

# Presentation Material for the First Half of the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 2025

November 7, 2024

Tokyo Stock Exchange Prime Market: Code 3676 https://www.digitalhearts-hd.com/



# **Executive Summary**

#### (Notice regarding Earnings by Segment)

- Net sales by segment include inter-segment sales or transfers.
   Segment income is based on operating income.
- Segment classification was changed from Q1 FY2024.
   For this reason, the figures for FY2023 by segment are reclassified to reflect the change in segment and comparisons are made.

#### **Executive Summary of 1H FY2024**



Net sales	Operating income	Profit attributable to owners of parent	
¥ <b>19,906</b> mn (YoY 106.6%)	¥ <mark>825</mark> mn (YoY 113.1%)	¥ <b>455</b> mn (YoY – )	

# Point **1**

#### Increased in both sales and profit in 1H FY2024

- > DH Group Business achieved significant sales growth in global services and foreign subsidiaries.
- AGEST Group Business turned profitable in Q2(Jul-Sep) from a loss in Q1 and achieved sales and profit growth in 1H total.
- > 1H net income turned profitable from the previous year 1H with impairment losses in foreign testing subsidiaries.

# Point 2

# Revised its full year consolidated financial forecast after considering the 1H result.(\*) Revised forecast: Net sales ¥42,020 mn(YoY 108.3%). Operating income ¥2,540 mn(YoY124.5%)

- Remains DH Group Business financial forecasts unchanged from the initial ones.
- Revised AGEST Group Business financial forecasts after considering 1H results.
  - ⇒ Compared to the AGEST Group Business initial forecasts: Net sales ¥1.8 billion down, a segment income ¥0.5 billion down Elimination of particular factors in 2H such as reschedule of a particular project in Q1, and to recover to the initial forecast profit levels.

# Point 3

#### Smooth progress of Spin-Off Listing preparation, aiming for listing within 2025

Appointed outside directors and established an internal control system as a part of preparation. Aiming for listing within 2025 after the review by the lead underwriter, review by the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and other necessary steps.

# Point 4

#### Accelerate unique initiatives as each independent business group

- > DH Group Business: Launch of "ELLA," unique AI translation engine for game. Developed with cutting-edge AI-technologies and unique expertise.
- AGEST Group Business: Developing "TFACT," an AI-testing tool that leverages our technological capabilities and expertise as a testing specialist.

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#### **Growth Strategy of DH Group Business**



#### "Global Quality Partner" in the game/entertainment industry

We provide our high-quality outsourcing services to support our clients to develop game and entertainment contents with well enough quality in order to contribute various users and players to enjoy such contents in Japan and any other countries.

**Market Issues** 

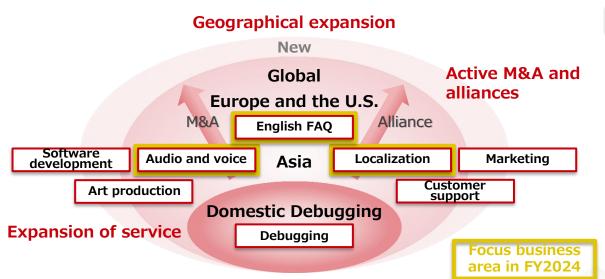
#### "Quality" of contents, "Speed and cost" of development, and "Globalization"

The game industry is facing to complex and intense competition with technological evolution and the globalization. The challenge is how to develop attractive contents quickly with reasonable cost.

**Growth Strategy** 

#### Three key words of "Quality," "Global," and "One-stop."

Provide **one-stop solution to support clients' global expansion** by developing our businesses domain widely on both of the service- and regional-axes, based on the experiences, client basement, and human resources accumulated in our over 20 years of debugging service in Japan.



#### 1H FY2024

- Double-digit sales growth of Global and others by rapid global expansion.
- Developing "ELLA," an AI translation engine specializing in game titles and increasing the capacity of audio/voice recording studios.
- Global branding by exhibiting at game industry trade shows in various countries

#### **AI-Strategy of the DH Group Business**

- "ELLA," innovative AI translation engine for game



Developing "ELLA," game-specialized AI translation engine, rarely unique new engine, in collaboration with Rozetta Corp. Make innovative change to support clients' global expansion of contents by providing high quality of translation with overwhelming speed.

The simultaneous worldwide release of game titles is essential for globalization of game contents.

- 1. Significant time required for translation makes the simultaneous worldwide release hard to execute.
- 2. Parallel development of multiple languages for simultaneous launch increases the risk of delayed release due to increased returning.
- 3. General machine translation does not reflect the worldview of the game or the individuality of the characters, resulting in titles of insufficient quality.





<u>"ELLA" significantly reduces the translation time without compromising on entertainment quality and realize simultaneous worldwide releases with all contents as attractive as expected.</u>



**Professional** 

AI Translation Engine "ELLA"

AI automated translation reflecting the characters and the worldview of the game realized by the character generator AI



Check without compromising on "Entertainment Quality" by our native staff familiar with games



Voice of a game production experiencing "ELLA"

"I felt that while ELLA sometimes mistakes small nuances of meanings, it sometimes translate the small details so accurately that it's surprising. I have no choice but to think of it as an impressive technology compared to a long time ago, although there are still some areas where it falls short of human translation."

NIHON FALCOM CORPORATION Representative Director, President Toshihiro Kondo

Source: 4Gamer.net [Interview] [インタビュー] 日本ファルコムの近藤社長が、AI翻訳エンジン「ELLA」を使って訳した「界の軌跡」のセリフをチェック。TGS来場者の回答との答え合わせも【PR】

#### **Growth Strategy of AGEST Group Business**



#### AI testing company supporting "Quality" of enterprise system with leading-edge technologies

To meet diversifying QA demands, we continue to implement leading-edge quality-related technologies and expand the testing service areas. Aiming to develop innovative, fully autonomous AI-testing solutions by leveraging expertise as a QA solution provider and leading-edge AI-technology.

#### **Market Issues**

#### Requiring higher sophisticated and complex software + Industry-wide shortage of engineers

- ①Sophisticated knowledge required for testing due to the increasing complexity of software.
- 2The frequency of testing is increasing due to the penetration of Agile development, and the developmentperiod is shorter.
- 3 Lack of engineers prevents quality from being secured by company resources alone.

#### **Growth Strategy**

-Test automation

#### Improve "QA quality", "Speed" and "Productivity" by utilizing QA leading-edge technologies.

- ①Strengthen Next-Generation QA engineers capable of responding to leading-edge QA technologies
- ②Expand into new fields such as "QA services utilizing AI" and "Shift-Left" services.

3 Aiming for significant productivity improvement through unique development of fully autonomous

AI and full-scale launch of AI testing service.

#### Launch of AI-testing tool "TFACT" -Expand to upstream development processes -Develop Next-Generation **QA** engineers -Strengthen engineers

#### 1H FY2024

- Launched "AI Debugging for **Enterprise"** to identify defect areas by AI support
- Large size and long term projects such as QA consulting and support for building QA systems for large enterprises
- Developing "TFACT" to launch in January 2025

## **AI-Strategy of the AGEST Group Business**

- AI-testing tool "TFACT"



In January 2025, planning to introduce "TFACT" a unique test management tool with AI assisting functions.





Each process done by AI on behalf of engineers, such as advance preparation, results verification, and analysis.

Not just executing test automation.

<u>Improve speed, execute advanced QA, and resolve shortages of engineers by utilizing "TFACT" with Next-Generation QA engineers.</u>



AGEST's unique AI-testing tool
"TFACT"



**Next-Generation QA engineers**, supporting the AGEST's advanced QA

Steps to a fully autonomous AI



Step2 2026~





**Evolution to selfsustaining AI** 



Step0

Interactive AI



"TFACT" with AI function as standard

- · AI carries out from scenario-building, execution, verification, debugging to report creation, and strongly supports the Next-Generation OA engineers.
- · Efficient collaboration with test automation tools.
- · Reduce testing number of man-hours by 30% through the introduction of "TFACT".

#### **Business Results for the 1H FY2024**

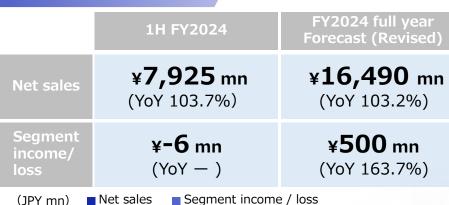


Started fully independent management structure for each of DH and AGEST Group since the beginning of this FY2024, as a part of preparation for Spin-Off Listing.

