**KOKOPELLI** 

# FY2023 Financial Results

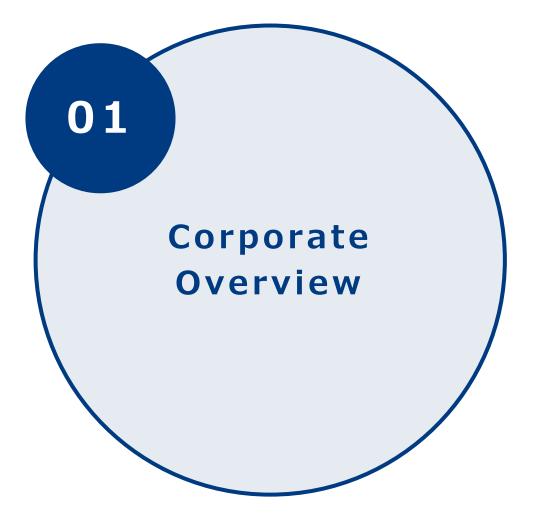
KOKOPELLI Inc. (stock code: 4167)

May 14, 2024









Mission/Corporate Overview/Service Contents/ Building a Business Ecosystem for SMEs/ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





## **Find the future**

# in corporate value

In concert with financial institutions, we help sprout the seeds of possibilities in companies across Japan.





## Company Overview

Name:	KOKOPELLI Inc.
Address:	Kioicho Bldg. 11 <sup>th</sup> floor, 3-12 Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
Established:	June 2007
CEO:	Shigeru Kondo
Capital:	<b>812 million yen</b> *As of March 31, 2024
Number of Group Employees:	<b>120 (permanent &amp; part-time)</b> *As of March 31, 2024
Group Companies:	Kokopelli Management Support Inc. Key Point Inc.
Overview:	<ul> <li>Business platform</li> <li>Operation of "Big Advance", DX support platform for SMEs</li> <li>DX Solutions</li> </ul>

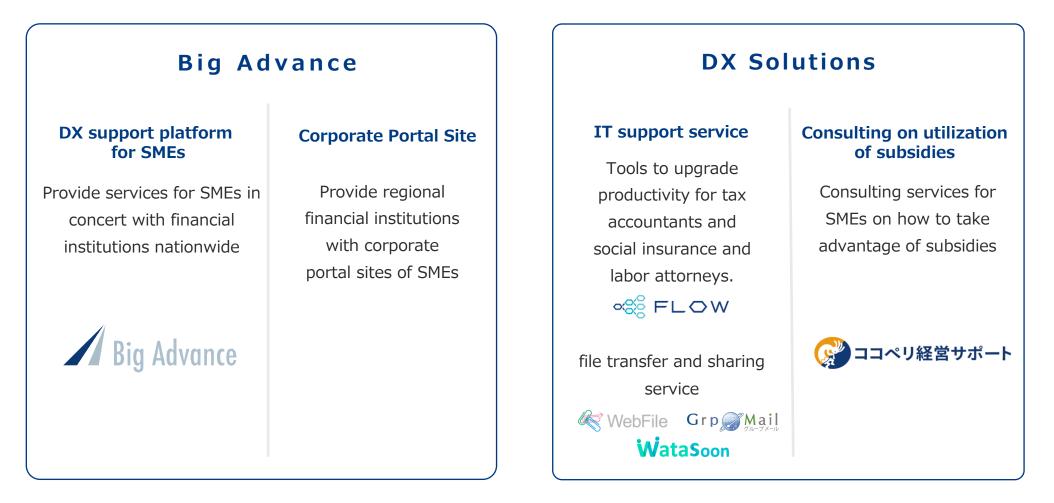




### Service Contents



• BtoB SaaS model service to support SMEs' growth and regional development (\*1)

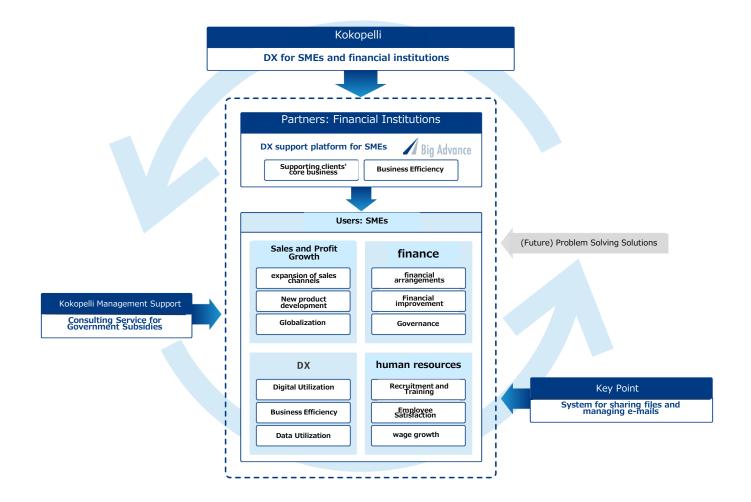


- (\*1) Abbreviation for "Software as a Service". Software applications offered on Cloud by service providers which users can access through the network.
- (\*2) Sales through the corporate portal site was previously included in "DX solutions" but it has been changed to be included in "Big Advance".

### Building a Business Ecosystem for SMEs

**KOKOPELLI** 

- We aim to build a business ecosystem with the SME DX support platform "Big Advance" at its core.
- By building the ecosystem, we provide solutions to various issues faced by SMEs and an environment for sustainable growth.
- We develop new solutions to solve problems or collaborate with companies that already have such solutions.
- Our solutions have been expanded through integrating Key Point into our group as a subsidiary in November 2023.



## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We strive to "Find the future in corporate value", and "make technologies accessible to SMEs" through on-going efforts to add corporate value and commit to resolving social issues through our engagements.



KOKOPELLI Inc. supports Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





**7** PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

#### 8.3

Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the births and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises by improving access to financial services.

#### 9.1

Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient regional and transborder infrastructures, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.

#### 17.17

Encourage and promote effective public, public-private, and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies based on a wealth of partnerships experiences.







**Overview & Challenges for SMEs / Overview &** Challenges for Regional Financial Institutions / Our Business (Big Advance) / How "Big Advance" Works / Platforms with Multiple Touchpoints/ Support for DX by SMEs/ The Potential of "Big Advance" with the Use of Generative AI/ Benefits of adopting Big Advance(1)/ Benefits of adopting Big Advance(2)/ Current Status of CHANTO Invoice (Electronic Invoice Services) / The trend of ARPA for the entire group / The trend of **ARPA for Big Advance / Topics** 

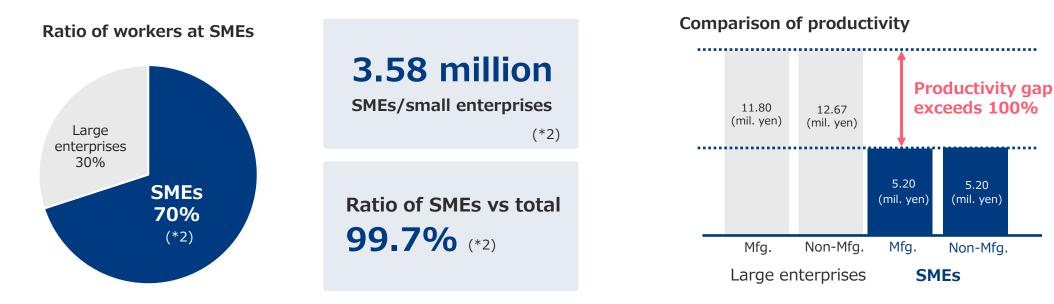
### **Overview & Challenges for SMEs**

• Main challenge is to improve productivity. A 10% increase will add 16 trillion yen to the economy. (\*1)



### Issue: SMEs have low productivity

SME's productivity stands at app. **5.20 mil. yen** (\*3)



(\*2) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications and METI, "2016 Economic Census"

Current: SMEs have a massive presence in Japan

(\*3) Small and Medium Enterprise Agency "2020 White Paper on Small and Medium Enterprises in Japan"

<sup>(\*1)</sup> Our calculation, based on \*2 and \*3 above. (Total workers at SMEs of app.32mil. X 5.20 mil. yen X 10%)

### **Overview & Challenges for Regional Financial Institutions**

🛞 KOKOPELI

• Need to secure stable income and promote DX (digital transformation) at SMEs.

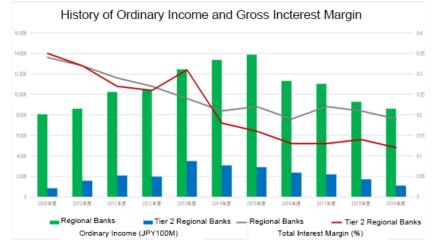
#### Current: Act as a principal players in regional financial market

Outstanding loans to SMEs: 298 trillion yen

Туре	Number	Outstanding loans to SMEs (*1 *2)
Regional Banks	63	176 trillion yen
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tier Reginal Banks	37	40 trillion yen
Credit Unions	254	70 trillion yen
Credit Associations	144	12 trillion yen
Total	498	298 trillion yen
Mega Banks (Ref.)	4	115 trillion yen

# **Issue: Stabilizing earnings from assistance for main business line of SMEs**

- Stagnant profit growth from lending (\*3)
- Low demand for funding, intense competition and prolonged period of super-low interest rate have been causing severe headwinds for businesses.
- Banking Act was amended to drive forward the FinTech evolution (\*4)



(\*1) Our calculation, based on "A list of SMEs and Regional Banks in each Prefecture (as of March 2022)" by Small and Medium Enterprise Agency

(\*2) Our calculation, based on disclosures for outstanding loans to SMEs from Mega Banks (Mitsubishi UFJ, Mitsui Sumitomo, Mizuho, Resona) as of March 2021.

(\*3) Our analysis, based on "2019 Financial Results Trend" by Japanese Bankers Association.

(\*4) Amendments in 2016: "Facilitating investments into FinTech companies, introducing registration for cryptocurrency exchange operators"; and Amendments in 2018: "Introduction of registration system for electronic payment business operators and use of Open API"

### Our Business (Big Advance)

• A BtoB SaaS model management support platform for SME clients of financial institutions.

#### **Basic Functions**

#### **Business matching**

Search for business matches across different regions through financial institutions.

