 5.4\% | 4.6\% | 5.7\% | 5.2\% | 5.7\% | 6.2\% | - | +1.6\% |
| Media Content Business | (4.8\%) | (4.1\%) | (11.9\%) | (11.2\%) | (19.6\%) | (12.4\%) | (17.8\%) | - | (5.9\%) |
| Other | 5.4\% | 7.5\% | 7.1\% | 5.9\% | - | - | - | - | - |
| Elimination | (0.8\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.7\%) | (0.8\%) | (0.6\%) | (0.6\%) | - | +0.1\% |
| Operating Profit Margin | 5.4\% | 4.3\% | 3.0\% | 4.0\% | 3.1\% | 4.0\% | 4.6\% | - | +1.5\% |

Balance Sheet (Quarterly)

| Balance Sheet | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Q3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Cash Flow Statement (Cumulative, Quarterly)

| Cash Flow Statement |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Q1 | Q1 to Q2 | Q1 to Q3 | Q1 to Q4 | Q1 | Q1 to Q2 | Q1 to Q3 | Q1 to Q4 | YoY |
| (Million Yen) | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | Net Chg. |
| Operating Cash Flow | 202 | 785 | 845 | 2,830 | (150) | (285) | 351 |  | (493) |
| Investing Cash Flow | 1 | (477) | (577) | (913) | 1,263 | 1,351 | 1,414 | - | +1,991 |
| Operating CF \& Investment CF | 204 | 307 | 268 | 1,916 | 1,112 | 1,065 | 1,765 | - | +1,497 |
| Financing Cash Flow | (118) | (158) | (63) | 178 | 85 | (75) | (33) | - | +30 |
| Cash Flow Statement | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act | Cons.Act |  |
|  | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | YoY |
| (Million Yen) | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2014 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | 09/2015 | Net Chg. |
| Operating Cash Flow | 202 | 582 | 59 | 1,985 | (150) | (135) | 637 | - | +577 |
| Investing Cash Flow | 1 | (479) | (99) | (336) | 1,263 | 88 | 62 | - | +161 |
| Operating CF \& Investment CF | 204 | 103 | (39) | 1,648 | 1,112 | (47) | 699 | - | +739 |
| Financing Cash Flow | (118) | (39) | 94 | 242 | 85 | (160) | 42 | - | (52) |

[^0]FY09/2015 Company forecasts are going for prospective sales $¥ 64,110 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $18.0 \%$ YoY ), operating profit $¥ 2,701 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $19.5 \%$ ), recurring profit $¥ 2,897 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $22.6 \%$ ) and net profit $¥ 2,518 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $62.5 \%$ ), while operating profit margin $4.2 \%$ (up $0.1 \%$ point).

Meanwhile, prospective divided per share is $¥ 14.0$, implying payout ratio $14.4 \%$. While this implies substantial increases of dividend per share from $¥ 9.0$, implying payout ratio $14.7 \%$, in $\mathrm{FY} 09 / 2014$, payout ratio remains below $15 \%$. As far as we could gather, the Company is currently pursuing the best balance between paying dividends and investing for future earnings as measures to return earnings to sharehol ders, given the fact the Company is planning to aggressively carry out investments for future earnings in the foreseeable future.

Sales \& Operating Profit Margin


Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Meanwhile, in Q4, prospective sales are $¥ 18,000 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $28.7 \%$ YoY), operating profit $¥ 900 \mathrm{~m}$ (up $61.9 \%$ ) and operating profit margin $5.0 \%$ (up 1.0\% point), implying ongoing high growth rates in sales and earnings in the near future, preceded by those in Q3 results. As discussed earlier, this has a lot to do with increasing sales and earnings in Internet Marketing Business. In regards to Media Content Business, sales in Q4 are expected to be $¥ 735 \mathrm{~m}$ (down $13.4 \%$ ) and segment loss $¥ 138 \mathrm{~m}$ (segment loss $¥ 95 \mathrm{~m}$ over the year), implying decreasing sales and increasing segment loss over the year.

On the mobile game side, a title called "KINGDOM or The Geneal ogy of the Hero", is doing well, while the first investment was made by LLP (Limited Liability Partnership) newly set up to invest in developers of Smartphone game as well as to foster them at the same time. On the manga content side, the Company has been fostering new manga artists through "Route $M$ " which is own program to support them, while their works being distributed on "GANMA!" which is own service platform of new manga series.