#### **DH Group** FY2024 full year 1H FY2024 **Forecast** ¥12,170 mn ¥25,720 mn **Net sales** (YoY 107.0%) (YoY 109.5%) ¥2,040 mn ¥832 mn income (YoY 117.6%) (YoY 111.2%) ■ Net sales ■ Segment income (JPY mn) 6,950 6,600 6,032 6,138 709 500 429 402 Q1 Q2 Q3(Forecast) Q4(Forecast) FY2024

- Sales growth centered on global services.
- > 1H progressed steadily in line with the initial plan.
- Initiatives for future growth, such as the launch of "ELLA," AI translation engine for game and the full-scale launch of audio/voice recording services.

#### **AGEST Group**





- Turned profitable in Q2 from the impact of client-side reschedule of a particular project in Q1. Expecting steady profit in 2H due to the elimination of those factors in Q1.
- Acquisition of large-scale and continuous projects such as QA consulting for a major automobile manufacturer and support for building QA systems for a major distribution company.

#### **Aims of the Spin-Off Listing**



To make two businesses listed individually with clearly different businesses value creation strategies separately. To maximize the potential of each business through management focus and optimal capital policy.

#### **DH Group Business**

- Well established and differentiated business model
- > Clear value proposition
- Horizontal and vertical expansion of core businesses (global expansion)

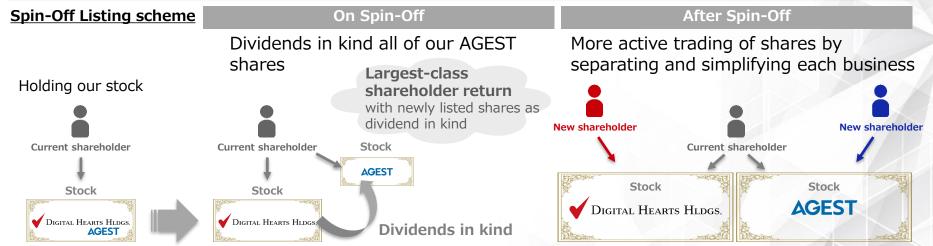
#### **AGEST Group Business**

- > Changing and innovative business model
- > Businesses value created by innovation
- > Expand added value of technologies and specialists

#### Investing in new locations and achieving stable growth

**Investing in technology and growing with innovation** 

- ✓ Expect to improve medium-term profitability with more focused management and optimal capitalization policies to attract new shareholder.
- ✓ By evaluating an inherent value of an individual business in the market, a stock price converges to its intrinsic value.
- ✓ By eliminating conglomerate discounts, it develops simple and easy-to-understand stock prices.



## (References) Example of Recent Spin-Off Listing



#### **Example of MELCO HOLDINGS INC.** (Separated Shimadaya Corporation from MELCO HOLDINGS INC. by Spin-Off Listing)

Schedule	
January 23, 2023	Announced the start of preparations for the Spin-Off Listing
May 13, 2024	Announced that Spin-Off Listing will be submitted to the annual general meeting of shareholders
June 26, 2024	Resolved Spin-Off Listing at the annual general meeting of shareholders
August 26, 2024	Listing of Shimadaya Corporation was approved by the Tokyo Stock Exchange
September 26, 2024	Last trading day to receive rights
September 30, 2024	Record date for distribution
October 1, 2024	Effective date of dividends in kind, Shimadaya Corporation listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, and distributed.



2024/7

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2024/1

2023/7

Listing of Shimadaya

Corporation was approved Closing stock price: ¥2,979



# Consolidated Financial Results for 1H FY2024

#### (Notice regarding Earnings by Segment)

- Net sales by segment include inter-segment sales or transfers.
   Segment income is based on operating income.
- Segment classification was changed from Q1 FY2024.
   For this reason, the figures for FY2023 by segment are reclassified to reflect the change in segment and comparisons are made.

# **Summary of Business Results for the Six Months Ended September 30, 2024**



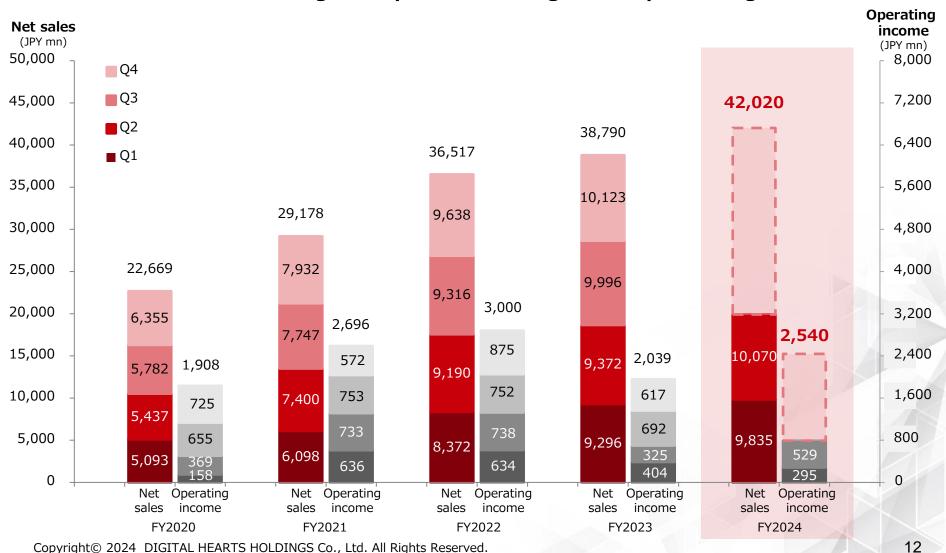
- Sales and profit increased in both DH Group Business and AGEST Group Business.
- AGEST Group Business, temporarily profit declined in Q1, has generated stable income from Q2(Jul-Sep).
- 1H net income turned profitable from the previous year 1H with impairment losses in foreign testing subsidiaries.

(JPY mn)	1H FY2023	1H FY2024	YoY Cl	nange
Net sales	18,669	19,906	1,236	106.6%
Cost of sales	13,868	15,031	1,163	108.4%
Cost of sales (%)	74.3%	75.5%		+1.2 points
Gross profit	4,800	4,874	73	101.5%
SG&A	4,070	4,048	-22	99.5%
Operating income	729	825	95	113.1%
Operating income margin	3.9%	4.1%		+0.2 points
Ordinary income	792	809	17	102.1%
Profit attributable to owners of parent	-436	455	891	_
EBITDA	1,279	1,314	34	102.7%

### **Trend in Net Sales and Operating Income**



Aiming for full year sales and profit growth by accelerating the growth of both businesses through independent management specializing in each.



## **Consolidated Balance Sheets**



(JPY mn)	Q4 FY2023 (As of March 31, 2024)	Q2 FY2024 (As of September 30, 2024)	Change from Q4 FY2023
Total assets	21,103	21,163	60
Current assets	13,526	13,528	1
Cash and deposits	6,858	6,930	71
Noncurrent assets	7,576	7,635	58
Property, plant and equipment	1,491	1,490	-0
Intangible assets	2,908	2,842	-65
Goodwill	2,313	2,193	-120
Investments and other assets	3,177	3,302	124
Total liabilities	12,250	11,945	-305
Current liabilities	12,026	11,722	-304
Short-term loans	7,095	6,760	-335
Noncurrent liabilities	224	223	-1
Total net assets	8,852	9,217	365
Shareholders' equity	7,685	7,918	232
Accumulated other comprehensive income	729	868	138
Non-controlling interests	436	430	-5
Total liabilities and net assets	21,103	21,163	60

## **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**



(JPY mn)	1H FY2023	1H FY2024	YoY Change
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,156	1,257	101
(*Cash flows before income taxes paid)	1,532	1,516	-16
Net cash used in investing activities	-592	-714	-122
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	-200	-612	-411
Effect of exchange rate change on cash and cash equivalents	176	140	-35
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	540	71	-468
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period	6,456	6,858	401
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period	6,997	6,930	-67

#### **Dividends Forecast of FY2024**



The interim dividend are 10.5 yen, in line with the initial forecast. The annual dividend is expected to be stable at 21.0 yen, the same level as the previous year.

#### **Basic Policy to Return Profits to Shareholders**

While securing sufficient internal reserves to invest in business growth and strengthen our management structure, stable dividends to shareholders with a payout ratio of 20% as the minimum target





# Financial Results of 1H FY2024 by Segment and Full-year Forecast of FY2024

(Notice regarding Earnings by Segment)

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   For this reason, the figures for FY2023 by segment are reclassified to reflect the change in segment and comparisons are made.