#### **?** Chat with financial institutions

Communicate directly with people in charge at financial institutions.

#### **Q** Subsidies and grants

Access proprietary database with details of all municipalities across the country.

#### Discussion with professionals

Connect with the most appropriate advisors in times of need.

#### Automatic website creation

Easily set up websites by entering simple details into prescribed format.

#### "FUKURI" welfare program

Deliver welfare and benefits to employees in the form of coupons which can be used on the website.

#### Safety check

Check safety of employees in times of emergencies with a push of a button.

#### **Business chat**

Smooth intra-company communications regardless of time and place.

#### **Optional Functions**

- Scrowd Funding \*Optional only for requested financial institutions Attract funding by sharing your passion to a common future.
- Talk freely on managerial issues with other company managements.
- Business Succession \*Optional only for requested financial institutions Allows to acquire essential knowledge and calculate share prices in preparation for business succession.
- **CHANTO Attendance Management**" \*Optional only for requested financial institutions Easy-to-use labor time management system with travel expenses and other expenses adjustment and settlement features
- **"CHANTO Invoice"** \* Optional only for requested financial institutions Simple operations to issue invoices and receive forms in line with the new invoice system and the revised Electronic Book Preservation Act.
- **Subsidies Application Support** \* Optional only for requested financial institutions Seek professional guidance on the utilization of subsidies and obtain specialized assistance for application processes.



### How "Big Advance" Works



- Each financial institution offers services to SMEs as "(institution name) Big Advance".
- Cut across the regional and institutional frameworks to create unprecedented opportunities.

#### **Business matching beyond the framework of each financial institutions**



System-linkage between each Big Advance bolsters matching capabilities on an unprecedented scale



### Platforms with Multiple Touchpoints

- The "Big Advance" account is divided into three types, and member companies have many user contact points from "management to employees".
- The total number of users in each account is 225,960.
- As a result of the priority measure of "promoting the use of business user accounts," the number of business users has steadily increased.

250,000

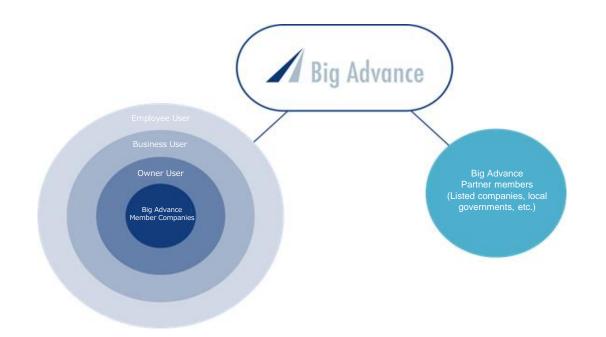
200,000

150,000

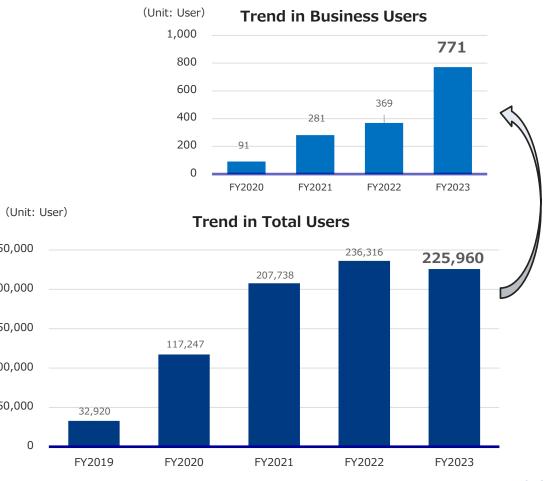
100,000

50,000

The number of partner members including listed companies and local governments is 1,940.



Account Type	Overview
Owner User	Only 1 user can be issued to Big Advance member companies, making all functions available.
Business User	Can be added as an option, almost all functions as the Owner User can be used.
Employee User	Unlimited issuance, limited to the use of some functions.



## Support for DX by SMEs

**KOKOPELLI** 

• Provides a wealth of functions with competitive price offers to accelerate the pace of DX at SMEs.

#### Areas of DX Services on Offer

	Aggressive DX (*1)	Defensive DX (*2)
Issues at SMEs	Push-up Sales	Operational efficiency
Main functions offered	Business matching Website creation	CHANTO Invoice CHANTO Attendance Management

#### Big Advance is the one-stop solution to completing your DX process

Features for DX	Big Advance	Other Services							
Introduction and operational support by persons at financial institutions	ø								
Business Matching	0	0							
Website Creation	0		Ø						
Business Chat	0			Ø					
Subsidies/Grant	ø				ø				
Welfare Program	0					0			
Safety Check	ø						0		
CHANTO Invoice (%4)	0							0	
CHANTO Attendance Management (※4)	0								0
Monthly Fee per a company	3,300 Yen/M Excluding optional functions	A company 1,500 Yen/M	B company 3,000 Yen/M	C company Fee for use	D company 1,000 Yen/M	E company 500-1,000 Yen/M/employee	F company Fee for use	G company Fee for use	H company Fee for use

- (\*1) DX areas contributing to higher sales such as website creation or web-based sales activities.
- (\*2) DX areas contributing to operational efficiency or cost reduction.
- (\*3) Other companies' services are excerpted from each company's website.
- (\*4) Optional functions.



### The Potential of "Big Advance" with the Use of Generative AI

- Generative AI, such as ChatGPT, is a technology that automatically generates new text, images, voice, and other data using Large Language Models and machine learning algorithms.
- In tandem with the functions and data volume of "Big Advance", overwhelming operational efficiency can be achieved, leading to higher customer satisfaction.
- SMEs can take advantage of cutting-edge technology without the need for any specialized knowledge.





more.

### Benefits of adopting Big Advance (1)

• New values created through Big Advance for many SMEs since its launch.

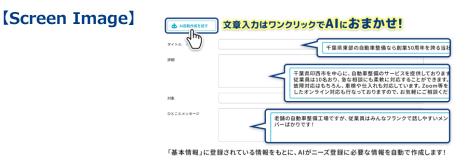
### **Business matchings**

- The business matching feature allowed users to explore new clients and potential tie-ups across different industry fields to develop new products.
- Total requests for business talks 144,814 (\*1).
- Over the past year, we have been working on enhancing the quality of our business meetings. Moving forward, we will focus on increasing the number of business meetings.

Quarterly requests for business talks

#### Release of an Automatic Generation Feature for Sales Opportunity Information Utilizing AI

• Launching a Feature That Utilizes AI to Automatically Create Information Needed for Business Matching Needs Registration with Just One Click



#### 16,000 13,728 13,051<sub>13,101</sub> 14,000 13,610 11,864 11.826 10,8111,024 12,000 11,131 9,489 10,000 7,775 8,000 6,136 6,234 5,054 6,000 3,545 4,000 1.999 2,000 0 2Q 3Q 4Q 1Q 2Q 3Q 4Q 1Q 2Q 3Q 4Q 1Q 2Q 3Q 4Q 1Q FY2020 FY2021 FY2023 FY2022

(\*1) As of end March 2024

#### **Implementation of Matching Event**

- Implementing Theme-Based Events to Further Activate Business Negotiations
- Construction Partner Companies Feature (Mon, January 22, 2024 Fri, February 2, 2024)
- Civil Engineering Partner Companies Feature (Mon, February 26, 2024 Fri, March 8, 2024)
- Department Store Feature (Mon, April 15, 2024 Fri, April 26, 2024)
- Holding online business meeting event "Enmusu-BA" Hosting a business meeting event led by financial institutions in the Tokai area July 9 to 11, 2024 (Online business meeting) July 12, 2024 (Physical business meeting)



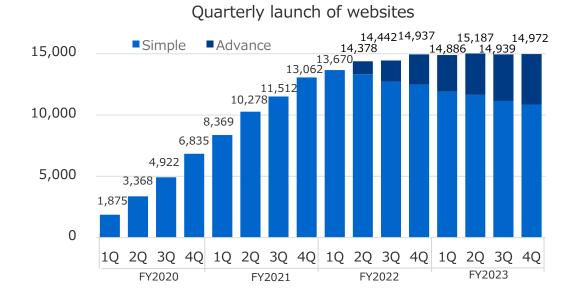
(OKOPFI I T

### Benefits of adopting Big Advance (2)

 Facilitate the creation and updating of websites that require routine cost and manpower, which adds to more credibility for the SME to attract more customers and hire new people.

#### **Websites creation**

- $\cdot$  Create and update website with no special knowledge
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Brings web search results at higher ranking in result
- More shifting to the "Advanced" version which allows more information to be posted and has improved design, enabling website creation tailored to each industry and business type.
- Number of companies on the "Advance" accounts represents 27.4% of the total.

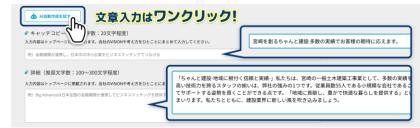


#### **Release ChatGPT-based support function for creating websites**

 $\cdot$  Release the  $\beta$ -version of the generative-AI function to insert phrases into websites on May 15, 2023.

 $\cdot$  Allows easy and efficient way to generate phrases for describing corporate missions and overview when creating websites.

#### [Screen Image]



#### The website contest (2<sup>nd</sup>)

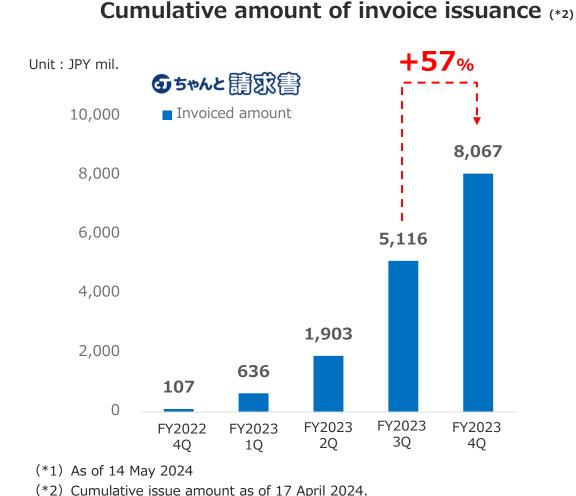
• We held a contest for companies that have created and submitted their website. Entry Period: February 19 to May 3, 2024

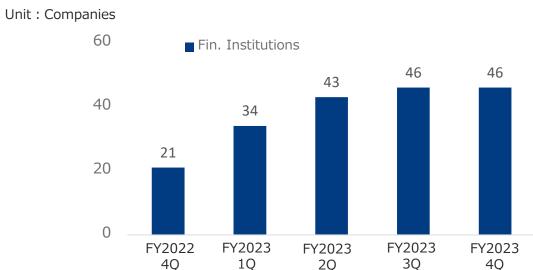


KOKOPELLI

### Current Status of CHANTO Invoice (Electronic Invoice Services)

- Online invoicing system "CHANTO Invoice" which is aligned with the new invoicing system, will commence January 2023.
- In response to the Electronic Books Preservation Act, the "electronic storage function" will be available from August 2023.
- The service was launched at 46 financial institutions (\*1), which exceeded the initial plan, and online seminars for SMEs were held as needed.
- The cumulative amount of invoices issued by proper invoices increased significantly to 8,067 million yen as of the forth quarter.





