

## Digital Garage, Inc. Medium-term Plan

(FY2024.3 - FY2028.3)

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Generated by Midjourney



### PURPOSE

Designing "New Context" for a sustainable society with technology

# <Corporate Slogan> New Context Designer DG

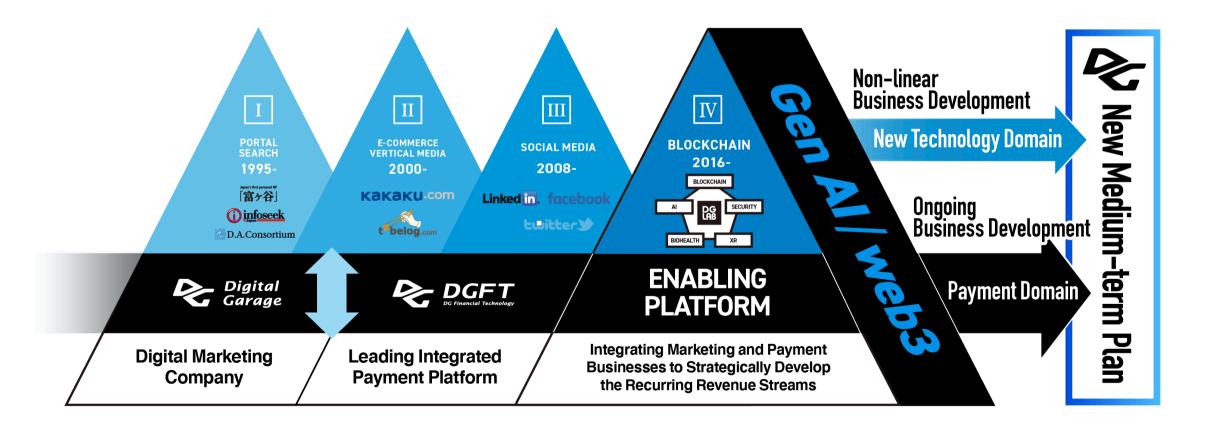
Since its establishment in 1995, DG has seen and embodied the transition of the IT/internet industry for 28 years. Today, the tsunami of new technologies such as **web3** (Blockchain) and **Next-generation AI** including Gen AI (Generative AI) will change the "IT business ecosystem" on an unprecedented scale.

#### Those are,

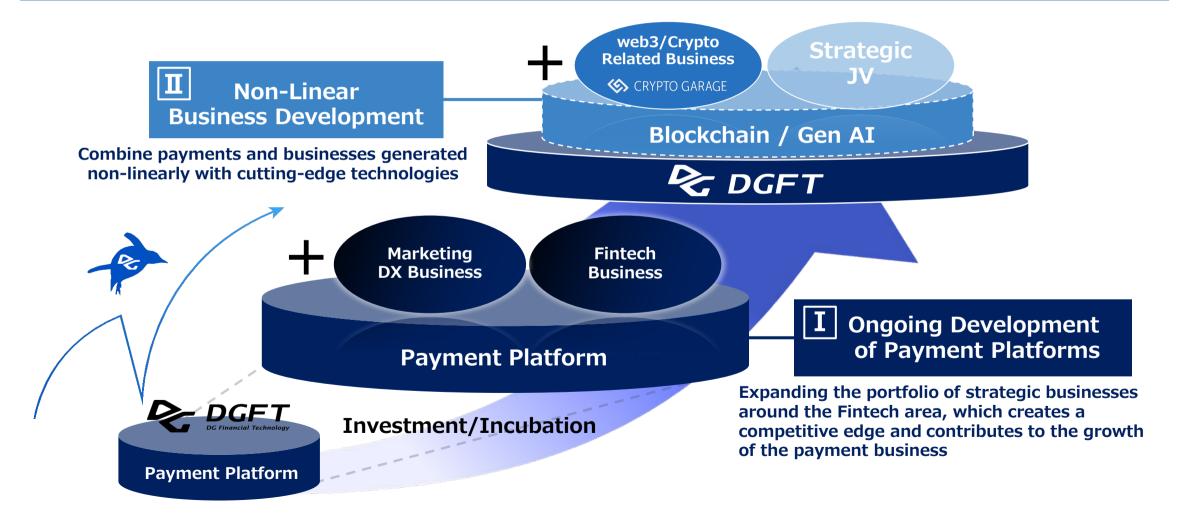
- The "advertising-centered business ecosystem" dominated by search engines will be partially or completely replaced by a new business ecosystem of "chat-type search and image search" using Gen AI as a gateway. This will also start the new era of AI concierges, which can be called "Personal Agents".
- Digital Transformation (DX) is accelerating globally, and payment platforms are evolving into a Payment Orchestration Platform with global payment functions. Japan, an economy that is behind in adopting cashless payments, is part of the transition. Integration of marketing and payments will begin with web3, and a "new customer experience - a new engagement model" will start based on blockchain and Metaverse.
- We are entering an era that social architecture will also need to change (require new contexts). Not only business but all areas of society will face an unprecedented social transformation globally. No one can predict the speed of this change.

