

Summary of Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023

February 14, 2024 KOKUYO Co., Ltd.

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- 1. Full-Year FY2023 Results
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\* The business segments are as follows:

Furniture Businesses: FN Business Supply Distribution: BS Stationery Businesses: ST Interior Retail Businesses: IR

 \* Unless otherwise indicated, monetary figures are rounded down to the nearest million yen.
 As such, the sum of the figures in a breakdown may not match the stated total.



## **Executive Summary**

#### FY2023 Results

- Of the upgraded targets (disclosed with the H1 results), we fell short of the target for net sales (as a result of the slower pace of economic recovery in China) but achieved the target for operating income (with progress in optimizing SG&A exp).
- With operating income growth and the sale of cross-shareholdings, net income reached an all-time high of ¥19.0 billion.

#### Full-Year FY2024 Forecasts

- Despite economic uncertainties in China, we expect YoY growth in revenue and profit with the Japan FN businesses continuing to enjoy brisk demand.
- We're unlikely to meet the net sales and operating income targets for 2024 (2024 being the final year of the third medium-term plan) given slow field expansion in the lifestyle field, economic uncertainties in China, and investments in talent and infrastructure. However, we're set to achieve the ROE goal of 8%, and we're preparing for a growth surge over the next medium-term period.
- Net income in 2024 is likely to break another record thanks to organic business growth and sale of cross-held shares.

#### 2030 Target in Long-Term Vision, CCC 2030: ¥500 billion in Net Sales

- With a 2030 target of ¥500 billion in net sales, we're working to expand the workstyle and lifestyle fields. This involves tweaking existing business, expanding existing fields, and nurturing new business ideas.
   As part of our long-term vision (CCC 2030), the third medium-term plan has committed us to working on four priority tasks and strategies (medium
- As part of our long-term vision (CCC 2030), the third medium-term plan has committed us to working on four priority tasks and strategies (medium
  and long term) for field expansion.
- We've made progress in the four priority tasks, especially in the task of dynamic investment. For this task, the third medium-term plan set a growth CapEx budget of ¥30 bn. Of this, we've invested ¥11.1 bn in M&As and in a structure for developing M&A leads, raising the chances of success for our M&A strategy.
- Our field expansion strategy involves building our global portfolio: To expand the workstyle field, we'll expand business overseas and expand the range of merchandise. To expand the lifestyle field, we'll replicate in other Asian markets our success in marketing stationery to female students in China.
- Our capital policy emphasizes capital costs and share price and commits us to controlling capital costs and ensuring an effective equity spread. Our fourth medium-term plan will include an updated capital policy along with a new growth policy.

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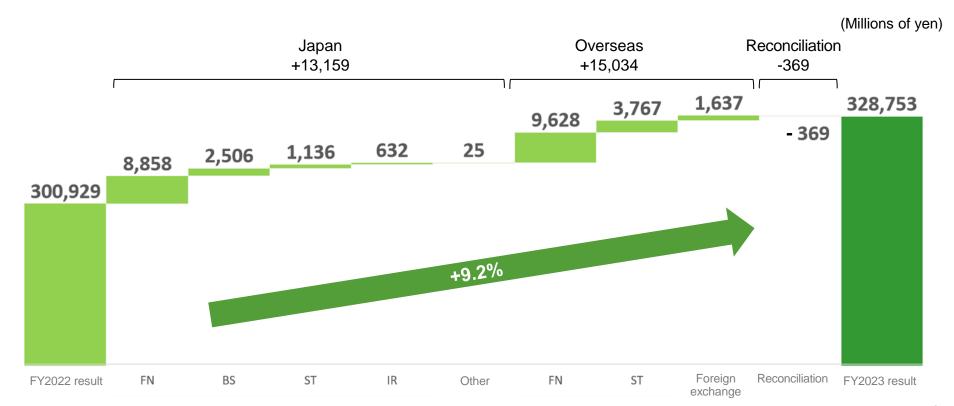
# Operating income exceeded revised target with sizeable YoY growth. With sale of cross-shareholdings, net income reached an all-time high of ¥19.0 billion.

(Millions of yen)