### Trend in the number of financial institutions

The Miyazaki Bank, The Ki no Kuni Shinkin Bank, The Gifu Shinkin Bank, The Seisei Shinkin Bank, The Chiba Shinkin Bank, The Towa Bank, Niigata Shinkin Bank, Hiratsuka Shinkin Bank, Minami Nippon Bank, Kofu Shinkin Bank, Nagano Bank, Alps Central Shinkin Bank, Sanjo Shinkin Bank, Fukui Shinkin Bank, Aomori Bank, Tomato Bank, Kagoshima Mutual Shinkin Bank, Toho Bank, Toyokawa Shinkin Bank, Himeji Shinkin Bank, Kyoei Shinkin Union, Iwate Bank, Tono Shinkin Bank, Fukuho Bank, Kure Shinkin Bank, Iyo Bank, Saga Bank, Sanin Godo Bank, Kochi Bank, Hanno Shinkin Bank, Kitanihon Bank, Tajima Shinkin Bank, Daiko Bank, Shonai Bank, Chukyo Bank, Kiyo Bank, Kuwana Mie Credit Union, Nishi Nihon City Bank, Fukuoka Chuo Bank, Kyoto Bank, Okinawa Kaiho Bank, Sendai Bank, Asahikawa Credit Union, Higashi Nihon Bank, and Mishima Credit Union



### The trend of ARPA for the entire group

- On and after FY2023 4Q, with the consolidation of Key Point Inc., the group's overall ARPA, including services such as the email sending/receiving and sharing service "WebFile" provided by Key Point, has significantly increased to 20,109 yen.
- Based on the ARPA expansion strategy, we will expand our product lineup and leverage the synergy between each product to increase ARPA.



(\*) ARPA stands for "Average Revenue per Account", referring to an average sales amount per account.

This figure is calculated by dividing the annual revenue sales from member companies by the number of member companies at the end of each quarter.





### The trend of ARPA for Big Advance

• For the revenue share from the monthly usage fees of Big Advance member companies, we have started offering the "Chanto" Series as an optional feature, resulting in a gradual increase in ARPA by 109 yen compared to the same period last year.





## Topics

### **Big Advance released since May 1,** 2024 in The Tama Shinkin Bank



- Tama Shinkin Bank has traditionally offered "Tamashin Corporate Comprehensive Service BOB" as a membership service for business operators. However, to further enhance the functionality of the membership service, They transitioned the service to Big Advance.
- Contributing to the expansion of support measures for small and medium-sized enterprises' core businesses and promoting DX to revitalize the regional economy.

We have started offering application support for the "Energy Conservation Subsidy" and the "Large-Scale Growth Investment Subsidy for Streamlining and Wage Increases in Medium and Small Enterprises."



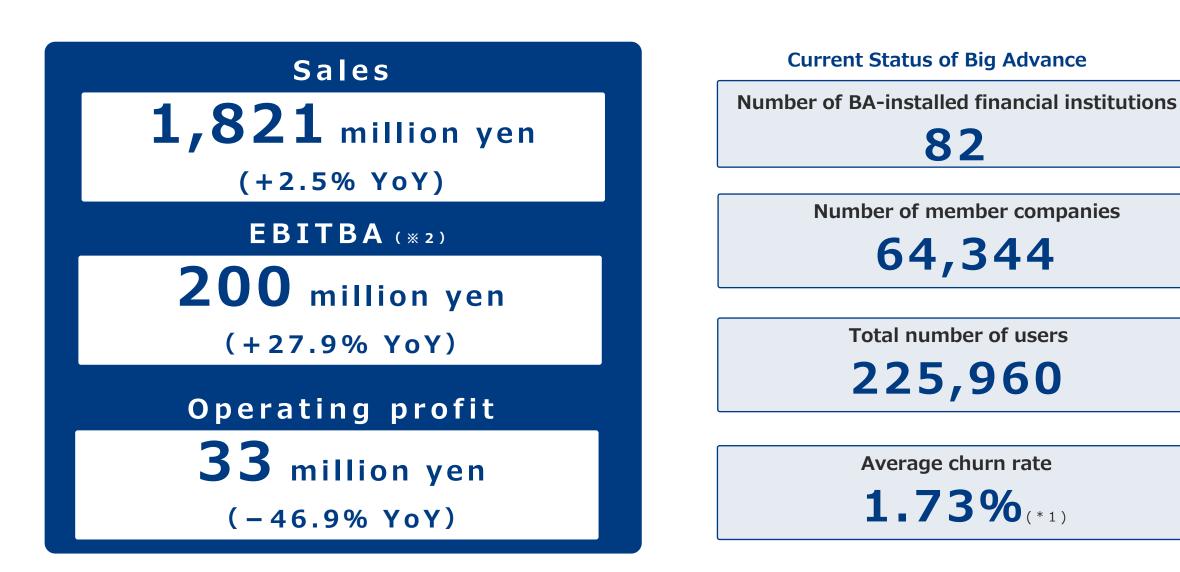
- The "Energy Conservation Subsidy" supports the replacement of factory boilers and industrial furnaces, as well as building air conditioning systems and commercial water heaters, with energy-efficient equipment. The scale of support is expected to increase in the future.
- The "Large-Scale Growth Investment Subsidy" is designed for medium and small enterprises aiming for sustainable wage increases. It can be utilized for the establishment of new facilities or significant equipment investments to fundamentally improve labor productivity through streamlining measures addressing current labor shortages and to expand business operations.





FY2023 Results Highlight/ FY2023 Profit and Loss Statement / Factors affecting EBITDA/ Trends in Quarterly Sales / Trends for Quarterly operating profit/loss and EBITDA/ Trends in Quarterly Cost Structure / Quarterly Trends in Member Companies / Nationwide Network of Member Companies / Trend in the number of BA-installed Financial Institutions / Sustaining users with quick improvements to functions





(\*1) Churn rate : Unsubscribed companies during the month / Subscribed member companies at month-end (12-month average from April 2023 to March 2024). (\*2) EBITDA is calculated by operating profit + depreciation + goodwill amortization + stock-based compensation expense.

### FY2023 Profit and Loss Statement



- Net sales reached 1,821 million yen, an increase of 102.5% year-on-year.
- Operating income declined to 33 million yen due to increased goodwill amortization. However, EBITDA increased by 27.9% year-on-year to 200 million yen
- Compared to the revised forecast in February 2024, both sales and income exceeded expectations, mainly due to an upturn in DX Solutions sales.
- Net income attributable to shareholders of the parent company increased by 33 million yen due to the recognition of deferred tax assets resulting from a change in company classification for tax effect accounting purposes.

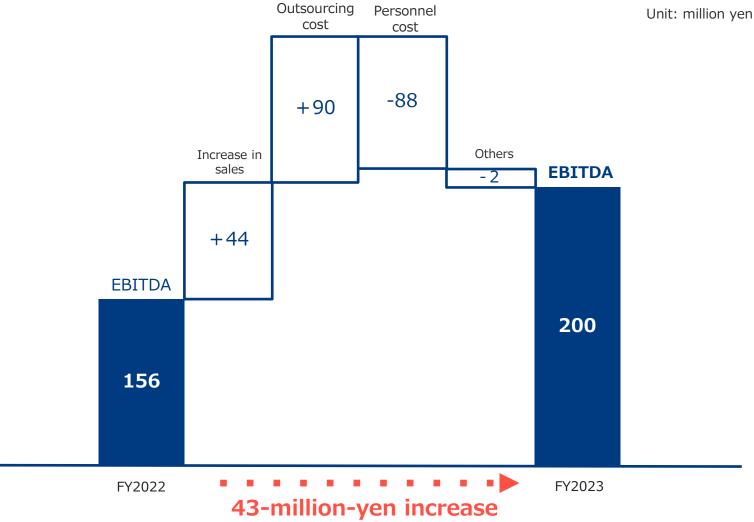
	FY2022 (Actual)	FY2023 (Forecasts) (*1)	FY2023 (Actual)	Difference from Previous Period	ΥοΥ	Forecast Achievement Rate
Net Sales	1,776	1,800	1,821	+44	102.5%	101.2%
Gross profit	966	980	990	+24	102.5%	101.3%
Gross profit ratio	54.4%	54.4%	54.4%	—		—
EBITDA	156	189	200	+43	127.9%	105.9%
Operating Income	63	23	33	-29	53.1%	147.4%
Operating income ratio	3.6%	1.3%	1.9%	—	—	—
Ordinary Income	65	28	40	-24	62.0%	144.2%
Quarterly net profit at shareholders of parent	21	1	33	+12	157.6%	3,333.5%

Unit: million yen



### Factors affecting EBITDA

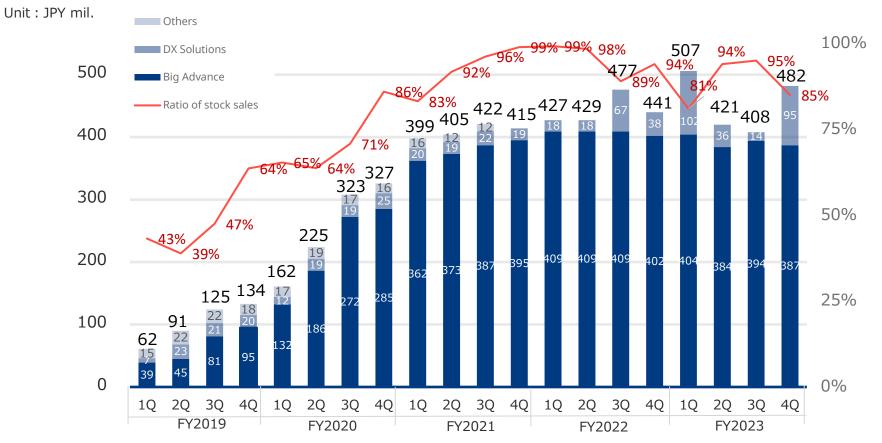
- Subcontracting costs decreased as sales increased, and system development was brought in-house by hiring engineers.
- Aggressive recruitment of engineers accelerated development speed and enhanced the capacity to create new functions and services.