In J uly 2015, the number of accumulated downloads for the app has reached 1.56 m and monthly page views more than 300 m , while some of the manga series have been published as separate volumes and/or broadcasted on TV as animated cartoon programs. Going forward more importantly, the Company is looking to opportunities for this business to become new earnings sources for the Company, by means of starting up extensive IP (Intellectual Property) business based on hit series. However, to date, expenses to foster new manga artists, etc., have been far larger than sales stemming from here.

## Long-Term Prospects

In November 2013, the Company came up with new management policy. Although there were no specifications in figures, periods, etc., the Company revealed its idea and/or concept to quickly "double earnings" by means of "sales mix improvements" and "setting up new earnings pillars". It was also revealed that the Company was to focus on a) mobile, b) social and c) global by domain.

## Long-Term Prospects



Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Long-term earnings growth is nothing but accumulated results of short-term business performance, e.g., that of quarterly results and thus the issue to be pursued is just to see steady earnings growth every quarter, which is basic idea with the Company, at present. Due to this, the Company does not specify timing, etc. for its management policy, on top of hesitating to disclose full-year Company forecasts at the beginning of the year.

On the other hand, it has been clearly disclosed that steady progresses have been made on a) mobile, b) social and c) global by domain, as discussed earlier. When based on operating profit $¥ 1,593 \mathrm{~m}$ in $\mathrm{FY} 09 / 2013$, the Company is now going for 1.7 times in two years, i.e., $¥ 2,701 \mathrm{~m}$ in $F Y 09 / 2015$. This suggests that the Company shall quickly "double earnings".

The other thing is that the Company sees increasing exposure to a) mobile and b) social by domain, in sales of Internet advertising, implying that "sales mix improvements" are going on in reality, in that both are estimated to carry gross profit margin relatively higher than average. Meanwhile, the current situations of mobile games and manga content suggest limited progresses have been made on "setting up new earnings pillars". This is to be an issue to make progresses in FY 09/2016 and later.

### 4.0 Business Model

## Sales of Internet Advertising

The bulk of the Company's earnings come from Internet Marketing Business, where sales of Internet advertising are the mainstay. This business was effectively inaugurated by K oki Sato (born in 1975) in 2000, who is currently president and representative director of the Company. In FY 09/2014, this business segment accounted for $88.8 \%$ of sales of the Company and $103.4 \%$ of collective segment profit, implying this is literally the earnings source for the Company.

## Internet Marketing Business



Source: Company Data

In Internet Marketing Business, the Company is involved with comprehensive marketing support services based on the use of Internet for corporate customers. Out of here, overwhelming proportions of sales and earnings come from sales of Internet advertising, where the Company procures Internet advertising slots from diverse Internet media (such as "Google", "Yahoo! J apan" and social media, such as "F acebook", etc.), while selling them to customers, i.e., advertisers. This business accounts for $95 \%$ of sales in this business segment, roughly speaking, while the remaining $5 \%$ by those of own services comprising diverse web solutions, Cloud-based CRM systems, etc. Generally speaking, the latter carries gross profit margin higher than the former, but the latter accounts for just a tiny proportion of sales in this business segment, likely remaining insignificant as a factor to driver earnings for this business segment as a whole and thus for the Company.

In sales of Internet advertising, diverse operational-type advertising, such as ad network and social media advertising, is offered to customers, i.e., advertisers (more than $90 \%$ of sales), on top of existing listing advertising, etc. In a view of advertisers, it could not be always so easy to distinguish the Company from competitors, i.e., CyberAgent, Inc., OPT, Inc. and IREP Co., Ltd. in terms of features, etc., but the Company sees steady results on all those growth domains, i.e., a) mobile, b) social and c) global, as an independent player almost all relying on own sales forces.


Source: Company Data

In regards to Media Content Business, the other business segment of the Company, the main operations are those of aforementioned AXEL MARK INC. to plan and develop diverse digital contents, represented by those of mobile games mainly for Smartphones. All those contents are provided to users through platforms such as SNS and apps markets. Meanwhile, in this business segment, the Company started up a new business in FY09/2014, which is to foster manga artists to make them appear in public by means of running manga distribution services, in order to eventually develop own IP (Intellectual Property) business in the future.

## Disclaimer

Information here is a summary of "IR Information" of the Company, compiled by Walden Research J apan, from a neutral and professional standing point, in the form of a report. "IR Information" of the Company comprises a) contents of our interview with the Company, b) contents of presentations for institutional investors, c) contents of timely disclosed information and d) contents of the homepage etc.

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[^0]:    Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