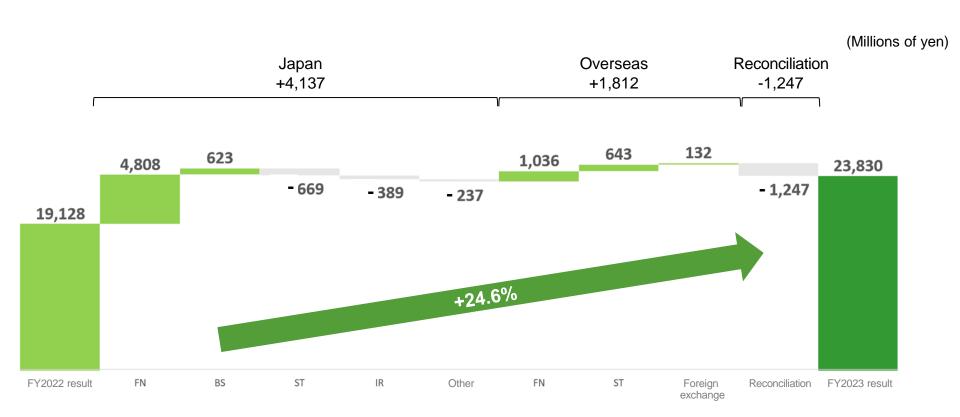
	FY2022 result	Initial FY2023 target	Revised FY2023 target	FY2023 result	Change from FY2022 result	Deviation from initial FY2023 target	Deviation from revised FY2023 target
Net sales	300,929	337,000	337,000	328,753	+9.2%	-2.4%	-2.4%
Gross profit	116,671	130,200	130,500	127,392	+9.2%	-2.2%	-2.4%
(ratio)	38.8%	38.6%	38.7%	38.8%			
SG&A expenses	97,543	110,200	107,500	103,561	+6.2%	-6.0%	-3.7%
(ratio)	32.4%	32.7%	31.9%	31.5%			
Operating income	19,128	20,000	23,000	23,830	+24.6%	+19.2%	+3.6%
(ratio)	6.4%	5.9%	6.8%	7.2%			
Ordinary income	21,161	21,400	25,200	25,989	+22.8%	+21.4%	+3.1%
(ratio)	7.0%	6.4%	7.5%	7.9%			
Net income attributable to owners of parent	18,237	15,600	18,500	19,069	+4.6%	+22.2%	+3.1%
(ratio)	6.1%	4.6%	5.5%	5.8%			
							© 3034 KOKIIV

Japan: Sales growth led by strong performance in FN

Overseas: Main contributors were acquisition of Kokuyo Hong Kong in FN and sales growth in ST



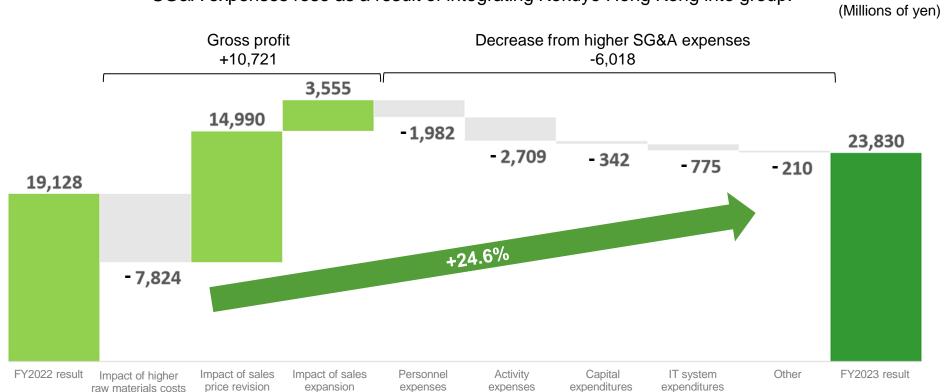
# Profit growth was led by revenue growth and better margins in Japanese furniture businesses



## Contributors to YoY Change in Operating Income

The impact of cost increases (e.g. raw materials, labor) was again offset by the impact of sales price revisions in the previous year.

SG&A expenses rose as a result of integrating Kokuyo Hong Kong into group.





#### Full-Year FY2024 Forecasts: Year on Year Comparisons

Operating income ratio will decrease with investments ahead of the next medium-term plan, but we've targeted revenue and profit growth.

The net income target is at a record high level. The ROE target is, at over 8%, higher than the initial target set out in the medium-term plan.

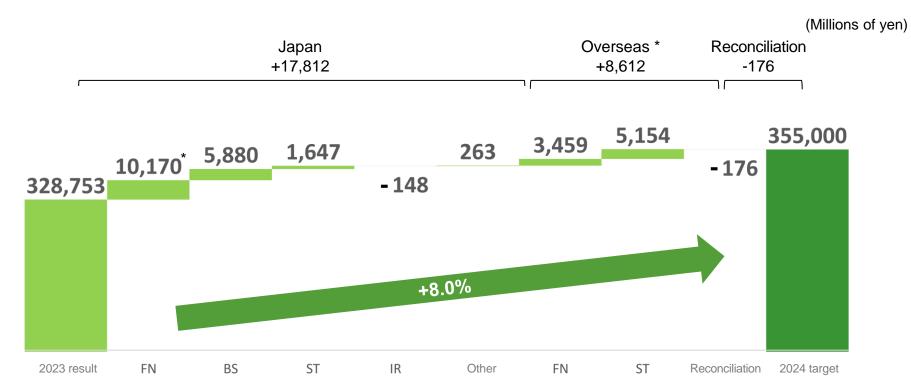
	2023 result	2024 target	YoY change	% YoY change
Net sales	328,753	355,000	+ 26,247	+8.0%
Gross profit	127,392	140,100	+ 12,708	+10.0%
(ratio)	38.8%	39.5%		
SG&A expenses	103,561	115,600	+ 12,039	+11.6%
(ratio)	31.5%	32.6%		
Operating income	23,830	24,500	+ 670	+2.8%
(ratio)	7.2%	6.9%		
Ordinary income	25,989	25,500	- 486 -1.9	
(ratio)	7.9%	7.2%		
Net income attributable to owners of parent	19,069	21,400	+ 2,331	+12.2%
(ratio)	5.8%	6.0%		
ROE	7.8%	8.3%		

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(Millions of yen)

Japan: FN and BS will be biggest contributors.