### KOKOPELLI 😵

### Trends in Quarterly Sales

- Big Advance's revenue (\*2) decreased compared to the 3Q due to a decline in the number of member companies.
- DX Solutions' revenue increased compared to the 3Q due to the inclusion of Key Point Inc.'s revenue, which began to be consolidated in the 4Q
- The ratio of stock sales revenue (\*3) remains at a high level of 85%.



(\*1) Stand-alone results used until 2Q of FY2022, and consolidated results from 3Q of FY2022.

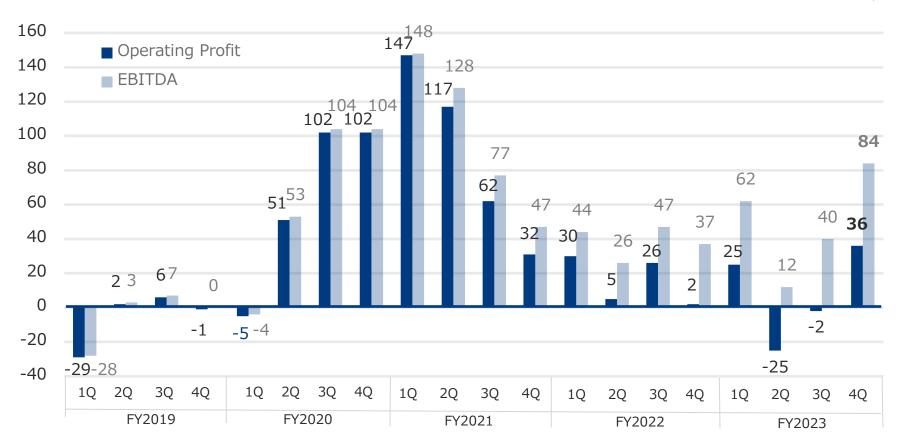
(\*2) Sales through the corporate portal site was previously included in "DX solutions" but it has been changed to be included in "Big Advance".

(\*3) Stock sales: revenue share of monthly maintenance cost and monthly cost of Big Advance at financial institutions.



### Trends for Quarterly operating profit/loss and EBITDA

• From FY2024 4Q, the commencement of consolidation with Key Point Inc. and a review of costs such as outsourcing fees led to an increase in operating profit and EBITDA.

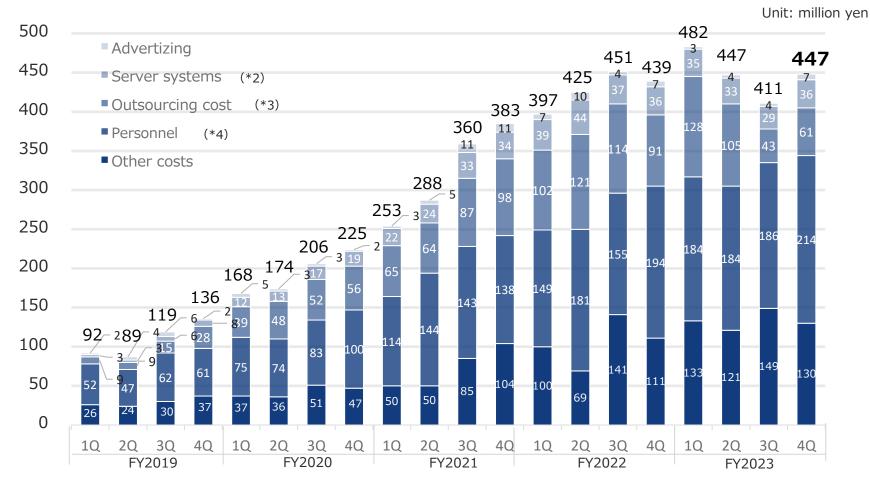


Unit: million yen



### Trends in Quarterly Cost Structure

• With the consolidation of Key Point Inc. starting from the 4Q of FY2023, expenses have increased. However, we continue to review and optimize costs, including server system fees and outsourcing expenses.



(\*1) Financial statements are on a stand-alone basis until 2Q of FY2022, and then on a consolidated basis from 3Q of FY2023.

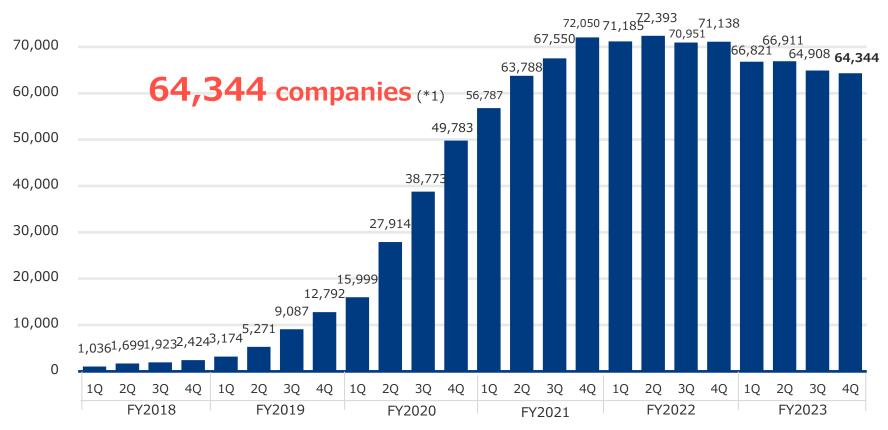
(\*2) AWS and web system usage fees. CoGS

(\*3) Cost of outsourcing development to external engineers. CoGS

(\*4) Salary for engineers, sales, customer service, corporate employees and executive pay, plus social insurance and recruitment costs. Total of CoGS and SGA.

## Quarterly Trends of Member Companies

• The number of member companies decreased by 564 from 3Q to 64,344 companies.



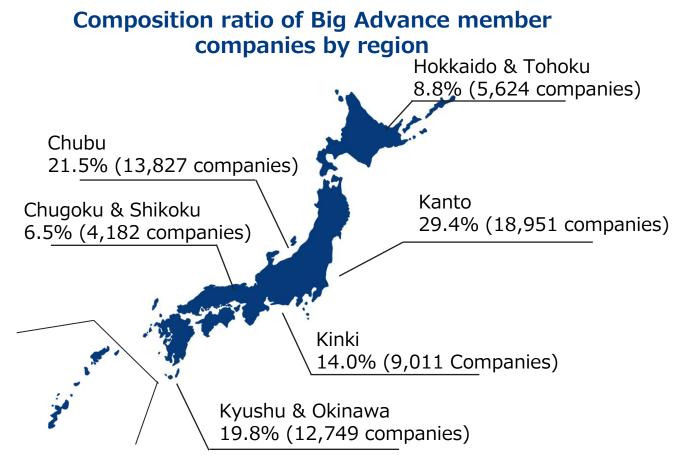
Unit : companies

(\*1) As of the end of March 2024

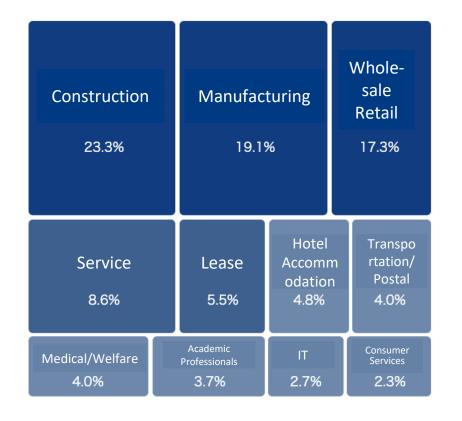


### Nationwide Network of Member Companies

• Building a distinctive network that encompasses SMEs from across the nation, transcending regional boundaries.



### **Type of Business of Big Advance members**

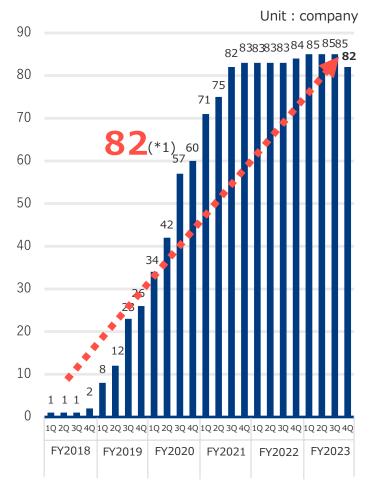




### 😵 KOKOPELLI

### Trends in the number of BA-installed Financial Institutions

• The number of BA-installed Financial Institutions that have adopted the system decreased by 3 from the third quarter to 82.



