

## FY 2024 Q2 Financial Results

Second Quarter of the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 2024

Kaizen Platform Inc. Securities Code 4170 / August 14, 2024



1 Company and Service Overview

2 FY 2024 Q2 Business Results

**3** Future Growth Strategy







## Kaizen Platform is a DX Acceleration Partner that unleashes the challenges of client companies and the potential of DX professionals

Kaizen Platform Inc. Company

**Incorporation Date** Date April 2017 (US Entity KAIZEN platform Inc. <pri> created on March 2013 \*)</pr>

Location Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

134(As of end of June 2024) **Employees** 

Board of Directors

Kaizen Platform Inc. and Kaizen Platform USA, Inc.: 52 / D-ZERO Inc.: 62 / Hiwell Inc.: 20

Capital 1.773.273 thousand IPY (As of end of June 2024)

> Kenji Sudo Representative Director and CEO

Director and CFO Hajime Takasaki Masanori Sugiyama **Outside Director** Hiroaki Sugita Outside Director

Akiko Suginohara **Outside Director** 

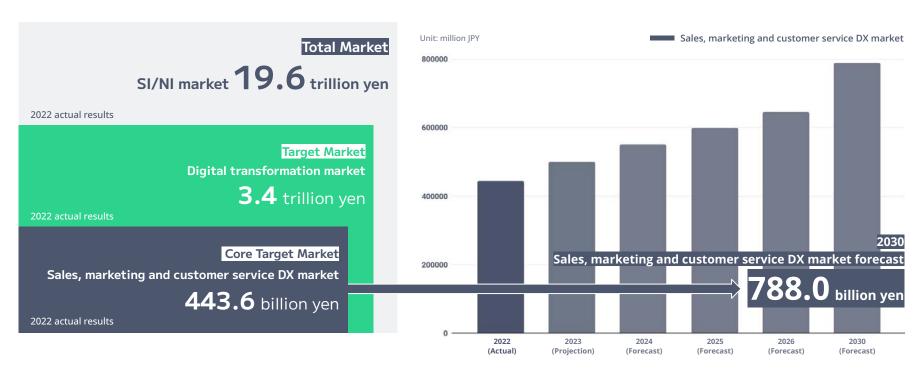
Kaoru Oda Audit & Supervisory Board Member Eriko Hayashi Audit & Supervisory Board Member Tomokazu Imai Audit & Supervisory Board Member

Subsidiaries D-ZERO Inc. / Hiwell.Inc. / Kaizen Platform USA, Inc.

## **Growth Potential of the Aggressive DX Market**



The "aggressive DX market" such as sales, marketing and customer service is still 13% Against the backdrop of declining population, it is a market with large potential for growth, especially among large companies





Development of "aggressive DX" transforming value provided, business models and customer experiences has fallen behind The true cause is "rigid organization"

### Diverse capabilities are required

#### UX utilizing digital technology has competitive advantages.

With the rise of social media, it is difficult to attract customers with advertising alone. Intrinsic experience design is becoming increasingly important.

#### Seamless linking of marketing and IT

UX improvement requires the cooperation of both marketing and IT specialists Speedy development and operation are becoming important.

#### New capabilities are emerging one after another

In DX, new areas such as generative AI and influencer marketing are emerging one after another, and the required skills are changing rapidly.

#### **Rigid organization**

#### Changes in dismissal regulations and work styles

Workers' rights are strong due to employment practices, and it is difficult to make major changes to operations due to resistance in the workplace, and even if they succeed, they are required to secure employment.

#### Slow movement with no room for failure

The IT Department is mainly engaged in the development of cores systems, etc., where failures are not tolerated, and is not suited to customer-oriented development, which requires quick improvements.

#### The most talented people in DX are the first to leave

DX personnel in high demand are difficult to hire in the first place. Even if a hire is made, retention is difficult because in terms of the HR system more favorable conditions are often offered when becoming independent or changing jobs.

Although it is structurally difficult to respond to and hard to match ROI,

but

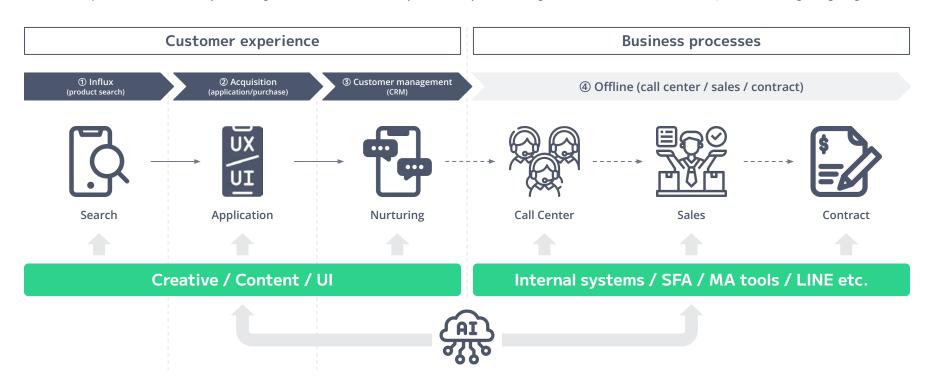
paradoxically, there is a huge opportunity for aggressive DX for large companies

## Acceleration of DX through the Emergence of Generative AI (Business Opportunities)



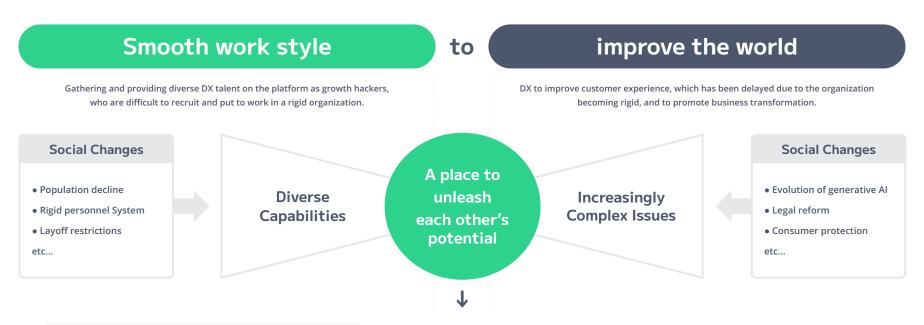
## The era of DX of "customer experience" and "business processes" being connected by AI has arrived due to the emergence of generative AI such as ChatGPT and GPT-4.

