Power of Equity



Financial Results

For the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2021 1 Q (April 1, 2020 \sim June 30, 2020)

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1. Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending March 2021 1Q



We achieved record high consolidated sales as well as record highs for all measures of profit during the quarter.

	Fiscal Year 2021 Q1 (April 2020—June 2020)			Previous (April 2019—June 2019)
	Amount (Millions of Yen)	Change (Millions of Yen)	Change from Previous Period (%)	Amount (Millions of Yen)
Net Sales	2,379	210	9.7	2,169
Operating Profit	1,345	103	8.3	1,242
Ordinary Profit	1,345	103	8.3	1,241
Profit Attributable to Owners of the Parent Company	913	65	7.8	847
(Reference) EBITDA	1,401	97	7.4	1,304

 ${\ensuremath{ \times }} {\ensuremath{ \mathsf{EBITDA}}}: {\ensuremath{ \mathsf{Operational Profit+interest paid+depreciation cost}}$



	Cı (April	Previous (April 2019—June 2019)		
	Amount (Millions of Yen)	% of total (%)	Change (%)	Amount (Millions of Yen)
IR•SR Consulting	2,265	95.2	10.7	2,046
Disclosure consulting	73	3.1	▲1.7	75
Database/Other	40	1.7	▲15.6	47



SG&A expenses increased as a result of continued investment in personnel.

(¥mln)

Breakdown	Item	Current (April 2020—June 2020)	Previous (April 2019—June 2019)	Change
Variable Costs (Costs of Sales)	Outsourcing	161	144	16
Fixed Costs (SG&A)	Personnel	504	434	70
	Depreciation	55	62	▲6
	Rent	92	92	0
	Other (including database)	217	192	25
Total	COS+SG&A	1,033	927	106



We achieved steady progress in winning unique PA/FA projects and while the growth rate is low we achieved record highs in sales and profits.

<Factors>

- ✓ The risk of increased votes opposing public company's proposals at shareholder meetings did not increase due to domestic and overseas institutional investors temporarily loosening guidelines.
- Lost opportunities to make agile proposals to customers due to shift to remote work in April and May.

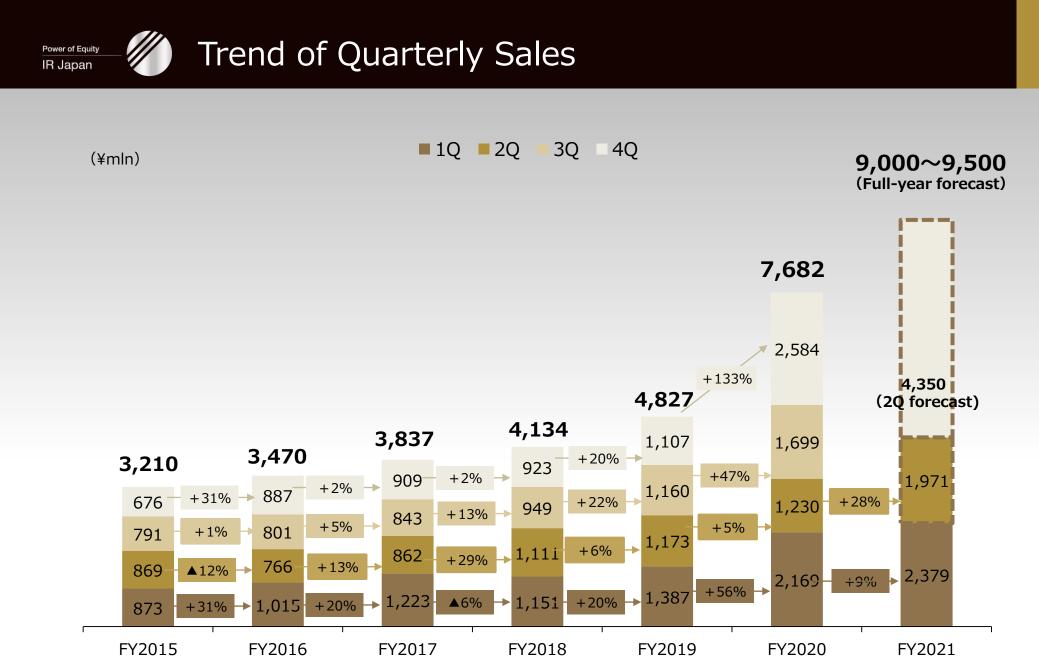
Currently, we are not longer seeing the loss of project opportunities. We have successfully changed gears and the rate of growth of sales and profit is recovering.