(\*1) As of the end of March 2024

#### Hokkaido / Tohoku Region

Aomori Bank / Asahikawa Credit Union / Iwate Bank / Kita-Nippon Bank / The 77 Bank / Shonai Bank / Sendai Bank / Toho Bank / Hokuyo Bank

#### **Hokuriku Region**

Kanazawa Credit Union / Kyoei Credit Association / Sanjo Shinkin Bank / Toyama Credit Association / Niigata Shinkin Bank / Fukui Bank / Fukui Credit Union / Fukuho Bank / Hokuriku Bank

#### Kanto / Koshinetsu Region

Alupuschuo Shinkin Bank / Ashikaga Bank / Kawasaki Credit Union / Kofu Credit Union / Seibu Credit Union / Shinonome Credit Union / Joyo Bank / Suwa Shinkin Bank / Daiko Bank / Tama Credit Union / Chiba Bank / Chiba Kogyo Bank / Chiba Credit Union / Tokyo Higashi Credit Union / Towa Bank / Tochigi Bank / Nagano Bank / Hanno Credit Union / Higashi Nihon Bank / Hiratsuka Credit Union / Mito Shinkin Bank / Yokohama Credit Union

#### **Tokai Region**

Gifu Shinkin Bank / Kuwana Mie Credit Union / Seishin Credit Union / Takayama Credit Union / Chukyo Bank / Tono Credit Union / Toyokawa Credit Union / Nagoya Bank / Hekikai Credit Union / Mishima Credit Union

#### **Kansai Region**

Ikeda Senshu Bank / Osaka shoko Shinkin Bank / Kinokuni Shinkin Bank / Kiyo Bank / Kyoto Bank / Shiga Bank / Shiga Chuo Credit Union / Tajima Bank / Tajima Credit Union / Nara Chuo Shinkin Bank / Himeji Shinkin Bank / Minato Bank

#### Chugoku / Shikoku Region

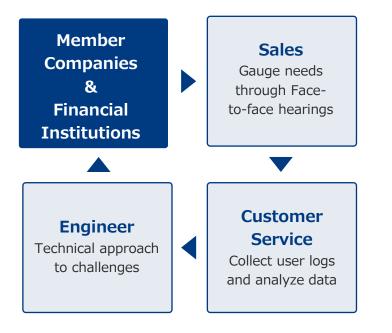
Iyo Bank / Ehime Bank / Kure Credit Union / Kochi Bank / Sanin Godo Bank / Shikoku Bank / Tamashima Credit Union / Tomato Bank

#### Kyushu / Okinawa Region

Oita Bank / Okinawa Bank / Okinawa Kaiho Bank / Kagoshima Sougo Shinkin Bank / Koga Shinkin Bank / Saga Bank / Nishi Nihon City Bank / Higo Bank / Fukuoka Chuo Bank / Nagasaki Bank / Minami Nippon Bank / Miyazaki Bank

### Sustaining users with quick improvements to functions

 Average annual churn rate stayed in the 1% range, on the back of efforts to collect and quickly reflect the needs of financial institutions and member companies in our services to heighten customer satisfaction and convenience.



### Cycle of functional upgrades

### Ave. Annual Churn Rate at 1.73% (\*1)

#### All financial institutions 3 2.71 (%3) When special factors are excluded from specific financial institutions 2.38 (※2) 2.5 2.091.82 1.861.94 2 1.65 1.73 1.57 1.49 1.5 1.59 1.33 1.19 1.30 1.25 1.27 1.19 0.5 0 1Q 2Q 3Q 4Q FY2019 FY2021 FY2020 FY2022 FY2023

Ave. Quarterly Churn Rate

(\*1) Churn rate: (Unsubscribed companies during the month) / (Subscribed companies at previous month end (12-month average from April 2024 to March 2024)

(\*2) One-off increase in churn rate due to special factors at certain financial institutions in December 2020. Average churn rate in 3Q FY2020 is 1.67% without this effect.

(\*3) The churn rate rose for a while in March and April 2023 due to special factors at certain financial institutions. Besides this, the average churn rate in Q1 FY2022 was 1.65%.

KOKOPELLI



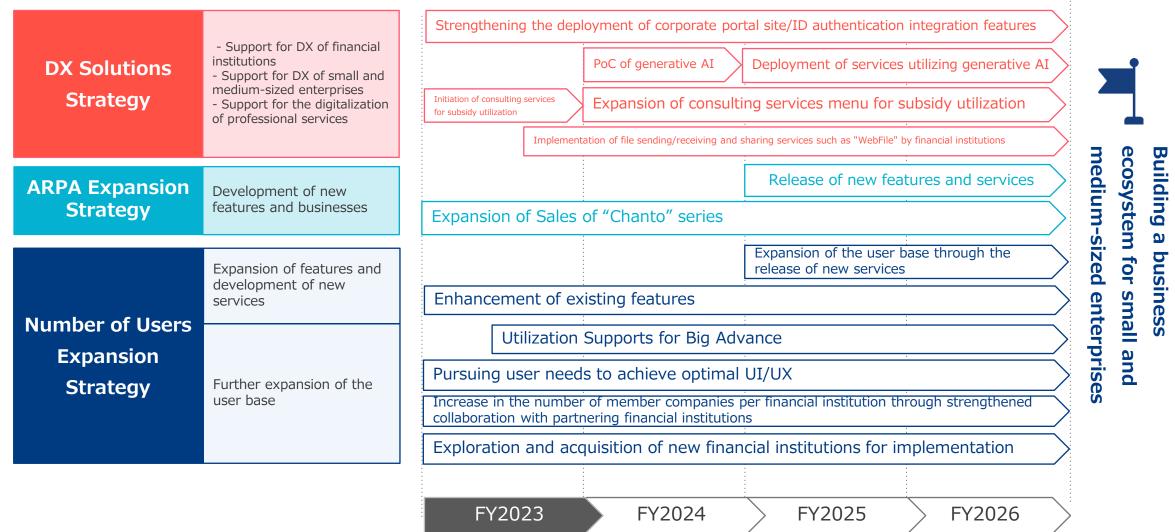


"Growth Strategy Roadmap" for FY2024 and beyond / Progress of Number of Users Expansion Strategy / Progress of DX Solutions Strategy / Progress of ARPA Expansion Strategy



### "Growth Strategy Roadmap" for FY2024 and beyond

• Based on the initiatives of the past three years, we have formulated a growth strategy roadmap up to FY 2026





Number of Users Expansion Strategy

- Enhancement of existing features
- Increase in the number of member companies per financial institution through strengthened collaboration with partnering financial institutions
- Exploration and acquisition of new financial institutions for implementation
- Utilization and return of accumulated big data

### Achievements

- A significant update to one of the main features, the "Business Matching Function"
- Release of new features (Chanto Series)
- Major improvement of UX of existing features utilizing ChatGPT and AI
- Establishment of a success department to directly support the utilization of member companies
- New introduction in Osaka Shoko Shinkin Bank and Tama Shinkin Bank (starting May 2024)
- Promotion of use of business user accounts (\*1) by member companies

#### **Issues**

- Despite the steady progress in the utilization of Big Advance through improvements to existing features, the release of new features, and the enhancement of support systems, it did not lead to an expansion in the number of users.
- While we had planned to introduce Big Advance to 9 new financial institutions, we only succeeded with 2.

### **Future Actions**

- Revise the organizational structure to further strengthen relationships with financial institutions.
- Actively conduct online business meetings and invoice response seminars to expand the user base.
- Further enhance the business matching function to attract new user segments.
- Expand service proposals to financial institutions to include not only Big Advance but also corporate portals and other services.
- Adapt to the reorganization of financial institutions.

## **DX Solutions Strategy**

- Strengthen the deployment of corporate portal site/ID authentication integration features
- Enhance consulting services for subsidy utilization
- Expand the sales of file sending/receiving and sharing services such as "WebFile"

#### Achievements

- Secured 1 corporate portal site contract and added 1 new client for ID authentication integration features.
- Expanded the number of financial institutions partnered for subsidy utilization consulting from 5 to **14** since joining the group.
- Initiated handling of energy conservation subsidies (February 2024) and completed the setup of application channels within Big Advance.
- Leveraged Kokopelli's network to propose the file sending/receiving and sharing service "WebFile" to financial institutions, with multiple institutions already considering implementation.
- Discontinued the services of FAI and SHARES to focus on core areas.

#### Issues

- For subsidy utilization consulting, the number of handled subsidy cases has decreased.
- While proposals for the file sending/receiving and sharing service "WebFile" were made to financial institutions, no contracts have been secured yet.

## **Future Actions**

- Maximize the synergy between Kokopelli
   Management Support and Key Point Co., which have been grouped together.
- For subsidy utilization consulting, develop new cases for the newly handled energy conservation subsidies and large-scale growth investment subsidies.
- Establish a track record of implementing the file sending/receiving and sharing service "WebFile" within financial institutions.

#### ARPA Expansion Strategy

- Release new features and new businesses that address the challenges faced by small and mediumsized enterprises.
- Expand the sales of the optional features
   "Chanto Invoice" and
   "Chanto Attendance."

#### Achievements

- We have launched the online invoice issuance feature "Chanto Invoice," which is compliant with the invoice system. It has been implemented in **46** financial institutions as of May 14, 2024.
- From August 2023, "Chanto Invoice" started offering the "Electronic Storage Function" in compliance with the Electronic Book Storage Act, and from March 2024, the "Receipt Issuance Function" is available.
- In partnership with Geocode Co., Ltd., we have launched the attendance management feature "Chanto Attendance by Next IC Card." "Chanto Attendance" has been implemented in 25 financial institutions as of February 29, 2024.
- With the addition of Key Point Co.'s products to the "Chanto Series," ARPA has significantly **increased by 2,062 yen** compared to the previous period.

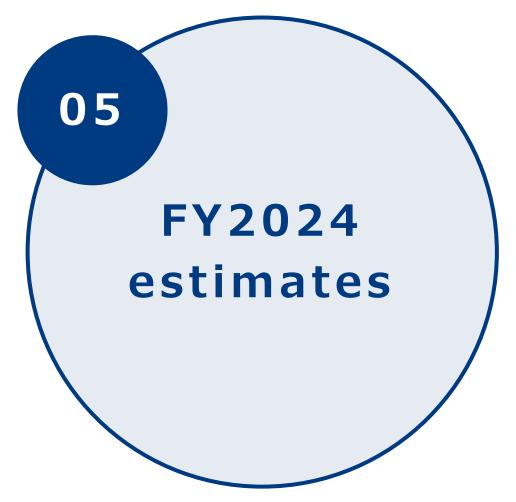
#### **Issues**

 To further expand ARPA, it is essential to enhance functionalities and establish mechanisms aimed at increasing the number of user companies.

#### **Future Actions**

- Enhance sales promotion materials and conduct online seminars regularly for "Chanto Invoice" and "Chanto Attendance by Next IC Card" aimed at small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Improve the optional application flow for "Chanto Invoice."
- Expand the functionality of "Chanto Invoice" and improve user experience.
- Provide implementation support for "Chanto Attendance."
- Establish a track record of implementing the file sending/receiving and sharing service "WebFile" within financial institutions.





