Note: This document has been translated from the Japanese original for reference purposes only. In the event of any discrepancy between this translated document and the Japanese original, the original shall prevail.

Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2025 Financial Results Briefing Material



AlphaPolis Co., Ltd. (Tokyo Stock Exchange Growth Market: 9467)

May 15, 2025



## **Management Philosophy**





#### **Pursuing Entertainment for a New Era**

Under the mission of "not being constrained by conventional methods or common sense" and "thoroughly pursuing what is good, interesting and desired," we aim to become the strongest entertainment company, creating and providing new entertainment centered on the Internet.



There are two things of great importance to the Company.

We believe that by combining these two Es, we can create new ideas, strengthen and evolve the Company and everything around it, and that this will enable us to realize our management philosophy.

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- 2. Status of Business Initiatives (Fourth Quarter)
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# Highlights for the Fourth Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2025



# Operating Results Highlights (4Q cumulative: April 2024 – March 2025)

Topics Highlights (4Q: January 2025 – March 2025)

Net sales

- (Against revised budget + 4.0%) (Year-on-year + 31.8%)
- 13,620 million yen
- Ordinary profit

(Against revised budget + 4.4%) (Year-on-year + 42.0%)

3,236 million yen

- Quarterly net sales and profits reached record highs due to strengthening of sales expansion measures for e-books, as well as the strong performance of new titles, etc. In particular, net sales broke record high level for four consecutive quarters.
- Revised earnings and dividend forecasts upward for the fiscal year ended March 2025 due to strong performance of E-book sales and popular series, etc. (Feb. 13)
- The anime adaptation of the blockbuster novel "A Gatherer's Adventure in Isekai" has been decided. (Mar 10)



## **Overview of the Statement of Income -Summary**



In addition to the fact that overall sales were boosted by price revisions and sales expansion measures of e-books in the first half of the fiscal year, sales of anime adaptations and new titles were also strong, resulting in a major year-on-year increase in net sales of 31.8%. Ordinary profit also increased significantly by 42.0% year on year, as a result of an improvement in the profit margin accompanying sales expansion.

	Fiscal year ended March 31, 2025		Fiscal year ended March 31, 2024		Year-on-year	
Unit: Million yen	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	Rate	Amount
Net sales	13,620	100.0%	10,334	100.0%	+ 31.8%	+ 3,286
Gross profit	10,206	74.9%	7,584	73.4%	+ 34.6%	+ 2,621
Operating profit	3,222	23.7%	2,272	22.0%	+ 41.8%	+ 949
Ordinary profit	3,236	23.8%	2,279	22.1%	+ 42.0%	+ 957
Profit	2,019	14.8%	1,403	13.6%	+ 43.9%	+ 616



## **Breakdown of Net Sales**



With regard to net sales by genre, net sales increased in all genres.

"(1) Light novels" and "(2) Manga" grew significantly mainly due to strong sales of e-books.

	Fiscal year ended March 31, 2025		Fiscal year ended March 31, 2024		Year-on-year	
Unit: Million yen	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	Rate	Amount
Net Sales	13,620	100.0%	10,334	100.0%	+ 31.8%	+ 3,286
(1) Light novels	3,168	23.3%	2,476	24.0%	+ 28.0%	+ 692
(2) Manga	10,200	74.9%	7,621	73.7%	+ 33.8%	+ 2,579
(3) Paperback	214	1.6%	205	2.0%	+ 4.0%	+ 8
(4) Other	37	0.3%	30	0.3%	+ 20.0%	+ 6



# Breakdown of Selling, General and Administrative Expenses



- "(1) Sales commissions, etc." are mainly commissions related to sales of e-books and increased in proportion to the growth in sales of e-books.
- "(4) Promotion and advertising expenses" increased mainly due to the strengthening of promotions for the Company's content and website for posting, and the recording of advertising expenses related to TV anime.

			nl year rch 31, 2025	Fiscal year ended March 31, 2024		Year-on-year		Remarks
U	nit: Million yen	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	4Q cumulative	Composition ratio	Rate	Amount	
á	Selling, general and administrative expenses	6,983	100.0%	5,312	100.0%	+ 31.5%	+ 1,671	
	(1) Sales commissions, etc.	5,445	78.0%	4,030	75.9%	+ 35.1%	+ 1,414	Increased mainly in line with growth in sales of e-books.
	(2) Personnel expenses (including provisions and remuneration for officers)	726	10.4%	615	11.6%	+ 18.1%	+ 111	Increased due to an increase in the number of employees and an improvement in wage levels.
	(3) Recruiting expenses	29	0.4%	20	0.4%	+ 46.0%	+ 9	
	(4) Promotion and Advertising expenses	289	4.1%	224	4.2%	+ 29.2%	+ 65	Expenses related to strengthening promotions and TV anime increased.
	(5) Other	492	7.1%	421	7.9%	+ 16.8%	+ 70	

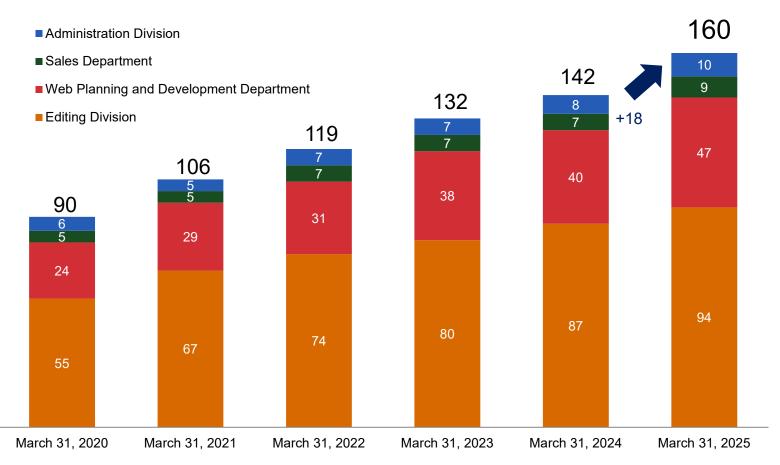


## **Changes in the Number of Employees**



Actively recruited personnel in each division to further expand the business.

The number of employees at the end of March 2025 is 160, up 18 from the end of the previous fiscal year.



<sup>\*</sup> The number of employees includes the average number of part-time workers per year.

## Percentage of women in management positions

Target: 50.0% by the fiscal year ending March 31, 2029

Fiscal year ended	Fiscal year ended	Fiscal year ended
March 31, 2023	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2025
37.5%	41.1%	39.5%

## Rate of male employees taking childcare leave

Target: 80.0% or more on average by the fiscal year ending March 31, 2029

Fiscal year ended March 31, 2024	Fiscal year ended March 31, 2025	Average for period at left
100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

<sup>\*</sup> The average rate of male employees taking childcare leave will be calculated by aggregating the figures for each fiscal year from the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024 to the fiscal year ending March 31, 2029.