### (References) Segment changes



\* The changes are **Underlined** 

# Segment disclosures in "DH Group" and "AGEST Group" since FY2024 with an eye to Spin-Off Listing.

#### ■ Before FY2023

**Enterprise Business** 

Adjustments

Re	eporting segment	Main services
Er	itertainment Business	
	Domestic debugging	Game debugging
	Global and others	Translation and LQA Marketing support Game development support Customer support

	QA solution	Security test
	QA Solution	System development
		Introduction of ERP and CRM
		IT engineer platform service
IT service	IT services and others	Security monitoring
		Maintenance and operation support
A discrete a sale		Inter-segment transactions

System test

#### ■ After FY2024

Reporting segment		Main services	Main operating companies
	DH Group Business	Holding company expenses	DIGITAL HEARTS HOLDINGS Co., Ltd.
		Game debugging	
	Domestic debugging	Other software debugging, etc	DIGITAL HEARTS Co., Ltd.
		(partial subcontracting of AGEST work, etc.)	
		Translation and LQA	DIGITAL HEARTS Co., Ltd.
		Marketing support	DIGITAL HEARTS CROSS Group
	Global and others	Game development support	FLAME Hearts Co., Ltd.
		Customer support	Aetas, Inc.
		IT engineer platform service	identity Inc.

А	GEST Group Business		
		System test	AGEST, Inc.
	QA solution	Security test	LOGIGEAR CORPORATION
	QA Solution	System development	CEGB Co., Ltd.
		Introduction of ERP and CRM	GPC K.K
	IT services and others	Security monitoring Maintenance and operation support	AGEST, Inc.
А	djustments	Inter-segment transactions	_

**Holding company expenses** 

## **Summary of Financial Results by Segment**



(JPY mn)	1H FY2023	1H FY2024	YoY Change
Net sales	18,669	19,906	106.6%
DH Group	11,379	12,170	107.0%
AGEST Group	7,639	7,925	103.7%
Adjustments	-350	-190	_
Operating income	729	825	113.1%
DH Group	748	832	111.2%
AGEST Group	-18	-6	
EBITDA	1,279	1,314	102.7%
DH Group	1,020	1,136	111.4%
AGEST Group	259	177	68.5%

#### **Financial Result of DH Group Business**



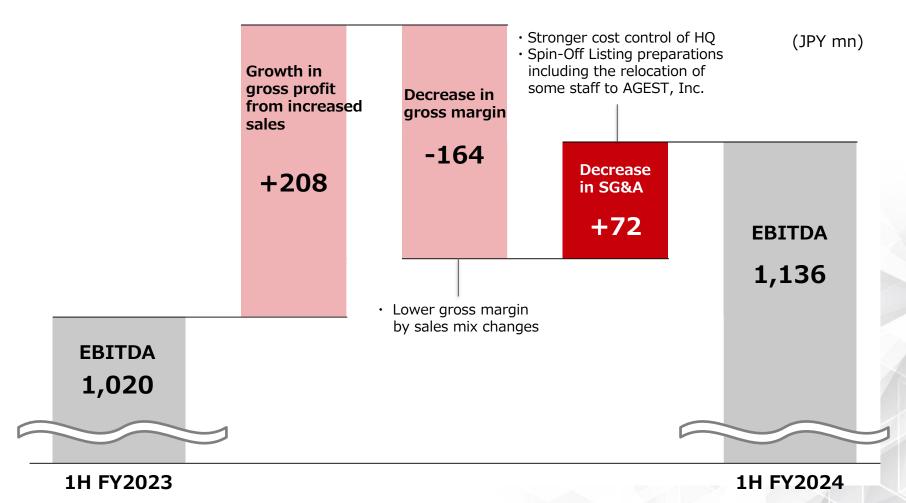
- Double-digit sales growth of the Global and others with increasing number of new projects for translation/ LQA and marketing-support, such as strengthening services with the launch of "ELLA", AI-base game translation engine.
- The Domestic debugging achieved stable sales growth by strengthening sales including strategically resource-focused initiatives and by raising the unit price per order by increasing the high-value-added services, despite the impact of the cancellation or postponement of title-development in some domestic game clients.
- Double-digit profit growth due to the impact of higher sales and the decline in SG&A expenses due to the relocation of staff since Q2 FY2023 to prepare for Spin-Off Listing, despite the weaker gross margin ratio due to the impact of the sales-mix change.

(JP	Y mn)	1H FY2023	1H FY2024	YoY Change
Ne	et sales	11,379	12,170	107.0%
	Domestic debugging	6,597	6,800	103.1%
	Global and others	4,782	5,370	112.3%
Se	gment income	748	832	111.2%
EB	ITDA	1,020	1,136	111.4%

#### **Analysis of Changes in EBITDA** - DH Group Biz



Double-digit profit growth YoY 111.4% thanks to the sales growth and the decline in SG&A expenses, despite lower gross margin due to the impact of the sales-mix change.

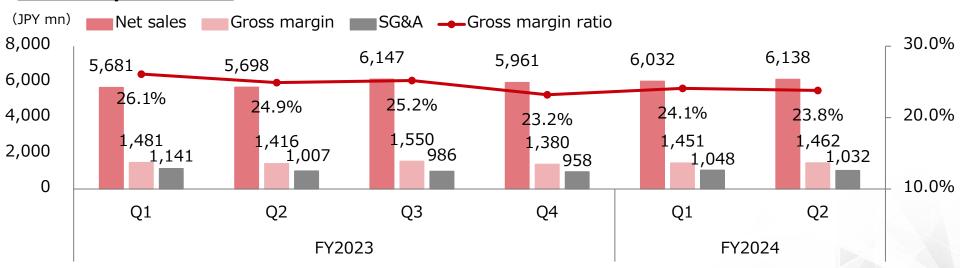


#### **DH Group Business**



#### **Performance Trends**

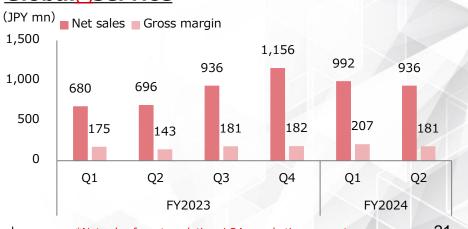
#### **DH Group Business**



#### **Domestic debugging**

#### (JPY mn) ■ Net sales ■ Gross margin 5,000 1,500 3,473 3,438 3,327 3,298 3,299 3,143 1,000 2,500 1,005 938 917 855 919 944 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 FY2024 FY2023

#### Global(\*)service



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\*Net sales from translation, LQA, marketing support, and overseas debugging

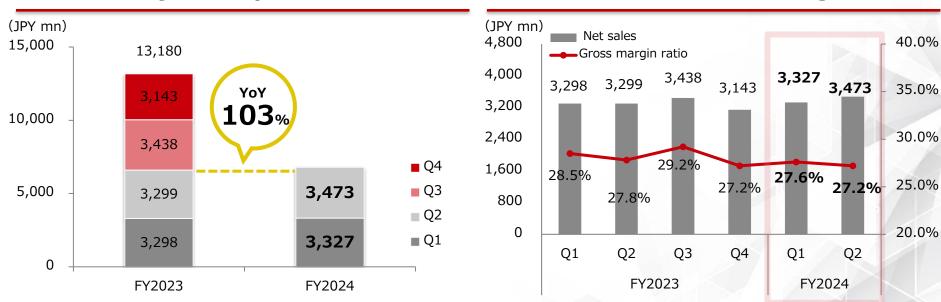
#### **DH Group Business** - Domestic debugging division



- Strategic sales promotions such as strengthening relations with key clients and focusing resources on some clients with actively developing new titles.
- Gross margin ratio in 1H FY2024 was 27.4%, largely in line with the initial forecast, due to some initiatives to improve the quality such as investing in human capital like training and remuneration hike, and in working environment.
- Capital participation in April 2024 in Turing Inc. which develops fully self-driving vehicle, to expand the businesses of annotations in AI development and quality management by utilizing the resources of testers.

#### **Quarterly sales**

#### **Net sales and Gross margin ratio**



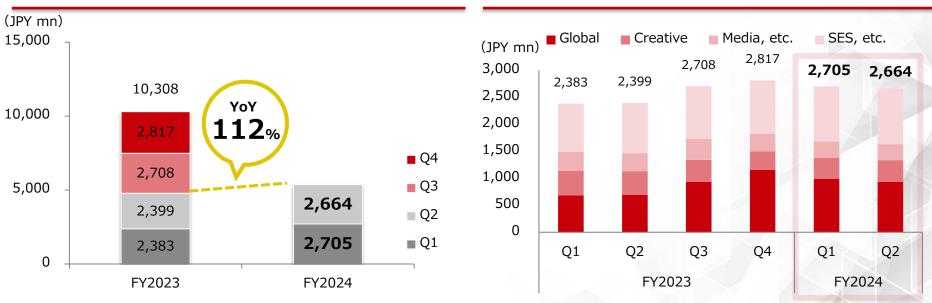
#### **DH Group Business** - Global and others division



- Sales of global services (translation, LQA, and marketing support) achieved high growth of 140% YoY, with sales growth of translation and LQA for European languages and marketing support for e-commerce businesses, which had been strengthened from the previous fiscal year.
- Strengthen operating activities for further growth with "ELLA," an innovative AI-base game translation engine developed in collaboration with Rozetta Corp.
- Develop the brand awareness of "DIGITAL HEARTS" by exhibiting at large-scale game industry trade shows in "ChinaJoy," "gamescom," and "TOKYO GAME SHOW."