Business Policy for FY 2024/ The market size of business matching platforms / Performance forecast for FY2024

# Business Policy for FY 2024



• In FY2024, business growth will be pursued through the following initiatives:

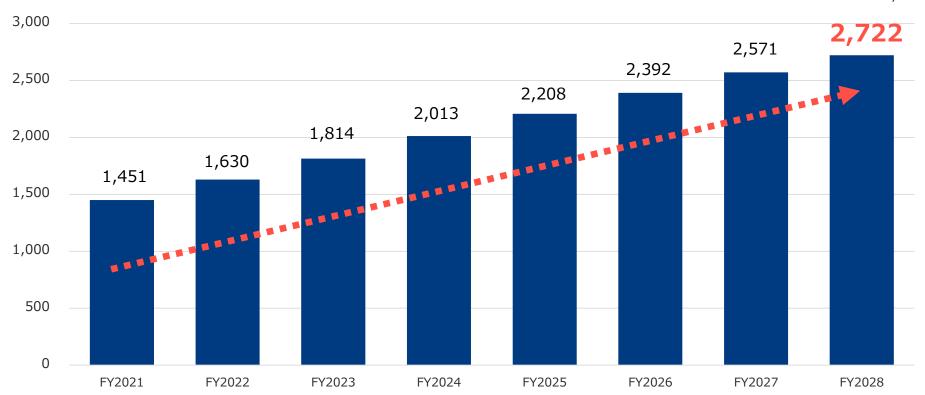
	• Enhance existing functionalities, with a focus on the business matching feature,
	to attract new user segments through proactive DX efforts.
	• Expand the sales of the "Chanto Series" as part of defensive DX measures.
Big Advance	<ul> <li>Promote the utilization of business user accounts.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Strengthen relationships with financial institutions.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Establish mechanisms for providing support and assistance to member</li> </ul>
	companies.

#### DX Solutions

- Service implementation through validation experiments with AI generation.
- Expansion of the subsidies handled in subsidy utilization consulting.
- Introduction of file sending/receiving and sharing services like "WebFile" to financial institutions.

## The market size of business matching platforms

• The domestic market as a whole is expected to expand from 2,013 billion yen in FY 2024 to 2,722 billion yen in FY2028



Mid-term forecast for the business matching platform market size

Unit: million yen

(Source) Deloitte Tohmatsu MIC Research Institute Co., Ltd., "Current Status and Outlook of the Domestic Business Matching Platform Market [2023 Edition]," issued on December 13, 2023.

**KOKOPELLI** 

## **KOKOPELLI**

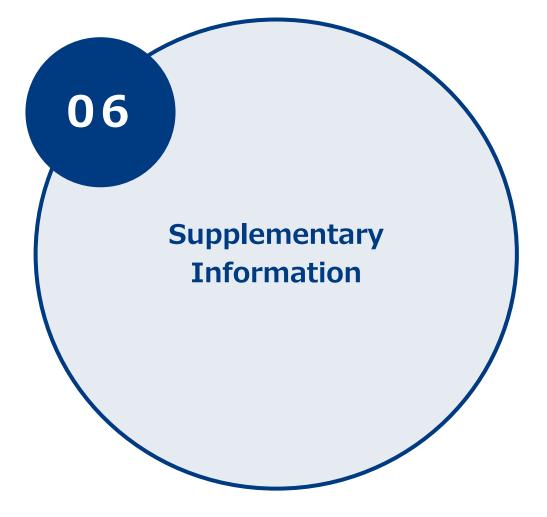
## Performance forecast for FY2024

- Net sales are expected to increase due to factors such as the growth in BA membership, implementation of corporate portals, expansion of subsidy consulting, and sales promotion of file sending/receiving and sharing services like "WebFile."
- Cost of sales and selling, general, and administrative expenses are anticipated to increase due to the hiring of engineers, leading to an increase in personnel expenses.
- EBITDA and operating income are expected to increase as the company continues to invest in hiring and training employees while also focusing on cost reduction measures to improve cost-effectiveness.
- However, net income attributable to parent company shareholders is expected to decrease due to a significant decline resulting from the reversal of the gain recognized in FY2023 due to changes in tax effect accounting for corporate classification.

Unit: million yen

	FY2023 (Actual)	FY2024 (Forecasts)	Variance	ΥοΥ
Sales	1,821	2,000	+178	109.8%
Gross profit	990	996	+5	100.5%
EBITDA	200	240	+39	119.9%
Operating Profit	33	40	+6	118.0%
Recurring Profit	40	38	-2	94.1%
Net profit for shareholders of parent company	33	2	-31	6.0%





Mission / To become a core infrastructure for SMEs / Advantages of using Big Advance(1) / Advantages of using Big Advance (2) / Advantages of using Big Advance (3)/ Evaluation indicators / Attracting more users (1):Expanding the user base / Attracting more users (2):Expanding of user base / Attracting more users (3):Stronger ties with local governments / Attracting more users(4):Expanded functions and data usage / Strategy for DX Solutions: DX Support for financial institutions / Growth scenarios in the mid-term management plan / Further expansion of user base / Potential market with room for further expansion / Improved stock incentives

## Mission



• To create the largest management support platform for SMEs in Japan



## Find the future in corporate value.

To realize this mission, KOKOPELLI has consistently developed services to support SMEs since its establishment.

Unfortunately, many businesses do not see the light of day because they do not communicate the core values they have to offer.

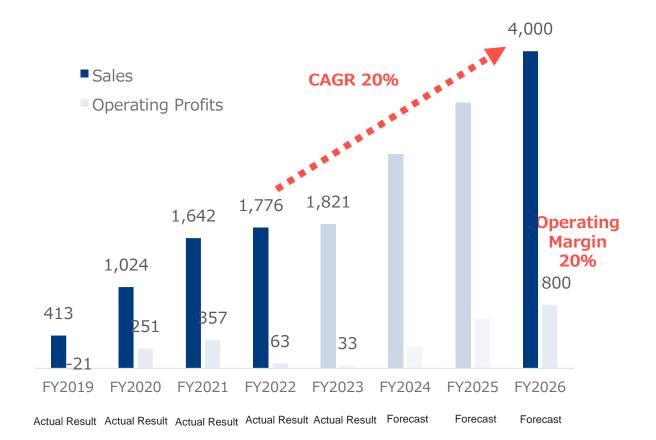
Our challenge is to harness the power of technology to sprout and nurture these seeds of buried value, growth opportunities, and business potential to take them into the futures ahead.

We combine technology and innovation to create business models to improve labor productivity and deliver services that are truly valuable to the companies we serve.



## Mid-term Management Target

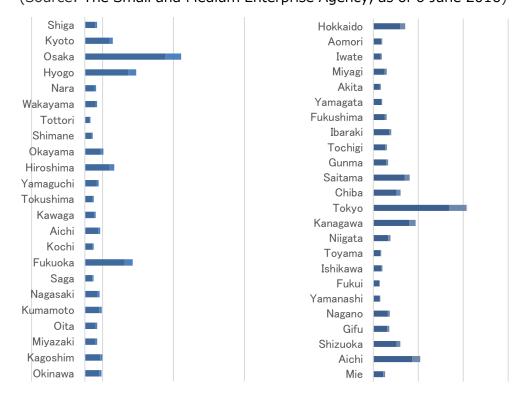
- Target sales growth at CAGR 20% through FY2026 by expanding the number of users, ARPA expansion, and DX solution strategy.
- Target 20% OM at JPY800 mil. OP by FY2026 through sales growth exceeding investment, despite an anticipated fall in OP due to investments on a temporary basis.



## To become a core infrastructure for SMEs

- To become the absolute leader in the DX market for Japanese SMEs in the next 3 years (FY2022-FY2024).
- Of the nation's 3.58 million businesses, 99.7% are small and medium-sized enterprises and 84.9% are small businesses.
- Small businesses are distributed in each region.
- The top 3 industries are wholesale/retail, lodging/restaurant services, and construction.

Number of companies by prefecture (Source: The Small and Medium Enterprise Agency, as of 6 June 2016)



Definition of SMEs and small businesses					
	SI	Of which small business			
Sector type	Capital or employees		Employees		
Mfg. and others	300 mil. JPY or less	300 or less	20 staffs or less		
Wholesale	100 mil. JPY or less	100 or less	5 staff or less		
Service	50 mil. JPY or less	100 or less	5 staff or less		
Retail	50 mil. JPY or less	50 or less	5 staff or less		

Number of companies by industry (Source: The Small and Medium Enterprise)

Wholesale Retail	Construction	Manufacturing	Real Property Movables Leasing 8%
23%	12%	11%	Academic Professional/ Technical
Hotel and Restaurant	Daily Service Entertainment	Medical Welfare	Services (Others) 4%
14%	10%	6%	Education/Study Support

Transportation, postal service…2% / Information Technology…1% / Finance, Insurance…1% / Combined services…0% / Mining, Quarrying of stone and gravel…0% / Electricity, gas, heat and water services…0%

■ Small enterprises ■ SMEs ■ MNEs



Advantages of using Big Advance (1)

• A thorough delivery of WEB services to local companies, based on established network of local financial institutions.



KOKOPELLI



#### Effective networking with local financial institutions

- An established network of Japan's largest regional financial institutions, including regional banks, second-tier regional banks, shinkin banks, and credit unions, regardless of business category.
- Comprises 82 BA-installed financial institutions that have head offices spanning across 42 prefectures (47 prefectures including branches) and approximately 5,700 branches.



# Effective networking with

#### SMEs across the country

- A very effective network of 65,000 or more companies registered with Big Advance nationwide.
- Able to provide services to small, like-sized companies across the sector that were difficult to reach with web-based services.

Construction		Manufa cturing <sup>19.1%</sup>		Whol esale Retail 17.3%	
<b>Service</b> 8.6%		Real Prop. Mov. Lease 5.5%	Hotel Resta urant 4.8%		Postal Mail 4.0%
Medical/Welfare 4.0%	Ac	ademic/Prof. 3.7%	IT 2.7%		Daily Service 2.3%

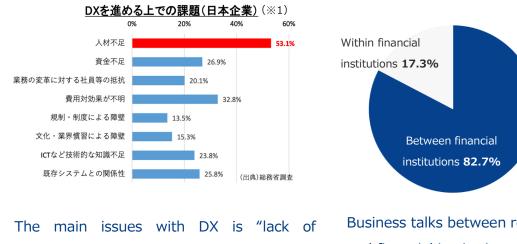
The top three industries of the member companies are construction, manufacturing and wholesale/retail.