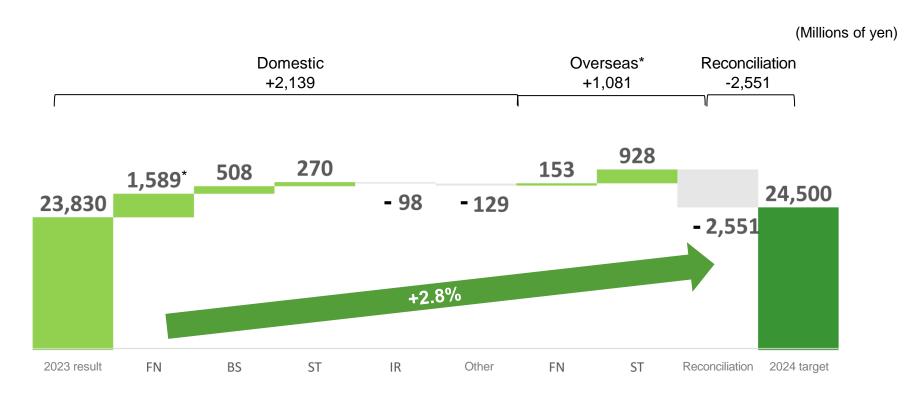
Overseas: ST will lead sales growth.



<sup>\*</sup> Includes impact of making domestic company a consolidated origin

<sup>\*</sup> Includes impact of making overseas company a consolidated subsidiary

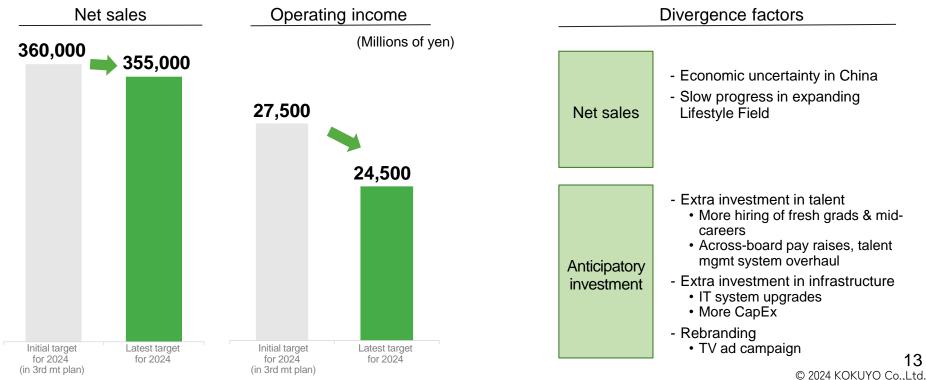
Main contributors to profit growth will be sales growth and better margins in Japanese FN and BS and overseas ST.



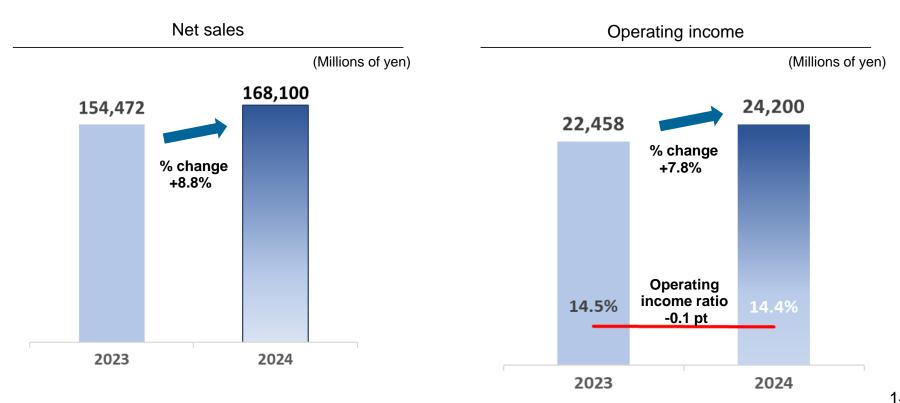
<sup>\*</sup> Includes impact of making domestic company a consolidated origin

<sup>\*</sup> Includes impact of making overseas company a consolidated subsidiary

Performance is generally in line with the third medium-term plan; net sales are generally in line with initial expectations. We're investing in growth projects (talent and infrastructure) ahead of the fourth medium-term plan to improve prospects for further growth.