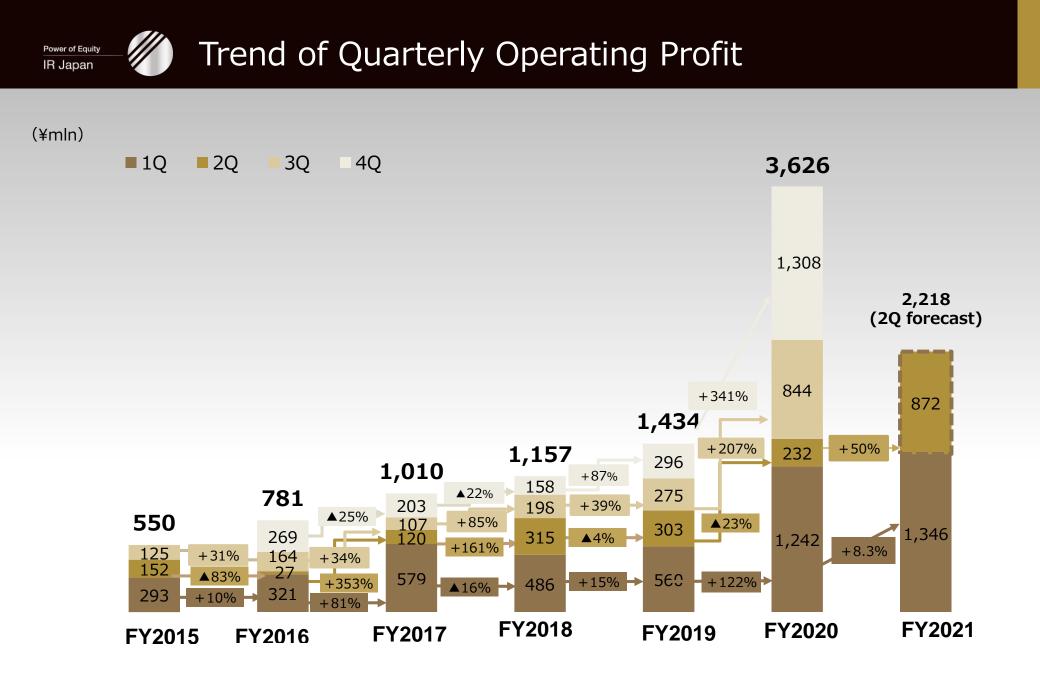


Q2 Revised Earnings Forecast (Announced July 31, 2020)

We have successfully strengthened our front-office systems, and we anticipate that compared to the same period last year, the number of large-scale projects related to $PA \cdot FA$ activist defense and corporate control TOBs will increase by the end of the 2nd quarter. As a result, we have have announced a revised forecast for Q2 results.

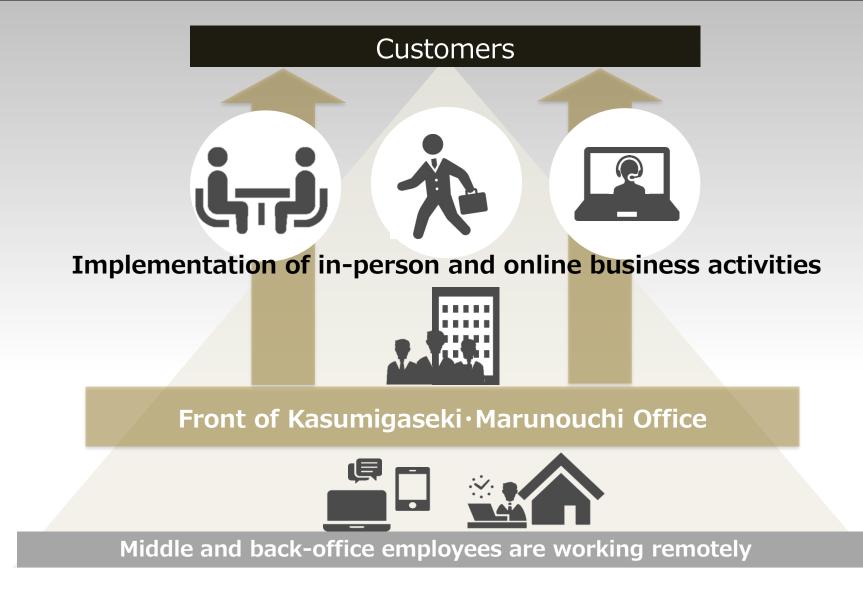
	Consolidat (April,	Previous FY (April,2019—September,20 19)		
	Sales (Millions of Yen)	Change (Millions of Yen)	Change (%)	Sales (Millions of Yen)
Sales	4,350	951	28.0	3,398
Operating Profit	2,218	743	50.5	1,474
Ordinary Profit	2,218	746	50.7	1,471
Profit attributable to owners of parent company	1,505	495	49.1	1,009
Net income per share (Yen)	84.78	28.12	49.6	56.66