#### **Quarterly sales**

#### Quarterly sales by service



#### **Financial Result of AGEST Group Business**



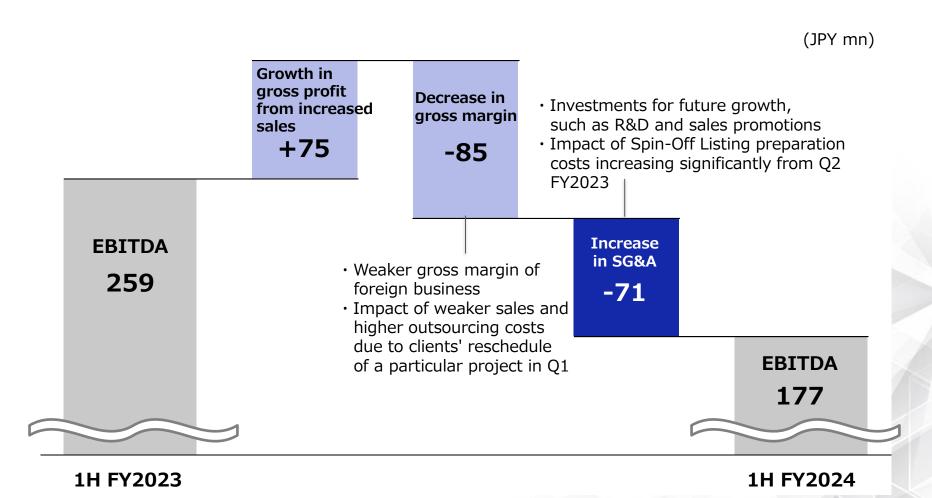
- Though foreign businesses have been still weak, on the other hand, domestic QA solutions under a booming market-environment achieved double-digit sales growth despite irregular sales in Q1.
- Decrease in IT service and others due to strategic contraction of unprofitable services.
- Segment income in 1H showed a loss significantly affected by a temporary decline in profitability due to the reschedule of a particular project in Q1. However, it recovered to be profitable in Q2 (Jul-Sep), and it is expected to generate stable income from 2H onward.

(JP	Y mn)	1H FY2023	1H FY2024	YoY Change
Ne	et sales	7,639	7,925	103.7%
	QA solution	6,294	6,843	108.7%
	IT services and others	1,345	1,081	80.4%
Segment income		-18	-6	_
EB	ITDA	259	177	68.5%

#### **Analysis of Changes in EBITDA** - AGEST Group Biz



A decline in 1H due to the large impact of the reschedule of a particular project in Q1 and the increase in SG&A such as Spin-Off Listing preparation costs. EBITDA has recovered to the upward trend in Q2 (Jul-Sep) and is expected to increase as a full year.

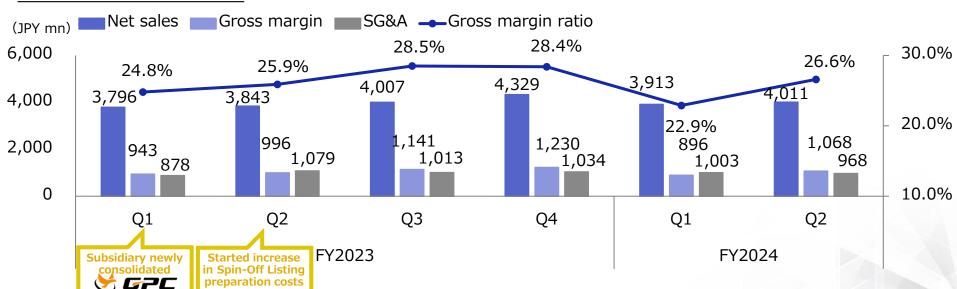


#### **AGEST Group Business**



#### **AGEST Group Business**

#### **Performance Trends**



#### **QA** solution division KPI



#### **AGEST Group Business** - QA solution division

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- Double-digit sales growth of YoY 115% in domestic QA solutions.
- Gross margin ratio in Q2(Jul-Sep) has recovered to around the normal level and is expected to improve to the same level in 2H as FY2023, despite a significant decline in Q1 due to some factors including weaker sales and heavier outsourcing costs related to the reschedule of a particular project.
- Focus on branding as a 'Tech' company and differentiating AGEST from competitors by strengthening "Shift-Left" QA solutions and AI utilizing services.

#### **Quarterly sales Net sales and Gross margin ratio** (JPY mn) (JPY mn) Net sales 4,500 40.0% 15,000 13,364 Gross margin ratio 3,726 3,354 <sup>3,489</sup> 3,107 3,600 3,343 3,186 YoY 35.0% 3,726 **109**% 2,700 10,000 30.0% 31.0% 30.6% 3,343 1,800 28.8% 28.2% ■ Q4 27.8% 25.0% 3,489 5,000 900 3,186 Q3 24.4% Q2 0 20.0% 3,354 3,107 Q1 Q3 **Q**1 **Q2** Q4 01 02 0 FY2023 FY2024 FY2023 FY2024

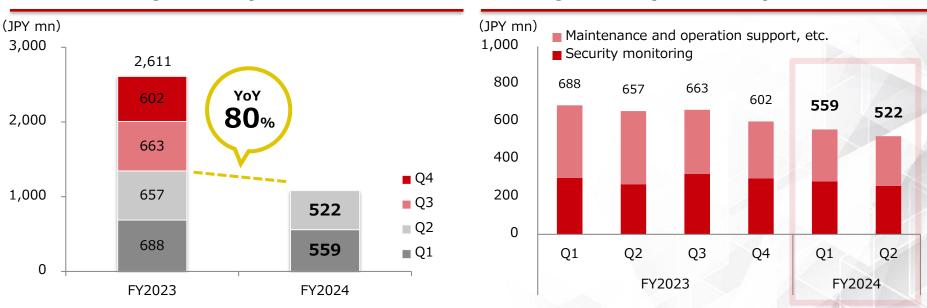
#### **AGEST Group Business** - IT services and others division



- Strategic reduction of certain low-profit services, such as maintenance and operation support.
- The number of security monitoring 710 thousand units as the top level in Japan.
- Strengthen cybersecurity businesses by some initiatives including investing in "Nippon Cyber Security Fund 1 Investment Limited Partnership," a fund in which cybersecurity companies invest in security service providers.

#### **Quarterly sales**

#### Quarterly sales by service



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#### **FY2024 Consolidated Financial Forecast**



- AGEST Group Biz revised its businesses forecasts based on 1H business result.
- DH Group Biz, which is progressing almost as planned, unchanged from the initial forecast.
- Reflecting the impact of the gain on sale of shares in MK Partners, Inc., our consolidated subsidiary, following the share transfer in October 2024 to 2H forecast.

(JPY mn)	FY2023 (Actual)	FY2024 Initial Forecast (As of May 9, 2024)	FY2024 Revised forecast (As of November 7, 2024)	Comparison to Initial Forecast	
Net sales	38,790	44,100	42,020	-2,080	95.3%
DH Group	23,488	25,720	25,720	_	_
AGEST Group	15,975	18,380	16,490	-1,890	89.7%
Adjustments	-674	_	-190	-190	
Operating income	2,039	3,100	2,540	-560	81.9%
DH Group	1,734	2,040	2,040	_	
AGEST Group	305	1,060	500	-560	47.2%
Operating income margin	5.3%	7.0%	6.0%		-1.0Points
Ordinary income	2,059	3,100	2,470	-630	79.7%
Profit attributable to owners of parent	176	2,100	1,600	-500	76.2%



# **Growth Strategy**

#### **Purpose of the Spin-Off Listing**



#### **■** Purpose of Our Spin-Off Listing

1. Focus on one single business

Accelerate growth by focusing on each business with each unique growth strategy.

2. Realize management to react environment changes quickly

Implement swift management decisions without overlooking small changes, by separating the Company to two independent groups and making management focusing on a single business.

3. Develop a unique corporate culture

Develop each unique corporate culture suited to the one with diverse human resources brimming with entertainment enthusiasm and the other with engineer group with IT skill background.

4. Capital policies in line with growth strategies

Flexibly procure funds and return profits to shareholder in line with each corporate stage and growth-strategy.