Net sales will grow 8.8% (to ¥168,100 mn). Operating income will grow 7.8% (to ¥24,200 mn).



#### Workstyle Field: Furniture Businesses

Japan: We'll capitalize on brisk demand to increase share and efficiency.

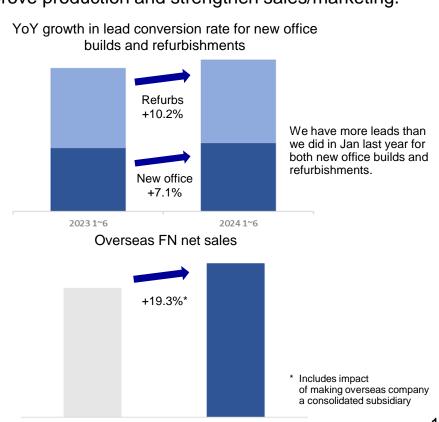
Overseas, Kokuyo Hong Kong will lead efforts to improve production and strengthen sales/marketing.

#### Domestic furniture business

- (1) External environment
- Demand remains brisk for new offices builds (newly built offices or office relocations) and office refurbishments
- (2) Strategy
- Capitalize on brisk demand to increase share and efficiency.
  - Pursue new office leads more effectively
  - Streamline processes (e.g. design processes, sales processes)
  - Invest in efforts to bolster talent and improve business efficiecy

#### Overseas furniture business

- (1) External environment
- · Situation in China remains tough, with economic uncertainty still high
- (2) Strategy
- Kokuyo Hong Kong to lead efforts to improve production and sales/marketing in China and ASEAN
  - Consolidate product groups, transfer production
  - Clarify target markets, optimize pricing, improve cross-selling

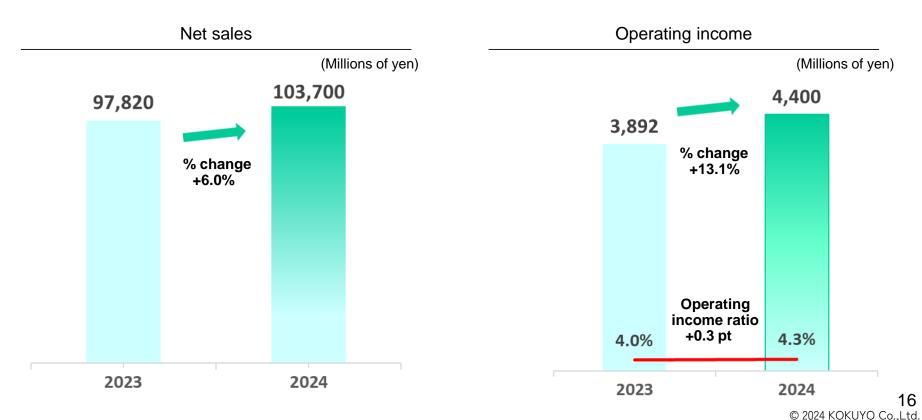


FY2024 target

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FY2023 result

Net sales will grow 6.0% (to ¥103,700 mn). Operating income will grow 13.1% (to ¥4,400 mn).



#### Workstyle Field: Business Supplies

The market continues to grow at a steady pace and competition remains tough.

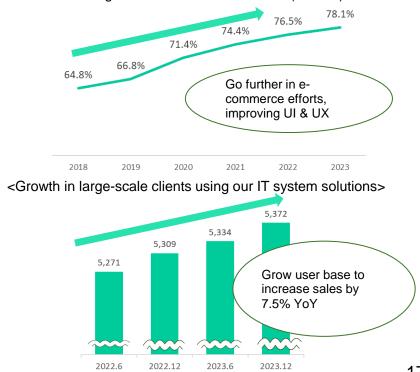
To increase our market share, we'll market IT system solutions more effectively to large-scale clients and further improve e-commerce.

#### **Business Supplies**

- (1) External environment
- Market growth continues at steady pace amid increasing economic normalization
- Market remains crowded, with intense competition between players

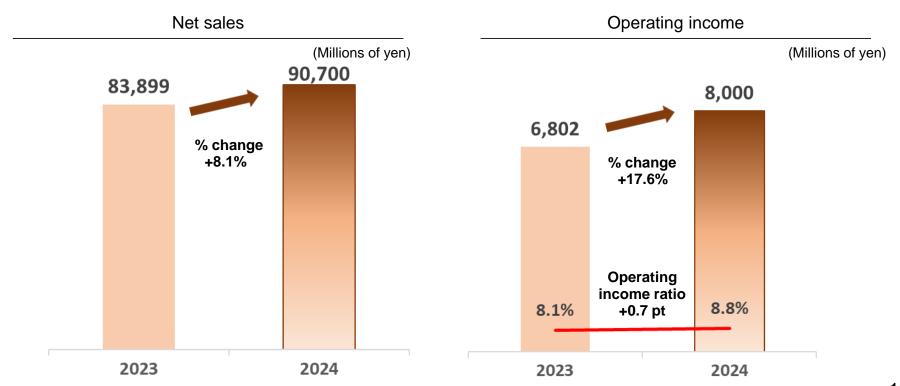
#### (2) Strategy

- Market IT system solutions more effectively to large-scale clients to expand customer base
- Accelerate e-commerce efforts to enhance customer experience value and expand business
  - Improve online store's UI & UX to draw more traffic to site and win new customers
- · Pursue vision for marketing engine
  - Harness Kaunet's vast marketing data



<Percentage of sales from e-commerce (Kaunet)>

Net sales will grow 8.1% (to ¥90,700 mn). Operating income will grow 17.6% (to ¥8,100 mn).