The potential for dramatically increasing the ROI of DX is dramatically increased by transforming cost structures such as labor costs, which have a high weighting.





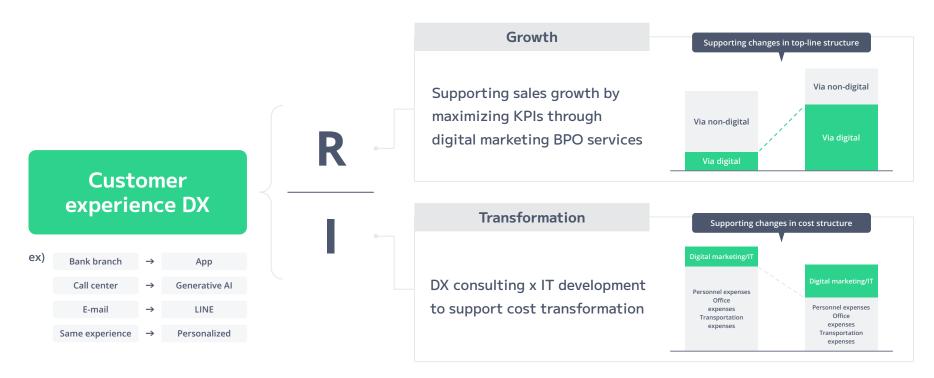
# Assign diverse capabilities to projects in a timely manner on an as-needed basis to accelerate aggressive DX



"Customer experience DX" resolving intertwined DX issues in one stop



Customer Experience DX increases the ROI of DX by changing the general structure of fixed costs through DX that involves changing the P/L structure of a company





Accompany business divisions, and improve (KAIZEN) the client's digital "customer experience" on digital technology as a marketing & IT partner accelerating DX to support "business growth"



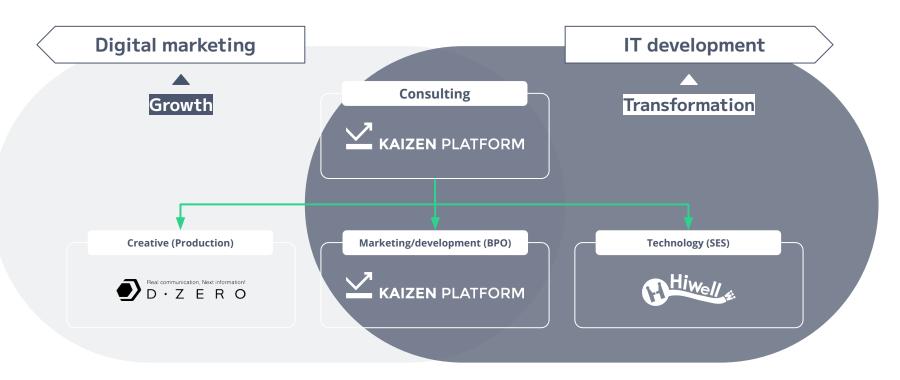
## A System to Thoroughly Meet Customer Needs as a Group



Shift from a "product-based business" to a "structure that responds to customer issues" as a partner that accompanies customers and accelerates aggressive DX.

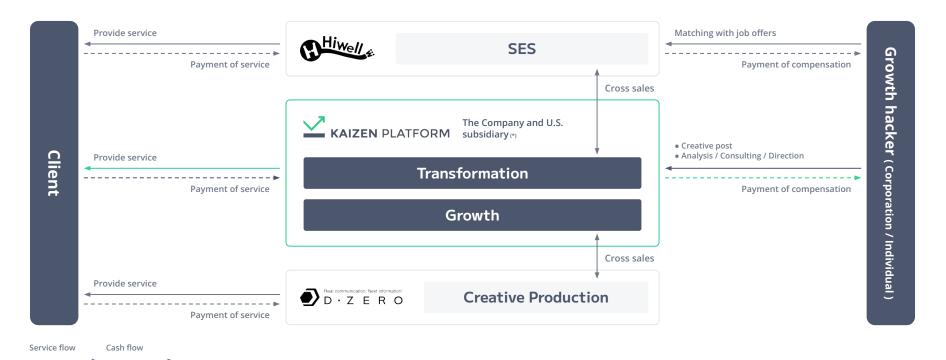
#### Maximize consulting capabilities for

a structure that starts upstream and earns revenue downstream (production/BPO/SES)





We are dedicated to PM (project management) and support and direction. We team up with the growth hackers on the platform to execute DX projects maintaining elasticity of variable costs.





Data, cloud and resources for increasing DX ROI are accumulated on the platform

Overwhelming advantage in "know-how," "speed," and "cost" by providing everything as a one-stop service.

## **Know-how**

#### DATA

## Collected performance data of over 1,200 companies and ample consulting experience

- Utilize performance data collected to assist in consulting/producing client work.
   Utilize data in all work flows.
- Link data using API with official partner certification of major platforms such as Facebook / Instagram / Google / YouTube / Amazon.
- Provide data-driven content for educational institutions. Build a scheme for registering new grads.

## **Speed**

#### **CLOUD**

## Cloud to bypass legacy systems and ensure speed of implementation

#### • UX cloud

Just attach one tag to your site and you can improve the UI without affecting legacy systems.

#### • Video production / utilization cloud

Supporting seamless video ordering, production management, and utilization in advertising, websites. sales. CRM. etc.

## Cost

#### **RESOURCE**

## Extensive DX professional professionals of over 12,000 people

Flexible team building with variable costs

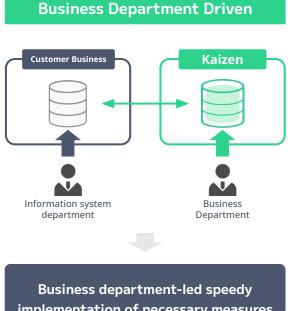
- DX support by over 12,000 digital professionals registered in partnership with 50 or more companies, including production companies, staffing agencies, and consulting firms.
- Production/BPO/development to match customers' needs from upstream consulting to the downstream execution phase.
- Production is not only in Japanese and English, also providing multilingual support from Asia to Latin America.