Our Workplace in the Corona Pandemic



Trends in the Number of Large-Scale Projects

*Projects over 50 million yen **Trends in the number of large-scale projects* and sales (estimate)**

(+1111)						
	First Half		Second Half		Total	
	Number	Sales	Number	Sales	Number	Sales
FY ended March 2020	7	702	16件	2,537	23	3,239
FY ending March 2021	12	1,482	_	-	_	-
Change	5	780	-	-	_	-

Large-scale Projects by Type and Sales (Forecast)

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(¥mln)

Туре	Q1 Previous FY (April-September 2019)	Q2 Consolidated (April-September 2020)
PA·FA: related to corporate control	300	764
PA·FA: Activist response strategy	302	610
F A : MBO related	50	50
S R : Other	50	58
Total	702	1,482



Pipeline of Large-Scale Projects In-Progress *

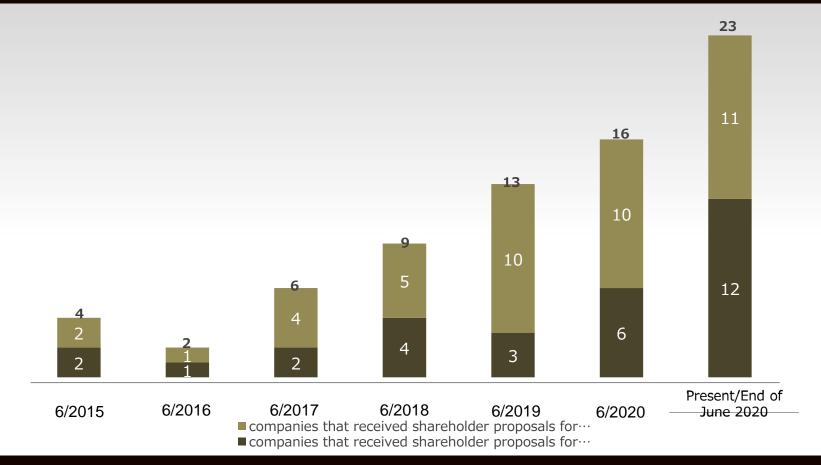
Type of deal	Contracted Firm	Type of Contract	Content	
ТОВ	Listed Firm(Mkt. Cap>¥500b)	FA•PA	ТОВ	
ТОВ	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥500b)	FA•PA	Business Strategy, TOB	
ТОВ	Listed Firm (Mkt.Cap>¥500b)	FA•PA	Business Strategy, M&A	
ТОВ	Listed Firm(Mkt. Cap>¥10b)	FA•PA	Hostile TOB	
Activist Response	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥10b)	FA•PA	ТОВ	
Activist Response	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥500b)	FA•PA	Business Strategy, M&A, Shareholder Return	
Activist Response	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥100b)	PA	Business Strategy, Shareholder Return, TOB	
Activist Response	Listed Firm(Mkt. Cap>¥100b)	FA•PA	Business Strategy, Corporate Governance, Shareholder Return	
Activist Response	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥50b)	FA•PA	Business Strategy, Shareholder Return, TOB	
Large SR-based support	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥100b)	FA•PA	Corporate Defense Measures	
Large SR-based support	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥10b)	PA	Poison pill, SR	
МВО	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥10b)	FA	МВО	
МВО	Listed Firm (Mkt. Cap>¥10b)	FA	МВО	
* The above in-progress large-scale projects are expected to be booked in the fiscal year ending March 2021.				