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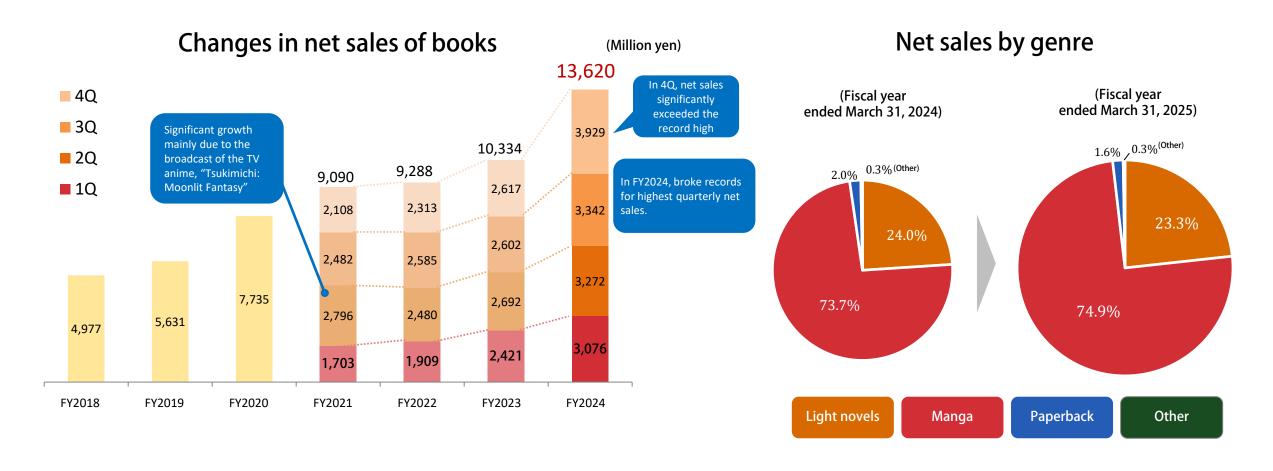
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## (1) Book Publishing Business



Net sales for the fourth quarter of the current fiscal year reached 3.92 billion yen, significantly exceeding the record high of 3.34 billion yen in the third quarter, <u>breaking the record for highest quarterly net sales for the fourth</u> consecutive quarter.

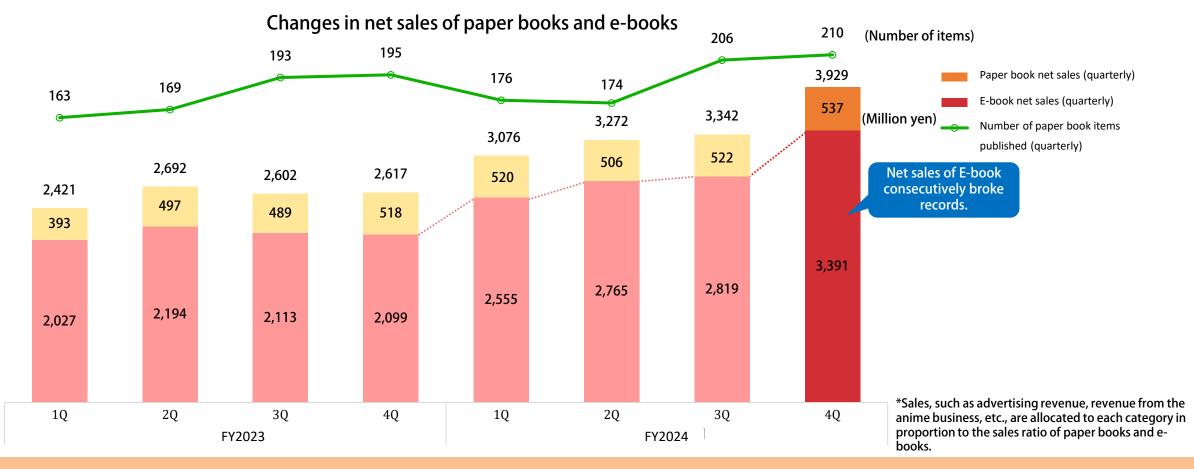




## (1) Book Publishing Business



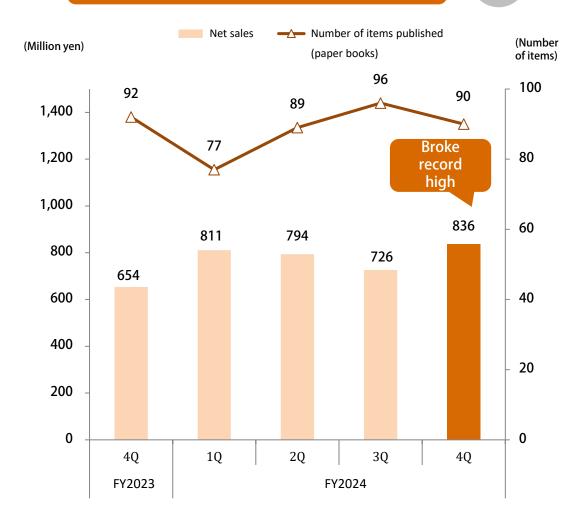
Sales of paper books remained high, despite the severe market conditions, due to strategic efforts to increase sales of content adapted into anime and strong performance of new titles, etc. Sales of e-books <u>broke records for highest quarterly net sales</u> for the fourth consecutive quarter, significantly exceeding the sales in the third quarter, mainly due to continued successful sales expansion measures at e-book stores.



## (1) Book Publishing Business - Light Novels



## Light novels



#### **Fourth quarter topics**

- Significant growth in sales of the original novel of "Mamahaha no Kokoroe," whose Volume 1 comic adaptation has performed exceptionally well, drove net sales.
- Began selling single volumes of novels at major e-book stores. Sales were strong from immediately after launch, succeeding in pushing up net sales of the genre.
- Quarterly net sales reached 830 million yen, breaking the previous record high.

## Main hits published in the fourth quarter





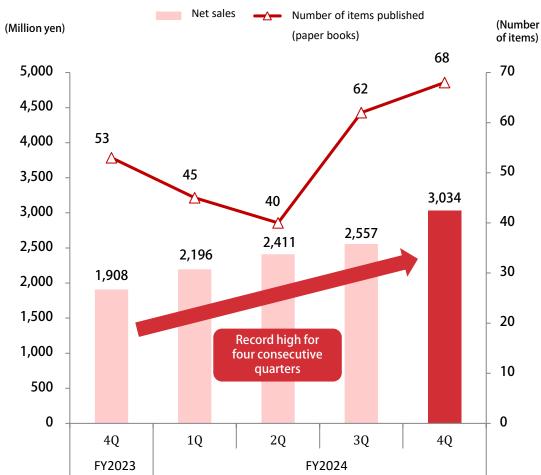


\*The figures in \_\_\_\_ are the number of copies of the latest print edition of paper books (as of the date of publication of this document).

## (1) Book Publishing Business - Manga







#### **Fourth quarter topics**

- Published a record high 68 new titles, focusing on popular series such as "Tsukimichi: Moonlit Fantasy" and "The Unaware Atelier Meister," which have been adopted for anime.
- Published the latest volume of "I'm Going to Show Them With A Gorgeous Divorce!," which was a winner in the Isekai category of the E-comic Grand Prix 2025. This series performed well, including existing titles, mainly in e-book sales.
- Quarterly net sales broke record high levels for four consecutive guarters.

#### Main hits published in the fourth quarter



Choice E-comic Grand Prix 2025"

\*Comic CMOA (operator: NTT Solmare Corporation) "Readers' \*The figures in o are the number of copies of the latest print edition of paper books

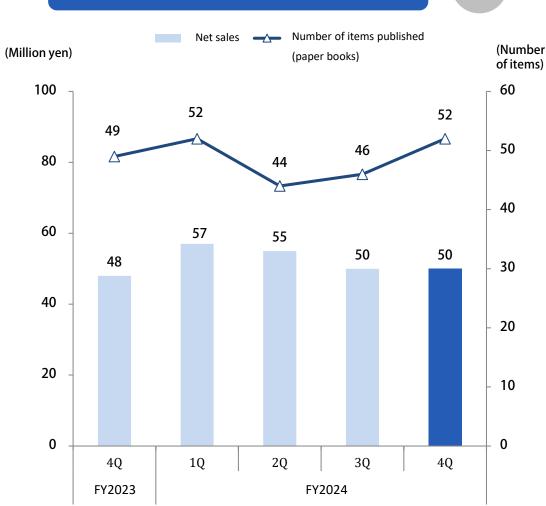
(as of the date of publication of this document).