**5.** Avoidance or elimination of conglomerate discounts

Clarify each brands such as the one with the balance between growth and shareholder return and the other focusing on business growth, and provide better opportunities to meet each investor's style.

#### Two distinct business focuses



## Market environment

Our unique

**Growth stage** 

**Capital policy** 

Human resources and corporate culture

#### **DH Group Business**

- Game and entertainment industries
- Increasing production costs and rapid global expansion
- ⇒ Larger demand for global services
- Deep knowledge and wealth of expertise in the game/entertainment industry, developed since its establishment
- ⇒ Bring Japan's "Game/Entertainment Quality" to the World
- ➤ Strong client base and dominant shares with over 20 years experience of debugging service in Japan
- > Aiming strong growth in global markets
- Balancing between investment and shareholder returns, based on stable cash-flow generated in its strong domestic debugging service
- > Diverse human resources brimming with entertainment enthusiasm
- ⇒ Working with smiles and each individuality

#### **AGEST Group Business**

- > IT service industry for enterprise
- Chronic shortage of IT personnel and acceleration of DX investment
- ⇒ Growing demand for outsourcing of testing process
- ➤ Knowledge of top-level QA engineers in Japan, Europe, and the U.S.
- > Test automation expertise in Silicon Valley
- ⇒ New QA as collaboration of AI and highly skilled engineers
- Rapid growth against the backdrop of "DX" investing
- Acceleration of changes due to rapid evolution of IT technology
- Accelerate growth investment in technology and M&As by flexibly procuring funds including from the market
- ➤ Engineer group specializing in QA and following the latest tech trends
- **⇒** Update cutting-edge technologies

#### **Business Model of DH Group**



**Our Group** 

#### "Global Quality Partner"

in the game/entertainment industry

Provide services to game / entertainment companies in Japan and around the world to help them create fun and safe content, bringing smiles to the faces of people who love games.

Software development

Art production | Audio and voice

Providino

Contents

Localization

Debugging

Customer support

Marketing

#### **Player**

#### **Game Maker**

#### Game companies in Asia









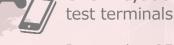


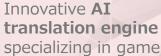
## Over 10,000

Approx. 8,000

registered testers

**17** domestic bases **7** overseas bases





Programmers, Engineers, Planners, Designers, Testers, Translators, etc.

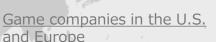


















"Game enthusiasts" who themselves are players are joining to DH group with deep insight

#### **Business Results of DH Group - Clients -**



DH Group has had business results with most of the domestic game manufacturers, and recently been expanding its base with foreign business players and indie games as well.

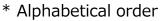
#### **■** Examples of clients











































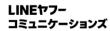










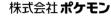


















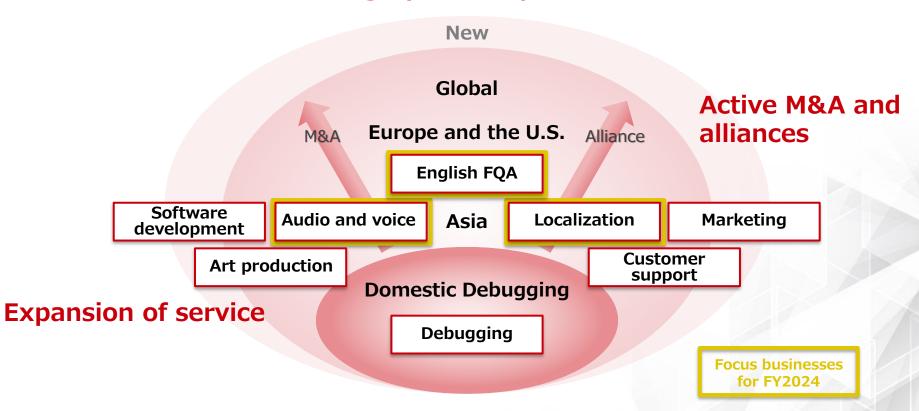


#### **Growth Strategy of DH Group**



To become a global partner providing one-stop solution from domestic debugging company by expanding its businesses domains on both of service-axes and regional-axes, based on the business result and experiences, customer base, and human resources developed in the over 20 years of debugging service in Japan.

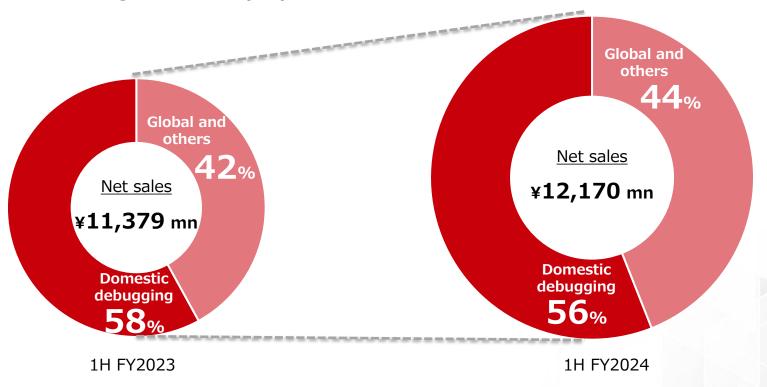
#### **Geographical expansion**



## Sales growth



Global and others achieved double-digit sales growth and contributed to the group with increasing in its sales proportion.



## **Domestic debugging**



Detecting defects behind console games and mobile games from user perspective.



#### **Global and others**

Services for global expansion of game content, such as translation, LQA(\*), marketing-support, 2D/3D graphic production, and audio/voice recording.

## Strength of DH Group



#### Point1

## "Entertainment QA" not just "Eliminating bug or defect"

**Ordinary software testing** 

Is it working correctly according to the specifications?



View of UI and UE, such as "hard to understand how to operate it"

**Debugging of DH** 



Does the character's personality match what he or she says?

**Testing in line with specifications** 

Detecting defects from a player's perspective

#### Point2

## **Business model utilizing unique human resources**

Core gamers

Like manga





Like animation

People with experience of withdrawal

**DH Professionals** 



game maker

Joined from hardware Joined from major game publisher



Professional translators

No experience required,

registered part-time jobbers

Supporting clients'

expansion into overseas

#### **Diverse members** with rich experience and knowledge

## Point3

Adjustments in line with the cultures of

each market

## **Unique market position**

**Entertainment Contents Market** 



Translation suited to the worldview of each game title

Accelerating global expansion of game content itself

Focus businesses of DH





**Debugging Localization Marketing** 

**Growing demand for our solutions** around the world

Globalization of

existing services

## **Business Progress of DH Group**



Building a structure to provide one-stop global solutions and implementing marketing activities to increase brand awareness.



#### Cultivate new global clients

Focus on increasing the brand awareness and acquiring global clients through large game industry exhibitions in China, Europe, and Japan.

Exhibition scene at game shows



ChinaJoy 2024



gamescom 2024



**TOKYO GAME SHOW 2024** 

## "ELLA" - AI Translation Engine specializing in game



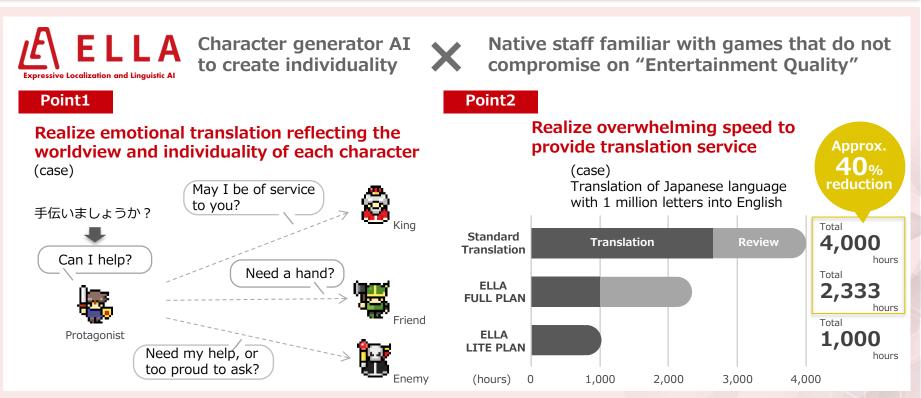
AI translation engine "ELLA" will be revolutionizing, by expressing "Emotion" in the translation of games, which has been said to be impossible in machine translation.

Opportunity in growing translation needs

: Global penetration of smartphones and game consoles  $\Rightarrow$  Rapid expansion of global demand

Shortcomings of traditional machine translation

: Not suitable for translation of games and entertainment contents requiring a sense of immersion



Powerful support for simultaneous worldwide release of any games in multiple languages

## **Growth Strategy of AGEST Group**



## AI testing company supporting "Quality" of enterprise system with leading-edge technologies

To meet diversifying QA demands, we continue to implement leading-edge quality-related technologies and expand the testing service areas. Aiming to develop innovative, **fully autonomous AI-testing solutions** by leveraging expertise as a QA solution provider and leading-edge AI-technology.