Activist Campaigns

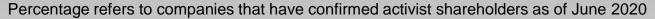
In addition to companies that received activist proposals for the first time, the number of companies that have received proposals from the same activists consecutively for two years has risen.

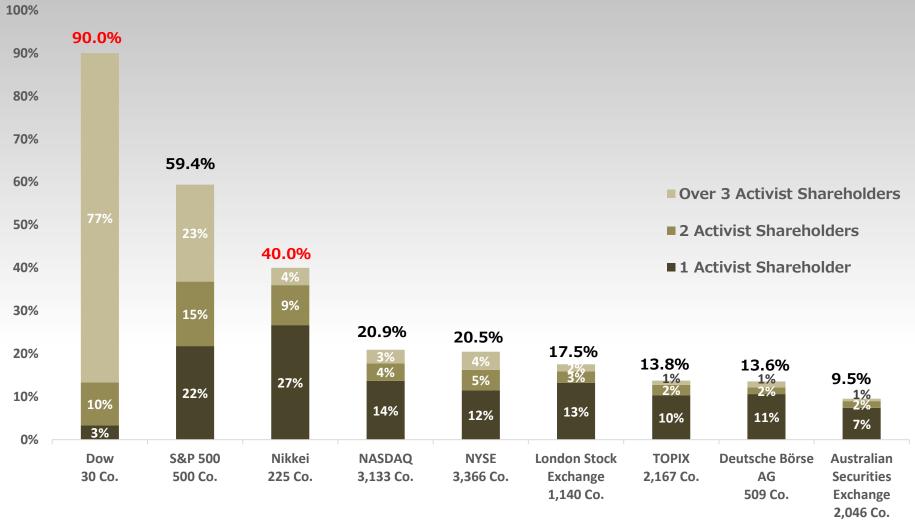
Number of Shareholder Proposals Submitted by Activists





Percentage of Companies on Main Stock Exchanges/Indices with Activist Shareholders



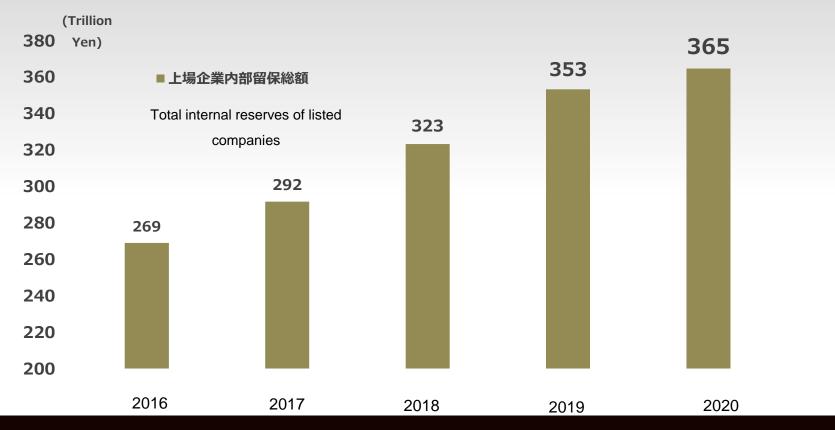


The ratios listed are based on data from Activist Insight. However, the numbers for Nikkei and TOPIX are based on publicly available information and IR Japan shareholder surveys. The number of listed companies at each stock exchange is based on World Federation of Exchanges (WFE). The London Stock Exchange only includes the number of UK companies



Total internal reserves have risen year-on-year, surpassing ¥300 trillion in 2018, and are now currently at ¥365 trillion.