## (1) Book Publishing Business - Paperback



## Paperback





#### **Fourth quarter topics**

- Continued our efforts to expand and strengthen the book genre, including publishing "#Kietaiboku wa Kimi ni 150 ji no Ai wo Ageru," a Grand Prize winner in the "Youth Novel × Vocaloid Producer Cup"
- Released low-priced paperback editions of popular novels.
   Aim is to attract new readers and maximize profitability.

#### Main hits published in the fourth quarter





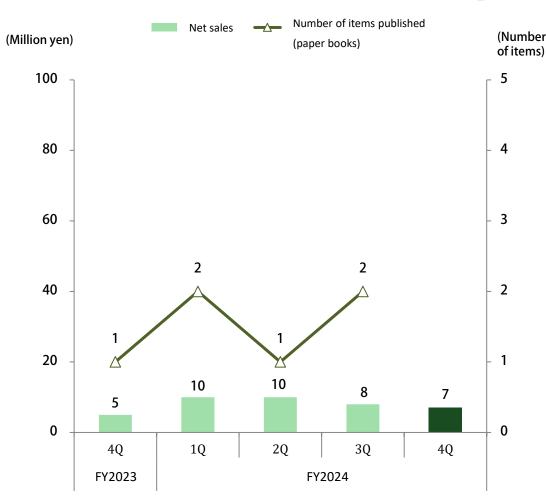


\*The figures in \_\_\_ are the number of copies of the latest print edition of paper books (as of the date of publication of this document).

## (1) Book Publishing Business - Other







#### **Fourth quarter topics**

- Due to the publishing schedule, there were no books published in the fourth quarter. From the perspectives of further expansion of business results and portfolio optimization, continued to promote publishing of books in a wide range of genres.
- Launched two new business series on our website. Focused efforts on strengthening "business books."

#### Business series launched on website in the fourth quarter





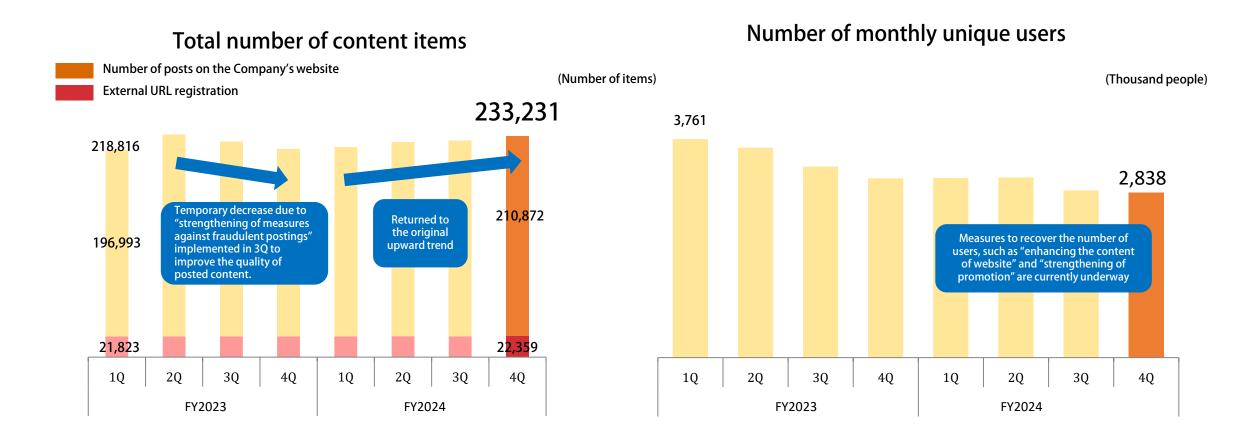


## (2) Website Operation - Changes in KPIs



The number of posts on the Company's website has completely stabilized after a decrease due to the strengthening of measures against fraudulent postings and has returned to its original upward trend.

The number of monthly unique users continued to struggle, resulting in 2.83 million, the same level as in the previous quarter. We aim to recover the number of users through measures such as enhancing the content of the website.



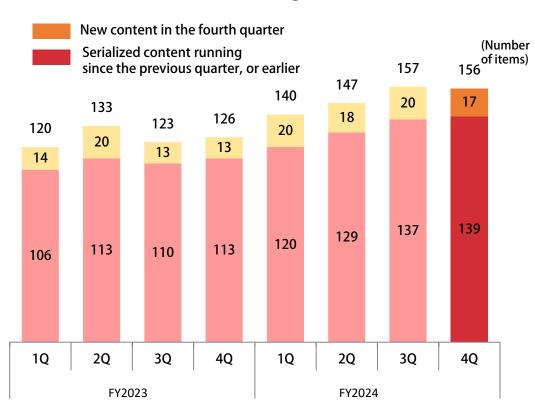


## (2) Website Operation – Manga Web Series



17 new series have been started, including manga adaptations of 10 light novels and 7 original manga. The number of serialized manga titles, which will form the basis for the number of manga published in the future, has reached 156.

#### Number of manga web series



## Main new serialized manga in the fourth quarter









\*The number of accesses is the number of accesses on the day the latest episode was published.

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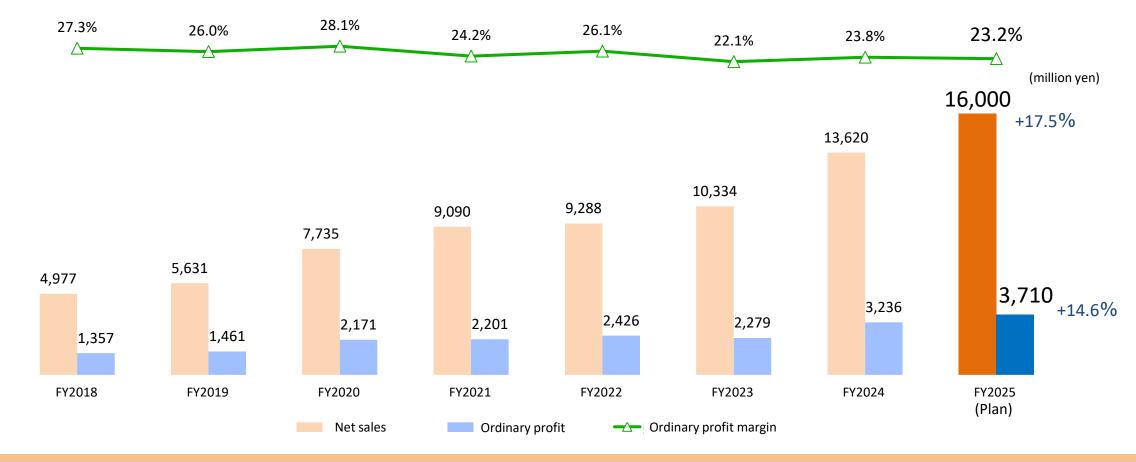


## FY2025 Plan — Trends in Net Sales and Profit —



We will focus our efforts on the further expansion of already strong e-book sales, with a plan for a 17.5% increase in net sales to 16.0 billion yen.