Leading-edge quality technology × Next-Generation QA engineers

Expanding the scope of testing services

Accelerating AI testing

- Utilize leading-edge quality technology
- Strengthen engineer human resources
- Develop AGEST unique services
- Expand to upstream/downstream processes
- Innovate the software development process with fully automated QA processes

## Improve "QA quality", "Speed" and "Productivity" by utilizing QA leading-edge technologies

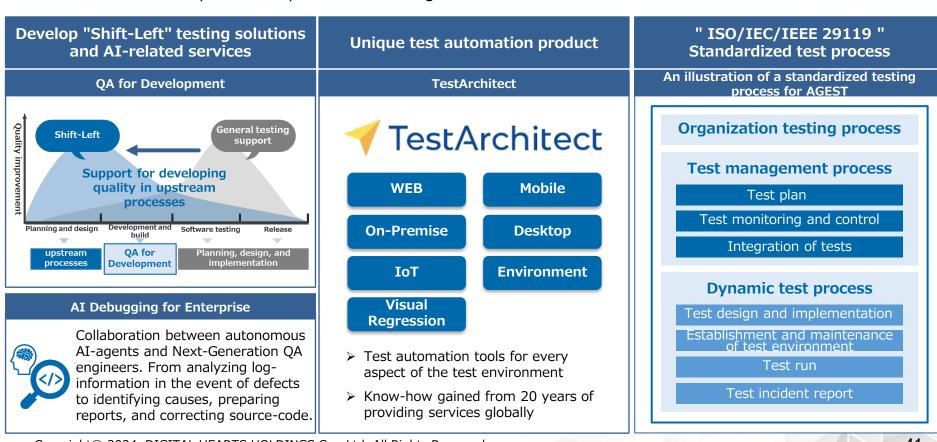
- I . Strengthen Next-Generation QA engineers capable of responding to leading-edge QA technologies.
- II. Expand into new fields such as "QA services utilizing AI" and "Shift-Left" services.
- III. Aiming for significant productivity improvement through unique development of fully autonomous AI and full-scale launch of AI testing service.

# Background of AGEST's Technological Capability as the Base of AI Utilization



Building on the technological capabilities of the AGEST, to develop new AI-based QA services. Aiming to become the de facto industry-standard.

- Promoting the development of services using AI and other cutting-edge technologies, such as "QA for Development" for "Shift-Left" and QA services utilizing AI, as early as possible for competitors.
- AGEST's unique test automation products help it develop the linking tools and others necessary for AI-testing.
- The AGEST testing process complies with international standards and can be quickly applied to the standardization required to implement AI-testing.



## **Aims of AI-testing by AGEST**



## Aiming to develop new QA services by utilizing AI

- To develop the industry's de facto standard as a fully autonomous AI test
- Significantly reduce testing number of man-hours and dramatically improve the value provided by accelerating speed
- · Strengthen Next-Generation QA engineers and improve order capacity by utilizing AI testing
- · Establish a new revenue model of license-based billing by providing products

Step1 2025~

Introduction of AI test tool "TFACT"

Step2 2026~

**Evolution to selfsustaining AI**  Final Step 202X~

**Fully autonomous AI** 

Interactive AI

Step0

Step1 2025~



"TFACT" AI-test tool to realize "Scenario creation - Execution - Testing - Debugging - Reporting", and to greatly improve the speed of providing the service by reducing the testing number of man-hours by 30%

Step2 2026~



Autonomous testing with AI, aiming for test process innovation.

Halve the testing number of man-hours to improve the speed of provision

Final Step 202X~



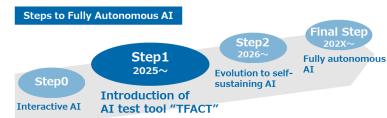
Pursue further total optimization with fully autonomous AI, innovate the entire software life cycle, and become fully automated AI testing.

## Overview of "TFACT"

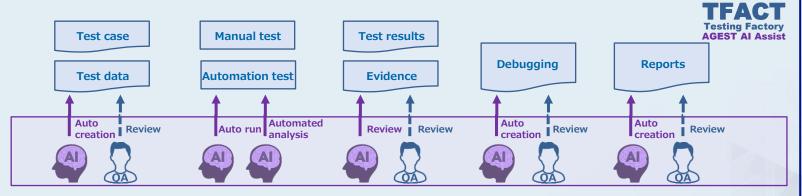


In January 2025, planning to introduce "TFACT" a unique test management tool with AI assisting functions.

- AI-functions strongly supports Next-Generation QA engineers.
- AI performs Scenario creation Execution Testing -Debugging - Report preparation.
- · Efficient collaboration with test automation tools
- · AI-functions reduce testing number of man-hours by 30%







#### AI Test Case Designer



AI automatically generates the test steps necessary for test automation

#### **AI Test Automation**



AI analyzes the elements being tested and performs test steps automatically

#### AI Test Result Analyzer



AI verifies the content of the test and analyzes for problems

#### AI Debug



AI debugs the findings of the tests and automatically identifies the problem areas

#### AI Incident Report



AI analyzes problem of implementation results and prepare an incident report

## **Growth Cycle of AGEST**



As a pioneer in AI-testing, aiming to establish an industry de facto standard for QA processes and to continuously expand its business by AGEST's unique growth cycle.

**Accumulate expertise** in utilizing AI Improving technology and quality **Accumulate** expertise in **OA** To create an environment in which inexperienced engineers Develop can play active roles with **Improve AI** AI accuracy and QA quality TFACT as a powered suit engineers with through data-accumulation accuracy and AI, as **QA** quality powered suits **Developing and** AGEST growth cycle expanding human with the introduction resource of TFACT **Expand** Increase in sales due to an business and **Improve** increase in capacity of orders AI powered suite and develop new recruitment of and develop new revenue model expand recruitment of earnings such as license sales **Next-Generation OA** engineers model engineers **Improve** awareness of **Expanding clients and** 

> Improve the brand awareness of AGEST and strengthen recruiting activities

**AGEST** 

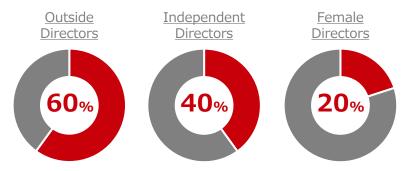
the business size

## **Business foundation supporting growth strategy**



#### **Board of Directors**

Consists of members from diverse backgrounds, including founder, corporate management experiences in various industries, certified public accountants, and lawyers, and holds discussions from a diverse perspective.



## **Audit & Supervisory Board**

Members with specialized knowledge and experience in finance, accounting, compliance, etc., audit the execution of duties by directors.

#### **Investment Committee**

Implement appropriate investment with a certain discipline by deliberating in advance for large scale investments including M&As.

## **Risk Management Committee**

Identify risks and formulate countermeasures on a crossgroup basis.

(As of March 31, 2024)

Ratio of female managers \*1

**12.4**%

Ratio of foreign employees \*1

9.5%

Ratio of employees with disabilities \*2

**2.9**%

Number of ISTQB qualification holders \*3

500 people

<sup>\*1</sup> Reporting target: All domestic group companies

<sup>\*2</sup> Reporting target: DIGITAL HEARTS HOLDINGS Co., Ltd., DIGITAL HEARTS Co., Ltd., AGEST, Inc., DIGITAL HEARTS PLUS Co., Ltd.

<sup>\*3</sup> Reporting target: All group companies ISTQB···International Software Testing Qualifications Board

## (References) Comparison with competitors



	The	<u>The</u>		DH Group	H Group		AGEST Group				
	Company (Current)		<u>DH</u> <u>Group</u>	<u>DH</u> <u>Group</u>	Competitor P	AGEST Group	AGEST Group	Competitor <u>S</u>	Competitor <u>V</u>		
(JPY mn)	FY2023	Revised Plan	FY2023	FY2024 Revised Plan	FY2023	FY2023	FY2024 Revised Plan	FY2023	FY2023		
Net sales	38,790	42,020 (44,100)	23,488	25,720	46,980	15,975	16,490 (18,380)	110,627	10,362		
Operating income	2,039	2,540 (3,100)	1,734	2,040	404	305	500 (1,060)	10,537	840		
Operating income margin	5.3%	6.0% (7.0%)	7.4%	7.9%	0.9%	1.9%	3.0% (5.8%)	9.5%	8.1%		
Profit attributable to owners of parent	176	1,600 (2,100)	_	_	-1,967	_		5,127	518		
EBITDA	3,077	3,516 (4,076)	2,320	_	1,573	757	_	13,424	1,033		
PER	102.02	(8.59)	_	_	_	_	-	54.39	15.43		
EBITDA multiple	6.29	(4.75)	_	_	10.72	_	_	21.06	8.11		
Market Capitalization	19,351	19,351	_	_	16,864	_	-	282,659	8,386		

<sup>\*1</sup> PER, EBITDA multiple, and market capitalization are calculated based on the closing stock price on November 6, 2024.