Internal Reserves of Listed Japanese Companies



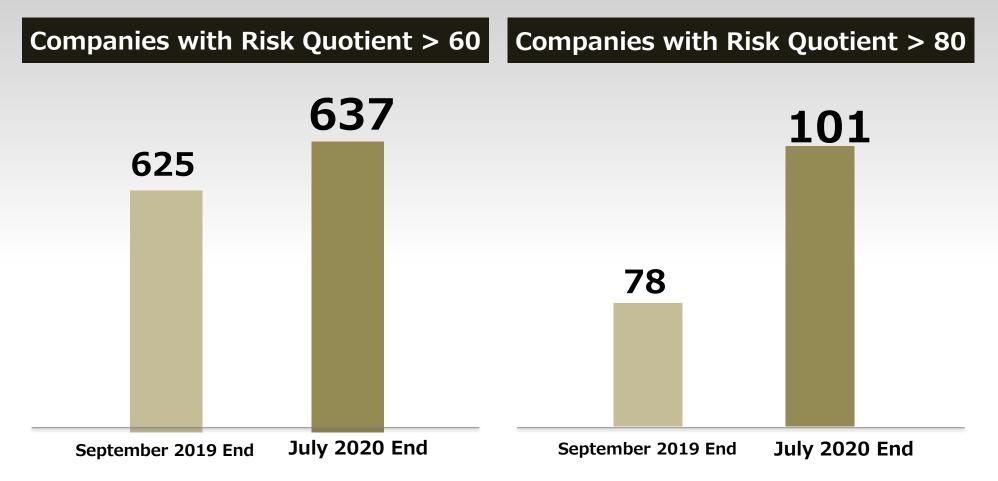
%Internal Reserves = Retained earnings + assumptions



②Japanese Companies with High Potential Risk from Activists

At present, more than 600 companies are at risk of being the target of activism.

*****Companies with risk value quotient over 60 according to our firm's AI analysis.





Voting Results at Shareholders' Meetings (Trends in Voting at June 2020 Meetings)

319 companies received against votes of more than 20% at the June 2020 shareholder meetings. Assuming that voting guidelines had not been loosened because of the coronavirus, we estimate that this year more than 422 companies would have received an against vote of 20%.



%2020 Results: Aggregate of 2338 companies confirmed as of July 13.

*2020 Forecast: Assuming ISS applies their ROE guidelines, we calculated that based on ISS recommendations, about 70% of overseas investors at companies who do not meet the ROE guidelines will vote against internal directors (representative directors).



Announcements of Important Guidelines Related to Management, M&A and Corporate Governance by the Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry

On July 31, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry released the Business Restructuring Practical Guidelines and Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors

The ability to provide advice to the Board of Directors and Outside Directors from investors and shareholders' perspective is now required, and the specialized knowledge and solutions provided by our Group's SR/PA/FA are increasingly important for listed company clients.

✓Points from the Practical Guidelines for	✓Points from Practical Guidelines for Independent		
Business Transformations	<u>Directors</u>		
1 Regular review of business portfolio (quantitative analysis)	1 Encourages the Board of Directors to discuss business portfolio review		
2 Best owner perspective	2 Dialogue with investors, involvement in investor relations		
3 Shareholder and activist perspective	 Pro-active supervision in situations where there are conflicts of interest with the 		
 Increasing role of Outside Directors (business portfolio review, obligation to communicate with shareholders) 	controlling shareholder		
5 References the Board's duty of care and fiduciary duty to shareholders	Source: Prepared by IRJ based on Practical Guidelines for Business Transformations and Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors Practical Guidelines for Business Transformations: <u>https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/07/20200731003/20200731003-1.pdf</u> Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors: <u>https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/07/20200731004/20200731004-1.pdf</u>		



[Practical Guidelines for Business Transformation(Corporate responses to shareholder opinions)

- Receiving shareholder opinions on a company's business portfolio* presents firms with a prime opportunity to consider the optimal structure of their business portfolio to drive sustainable growth and increase corporate value. It is crucial that companies seriously consider the proposals that are being made. %The shareholder proposal spoken of here is not the type referred to in the Company Act, but rather an opinion submitted by shareholders that has been submitted to a company that is collectively referred to as a shareholder opinion.
- The Board of Directors have a duty of care to the company … when a shareholder's opinion regarding business portfolio is submitted to the company, the Board is expected to earnestly consider the proposal and pro-actively gather information to fulfill their responsibilities.
- In line with this, if a company receives a rational, research-based business portfolio-related proposal from shareholders, it is recommended that, as a principle, the Board of Directors should conduct an earnest evaluation of the said shareholder opinion.
- When considering such proposals, it may be useful for the Board of Directors to conduct a strategic review, with reference to practical guidelines in Europe and the United States, using external financial advisors and other experts.
- <u>Activism (shareholder activism) is also increasing in Japan, and there are sentiments such as "activist proposals regarding business portfolio should be</u> considered a trigger for discussions", "external stimulation is necessary to shift from a raditional Japanese organization to a scientific and logical Western-style management", "in Europe and the United States, activists are becoming more prominent as representatives of shareholders that don't have a voice".