There will be no major movements in variable costs, and in SG&A expenses, we are planning investments related to workforce reinforcements and the use of AI. Our plan is for an increase in ordinary profit of 14.6% to 3.71 billion yen. We aim to achieve record high levels of both net sales and profit.

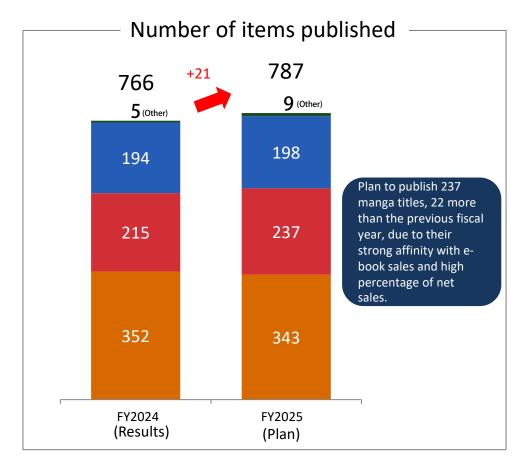


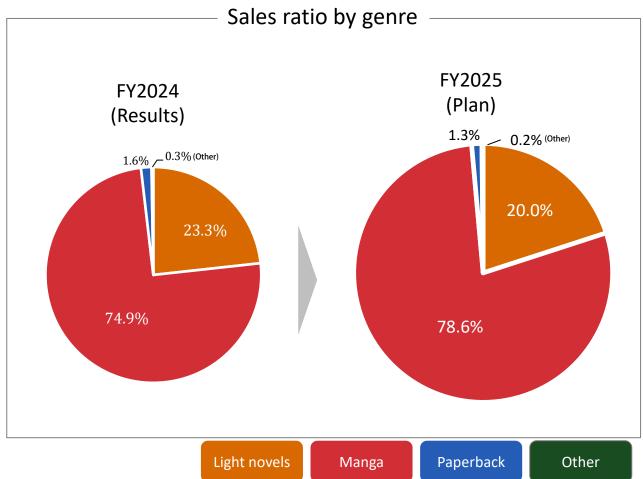


## FY2025 Plan — Number of items published / Sales ratio by genre —



Plan to publish 787 items, 21 more than the previous fiscal year. Continue efforts to grow sales in each genre, including light novels and manga.







## FY2025 Plan — Shareholder returns —



Plan to issue dividends as shareholder returns from FY2024.

In FY2025, from the perspective of <u>further enhancement of shareholder returns</u>, we plan a <u>dividend increase</u> of 10 yen from the previous fiscal year.

Our policy is to issue ongoing, stable dividends going forward, after taking business results, enhancement of internal reserves, and other factors into account.

	FY2024	FY2025 (Plan)
Basic earnings per share	69.49 yen	79.14 yen
Dividend per share (Year-end dividend)	Plan divid	dend increase of 10 yen  24 yen
Payout ratio	Plan to in 20.1%	30.3%

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## (1) Book Publishing Business - Publication Plan (1/3)



We plan to continuously publish popular content with series totals of over 200,000 copies, etc.

1Q Light

Novels

in July 2025

New Saga 11

Series total 0.88 million



A Journey Through Another World ~Raising Kids While Adventuring~ 18

Series total 1.58 million

9th Fantasy Novel Grand Prix **Special Award Winner** 



A Playthrough of a Certain Dude's VRMMO Life 32, 33

Series total 2.08 million

6th Fantasy Novel Grand Prix **Reader's Award Winner** 



1Q

A Surplus Off-Worlder Lives His Life Freely 9

Series total 0.3 million

13th Fantasy Novel Grand Prix **Special Award Winner** 



A Gatherer's Adventure in Isekai

Series total 1.73 million

Anime broadcast

in October 2025

9th Fantasy Novel Grand Prix Double award **Grand Prize/** Readers' Award



The Unaware **Atelier Meister** 12

air since April

0.95 million

11th Fantasy Novel Grand Prix Reader's Award Winner





in autumn of 2025

May I Ask for One Final Thing? 6

Series total 1.54 million



ETERNITY

Juyoku na Fukushacho ha Tsurenai Hisho wo Tsukamaetai

17th Romance Novel Grand Prix **Eternity Award Winner** 





Saioshi no Gikei wo Mederutame Nagaikishimasu! 6

> 9th BL Novel Grand Prix Reader's Award Winner



(Notes)

- The figures in are the planned first print circulation for paper books as of the end of the
- Series total circulation includes sequels, as well as manga and paperback editions of the same title, and circulation includes e-book sales.
- Publication timing is the schedule as of the date of publication of this document.
- The illustration shows the latest volume as of the date of publication of this document.



## (1) Book Publishing Business - Publication Plan (2/3)



We plan to continuously publish hit titles with the first edition of over 30,000 copies. Also, we are focusing on expanding into other genres.

10

Anime broadcast in July 2025

New Saga 11

Series total 0.88 million



2Q

GATE: Where the JSDF Fought 27

Series total 7.3 million



3Q

Tsukimichi: Moonlit Fantasy 16

Series total 5 million



2Q

Manga

Anime broadcast in October 2025

A Gatherer's Adventure in Isekai 9

Series total 1.73 million



3Q

A Journey Through Another World ~Raising Kids While Adventuring~ 11

Series total 1.58 million



3Q

Anime has been on air since Apri 2025

n autumn of 202

The Unaware
Atelier Meister 9

Series total 0.95 million



1Q



2

Hanma no Ryukishi wa Henkyohaku ni Shuchaku Sareru 3, 4

Series total 0.19 million



2Q



Mamahaha no Kokoroe 2

Series total 0.26 million



2Q



Regina

May I Ask for One Final Thing?10, 11

Series total 1.54 million



(Notos)

- The figures in are the planned first print circulation for paper books as of the end of the fourth quarter.
- Series total circulation includes sequels, as well as separate volumes of the original version and paperback editions of the same title, and circulation includes e-book sales.
- Publication timing is the schedule as of the date of publication of this document.
- The illustration shows the latest volume as of the date of publication of this document (if the manga was not yet published, it shows the first volume of the separate volume of the original version).



**Paperback** 

## (1) Book Publishing Business - Publication Plan (3/3)



We plan to publish titles in a wide range of genres, including period novels, character literature, picture books, and business books.



(Notes)

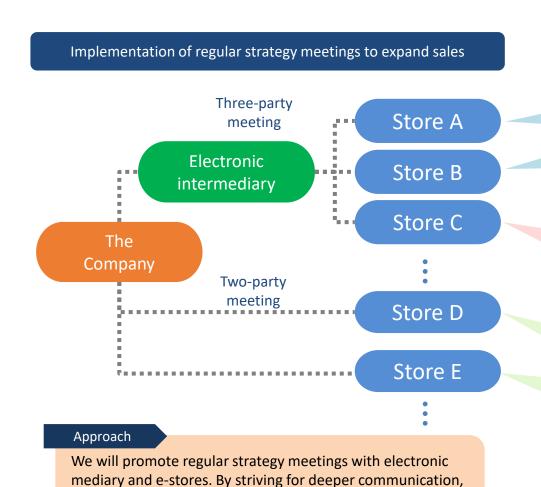
- The figures in are the planned first print circulation for paper books as of the end of the second quarter.
- Series total circulation includes sequels, as well as manga and separate volumes of the original version and manga of the same title, and circulation includes e-book sales.
- Publication timing is the schedule as of the date of publication of this document.
- The illustration shows the latest volume as of the date of publication of this document (if the manga was not yet published, it shows the first volume of the separate volume of the original version).