"No impact on existing legacy systems" "Driven by business departments" and "Lower lead time and cost" enabling promotion of DX

# **Bypass Legacy Systems** Kaizen **Customer Business** <tag> **UX improvement and PoC execution** with no impact on legacy systems





Lead Time / Cost Lead time Cost 6-12 months Improvement of Existing foundation foundation is improvement unnecessary 2-3 months KAIZEN UX Usage fee Log infrastructure New system development development New feature development KAIZEN In-house In-house KAIZEN development UX development UX \* In-house calculation \* In-house calculation

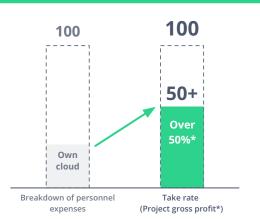
**Enabling significant reductions** of lead time and development cost

## Strong Business Model (Uniqueness)



We have a talent network that enables timely and advanced sourcing of talent while driving projects on our own cloud, increasing productivity and profitability, while making it a variable cost

## Improved profitability through the use of own cloud



\* Take rate = (Total volume handled - Cost linked to volume handled\*\*) + Total volume handled \*\* Cost linked to volume handled = Cost of sales less fixed costs not linked to volume handled. such as platform development costs

Profitable own cloud increases project productivity

#### Cost reduction through flexible assignments



Flexible operation such as only 2 days per week

#### Variable costs and high compensation through the utilization of freelancers



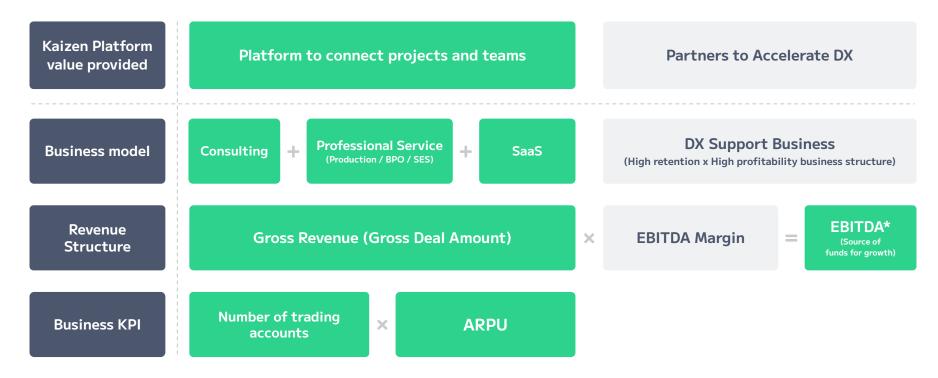
- \* Referring to TKC management indicator (BAST) for 2019
- 29.1% advertising production, 24.4% Internet-related services
- \*\* Results for 2019

Realization of low fixed costs and high compensation by making projects have variable costs

Kaizen Platform stand-alone figures



High-profit, high-value-added business model providing the best support for client companies that want to accelerate DX





amazon	IDOM Inc.	O NTT東日本	<b>学</b> 大阪ガス	d●大地宅配	SAIS®N CARD INTERNATIONAL Credit Saison Co., Ltd.
Google	Tomorrow, Together	Shop Japan	<b>()</b> スタッフサービス	SmartNews	SoftBank
<b>少</b> 大東建託	dentsu	new balance	Nestle Nestle	Nojima	パーソル キャリア
·HAKUHODO·	BIZREAC肖	PEACH JOHN	FiNC	<b>∞</b> Meta	Forum Engineering Inc.
Benesse	YAHOO!	*********************************	UR都市機構	Rakuten	PRECRUIT リクルートジョブズ



## A platform for Improving Customer Experience with DX

- 1 Targets the huge enterprise outsourcing market for DX
- Improves of ROI of DX while consistently improving customer experience from upstream consulting to downstream digital marketing/production/development
- Avoids legacy systems, reduces lead times, reduces costs, and promotes DX
- Balances high productivity and EBITDA margins through the use of cloud computing and flexible assignment of diverse talent
- Aims for sustainable ARPU improvement through aggressive DX market expansion while increasing ROI through productivity improvement with generative AI

## **Our Senior Management**





Kenji Sudo Representative Director
Chief Executive Officer

Joined Recruit Holdings Inc. in 2003, Marketing Division in the New Business Development Group. Became the youngest Corporate Executive Officer (at the time) in Recruit Marketing Partners. Founded Kaizen Platform Inc in 2013.

Author of "Hack Thinking" "How to DX in 90 days" "Mashiro Misaki, DX Section, General Affairs Dept."



Hajime Takasaki Director Chief Financial Officer

Joined Recruit Holdings after graduating university.

Joined Macromill as Senior Executive Officer to lead strategy and finance department.

Then became a Director and CFO at Glider Associates before joining Kaizen Platform in 2019.



Joined a venture company as a student. In 2004, became President and Representative Director of Zappallas Co. In 2007, became Chairman of the Board and President of Zappallas Co.

In 2011, became President and Representative Director of enish Co.

He led both Zappallas and enish to go public. Director of Jiban Net Holdings Co.

Director, ACSL Corporation (current position).



Joined Boston Consulting Group in 1994 from Japan Transport Bureau (JTB). He became a partner and managing director of The Boston Consulting Group in 2001, Japan representative from 2016 to 2020. He is the author of many books, including "Professional Management Consultant" (Nihon Keizai Publishing Inc.) and "Recruit's Amazing Creative Power" (Nihon Keizai Shimbun Publishing Inc.). He is also a professor at Waseda University Business School, director and member of the Audit Committee of Unicharm Corporation (current position).



Graduated from university and joined GaiaX Co Ltd.

After launching and being in charge of a business to deal with unofficial school websites, established Adish Co Ltd. in 2014 and was appointed Director and General Manager of the Administration Division. In 2021, she launched a sponsorship community to address diversity at the decision-making level in venture companies. She is also a member of the board of directors of Adish Co Ltd. and Slogan Co.

COO of the non-profit organization "Minna no Code" (present post).

## **Our Senior Management**





## Toru Sakai Executive Officer Chief Growth Officer

Joined Netage in 2006 from Softbank Corp.