Source: Prepared by IRJ based on Practical Guidelines for Business Transformations and Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors

Practical Guidelines for Business Transformations: <u>https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/07/20200731003/20200731003-1.pd</u> Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors: <u>https://www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/07/20200731004/20200731004-1.pdf</u>



There has been an accelerated movement to promote strategic growth based on business restructurings

TOB of Family Mart by Itochu

TOB of Ootoya by Colowide

TOB of Sony Financial Holdings HD by Sony

TOB of Hitachi Chemicals by Showa Denko

TOB of LIXIL Leverage by Arcland Sakamoto

TOB of Hitachi High Tech by Hitachi

TOB of Maeda Road Construction by Maeda



Creation of a Huge Corporate Control M&A Market in Japan

A huge market for corporate control M&A



- Practical Guidelines for Corporate Governance Systems
- Practical Guidelines on Group Governance Systems
- Practical Guidelines for Business Transformations Fair M&A Guidelines Practical Guidelines for Independent Directors



Financial Advisor

Largest and most advanced professional group for activist defense, hostile TOB defense, advanced MBO and M&A

- Hostile TOB defense
- TOB share buybacks
- TOB compliance simulation
- Placement agent (third-party allocation)
- All M&A and MBO strategy planning and execution

Proxy Advisor

Overwhelming record of gathering power of attorney

- All strategy planning and execution for proxy contests
- Convening and response to extraordinary meeting of shareholders
- Collection and gathering of power of attorney

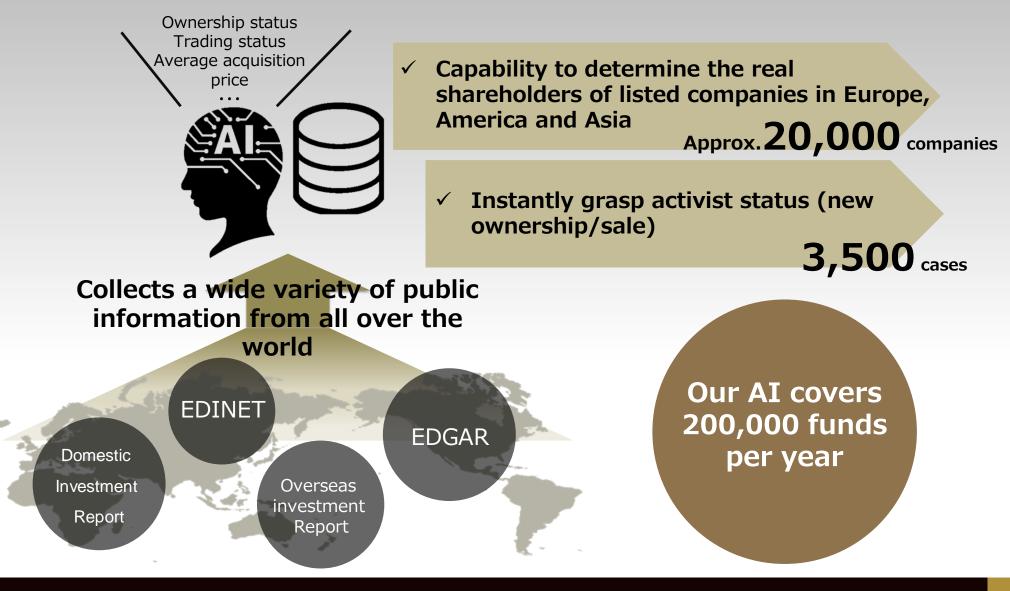
Securities Agency A one-of-a-kind and independent

A one-of-a-kind and independent securities agency business that has obtained approval from the TSE and FSA.