## (1) Book Publishing Business - E-Books



We plan to strengthen our sales division's personnel and structure, and roll out a series of sales expansion measures that are tailored to the unique characteristics of individual e-store, with the aim of further expansion of e-book sales.



Development of campaigns and sales formats tailored to the characteristics of each store

#### Special feature on anime adaptations

A special feature on anime adaptations has been developed for stores with a wide range of users. Intended to increase sales without missing out on sales opportunities to users who have watched anime.



#### Novel and manga campaign for women

For stores with a high proportion of female users, we have actively promoted campaigns for novels and manga from labels aimed at women, and focused on sales promotion.



#### Deploy sales of individual story units and split-volume editions

Roll out services for stores that accommodate sales of individual story units and split-volume editions. Aim to further expand sales by offering a wide variety of selling formats.



#### Hold large campaigns to commemorate the 25th anniversary of founding of AlphaPolis

In FY2025, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of AlphaPolis's founding, we plan to hold large-scale campaigns at each e-store.

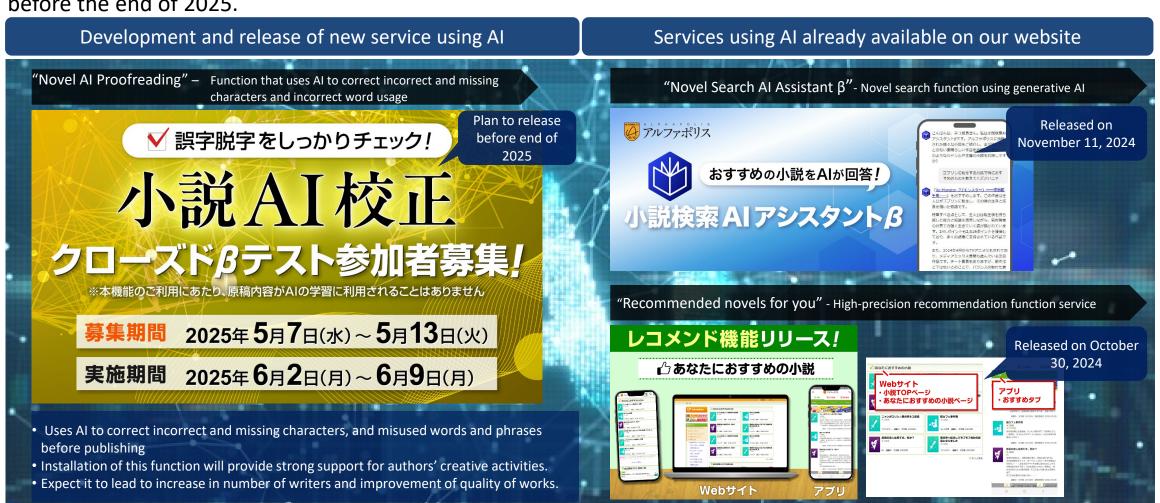
we will continue to roll out effective measures.



## (2) Website Operation - Service Development Using Al



We will continue to consider and develop services related to the effective business use of AI. We will commence preliminary testing of a new service, "Novel AI Proofreading." Our aim is to release the service before the end of 2025.



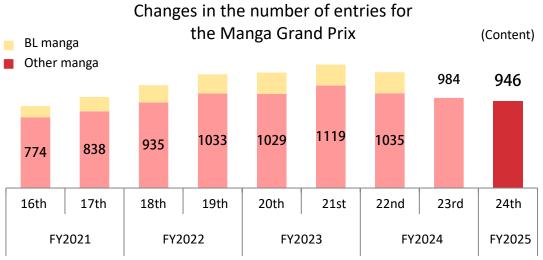


## (2) Website Operation - Strengthening of Manga



The number of entries for the "Manga Grand Prix" has remained at a high level. We will aim to achieve further business growth by continuing to discover promising content and artists, and strengthening the media power of our manga website and manga app.





\*From the 23rd event, BL manga content was excluded from the Manga Grand Prix, as it was to be integrated into the separate "BL Grand Prix." For this reason, the number of entries for the Manga Grand Prix up to and including the 22nd is listed excluding BL manga.

#### Successively publishing comics by writers from the Manga Grand Prix





## (2) Website Operation - Expansion into Other Genres



Prize contests for various genres are held and measures to enhance labels are implemented.

We aim to further expand our range of handled genres and quickly establish a position as a general publisher.

## Hold and enhance Web Content Grand Prixes for various genres 8th Light Literature Grand Prix 11th Historical/Period Novel Grand Prix Held in June Held in May 8th Hokkori Jinwari Grand Prix 3rd Kizuna Children's Book Grand Prix アルファポリスきずな文庫で Held in August Held in July B投稿からのエントリー作品は

#### \* Previous awards' banners used for upcoming Web Content Grand Prixes

#### Hold contests for new genres

#### Youth Novels Aoharu Fair



#### 5th Next-Generation Fantasy Cup



#### Label enhancement measures

Establish exclusive label for e-books

Kizuna Bunko 3rd anniversary campaign



## (3) Strengthening Media Development (1/2)



The anime of "A Gatherer's Adventure in Isekai," which has sold a total of 1,730,000 copies as a series, is set to be broadcast in October 2025. The anime of "An Observation Log of My Fiancée Who Calls Herself a Villainess," which has sold a total of more than 2,450,000 copies as a series, is also set to be broadcast in 2026.

\*Series total circulation includes e-book sales.

#### A Gatherer's Adventure in Isekai

【スタッフ】

原作:木乃子増緒(アルファポリス刊)

原作イラスト:海島千本/黒井ススム

漫画:ともぞ

監督:小高義規

シリーズ構成:市川十億衛門

キャラクターデザイン:渡辺まゆみ

プロデュース:ジェンコ

アニメーション制作:

タツノコプロ× SynergySP

音楽:高木洋

他



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【アニメ『素材採取家の異世界旅行記』公式サイト】 https://sozaisaishu-pr.com/

【『素材採取家の異世界旅行記』アニメ公式X(旧Twitter)】 https://x.com/sozaisaishu

#### An Observation Log of My Fiancée Who Calls Herself a Villainess

【スタッフ】

原作:しき(アルファポリス刊)

原作イラスト:八美☆わん

漫画:蓮見ナツメ

監督:山元隼一

キャラクターデザイン:松元美季

シリーズ構成・脚本:井上亜樹子

アニメーション制作:葦プロダクション

他



©しき・アルファポリス/バーティア様を愛でる会

【アニメ『自称悪役令嬢な婚約者の観察記録。』公式サイト】 https://jisho-akuyaku-anime.jp/

【『自称悪役令嬢な婚約者の観察記録。』アニメ公式X(旧Twitter)】 https://x.com/jisho\_akuyakuPR



## (3) Strengthening Media Development (2/2)



Our several anime hit titles are scheduled to air. We will continue to focus on activities to create media content, and by accelerating the media development of the Company's IP, we will increase profits in the book and anime businesses.

#### TV anime broadcast schedule

\*The broadcast schedule is the schedule as of the date of publication of this document.

Fiscal year 2025

1Q (Apr. - Jun.)

2Q (Jul. - Sep.)

3Q (Oct. - Dec.)

2025

2026

In production

Been on air since Apr. 2025

Scheduled to air from Jul. 2025

Adapted into TV anime! Scheduled to air from Oct.