Created several businesses around digital advertising and also still serving as the president of a group company.

Joined Kaizen Platform from the start in 2013.

Created the Video business in 2016 and in the current position from June 2020.



## Gen Fujihara Executive Officer

2012 Joined Softbank Corp.
Engaged in product planning and overseas business
development for corporate cloud products at the company.
Joined Kaizen Platform in 2016 with a desire to "create
a platform that can expand globally from Japan."

He has been in his current position since January 2022.



### Hidenao Asai Executive Officer

He is a certified public accountant. 2005 joined KPMG AZSA LLC. He was appointed as Manager of KPMG AZSA LLC's Division 1 in July 2014. Joined I-Pet General Insurance Co. as Manager of Finance and Accounting Department in August 2016. Joined Kaizen Platform in 2017 and served as Group Manager of the Accounting and Finance Department, Director of the Accounting and Finance Department before assuming his current position in January 2023.



## Tomohisa Tada Executive Officer

Joined Yahoo Japan Corporation in 2015. Was engaged in financial services sales and planning operations.

Joined Kaizen Platform in 2018.

After serving as the companywide Manager of Sales and Manager of Consulting/New Business,

he has served in his current position since January 2024.



Company and Service Overview

2 FY 2024 Q2 Business Results

3 Future Growth Strategy



Revenue was up 6.9% year on year, and EBITDA was up 78.9% year on year

Made steady progress while continuing to strengthen recruitment to meet strong demand

		FY2024 Q2 Bu (January 2024	Full Year Forecast (Announced on February 14, 2024)			
			Year on Year			
(Million JPY)	Actual	Actual	Increase / Decrease	Increase / Decrease Ratio	Earning Forecast	Progress Rate
Sales	2,249	2,103	+146	+6.9%	4,500	50.0%
EBITDA	76	42	+33	+78.9%	250	30.4%
Operating Profit	-45	-86	+40	-%	10	-%
Ordinary Profit	-26	-87	+61	-%	0	-%
Net Income	-52	-105	+52	-%	-30	-%

## **Recent Business Highlights**



Our unique strengths match the needs of companies affected by legacy systems, other companies' systems, etc.

We generated a high level of results for client companies in UX improvement initiatives

## Takara Leben Co., Ltd.

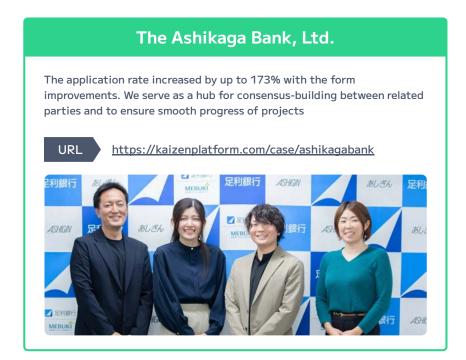
Realized CVR improvement of up to 167%.

Why was it possible to improve forms that had been given up on in the old system?

URL

https://kaizenplatform.com/case/takara-leben





## **Recent Business Highlights**



We strengthened our presence in the industry by further enhancing our accessibility efforts

Group company D-ZERO published "Coding Guidelines" for producers and launched "Porta11y," a portal for producers working on accessibility





URL https://porta11y.d-zero.co.jp

© 2024 KAIZEN PLATFORM INC. All Rights Reserved.

22

## **Recent Business Highlights**









### Started cooperation aimed

# at support for enhancement of sales & marketing for BtoB companies

While supporting the improvement of digital marketing, some companies, especially BtoB companies, are facing challenges in sales

Through collaboration with en SX, it will be possible to provide support in the sales area in addition to conventional digital KPI improvements, and to provide BtoB companies with a total support system for enhancement of sales and marketing

URL

https://kaizenplatform.co.jp/news/2024-0729-en-sx

## Performance Trends (By Segment)



#### Growth

We continued to strengthen systems to meet strong demand for UX, aiming for further earnings growth in the second half of the year.

\* Partial change in quarter seasonality due to the busy season (March) of D-ZERO being recorded in the second quarter.

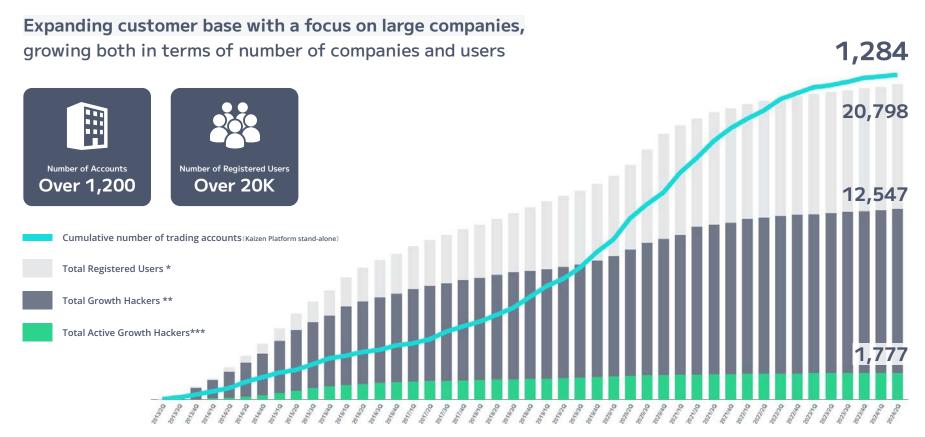
#### **Transformation**

Consulting projects performed well. We are aiming to increase connections from consulting projects to IT development projects.