#### Lifestyle Field: Stationery Businesses

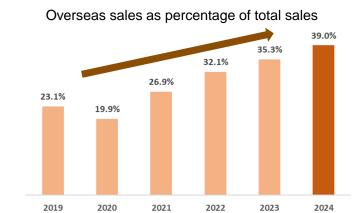
Japan: Amid the tough environment, we'll ensure profitability by reallocating resources and optimizing costs. Overseas: With economic uncertainty continuing in China, we'll expand business by targeting a wider area.

#### Japan Stationery

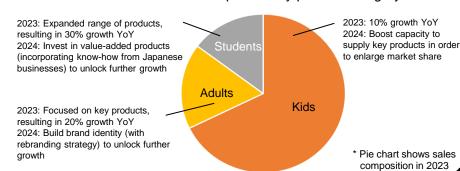
- (1) External environment
- Conditions remain tough in both B2B and B2C markets
- (2) Strategy
- Expand e-commerce, strengthen digital marketing, expand range of merchandise
- To accelerate overseas growth, work with local subsidiary to generate value and penetrate new areas for export sales growth
- Ensure profitability by reallocating resources and optimizing costs

#### **Overseas Stationery**

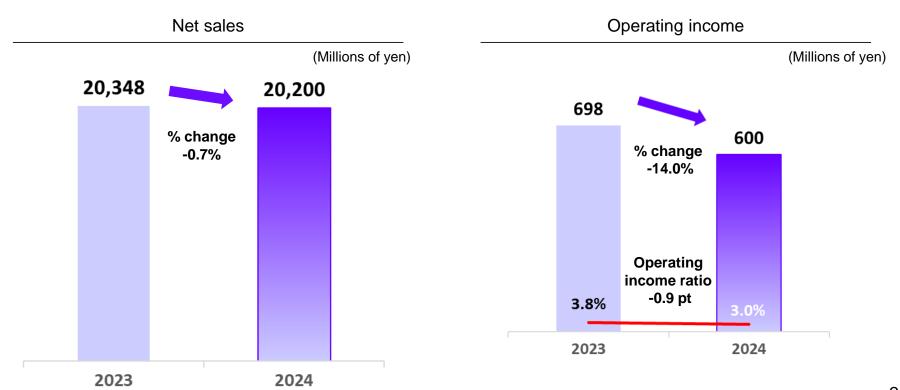
- (1) External environment
- Economic uncertainty remains in China, while the Indian market remains brisk
- (2) Strategy
- China: Maintain growth by monitoring customers' shopping behavior and expanding network of outlets
- India: Unlock profit growth by enlarging capacity to supply mainstay products and investing in value-added products.
- Expand further in other Asian markets



India ST: Sales composition by product category



In 2024, net sales will decrease (0.7%, to 20,200 mn) as will operating income (14.0%, to 600 mn).



Conditions are tough (with stay-at-home demand petering out and a comedown from last year's large B2B contract), but we'll expand business by opening new locations, enhancing e-commerce, and gaining more B2B contracts.

#### Interior Retail Businesses

#### (1) External environment:

- We face a tough demand landscape, with stay-at-home (pandemic-related) demand have petered out
- 2024 will see a comedown from last year's large B2B contract (a residential project).

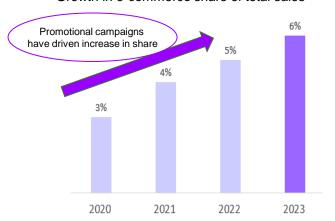
#### (2) Strategy:

- Open new locations, enhance e-commerce, and win more B2B contracts to offset comedown from last year's large B2B contract (a residential project)
- Use pricing controls to improve gross margin

Opening a new store(ACTUS · Marunouchi store)