#### Fusion of in-person and

#### technology-based services

- Trusted personnel at financial institutions in close contact with companies on a daily basis will support the installation and operation of Big Advance to promote DX.
- Share the core values of local companies with those across the country via the web.



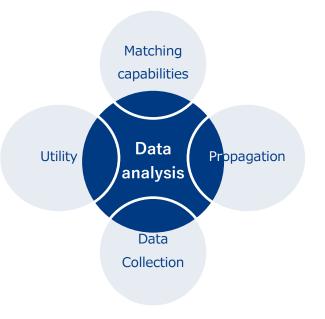
#### personnel" at 53.1%.

Business talks between regional and financial institutions comprise 82% of the business matching function offered by Big Advance.

#### Data-driven

#### analysis and returns

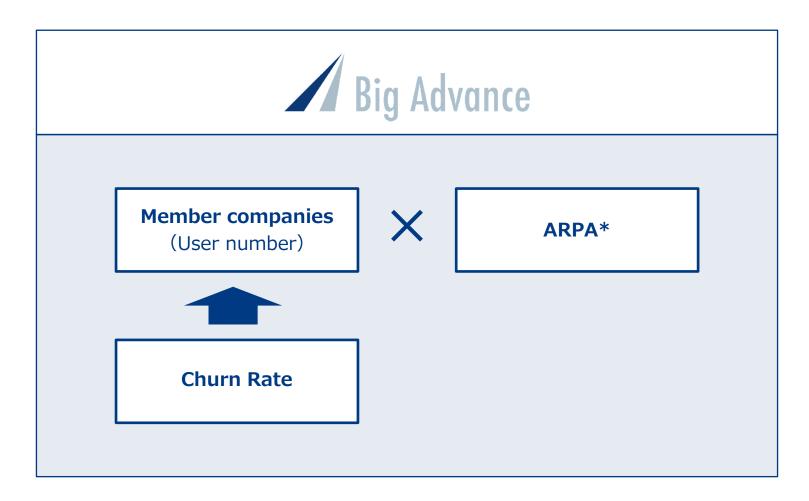
- Core business support to clients of financial institutions by offering data collected by Big Advance (data provisions to begin in April 2022).
- Business matching function offers AI-driven recommendations of business activities to companies.
- Presents ways of using Big Advance on the web, depending on the company's usage, to facilitate the DX process (starting in May 2022).



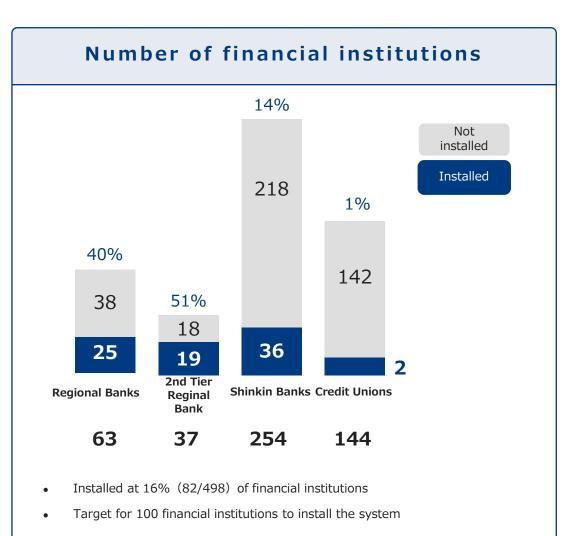
## **KOKOPELLI**

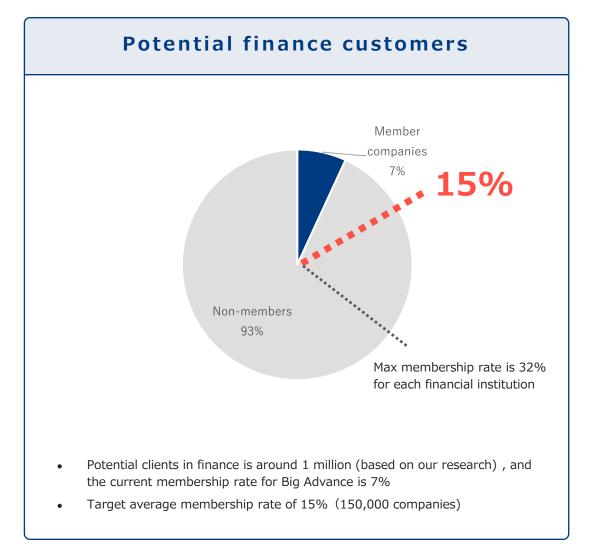
## **Evaluation Indicators**

• Expected to bolster sales through higher price per customer (ARPA) along with more member companies (users).



(\*) ARPA stands for Average Revenue per Account, referring to average sales per account.



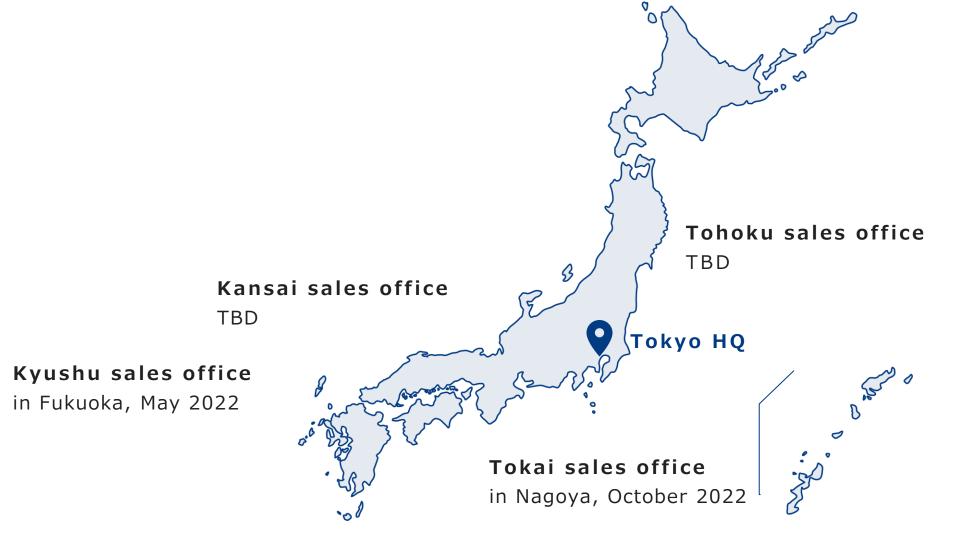






## Attracting more users (2): Expanding the user base

- Set up new sales offices in Kyushu and Tokai region to strengthen relations between financial institutions and local municipals.
- New offices may be set up in other regions depending on situations going forward.



## Attracting more users (3):Stronger ties with local governments



- Promote DX in cooperation with local authorities and contribute to the regional economy.
- Singed the "Partnership Agreement in relation to the Promotion of Regional Economy".
- Concluded a partnership agreement with Fujiidera City, Fujiidera City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and The Senshu Ikeda Bank, Ltd. to promote the local economy (August 2022)



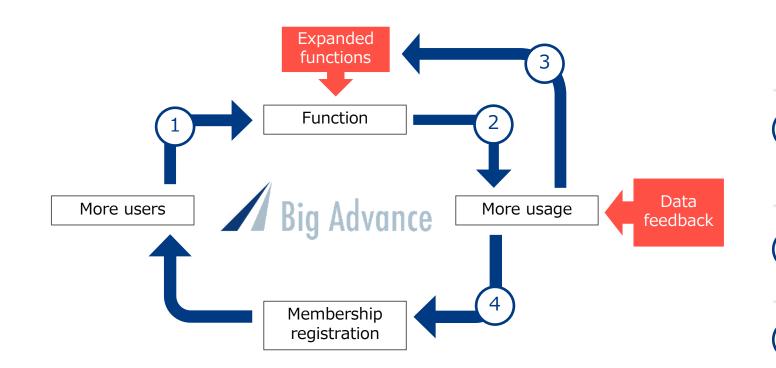
#### Online press conference

Top left: Mr. Kazuki Okada, Mayor of **Fujiidera City**; Top right: Mr. Koichi Hama, Chairman of **Fujiidera City Chamber of Commerce and Industry** 

Bottom left: Shigeru Kondo, CEO of **Kokopelli Inc.**; Bottom right: Atsushi Ukawa, CEO and Representative Director at **The Senshu Ikeda Bank** 

## Attracting more users (4): Expanded functions and data usage

• Facilitate the expansion of functions and data usage, to create a growth cycle for the service.



1 More users will facilitate the networking effect and add value to the service. Also, examples will be shown of how the users can take advantage of the service (tutorial).

2 Users will increase usage as more value is extracted from the service. More functions will also be added based on user needs.

3 Increased usage will propel the use of other functions and improve the churn rate.

4 Higher usage will lead to new users, and providing feedback of success stories to financial institutions will bring in even more.

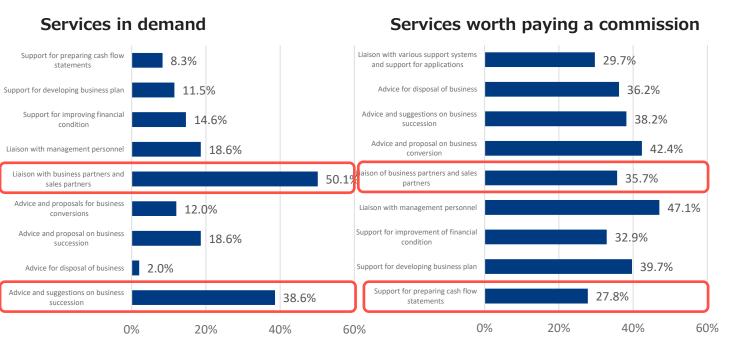
G KOKOPELLI

## Strategy to raise ARPA: New business development

- Develop solutions to resolve various issues encountered by SMEs.
- Take M&A opportunities into account of any solutions.