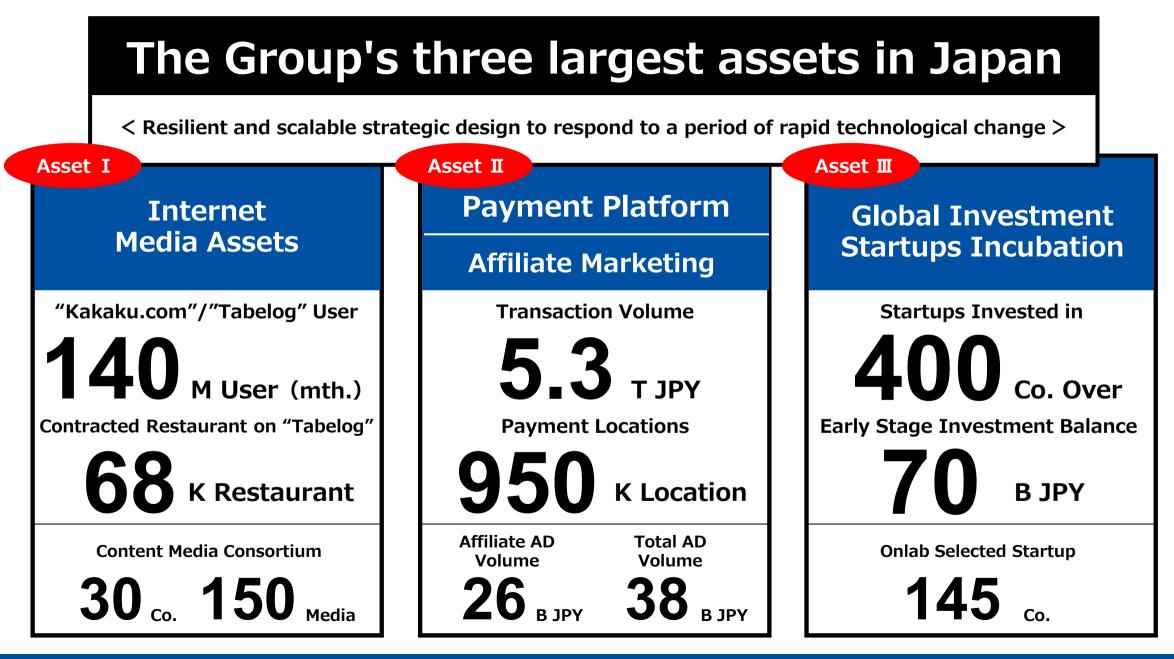
During the next 5 years, DG will attempt to develop a new "IT business ecosystem", by following its purpose, "Designing 'New Context' for a sustainable society with technology".

Since its establishment in 1995, DG has been developing the latest internet business deploying cutting-edge technologies based on marketing and payment. Our next generation focus will be on Gen AI / web3, etc.



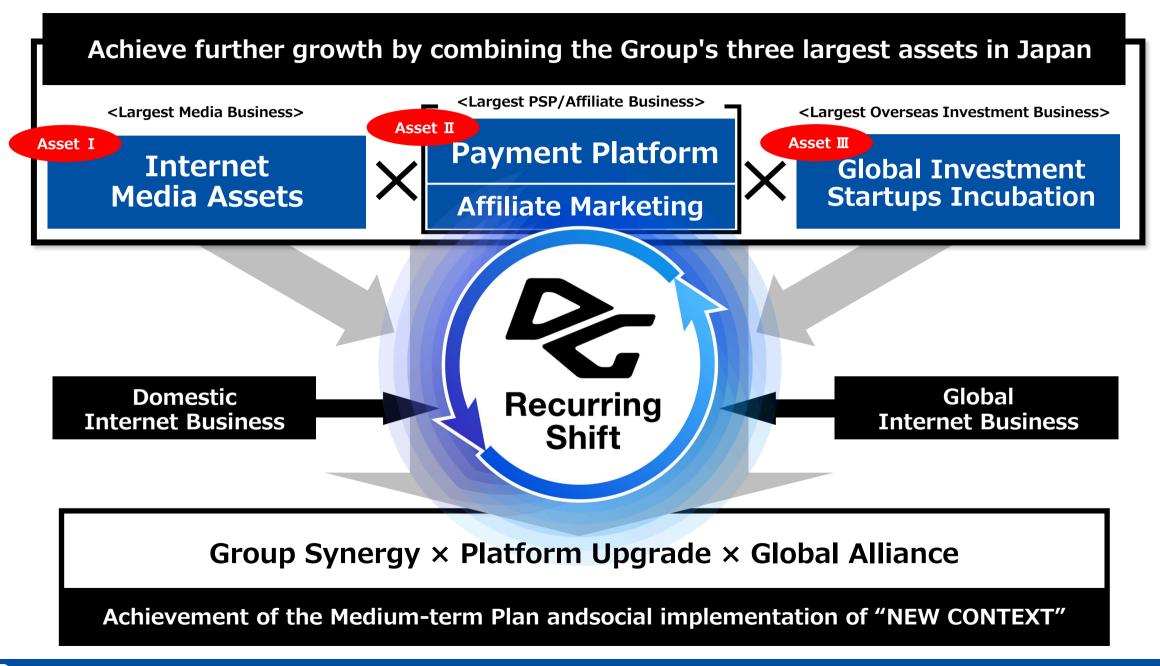
Continue "DG FinTech Shift" strategy centered on our payment platform. Increase recurring revenue stream.
 Social implementation of Next-generation technologies / Develop non-linear businesses through Blockchain, Gen AI, etc.