The one and only consulting service that integrates PA and FA



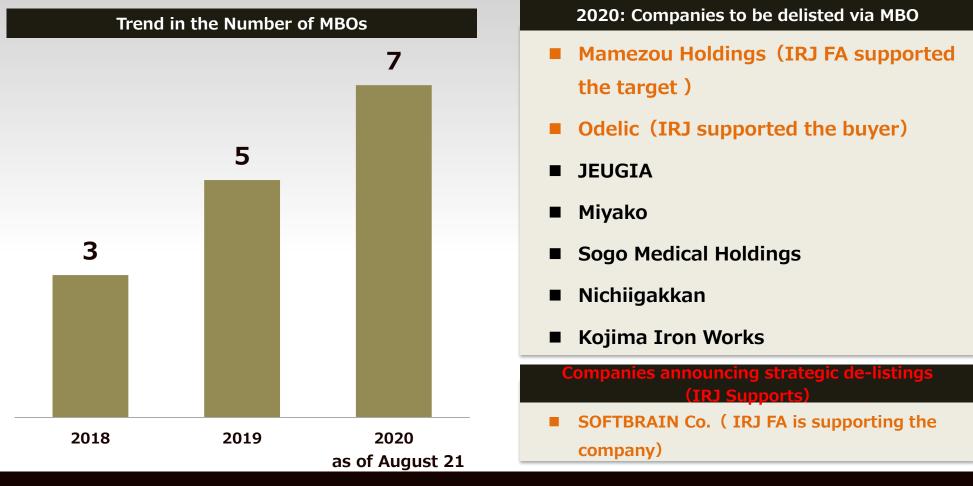
IR Japan's Strengths (AI-supported PA & FA Operations)





Support for MBO Projects

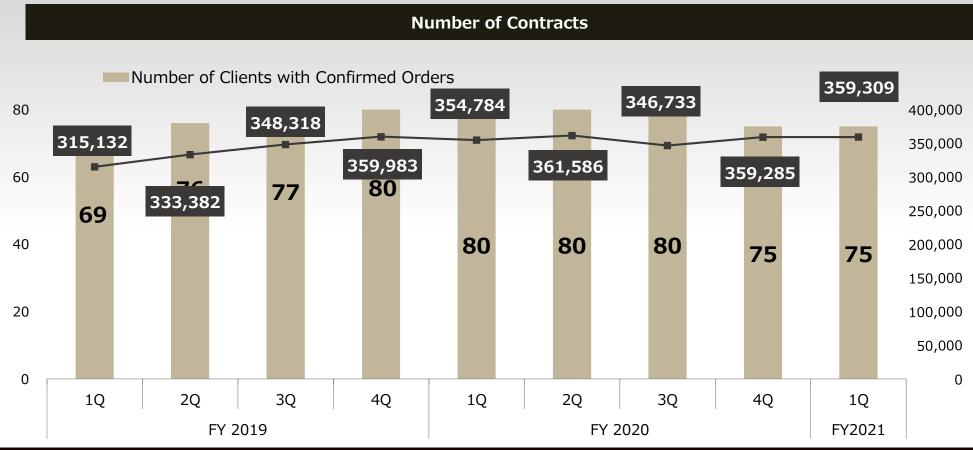
Even when companies are delisted via MBO, specialized FA groups with abundant experience in shareholder ownership analysis that can support companies in their strategic planning and execution are highly valued.





Transfer Agency Business

The number of client companies contracted is 75, and the number of shareholders we administrate is 359,309 (as of June 30, 2020). Contrary to traditional agency's strategy, we will continue to promote strategic business development by focusing on defending companies against activists and hostile TOBs.



2. Forecast of Financial Results & Shareholder Return



Revised FY2021 Earnings Forecast (Announced July 31, 2020)

We revised the full-year forecast upward as we expect the number of large-scale project contracts in the PA \cdot FA investment banking division to increase along with the steady expansion of SR.

	Full-year Forecast (ending March 31, 2021)				
	Sales (millions of yen)	Change from previous FY (millions of yen)	Change (%)		
Current Forecast	9,000~9,500	1,318~1,818	17.2~23.6		
Previous Forecast	8,500~9,000	818~1,318	10.6~17.2		
Change	500~500				
Change (%)	5.6~5.9				



For FY2021, the annual dividend is expected to be 70 yen, with an interim dividend of 25 yen per share and a year-end dividend of 45 yen per share.

Dividend per Share	Interim	Year-End	Annual	Payout Ratio
FY2019	15 yen	23 yen	38 yen	69.3%
Actual FY2020	25 yen	45 yen	70 yen	51.0%
Forecast FY2021	25 yen	45 yen	70 yen	

3. Supplementary Information



Field Power of Equity and Market Size

IR (Investor Relations) Investor Support

IR Market in the wide sense: 45 billion yen

♦Institutional disclosure | FIEA-related business

Voluntary disclosure |

•Shareholder communication, disclosure magazine, English IR materials, etc.