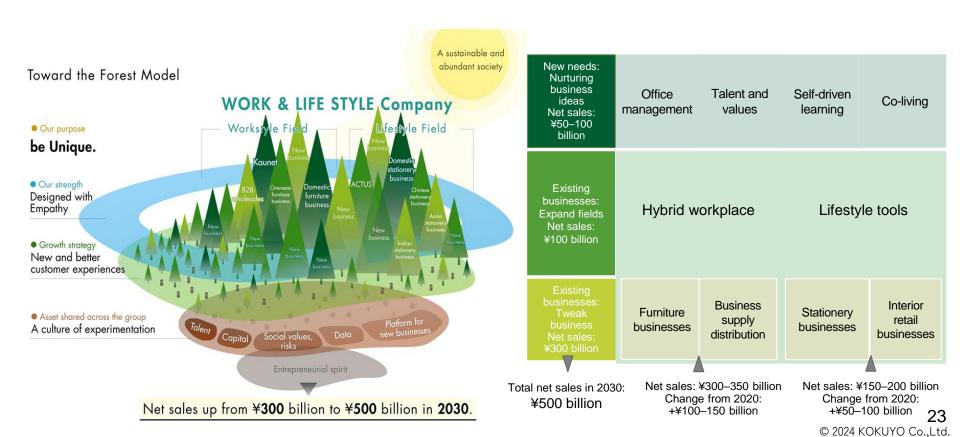


Growth in e-commerce share of total sales





Increase annual net sales to ¥500 billion through Forest Model. Become a group of diverse businesses that deliver sustainable growth.



## Field expanded to capitalize on workplace changes/diversification

Workstyle	Furniture		
Field	businesses		
2030	Business		
¥300 bn to	supply		

Designed office spaces and workstyles for the new normal

- Expand product range, enhance interior design and construction expertise
- Conduct R&D in office management and talent value

Streamlined corporate purchasing and expanded range of products to capitalize on workplace changes

- Introduce solutions system for large corporate clients
- Expand product range, drawing on direct marketing function

#### Fujifilm Creative Village

distribution

- This was our first contract that covered the whole office-building process, from location selection onward.
- We also engaged in the basic planning process and handled the interior design and construction.



¥350 bn



#### Kokuyo HibiFull

- Kaunet serves as marketing engine for Kokuyo Group
- Field expanded into new category—household goods for offices



## Field expanded to capitalize on changes/diversification in lifestyles and learning styles

Lifestyle Stationery Field businesses		Delivered value-added stationery that resonates with desire for self-expression - Successfully marketed stationery as lifestyle tools in China - Started expanding the strategy to other Asian markets
2030 ¥150 bn to ¥200 bn	Interior retail businesses	Capitalized on the pandemic-driven surge in demand for e-commerce - Worked to increase percentage of sales from e-commerce, followed a marketing strategy that integrates physical stores with the online store

#### Capitalizing on stationery demand among young women in China

- Launched strategy that targeted learning needs among female students
- Gained a presence in a short space of time by using e-marketing to pinpoint needs



Pastel Cookie Sora series

#### Extensive demand for stationery among female students

- · China: Increased presence by expanding network of directly run outlets
- Expand strategy to other Asian markets to build bigger audience



Directly run store: Campus Style



Pop-up shop in Thailand © 2024 KOKUYO Co.,Ltd.

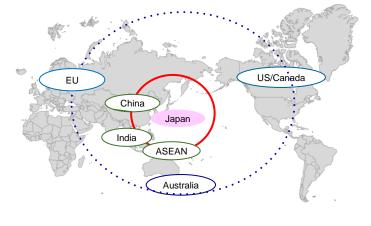
## Global Strategy for Field Expansion

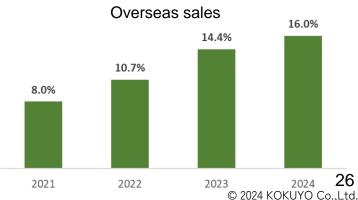
For field expansion, we are thinking globally.

We will build global partnerships to fully leverage our group's assets, thereby increasing efficiency and

accelerating growth.

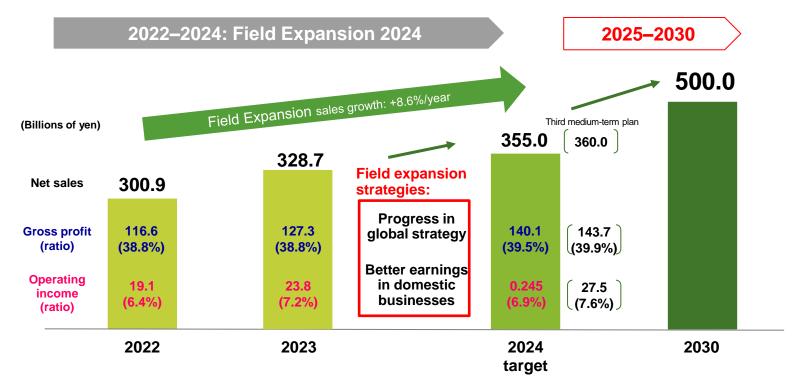
Region	Strategy
Mainland China, Hong Kong	Place Kokuyo Hong Kong at heart of strategy for China and ASEAN to develop unified strategy for entire region Drive PMI to create group synergies ASAP Integrate and leverage Kokuyo Hong Kong's sales network and production functions to expand sales across whole region and improve profit growth
	ST  Develop lifestyle tools for students, prepare to expand into other areas.  Engage on social media to build brand identity, build sales channels (directly run outlets)
India	ST  • Develop value-added stationery (for the categories of kids, students, and hobby) to impove profit growth
ASEAN	<fn> • Leverage Kokuyo Hong Kong to develop cross-selling <st> • To replicate the success we had in China, start test marketing in other Asian markets</st></fn>
Other	Prepare for expansion into markets outside Asia (e.g. Australia and North America)





#### Third medium-term plan

We proceeded with the third medium-term plan to make progress toward our long-term vision (CCC 2030). The plan's theme is to achieve field expansion with progress in our global strategy and better earnings in domestic businesses.