2018/2Q 2018/3Q 2018/4Q 2019/1Q 2019/2Q 2019/3Q 2019/4Q 2020/1Q 2020/2Q 2020/3Q 2020/4Q 2021/1Q 2021/2Q 2021/3Q 2021/4Q 2022/1Q 2022/3Q 2022/3Q 2022/4Q 2023/1Q 2023/3Q 2023/4Q 2023/3Q 2023/4Q 2024/1Q 2024/2Q 2021/3Q 2021/3Q 2021/4Q 2021/3Q 2021/3Q 2021/3Q 2021/4Q 2022/3Q 2021/3Q 2021/3Q





<sup>\*</sup> Total Number of Clients and Users using the Platform

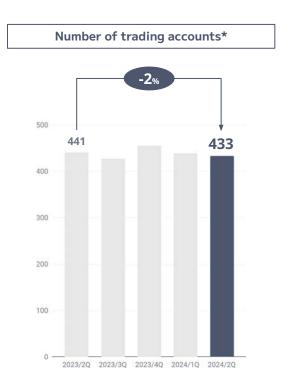
<sup>\*\*</sup> Total Number of Growth Hackers using the Platform

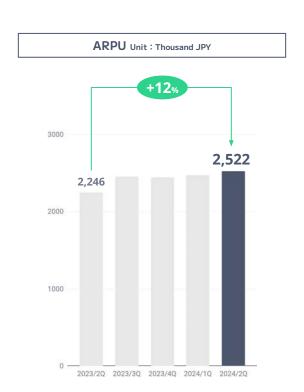


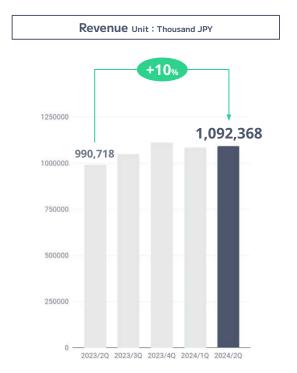


#### ARPU increased steadily through cross-selling

#### Revenue increased by 10% (+6% in Q1), with the speed of growth accelerating compared to previous quarter



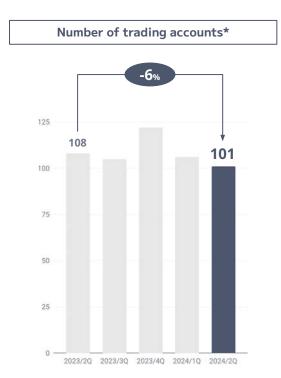




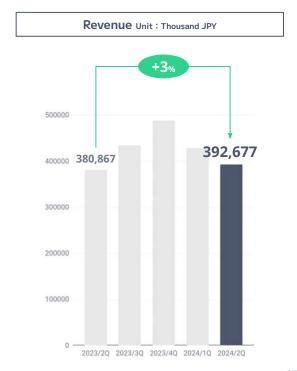
## **Growth (Stand-Alone): Number of Trading Accounts and ARPU**



The number of trading accounts decreased slightly, but ARPU increased by 10% due to strengthened cross-selling Revenue grew by 3% (down 5% in Q1) and we returned to a growth trajectory

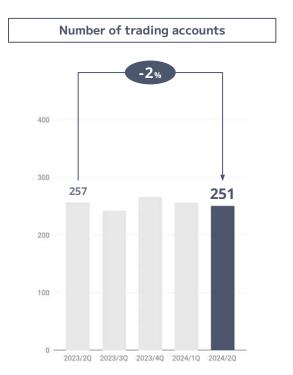




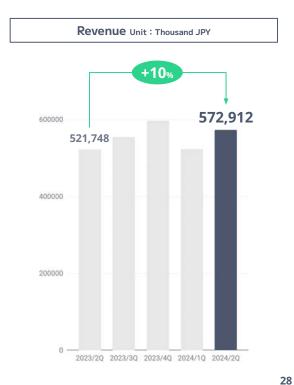




# ARPU increased by 12% due to improvement measures Revenue increased by 10% (-3% in Q1) and the segment as a whole began to grow again



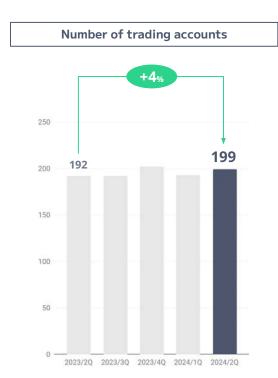


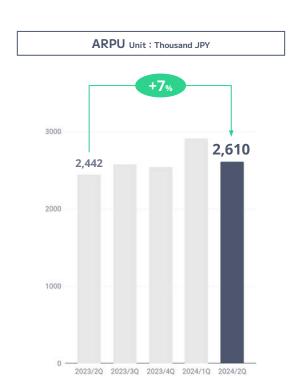


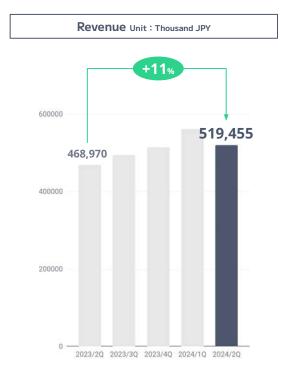


Consulting projects grew steadily, excluding the impact of year-end deliveries, and revenue increased by 11%

We will continue to increase ARPU by growing IT development projects through cross-selling





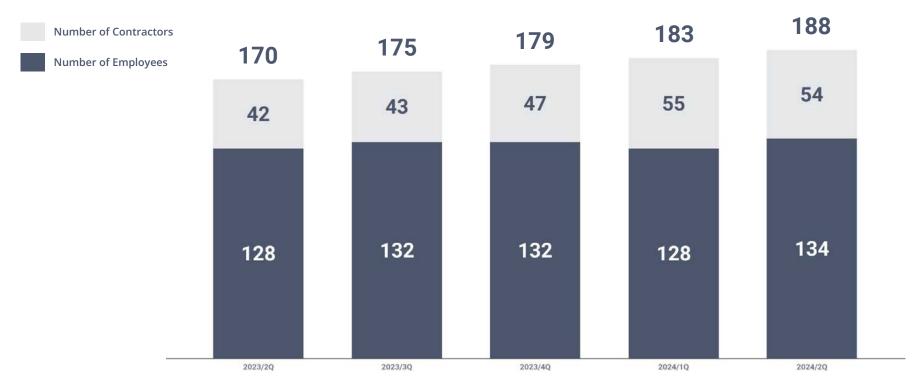


## Changes in the Number of Employees and Contractors



30

We are steadily expanding the number of staff (mainly contractors) to meet the current increase in demand

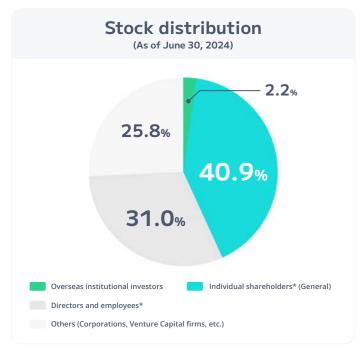




## We maintained both cash and deposits and net assets at adequate levels, and the financial base is stable

Institutional investors hold 2.2% of the company's shares, while individual shareholders account for 40.9%.