#### **Company surveys**

Services from financial institutions wanted by SMEs, which they would pay for. (\*1)



## Survey on SMEs' issues and public support needs

Major issues faced by small enterprises (\*2)

Manufacturing Non-manufacturing			
Human resources (securing and developing human resources, training and determining successors)		66.8% 69.7%	
Sales and sales channel development (maintaining and strengthening sales and marketing capabilities, developing new domestic customers and sales channels, developing new overseas customers and sales		61.4% 64.4%	)
Production and manufacturing (facility expansion, facility renewal, facility disposal)	13.4%	52.6%	
Finance (secure working capital, secure capital investment funds, reduce costs, reduce debt)	35.4 4	4% 0.9%	
Product and service development and improvement (development of new products and services, high value-added (branding) of products and services)	24.9% 38	.2%	
Technology and R&D (development of new technologies, enhancement of technological capabilities)	25.7% 17.2%		)
ICT utilization (streamlining of business processes, reduction of indirect operations, strategic planning using data)	7.3%		)
Others (utilization of intellectual property rights, business-to-business and industry-academia collaboration, etc.)	1.7% 3.2%		)
0.	0% 50.	.0% 100	).0%

(\*1) Financial Services Authority "The JFSA Strategic Priorities July 2021-June 2022"

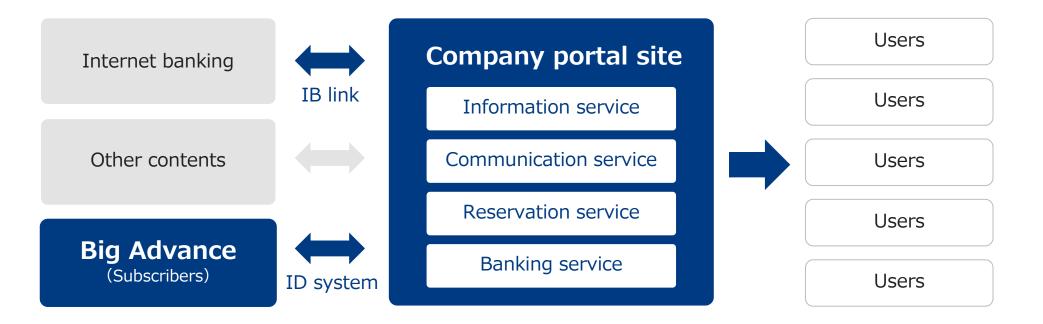
(\*2) The Small and Medium Enterprise Agency "2020 White Paper on Small Enterprises in Japan"





# Strategy for DX Solutions: DX Support for financial institutions

- Provide company portal sites and ID certification linkage systems for financial institutions.
- Strengthen relationship between financial institutions and corporate clients through the use of digital systems.
- Provide a one-stop service to help with issues faced by companies by linking-up with Big Advance.



#### Track records

Company portal sites: Kyoto Bank/Okinawa Bank

Linked-up ID certification system: Chiba Bank/Yokohama Bank/The Senshu Ikeda Bank/The San-In

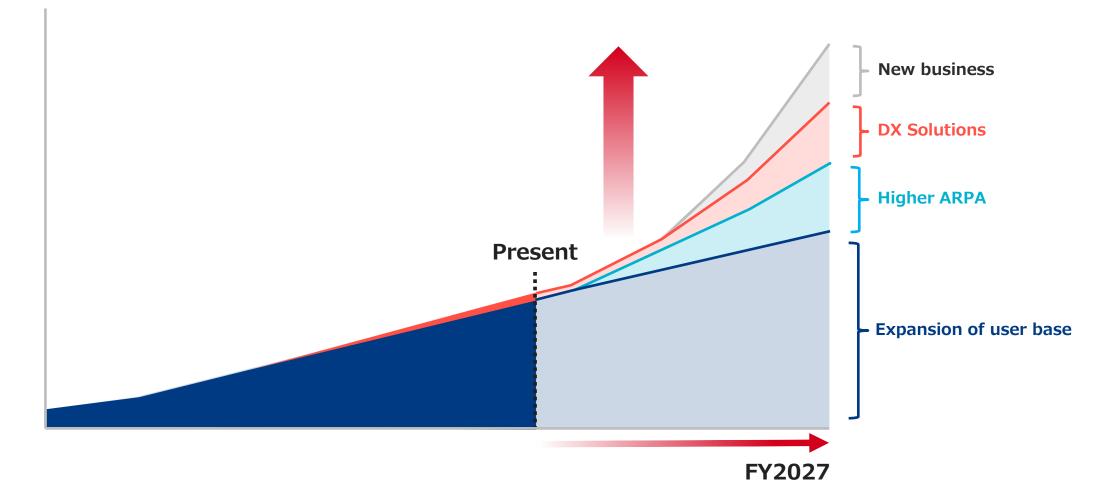
Godo Bank, Ltd./The Nishi-Nippon City Bank/…and 4 others





## Growth scenarios in the mid-term management plan

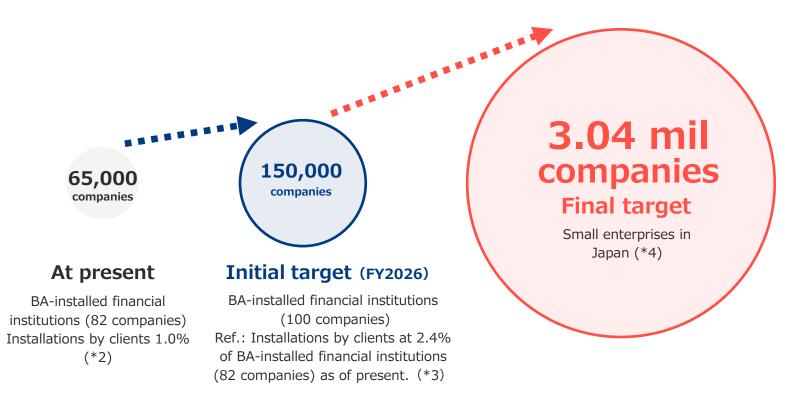
- Provide new functions and links with services offered by other companies to push up ARPA, on the back of expanded user base.
- Also build-up sock revenues from DX services and new businesses to achieve rapid and then sustainable growth going forward.





## Further expansion of user base

• Target clients of regional financial institutions operating small enterprises across Japan.



# Supplemental Information related to SMEs

- Exit rate of SMEs trends at around 3%
- In the past 20 years, the highest exit rate was 4.2% in 2010 after the Lehman Shock
- Exit rate : 3.5% "2020 White Paper on SMEs" P114
- Entry rate : 4.4% "2020 White Paper on SMEs" P114

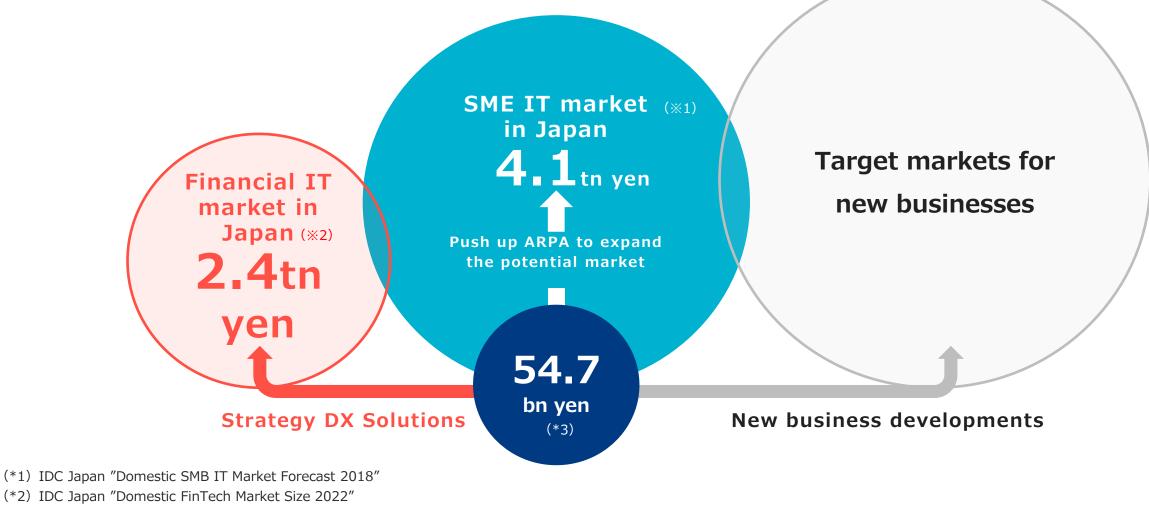
Source: "Financial System Report – Annex (July 2019)", Bank of Japan, "Economic Census 2016", Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications/Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Financial Services Authority website

- (\*1) Total number of corporate clients of BA-installed financial institutions (82 companies) = 6.49 million in total (as of March 31, 2021)
- (\*2) Installation rate at clients = Big Advance member companies / number of corporate clients of the 85 BA-installed financial institutions (as of March 31, 2021)
- (\*3) 150,000 companies / Number of corporate clients of the 85 BA-installed financial institutions (as of March 31, 2021)
- (\*4) 3.58 million SMEs "2016 Economic Census" x 84.9% small businesses "Number of small and medium-sized enterprises (as of June 2016)"



## Potential market with room for further expansion

- Raise ARPA through offering new functions and links with other companies' services, as well as an expanded user base.
- Also achieve rapid and then sustainable growth by building up stock revenue from DX services and new businesses.



(\*3) Target customer base x Current fee plan=54.7 billion yen

## Improved stock incentives



• Upgrade scheme for granting stock options and restricted stocks to executives and employees.

Objective	<ul> <li>Grant incentive for executives and employees for mid- to long-term business growth.</li> <li>Offer competitive salaries for recruiting top talent.</li> </ul>
Detail of the scheme	<ul> <li>The ratio of restricted stock and stock options shall be decided based on the stock price and other factors at the time of grant.</li> <li>Assumes an annual issuance cap of approximately 1% of outstanding shares, with a maximum dilution of 5% over the next five years (2022 – 2027).</li> <li>2.5% of total shares outstanding, including restricted stock and unexercised stock options as of FY2023.</li> </ul>



- The contents contained this document are based on generally accepted economic, social and other conditions as of the date of preparation and certain assumptions that we judged to be reasonable, but may be subject to change without notice due to changes in the business environment or other reasons.
- The materials and information provided in this document contain so-called "forward-looking statements". They are based on current expectations, forecasts, and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include general industry and market conditions, and general national and international economic conditions, such as interest rate and forex swings.
- The Company assumes no obligation to update or revise the "forward-looking information" contained in this document, even in the event of new information released or future incidents.