<sup>\*2</sup> The figures in ( ) for our plan are the initial plan disclosed on May 9, 2024 and the figures calculated based on that initial plan.

<sup>\*3</sup> Some of the EBITDA figure is calculated by us based on the published materials of each company.



# **Appendix**

## **Corporate Profile**



**Our mission** 

## SAVE the DIGITAL WORLD

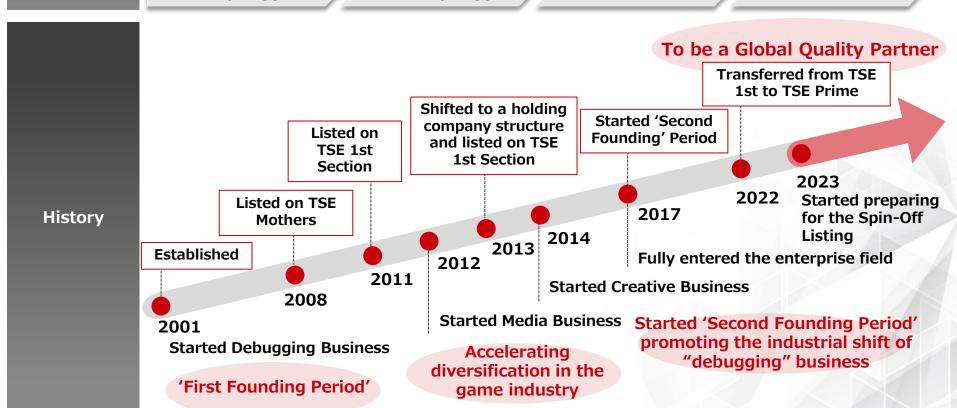
Market environment

Growth of console game market

Growth of mobile game market

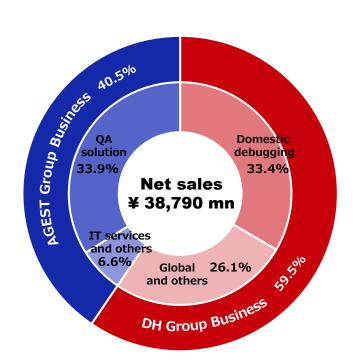
**Expansion** of **IoT** 

**Expansion** of DX



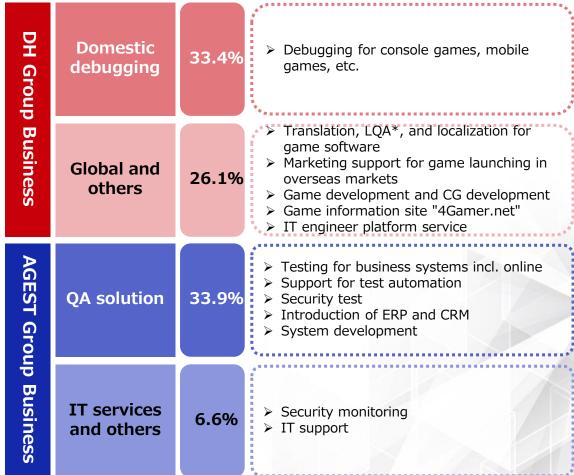


## Our core business: Debugging and QA(Quality Assurance)



# Sales breakdown by segment (FY2023)

 ${}^{*}\text{Segments}$  include inter-company sales and/or transfers.



## **Group Companies**





(As of September 30, 2024)

#### **DH Group Business**

## **DIGITAL HEARTS Co., Ltd.**

Game debugging for Japanese game makers, Localization, etc.

#### **DIGITAL HEARTS CROSS Group**

Marketing support, etc.

#### **DIGITAL HEARTS (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.**

Game debugging, Localization, etc.

#### **Digital Hearts Linguitronics Taiwan Co., Ltd.**

Game translation

#### **JetSynthesys Digital Services Private Limited**

Game debugging for overseas game makers

#### **FLAME Hearts Co., Ltd.**

Game development and CG content development

#### Aetas, Inc.

Operation of a game information site, "4Gamer.net"

#### identity Inc.

IT freelance engineer platform service

#### **AGEST Group Business**

#### AGEST, Inc.

System testing, Cyber-security, etc.

#### **AGEST Vietnam Co., Ltd.**

System testing, Test automation support

#### **LOGIGEAR CORPORATION**

System testing, Test automation support

#### MK Partners, Inc.

Salesforce consulting

#### **DEVELOPING WORLD SYSTEMS LIMITED**

Introduction and maintenance support for Oracle products

#### CEGB Co., Ltd.

SAP implementation and operation support, system development support, etc.

#### GPC K.K

SAP/ERP implementation support, System development, etc.

## **Main Business Locations**



(As of September 30, 2024)

#### China

DIGITAL HEARTS CROSS Group DIGITAL HEARTS (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

#### South Korea

DIGITAL HEARTS Seoul Co., Ltd.

#### UK

DEVELOPING WORLD SYSTEMS LIMITED

#### India

JetSynthesys Digital Services Private Limited

#### Japan

AGEST, Inc.
DIGITAL HEARTS Co., Ltd.
CEGB Co., Ltd.
GPC K.K
identity Inc.
FLAME Hearts Co., Ltd.
Aetas, Inc.

#### Taiwan

Digital Hearts Linguitronics Taiwan Co., Ltd.

#### Vietnam

AGEST Vietnam Co., Ltd.

#### USA

LOGIGEAR CORPORATION MK Partners, Inc. DIGITAL HEARTS USA Inc.

## **Objectives and Goals of Spin-off Listing**



Maximize the growth potential of each by actively utilizing each corporate brand and financial capabilities, as an independent public company for each.

**DH Group** 



To be the Global Quality Partner in the entertainment industry

- Challenge for global markets and new domains

#### **Market environment**

Global digital content market(\*1)

Approx. ¥53 tn

- · Simultaneous game titles launching
- From the domestic to the global
- Entertainment digital contents than games

#### AGEST Group

**AGEST** 

To be the AI testing company supporting "Quality" of enterprise systems with leading-edge technology

- Accelerate to grow with centering AGEST, Inc.

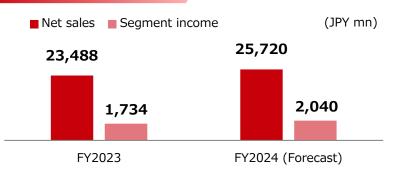
#### **Market environment**

<u>Domestic software</u> <u>testing market (\*2)</u>

Approx. ¥6 tn

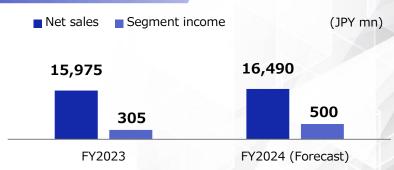
- Chronic shortage of engineers
- "Quality" as the source of competitiveness, testing process becoming more important.
- · Sophisticated testing technologies.

## **Target**



<sup>\*1</sup> Source: METI "Overview of the Global and Japanese Markets for Contents" Definition of digital content: Digital markets for music, publishing, video, and games. Calculated at \$1 = \times 150.67

## **Target**



<sup>\*2</sup> Calculated by us based on "Statistical Survey of Selected Service Industries" by METI and "Software Development Analysis Data Collection 2022" by IPA.