Scheduled to air in the autumn of 2025

Adapted into TV anime! Scheduled to air from 2026 Third season of anime in production

『勘違いの工房主』

『強くてニューサーガ』

『素材採取家の 異世界旅行記』

『最後にひとつだけお願い してもよろしいでしょうか』 『自称悪役令嬢な 婚約者の観察記録。』

『月が導く異世界道中 第三幕』



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## (4) Promotion of Medium-Term Key Strategies



#### 1. Expanding overseas sales

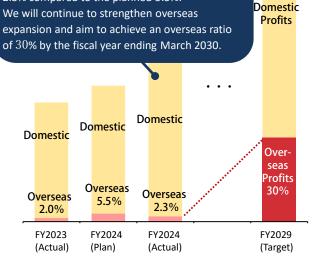
Aiming to expand the overseas market share of mainly digital manga. We will strive to add languages other than English to translations and expand sales regions, with the target of achieving an overseas ratio of 30% of profits related to digital manga by the fiscal year ending March 31, 2030.

Promoting the expansion of translated languages and sales regions

Domestic and overseas ratio of digital manga sales profits

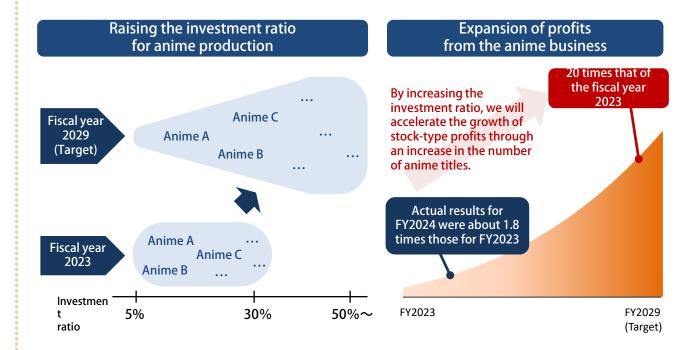
In the fiscal year ended March 2025, profit from





#### 2. Expanding the anime business

In addition to aiming to increase sales of the original books through small-scale investment, the Company will establish an anime business by investing and committing to the production of anime itself, and aims to increase profits from the anime business by 20 times by the fiscal year ending March 31, 2030. At the same time, the Company aims to significantly raise its own IP capabilities to a much higher level.



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# Officer Profiles





#### Yusuke Kajimoto, Representative Director and President

Mar. 1993 Graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, The University of Tokyo Apr. 1993 Joined Hakuhodo Inc.

Aug. 2000 Established the Company

Representative Director and President (to present)



#### Akimichi Ohkubo, Director

Mar. 1996 Graduated from School of Commerce, Meiji University
Apr. 1996 Joined TOYOTA FINANCE CORPORATION
Mar. 2010 General Manager, Finance & Accounting Department, SBI
Mortgage Co., Ltd. (currently SBI ARUHI Corporation)
Dec. 2012 Joined the Company
Dec. 2013 Director (to present)
Jul. 2015 General Manager, Administration Division (to present)

#### Hiroyuki Tominaga, Director (Outside)

Mar. 1971	Graduated from the Faculty of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Apr. 1971	Joined Sasebo Heavy Industries Co., Ltd.
Apr. 1995	Registered as an attorney. Member of the Intellectual Property Law
	Study Group, Tokyo Bar Association
Apr. 2000	Member of the Tokyo Bar Association Special Committee on Measures
	against Racketeering through Intercession in Civil Disputes
Feb. 2003	Registered as a patent attorney
Feb. 2003	Representative, Tominaga Law and Patent Office (to present)
Jun. 2014	Director, the Company (to present)

#### Takuya Shiraishi, Director (Outside)

Mar. 1996	Completed the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Graduate School of Engineering, The University of Tokyo
Apr. 1996	Joined Future Corporation
Jan. 2016	President, Lawson Digital Innovation Inc.
Feb. 2018	Representative Director and President, Digimile, Inc. (to present)
May 2018	CIO, Walmart Japan Holdings, Inc. / Seiyu GK
Jun. 2021	Director, the Company (to present)
May 2023	Executive Manager, Ajinomoto Co., Inc. (to present)

#### Takao Ochifuji,

#### Full-time Corporate Auditor (Outside)

Mar. 1977	Graduated from Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University
Apr. 1977	Joined DENTSU INC.
Jul. 2003	Representative Director, Dentsu EYE Inc.
Mar. 2006	Representative Director, Wunderman Dentsu Inc.
Apr. 2012	General Manager, Global Business Center, DENTSU
	INC.
Apr. 2013	Corporate Auditor, the Company (to present)

#### Nobuhiko Ikeda, Corporate Auditor (Outside)

Mar. 1968	Graduated from Faculty of Commerce and Management,
	Hitotsubashi University
Apr. 1968	Joined The Mitsui Trust and Banking Company, Limited
Jun. 1999	Director, Mitsuishin Business Co., Ltd.
Mar. 2006	General Manager, Internal Audit Office, SBI Mortgage Co., Ltd.
	(currently SBI ARUHI Corporation)
May 2008	Audit and Supervisory Board Member, SBI Mortgage Co., Ltd.
Mar. 2013	Corporate Auditor, the Company (to present)

#### Yoshiaki Amano, Corporate Auditor (Outside)

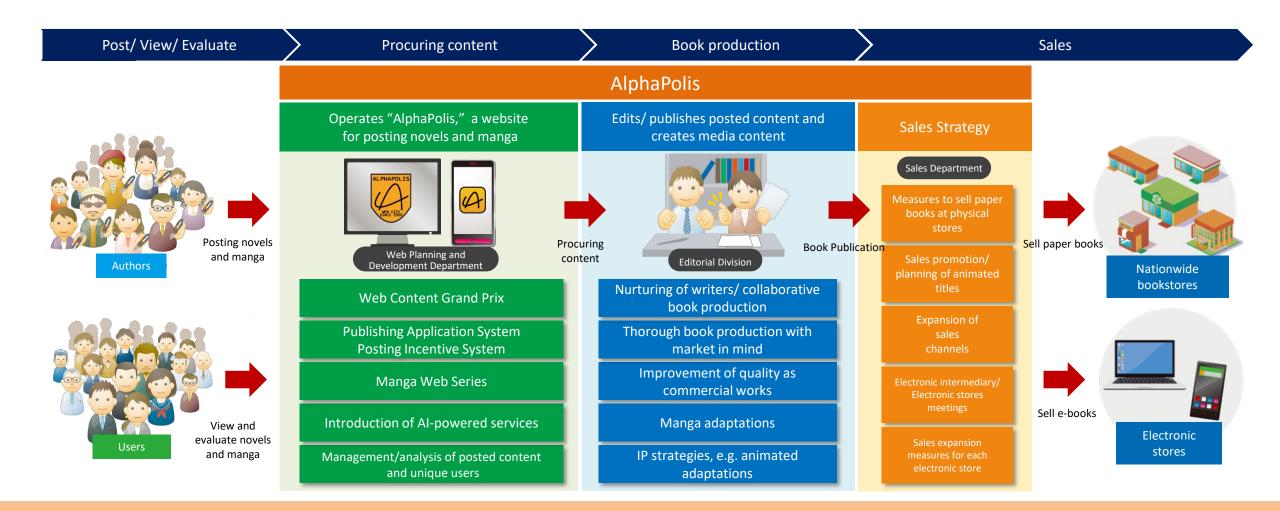
	Mar. 1972 Apr. 1972 Jan. 2001 Jun. 2005 Jun. 2006 Jun. 2014	Graduated from Faculty of Law, Keio University Joined The Mitsui Trust and Banking Company, Limited Transferred to Mitsui Mining Co., Ltd. Representative Director, Mitsui Mining Materials Co., Ltd. Full-time Corporate Auditor, Suncoh Consultants Co., Ltd. Corporate Auditor, the Company (to present)
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#### **Business Model: Overview**



Operates a website for posting novels and manga which anyone can post and view for free. The content posted on the site is edited and published based on user evaluations, etc., and revenue is generated through sales at nationwide bookstores and electronic stores.