Balance Sheet (Consolidated)								
million JPY	2023/12	2024/6	Increase / Decrease					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,544	2,804	260					
Current Assets	3,358	3,530	171					
Tangible Fixed Assets	21	27	6					
Intangible Fixed Assets	832	732	-99					
Investment and Other Assets	157	213	55					
Assets	4,369	4,503	134					
Short-Term Debt	281	280	-0					
Long-Term Debt	317	279	-38					
Liability	1,178	1,198	19					
Net Worth	3,190	3,304	114					
Liability Net Assets	4,369	4,503	134					



<sup>\*</sup>Number of shares held by individual shareholders and directors and employees is an estimate.



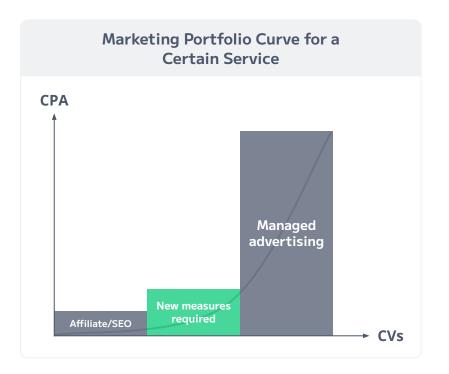
1 Company and Service Overview

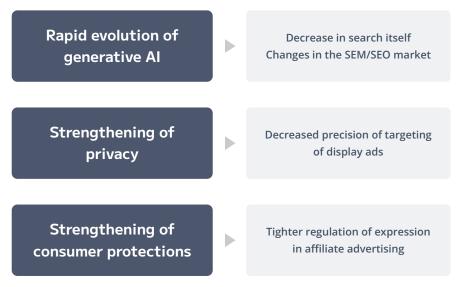
2 FY 2024 Q2 Business Results

3 Future Growth Strategy



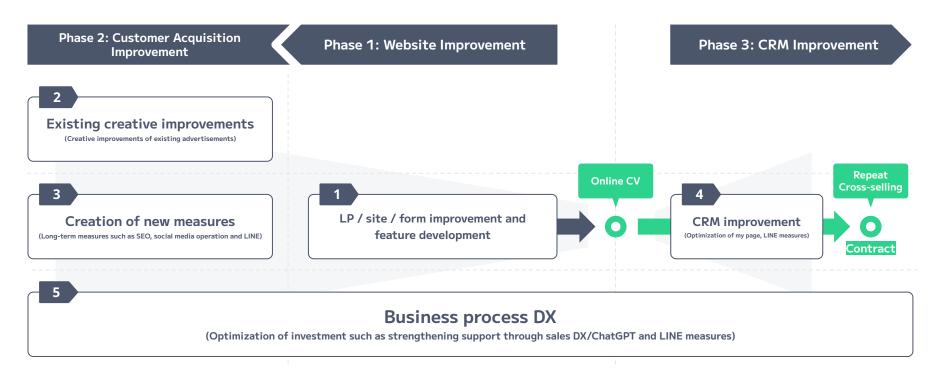
Demand is growing with a need for new measures, as managed advertising and affiliate advertising, which used to account for a large share of budgets, have been severely affected







It is necessary to have a highly diverse team of various experts who work together seamlessly across marketing and IT in areas such as generative AI, influencers and LINE

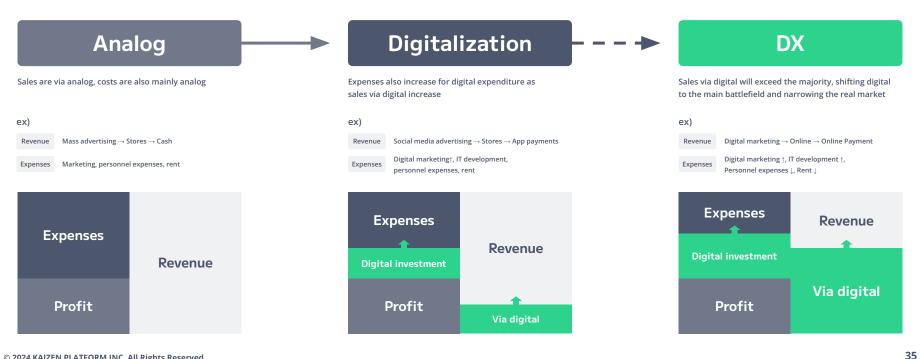


## **Aggressive DX Budget Expansion Scenario**



Matching return on investment to aggressive DX investment will accelerate investment and DX will progress As DX progresses, the P/L structure will transform significantly

True transformation predicated on digital and generative AI is about to begin in earnest



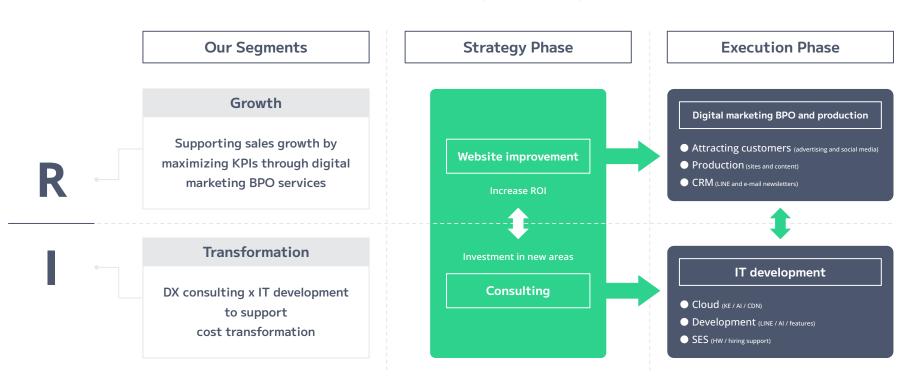
## **Proposal Strategy for Aggressive DX Budget Expansion**