## **Consolidated Financial Statement**



(JPY mn)	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Net sales	15,444	17,353	19,254	21,138	22,669	29,178	36,517	38,790
Enterprise Business	1,952	1,892	3,302	5,022	7,021	11,491	16,840	19,714
Entertainment Business	13,544	15,568	15,951	16,115	15,647	17,687	19,815	19,180
Adjustments	-52	-108	-0	-	-	-	-138	-105
Operating income	1,906	1,735	1,605	1,394	1,908	2,696	3,000	2,039
Enterprise Business	203	-14	-226	-67	188	645	639	423
Entertainment Business	2,453	2,966	3,086	2,964	3,077	3,668	4,214	3,325
Adjustments	-750	-1,215	-1,254	-1,503	-1,356	-1,616	-1,853	-1,709
Operating income margin	12.3%	10.0%	8.3%	6.6%	8.4%	9.2%	8.2%	5.3%
Enterprise Business	10.4%	-	-	-	2.7%	5.6%	3.8%	2.1%
Entertainment Business	18.1%	19.1%	19.3%	18.4%	19.7%	20.7%	21.3%	17.3%
Profit attributable to owners of parent	795	1,200	1,575	792	974	1,778	799	176
Total assets	7,651	8,575	9,832	10,637	14,338	17,610	19,581	21,103
Current assets	6,221	6,813	7,403	7,453	9,744	10,392	12,528	13,526
Cash and deposits	3,344	3,894	4,197	3,739	5,076	5,208	6,456	6,858
Noncurrent assets	1,430	1,761	2,428	3,183	4,593	7,217	7,052	7,576
Goodwill	201	150	481	1,027	2,467	4,588	3,468	2,313
Total liabilities	4,793	5,005	4,819	5,198	8,024	10,044	10,107	12,250
Interest-bearing liabilities	1,646	1,610	1,764	2,553	4,797	5,590	5,106	7,095
Total net assets	2,858	3,570	5,012	5,438	6,314	7,566	9,474	8,852
Shareholders'equity	2,632	3,369	4,791	4,922	5,691	6,991	8,806	8,415
Shareholders' equity ratio	34.4%	39.3%	48.7%	46.3%	39.7%	39.7%	45.0%	39.9%
Net cash	1,698	2,283	2,433	1,186	278	-382	1,350	-236
Debt Equity Ratio	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,825	1,436	889	1,086	1,416	3,077	2,850	1,759
Net cash used in (provided by) investing activities	-610	-618	62	-1,018	-1,813	-2,537	-1,903	-2,369
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	-69	-250	-693	-515	1,730	-546	141	934
ROE	29.2%	40.0%	38.6%	16.3%	18.4%	28.0%	10.1%	2.1%
Dividend Payout Ratio	32.3%	20.9%	18.0%	38.6%	31.0%	18.2%	57.5%	264.5%

<sup>\*</sup>The segmentation has been changed from FY2024 Q1, but the above results by segment are the figures before the change.

## Towards Business Management with an **Awareness of Capital Cost and Stock Price**

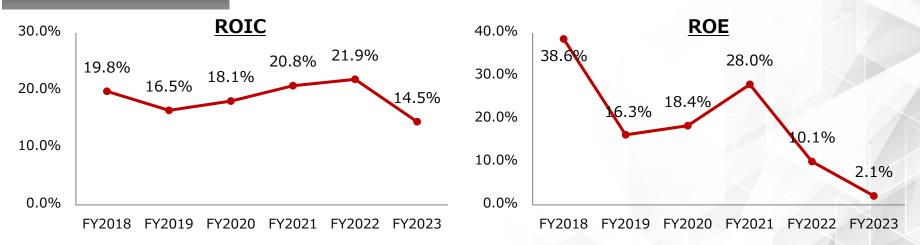


## **Basic policy**

With a sound financial foundation, we aim to sustainably improve our corporate value by actively investing in human resources, technologies, M&As, and other developments. We also strive to maintain optimal capital efficiency by adhering to our financial discipline of "ROIC over 15%" when making investment decisions. Consequently, over the five years ended March 31, 2023, we achieved a high sales growth rate of CAGR +54.8% in Enterprise Business as a rapid growing segment, and CAGR +4.9% in Entertainment Business as a stable business. On the other hand, in terms of capital-efficiency, we maintained a level significantly higher than our WACC (5-7%), with ROIC at around 15-20% for the same five years period.

Furthermore, since May 2023, we have been preparing for Spin-Off Listing of AGEST, Inc., the core subsidiary of the Enterprise Business, in order to accelerate the pace of growth of both Enterprise Business and Entertainment Business and to maintain and improve our capital efficiency. Going forward, we intend to maximize our corporate value by continuing to manage our business with such cost of capital in mind and to take on the challenge for further growth.

#### **ROIC and ROE**



## **Shareholder Returns**

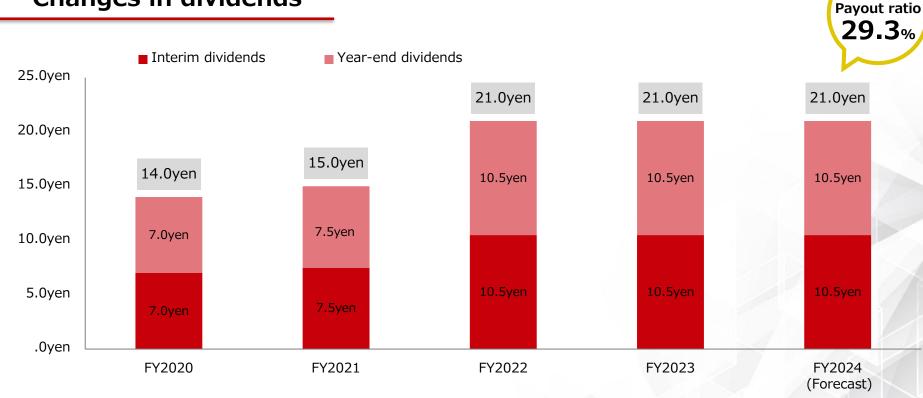


Dividend

## **Basic Policy to Return Profits to Shareholders**

While securing sufficient internal reserves to invest in business growth and strengthen our management structure, stable dividends to shareholders with a payout ratio of 20% as the minimum target

## **Changes in dividends**





## **Major risks**

## **Countermeasures**

- Leakage of confidential information
- Prohibiting staff members from bringing personal items into the test room
- Physical security measures including access control with fingerprint authentication and the installation of security cameras
- Introduction of a personal reference system that applies to all registered testers
- Obsolescence of existing services by technological innovation
- Focusing on the application of the latest technologies, including a test automation and AI Utilization
- Developing new services to improve added value

- Reduction of productive population in Japan
- Developing internal training programs that will enable the active participation of members with diverse generational, racial, and other backgrounds
- Strategically acquiring human resources through our overseas offices

- 4. Expansion of corporate acquisition and new businesses
- In-depth market research and due diligence
- Reducing risks by building a system for appropriate business management after acquisition

# (Ref.) Our Aims for Sustainable Value Creation



## **Our Major Initiatives and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

#### Human resource

#### To resolve the shortage of IT human resource

- Internal support system for obtaining software test certification of "ISTQB".
- Provide world-class test engineer training program in "AGEST Academy" for employees.





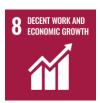


## Human resource

#### Workplace for diverse human resources

- Provide workplaces for diverse people such as students, part-timers, young actors and musicians, and people with disabilities at test centers with over 3,000 people every day.
- Employ foreign nationalities of more than 40 countries/areas, such as Asia, Europe and the U.S., who engage in translation/linguistic debugging service, etc.







#### **Technology**

#### To realize a secure and safe digital society

- Established "AGEST Testing Lab. " to promote research on new software testing methods to support the evolving software society through industry-academic collaboration.
- Develop original unique tools and business solutions by utilizing AI.

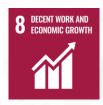




#### Communities

#### To revitalize local community and resolve IT disparities

• Create jobs throughout nationwide test centers (Lab.) and promote teleworking/ work-from-home style by Remote Debugging service.







Terms	Definition
System Testing	This is a term used in our Enterprise Business and the same meaning of software testing. System testing
	comprises detection of system bugs for enterprise resource planning (ERP) software, websites, business apps,
	etc.
Debugging	This is a term used in our Entertainment Business. We run tests and find software bugs from the perspective
	of the user. Debugging generally refers to the identification and correction of errors, but we specialize in
	identifying and reporting them.
	Mobile games comprise two-thirds of our debugging requests, with console games making up the other third.
QA	An abbreviation for Quality Assurance. It includes both of software testing and game debugging.
LQA	An abbreviation for Linguistic Quality Assurance. LQA focuses on finding and fixing in-game linguistical errors
	that occur when translating from a foreign language.
Shift Left	This is the concept about software development process. The idea is to implement testing and security
	measures early in the total development process. By making it smaller to have a development rework due to
	bugs and vulnerabilities, it is expected to speed up and secure the entire development cycle.
QA for Development	It is the name for our original services, which are high-value-added solutions to support "Shift Left".
Tester	Staff members who carry out debugging. Most of our testers are registered part-time workers. Some are
	trained to work as test engineers or cybersecurity specialists.
Next-generation QA	The highest-class QA engineer with knowledge of both software development and testing to contribute to
engineer	client's service quality improvement for all from development to post-release.
Qualitist	Our uniquely coined term for specialists who contribute to the quality of software. It refers to all IT specialists
	such as test engineers and cybersecurity specialists in our Enterprise Business, as well as testers, translators,
	2D/3D graphic designers, etc. that work in our Entertainment Business.
Console Games	A game played using dedicated hardware such as the Nintendo Switch or PlayStation.



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