## **Business Model: Website Operation**



Two systems for collecting good content that will become successful products

#### 1. Web Content Grand Prix

- 1 Holding prize contests for each genre
  - Voting prize contests are <u>held every month</u> for different genres, such as fantasy novels, romance novels, and manga.
  - There are awards such as the "Grand Prize" selected by the Editorial Dept. and the "Reader's Award" for works that were most popular with readers, and the winners receive prize money.
  - Many of the works are published as books from these prize contests, centering on award-winning content.
- 2 Reader participation type
  - Prize money is also presented to readers who voted, through a lottery. The prize contests are made more exciting by involving readers.

#### 2. Publishing Application System

If the posted content receives a certain level of evaluation, application can be filed with the Company's Editorial Dept. for consideration for publication.

Applicants can try their hand at publishing at any time.

## The Company's website

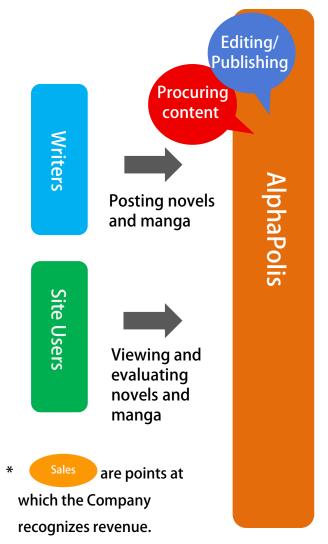


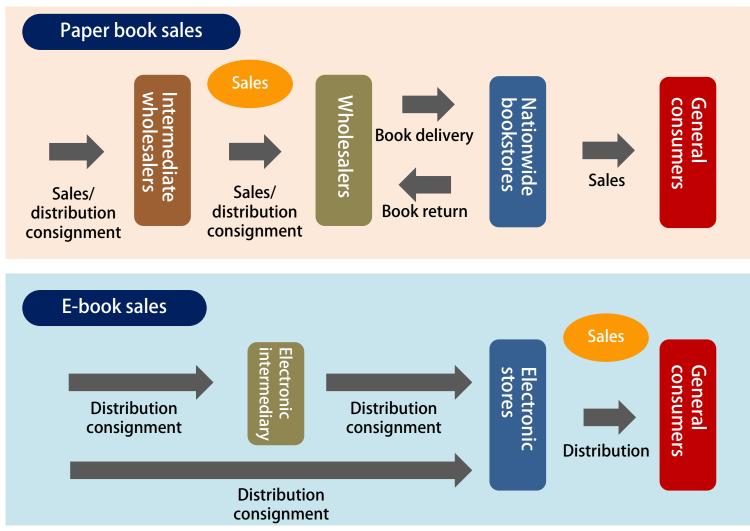


### **Business Model: Sales Flow**



### The sales flow for the Company is as follows.







## **Strengths of Business Model**



## Two strengths of our business model

that differ from conventional publishing

# Creating new markets that reflect trends

Nowadays, trends in reader preferences for novels change very quickly. This trend first emerges in content on the Internet.

We can <u>quickly identify the latest trends in</u> <u>content</u> and <u>commercialize</u> popular books <u>stably and in large quantities</u>.

# Avoiding the risk of a big flop

We select content for publication <u>after</u> <u>assessing the needs of a sufficient number of readers</u> based on numerous user evaluations on the Internet.

This helps to <u>reduce the risk of not being</u> <u>able to secure enough sales to cover the costs of publishing the book</u>.

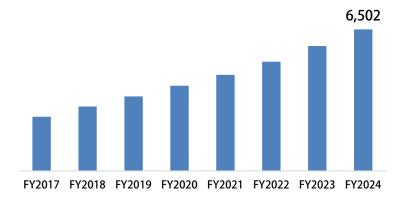


## **Competitive Advantage**

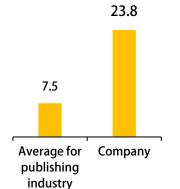


	Publishing business of the Company		
Function	Website operation	Book publishing	
Content	Operation of a website for posting novels, manga, etc.	Editing and publishing of content collected from the content posting website	
Com- petitors	Companies that operate websites for posting content *Includes models similar to ours operated by publishers	Publishers	
Com- petitive advan- tage	<ul> <li>Our content posting website is a pioneer website operated by a publishing company with a wealth of know-how from many years of experience in the business and a track record of numerous publications.</li> <li>We provide attractive services for people who want to become writers, such as "posting incentives" and "publishing application systems."</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduction of collection labor and costs by procuring good content from our own content posting website based on user evaluations.</li> <li>The success rate at publication is raised by the large number of user evaluations gathered on the content posting website, and losses due to careless book publication are avoided</li> <li>Through these efforts, we can secure a high profit margin greatly exceeding the average for the publishing industry.</li> </ul>	

## Cumulative total of new publications issued by the Company



#### Ratio of ordinary profit to net sales



Fiscal Year	Margin
FY2022	26.1%
FY2023	22.1%
FY2024	23.8%

■ Changes in the Company's

ordinary profit margin

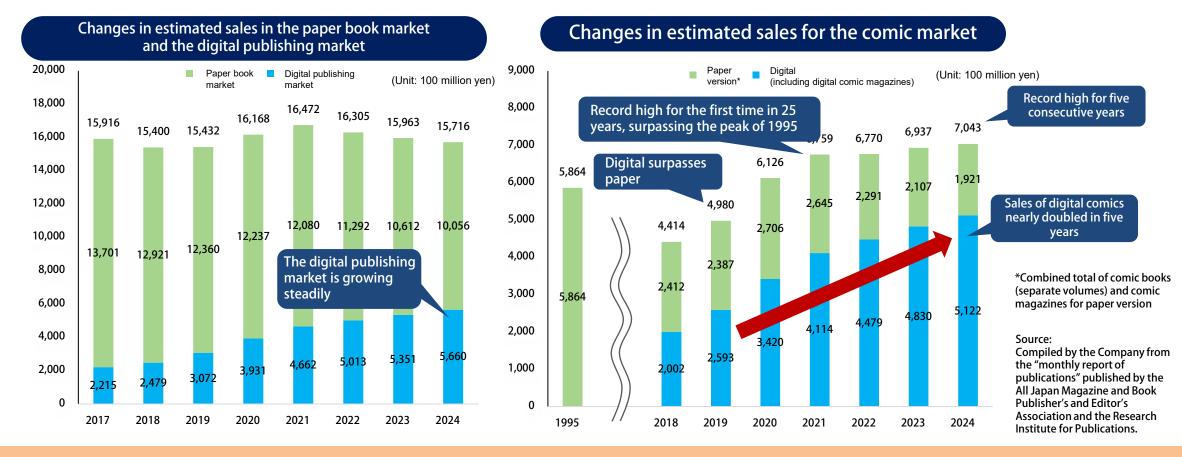
Source: The average for the publishing industry is calculated by the Company based on the sales and ordinary profit for publishers excluding newspapers in the "Preliminary Report on the 2024 Basic Survey of Japanese Business Structure and Activities" by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.