36

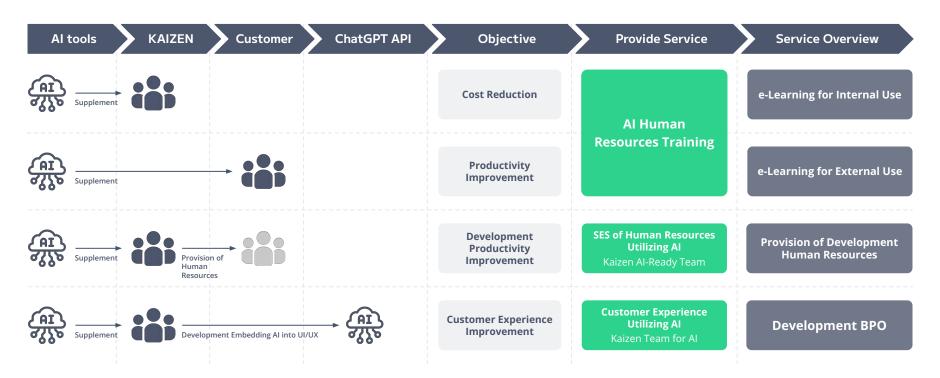
The starting point of our proposals is consulting, where we are able to differentiate ourselves through site improvements that have an overwhelming ROI and extensive data and results.

From there, we offer one-stop professional services such as digital marketing BPO, production and IT development.





# Develop human resources able to utilize generative Al Embedding Al into the existing customer experience DX will contribute to improving ROI while reducing labor costs within customers



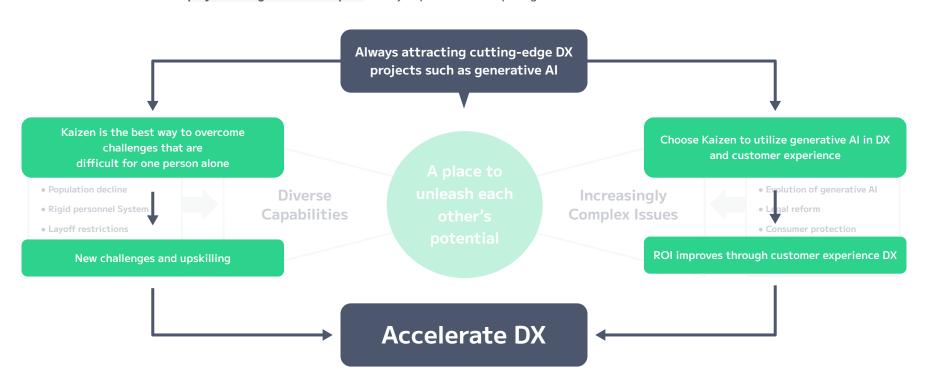
## **Customer and Human Resource Acquisition Strategy**



38

#### Aggressive DX projects and the creation of a place for diverse talent to be gathered are important

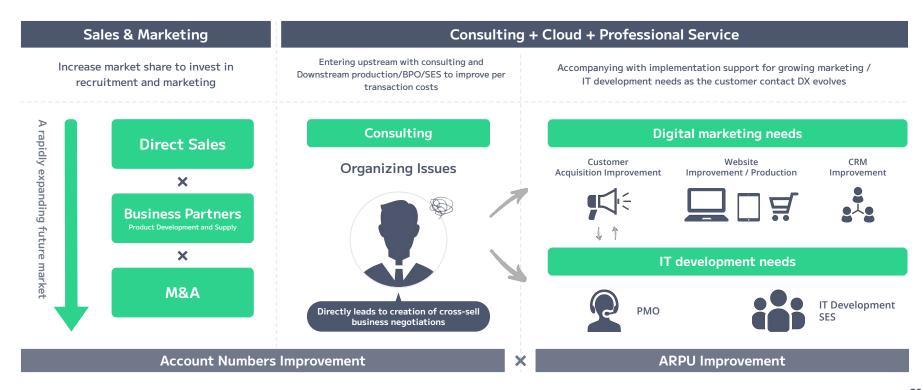
Keeping the position of "the place where the best generative AI projects are gathered in Japan" is very important for acquiring both customer and human resources



## Support for Aggressive DX from Both Development and Marketing Aspects



We will invest to strengthen our position as a platform in the growing DX market, aiming to become a DX EMS\*





### By Segment: Number of Transaction Accounts and ARPU (Cumulative)

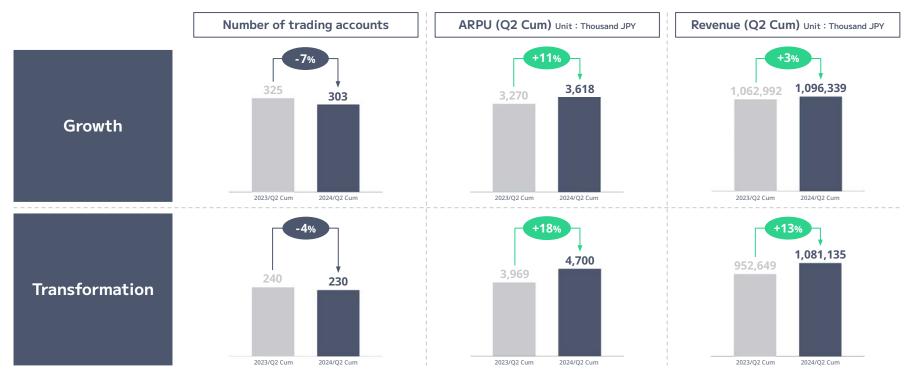


Growth

Got back on a growth trajectory from Q2, and increased the number of employees to capture the increase in demand.