#### Progress in Four Priority Tasks

Our efforts in the four tasks have started to contribute to field expansion. We'll step up these efforts to take field expansion further.

	2022–2024		Progress as of 2023 end	
Dynamic investment	<ul> <li>R&amp;D share: Increased from 0.6% to 1.0%</li> <li>Growth CapEx: &gt;¥30 bn</li> <li>Regular/maintenance CapEx: ¥20 bn</li> </ul>		Dynamic investments yielded acquisitions of Kokuyo Hong Kong and Origin and many M&A leads currently under review.	©
Empowered talent	Improve employee mobility and provide more opportunities for employee growth  • Make core posts more fluid  • Appoint 30 leaders		Changed function of talent devt council     Reformed employee promotion system     Reformed employee management	0
Active innovation	Establish prototyping processes and infrastructure  • Launch 15 startups  • Build 500-member team experienced in innovation process		Eight projects underway, some of which have been turned into businesses. These will be scaled up further.	Δ
Social value and business value	<ul> <li>Provide fund for building social value (c. 1% ordinary income: ¥0.2 bn)</li> <li>Provide fund for ESG initiatives</li> </ul>		The fund has been put to good use (Kamiyama Marugoto technical college, Osaka Expo). Business teams have worked with the sustainability team on ESG initiatives.	0

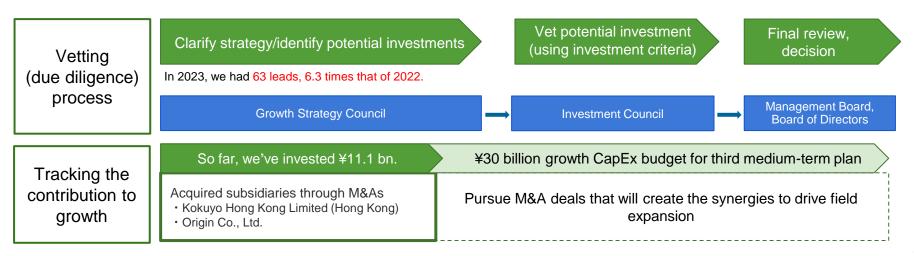
#### A Structure for Pursuing M&As

For M&A opportunities, we've built a stronger structure underpinned by robust governance. With this structure, we have many more M&A leads, raising the chances of success for our M&A strategy.

#### Kokuyo investment governance

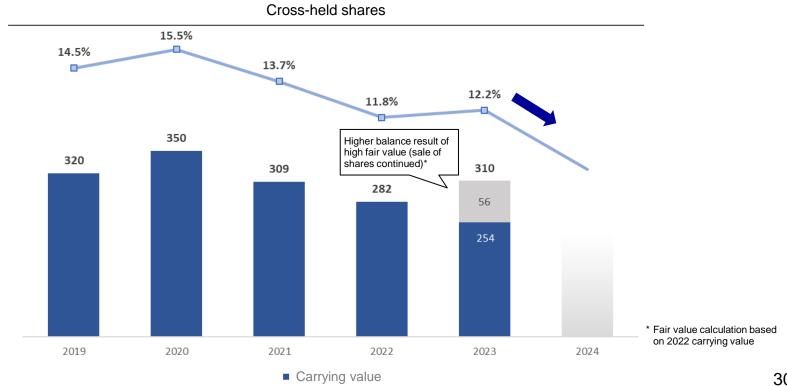
Investment criteria

Does the theme align with our general policy? Is it economically viable? What are the risks? Is the business plan compelling?



By the end of 2024, we'll have reduced our cross-held shares to an amount equal to less than 10% of consolidated assets.

The graph shows an increase in 2023, but this reflects a rise in fair value—the reduction continues.



Under the third medium-term plan, we've committed to a payout ratio of at least 40% and a total payout ratio of at least 50%.

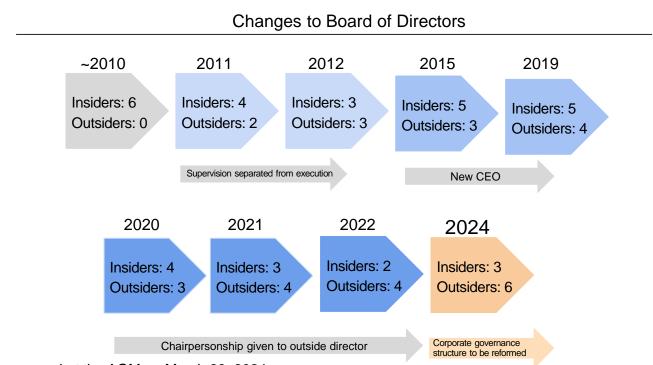
The fourth medium-term plan will include an updated capital policy aligned with our growth strategy.