### **Market Environment**



- In the publishing industry in which we operate, the paper book market continues to face a difficult situation, but the digital publishing market continues to grow steadily.
- The size of the comic market, our main genre, has grown for five consecutive years since 2020. In particular, sales of digital comics topped 500.0 billion yen, nearly doubling in five years.





## **Business and Finance Issues (1/2)**



In addition to strengthening the publishing business, we aim to expand beyond publishing and develop other businesses in the future that utilize the IP we have accumulated in the publishing business as an entertainment company. For this purpose, the business and financial issues that we should address first are as follows.

ltem	Business and financial issues to be addressed				
Securing and training excellent human resources	Our editors are assigned to each book, and their responsibilities cover all necessary work from production to sales, including planning, editing, producing sales promotion tools, and placing advertisements. Therefore, our system is designed so that the results of each editor's work are easy to see to help maintain their motivation, but at the same time, requires a wide range of knowledge and skills. With that said, the needs of readers are changing very rapidly and the timing of publication is becoming extremely important. Furthermore, as we aim to expand the genres we handle going forward, it will be necessary to increase the number of editors to ensure that content that is expected to be a hit is published without missing the right moment. In addition, in order to expand the genres we handle, we will need to enhance the services on the Company's website, including our smartphone app, and expand the types of content that can be procured. Therefore, we will also need to increase the number of engineers and other web development personnel to ensure prompt response on our website services.  In addition to promoting the recruitment of mid-career personnel who can provide an immediate impact, we are also working to secure human resources who will drive dramatic future growth by actively recruiting new graduates. At the same time, we are also working to create a company that attracts applicants by continuously implementing measures to enhance in-house training and improve the name recognition of the Company and its services.				
Increasing the number of writers and users	Our business model is based on the premise that we can collect a large amount of high-quality content on the Internet, and that the success rate at publication can be raised in advance through evaluations from multiple perspectives by numerous users. We must therefore continuously secure new content and users.  As such, improving the satisfaction of writers and users is important for us, and we aim to achieve this by actively implementing measures such as the "posting incentive," which provides gift certificates or cash depending on the number of views of the posted content, etc. and promotions for publications, as well as responding appropriately to requests from writers and users with respect to the Company's website.				
Expanding the genres of handled books	genres.				

## **Business and Finance Issues (2/2)**



ltem	Business and financial issues to be addressed
Responding to the digital book market	In the publishing industry, to which the Company belongs, the digital book market has been steadily expanding, and since the Company began full-scale digital book sales in fiscal year 2015, digital book sales have continued to increase steadily. On the other hand, because the market environment for digital books changes more rapidly than that for paper books, it is necessary to take flexible measures in response to changes in the environment that are different from those for conventional paper book content in order to maintain and expand digital book sales.
	We are working to build a system that will enable us to respond quickly to such changes in the market environment by improving the organizational structure and raising employee awareness as needed.
Securing and	Currently, the environment surrounding the Company in the publishing industry has become increasingly severe, and the decline in the number of bookstores is particularly remarkable. In this environment, we need to secure and expand sales channels for the Company's book content, as well as pursue high profitability for those channels.
expanding new sales channels	In order to expand sales in the growing digital book market, we are working to expand sales channels by strengthening partnerships with digital distributors and digital stores that serve as sales channels, and are promoting new contracts with overseas digital stores as a way of tapping into the booming overseas manga market. Furthermore, we launched the paid subscription service "Rental" in February 2017 and expanded our services globally by releasing the manga app "Alpha Manga" for overseas users in July 2021 with a view to building and strengthening a system for directly selling book content to general consumers. By enhancing the entire pipeline from our content posting website to our sales website, we are working to fortify and expand our operational backbone.
Business expansion utilizing in- house IP	In order to further expand our business, the Company aims to diversify the business beyond the publishing business, utilizing the in-house IP accumulated through the publishing business. Specifically, the Company aims to expand into media, such as video centered on anime adaptation, goods sales, game business, and new app services for smartphones.
Responding to	In recent years, the use of generative AI has been rapidly expanding in tandem with the remarkable advancement of AI technology, and this could greatly affect the creative aspects of the Company, so we need to respond quickly to make effective use of this tool. On the other hand, rules regarding copyright for generative AI are yet to be established not only in Japan but also overseas, so we need to prepare for risks arising from copyright issues.
generative Al	In order to address these issues, the Company is constantly gathering information on trends in generative AI and legal regulations, and is working to promptly respond to the emergence of social rules surrounding generative AI.
Strengthening internal control structures	The Company believes that in order to respond quickly to changes in market trends, competitors, customer needs, etc., and to maintain sustainable growth, it is important to standardize and streamline operations through the strengthening of internal control structures. Accordingly, the Company will strive to strengthen internal control structures by developing an environment that enhances the effectiveness of internal controls and improving corporate governance. By doing so, we aim to standardize and streamline our operations while ensuring thorough risk management through systematic control and supervision.



## Recognized Risks and Response Measures (1/2)



We recognize the following main risks that could significantly affect the realization of growth and the execution of the business plan.

Category	ltem	Main risk	Likelihood of occurrence/ Timeframe	Degree of impact	Risk response measure
Risks related to the business environment	Entry of competitors	A possibility that other companies will enter the market using a business model similar to ours.	Medium/ Mid-long term	Medium	Continuous implementation of measures to improve the Company's name recognition and the satisfaction of writers and users, to secure a competitive advantage.
	Resale price maintenance system	A possibility that price competition, such as price discounts, will occur due to the abolition of the "resale price maintenance contract system" under the Antimonopoly Act.	Low/ Mid-long term	Medium	Monitoring of system revisions and responses to the revisions by the Administrative Division.
	Copyright, trademark rights, intellectual property rights, etc.	A possibility of copyright-related problems between the Company and the writers, or copyright or trademark right-related problems between the Company and other companies. Also a possibility of significant changes or new provisions in laws and regulations related to copyright, etc., that will affect the Company.	Low/ Mid-long term	Medium	Responding in collaboration with attorneys specializing in intellectual property rights with whom the Company has an advisory contract.



## Recognized Risks and Response Measures (2/2)



Category	ltem	Main risk	Likelihood of occurrence/ Timeframe	Degree of impact	Risk response measure
Risks related to the	Business partners with high dependence	A possibility that the two companies we depend on greatly, Seiunsya Co., Ltd., an intermediate wholesaler of paper books, and MEDIA DO Co., Ltd., a major wholesaler of digital books, will be unable to continue business with us for some reason.	Low/ Unknown	Large	Responding by creating a different sales scheme.
business	Stable operation of systems	A possibility of system failure due to a sudden increase in the number of accesses to each service provided by the Company or a server shutdown due to a disaster, etc.	Low/ Unknown	Large	Increasing the number of staff in the Web Planning and Development Department to ensure the stable operation of the system and to respond to unforeseen circumstances.
Risks related to the business structure	Dependence on the Representative Director and President	A possibility that Yusuke Kajimoto, Representative Director and President, who is the founder of the Company and has extensive experience, knowledge, connections, etc. regarding management and plays a central role in promoting the business, may be unable to execute his duties as a manager of the Company for some reason.	Low/ Unknown	Large	Recruitment and training of senior management and business promotion staff. Creation and promotion of a system for division of labor through delegation of authority.

<sup>\*</sup>Please refer to the "Business risks" section of the Annual Securities Report for information on other risks.



# Disclaimer and Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-looking Statements



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