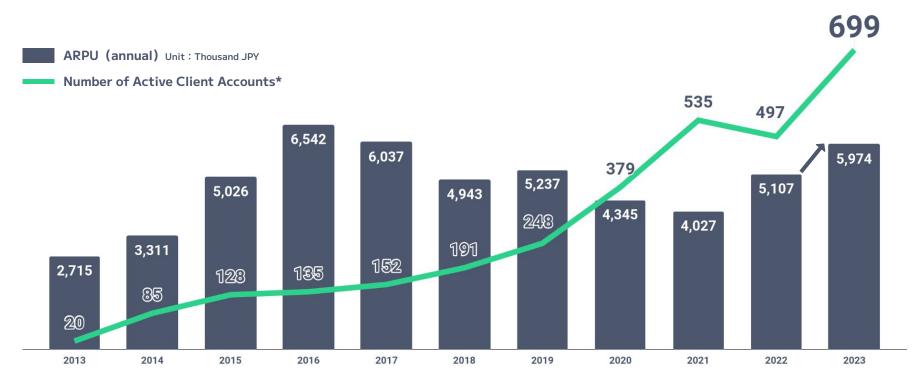
**Transformation** 

ARPU increased significantly due to strong performance of consulting. We will aim to increase IT development projects in future.





# Focusing on major customers has succeeded in raising ARPU The number of accounts has also increased significantly through M&A

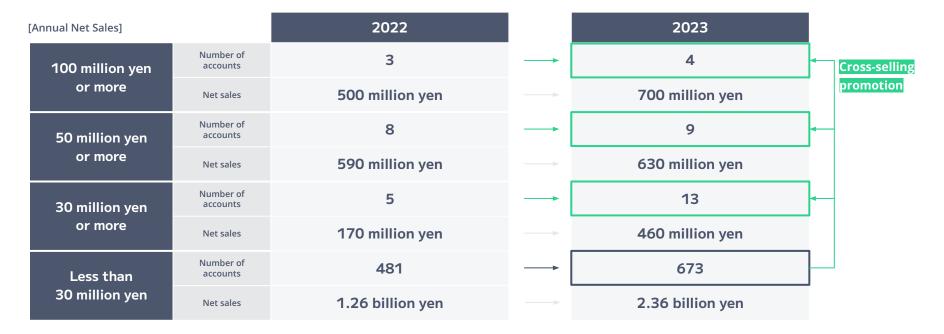


#### Image of ARPU Improvement



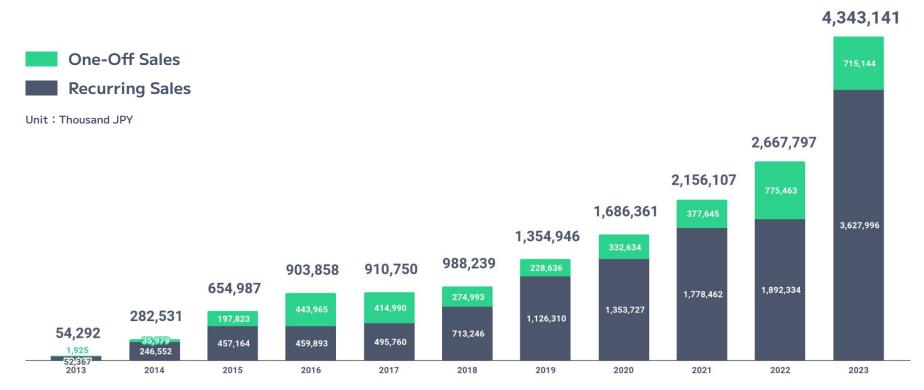
We have targeted accounts acquired in the previous fiscal year and promoted upselling / cross-selling Additionally, it has become clear that as DX progresses for major customers, cross-selling will increase and marketing and development budgets will expand significantly.

M&A has expanded the range of customers and we will aim to further improve ARPU.





Made significant progress in conversion to recurring sales due to customer concentration The recurring ratio is over 80%



## **Profit and Loss (Consolidated)**



Thousand JPY	2022/12	2023/12	2024/6
Sales Revenue	2,667,797	4,343,141	2,249,731
Gross Profit	955,062	1,334,608	659,415
Selling, General and Administrative Expenses	1,057,902	1,360,270	705,277
Salary and Allowance	294,818	412,380	214,091
Outsourcing Cost	127,805	140,818	71,250
Operating Profit (Loss)	(102,839)	(25,661)	(45,861)
Ordinary Profit (Loss)	(127,314)	11,603	(26,660)
Profit(Loss) attributable to Parent	(285,792)	(21,696)	(52,857)

# **Income Statement (By Segment)**



#### Growth

Thousand JPY	2022/12	2023/12	2024/6
JP			
Sales Revenue	2,280,972	2,215,436	1,096,339
Operating Profit (Loss)	(191,298)	(109,477)	(48,068)
US			
Sales Revenue	129,576	167,084	72,256
Operating Profit (Loss)	(32,148)	(1,838)	(14,290)
Total			
Sales Revenue	2,410,549	2,382,521	1,168,596
Operating Profit (Loss)	(223,447)	(111,316)	(62,359)

#### **Transformation**

Thousand JPY	2022/12	2023/12	2024/6
Sales Revenue	257,248	1,960,620	1,081,135
Operating Profit (Loss)	120,607	85,654	16,497

# **Balance Sheet (Consolidated)**



Thousand JPY	2022/12	2023/12	2024/6
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,337,836	2,544,457	2,804,939
Current Assets	4,036,258	3,358,833	3,530,141
Tangible Fixed Assets	22,472	21,105	27,968
Intangible Fixed Assets	993,449	832,138	732,652
Investment and Other Assets	184,330	157,410	213,053
Assets	5,236,512	4,369,488	4,503,815
Short-Term Debt	751,452	281,234	280,408
Long-Term Debt	586,303	317,552	279,428
Liability	1,955,753	1,178,964	1,198,892
Net Worth	3,280,758	3,190,523	3,304,923
Liability Net Assets	5,236,512	4,369,488	4,503,815

#### **Disclaimer**



The information contained in this presentation material is subject to change without notice.

Statements made in this document with respect to future performance are forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those statements using words such as "believe," "plans," "strategy," "expect," "anticipate," "expect," "forecast," "predict," or "may" and statements regarding future business activities, performance, events, or circumstances, and other similar expressions that describe future business activities, performance, events, or conditions.

Forward-looking statements are based on management's beliefs in light of the information currently available to it.

These forward-looking statements are therefore subject to various risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

Accordingly, you should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements.

Information in this presentation material relating to companies other than ours and information prepared by third parties are quoted from public information, etc. We have not independently verified the accuracy or appropriateness of such data, indicators, etc., and do not guarantee their accuracy or appropriateness.