## Dividend, payout ratio

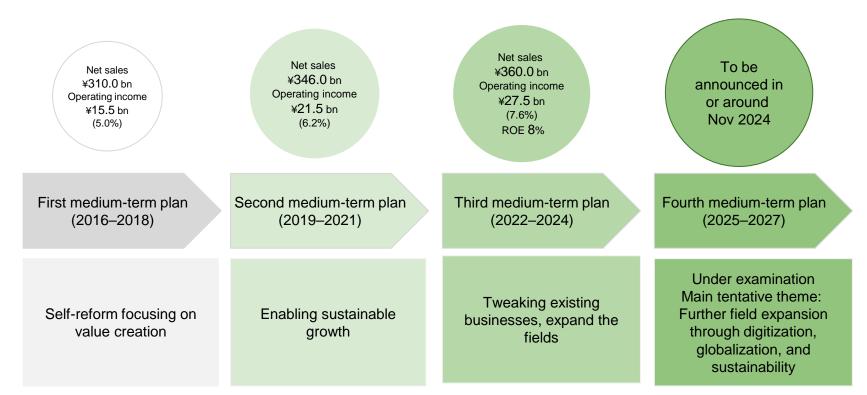


#### Toward Even Stronger Corporate Governance

We'll adopt the governance structure of a "company with a nominating committee," strengthen supervision, and expand executive authority to enable slicker decision-making and a world-class corporate structure.



We're developing the fourth medium-term plan, which will begin in 2025. The new plan will involve further field expansion for greater business growth.



- 1. KPIs are as initially set out in the relevant plan.
- 2. For the first medium-term plan, the numerical targets predate the adoption of the new revenue standard.



# Annual Performance

	FY2021 result	FY2022 result	FY2023 result	2024 target
Net sales	292,617	300,929	328,753	355,000
Gross profit	113,526	116,671	127,392	140,100
(ratio)	38.8%	38.8%	38.8%	39.5%
SG&A expenses	93,618	97,543	103,561	115,600
(ratio)	32.0%	32.4%	31.5%	32.6%
Operating income	19,907	19,128	23,830	24,500
(ratio)	6.8%	6.4%	7.2%	6.9%
Ordinary income	16,415	21,161	25,989	25,500
(ratio)	5.6%	7.0%	7.9%	7.2%
Net income attributable to owners of parent	13,703	18,237	19,069	21,400
(ratio)	4.7%	6.1%	5.8%	6.0%
ROE	6.0%	7.9%	7.8%	8.3%

## Annual Performance by Segment

		FY2021 result	FY2022 result	FY2023 result	2024 target
	Net sales	229,463	230,200	252,293	271,800
Workstyle Field	Operating income	20,302	19,792	26,351	28,600
	(ratio)	8.8%	8.6%	10.4%	10.5%
	Net sales	136,058	134,886	154,472	168,100
Furniture businesses	Operating income	17,744	16,523	22,458	24,200
	(ratio)	13.0%	12.2%	14.5%	14.4%
	Net sales	93,405	95,314	97,820	103,700
Business supply distribution	Operating income	2,557	3,269	3,892	4,400
distribution	(ratio)	2.7%	3.4%	4.0%	4.2%
	Net sales	90,745	98,173	104,248	110,900
Lifestyle Field	Operating income	7,014	7,873	7,501	8,600
	(ratio)	7.7%	8.0%	7.2%	7.8%
	Net sales	72,702	78,457	83,899	90,700
Stationery businesses	Operating income	6,069	6,786	6,802	8,000
	(ratio)	8.3%	8.6%	8.1%	8.8%
Later Constant of the	Net sales	18,043	19,716	20,348	20,200
Interior retail businesses	Operating income	944	1,087	698	600
Dusinesses	(ratio)	5.2%	5.5%	3.4%	3.0%
	Net sales	441	413	438	700
Other	Operating income	10	-133	-370	- 500
	(ratio)	2.3%	-	-	
Reconciliation	Net sales	- 28,034	- 27,857	- 28,226	- 28,400
Reconciliation	Operating income	- 7,418	- 8,404	- 9,651	- 12,200
	Net sales	292,617	300,929	328,753	355,000
Total	Operating income	19,907	19,128	23,830	24,500
	(ratio)	6.8%	6.4%	7.2%	6.9%

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<sup>\*</sup> Business forecasts and other forward-looking statements herein are based on expectations and judgments deemed reasonable in light of business information available as of the time of publication. They are not guarantees of future performance. Various uncertainties may cause actual results to differ from what these statements suggest.