- ♦Total IR Support |
- ·Information Session, conference, meeting…

Main Players

Pronexus/Takara Printing Nomura IR/Daiwa IR/Nikko IR Japan IR and Investor Support/Japan Shareholder Services

SR (Shareholders Relations) Shareholder Support <u>SR Market in the wide</u> sense: 100 billion yen

- Transfer Agency
- Shareholder Meeting-related support
- Prior voting result-simulation
- •Action plan to pass shareholder meeting proposals
- Proxy voting result analysis
- Shareholder identification consulting

Main Players

Mitsubishi UFJ Trust/ Mitsui Sumitomo Trust/ Mizuho Trust

M&A (Mergers and Acquisitions) Corporate Acquisition

M&A Market: 600 billion yen

♦M&A Commission

Main Players

Nomura Securities/Mizuho FG/Goldman Sachs Daiwa Securities/JP Morgan/MUMSS/ Mitsui Sumitomo FG GCA/Japan M&A Center/M&A Capital Strike

Data Source:

M&A market scale is calculated based on the hypothesis of the commission rate is 2% of 2018 Japanese Corporate-related M&A cost (approx. 30 trillion yen) from the MARR statistics.

Equity Consulting Market

Total about **1,000** billion yen

Data Source :

TA's numbers are calculated based on most recent commission income and gross business profit. IR and securities certificate printing companies' data are calculated based off their most recent sales.

Data Source :

Calculated based on Japan IR Association's IR activity research "Average annual cost of IR activity" and recent sales of securities certificate printing and IR companies. The main players' sales are taken from each companies most recent financial statements.

Legal Sector Legal Services

LA Market: 200 billion yen

◆Business Law (Companies Act, FIEA, etc.) support

♦ Corporate Governance

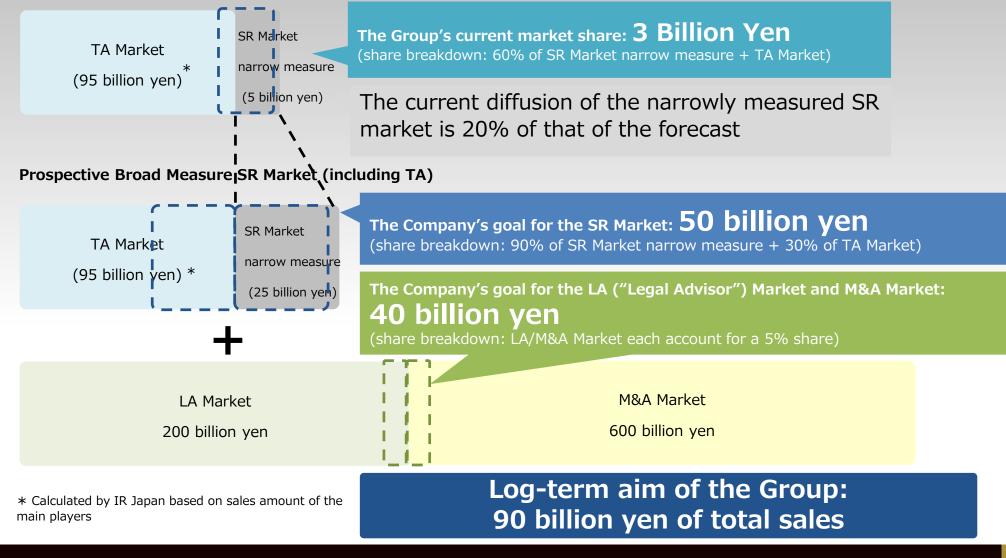
Main Players

Anderson Mori & Tomotsune Law Firm Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu Law Firm Nishimura & Asahi Law Firm Mori Hamada & Matsumoto Law Firm TMI Associates

The Company's Long-Term Goals

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The Current SR ("Shareholder Relations") Market (the broad market measure which includes TA ("Transfer Agency")





Total Shareholder Return (TSR)

Period	3/31/2020	7/31/2020
1 Year	304.09%	415.54%
3 Years	673.90%	1864.50%
5 Years	1222.39%	2819.18%
From Listing (3/11/2011)	2820.25%	8660.79%

XTSR: calculated as capital gain + income gain assuming the income gain is re-invested and the value of the re-invested dividend is taken into account.

Power of Equity

We, IR Japan, are a consulting firm that provides services with high additional value based on voting power, for the development of the capital market.

Power of Equity



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