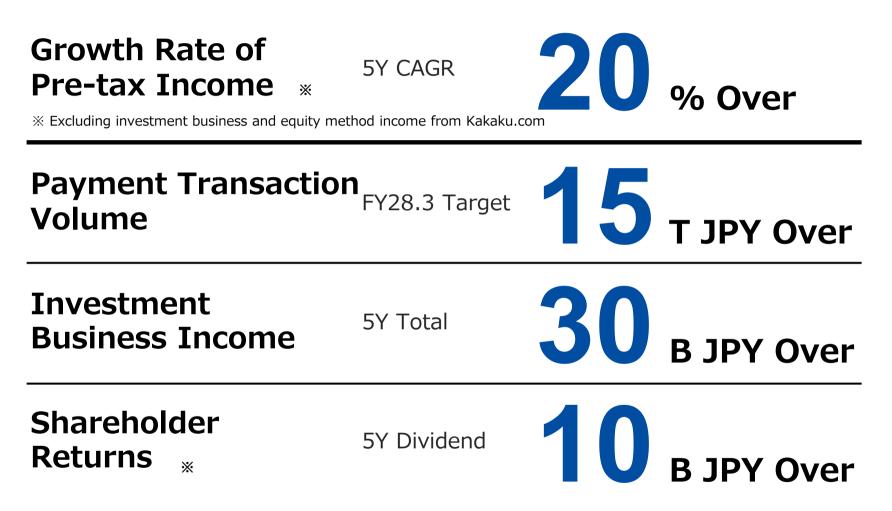




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#### DG FinTech Shift Phase II / Concepts and Keywords of the New Medium-term Plan





% In addition to the stable dividend described as above, will consider additional returns strategically based on business progress

**Specific Initiatives** 

<Next-generation Technology / Gen AI · web3 · Fintech>

Develop Smart Commerce in the age of Gen AI and web3, through joint development of Fintech business and fusion of next-generation technologies, centering "Tabelog" and "Kakaku.com" as a core





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Transaction Volume : 5.3 T JPY Payment Locations : 950 K Over R&D with DG Lab · DA Lab

### <DG / Kakaku.com Group Deepening Strategic Alliances >

#### Partnership / Collaboration / JV with Japan's largest vertical media

- 1) Digital Garage and Kakaku.com Decide to Jointly Develop Fintech Services for the Food Service Industry 3/30/23 Press Release
- Start invoice card payment following "Tabelog Order". Continuous development of fintech business for restaurants

#### 2) Agreed to Establish a Joint Venture Company for Next-generation Business Centered on "Kakaku.com" 5/10/23 Press Release

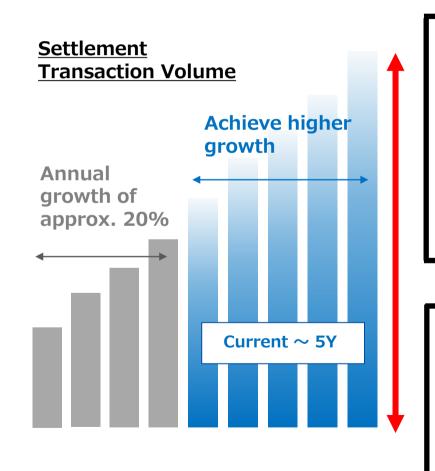
- → To launch JV for "Smart E-Commerce business" with next-generation technology/password-less authentication and one-click payment
- ➡ In addition to travel / finance sectors, which DG is already active in payment services, add D2C and games / entertainment sectors to the next main focus
- 3) Development and Implementation of "Tabelog" Plugin by ChatGPT 5/8/23 Press Release
  - → Deploy new technology for the first time in Japan tothe "Tabelog" service utilizing DG's extensive knowledge and network

Focus on food, travel, and E-Commerce industries where DG Group can leverage its strengths. Aim to achieve ~10% of the 15 T JPY target for payment transaction volume in 5 years.

	Current and New Initiatives	Business D	omain	Details	
I	Current Initiatives	Payments		Travel business as core, currently considering "Tabelog" and other	
		Marketing		No. 1 agent for affiliate marketing services	
		Incubation		Partnering with Open Network Lab (145 startups selected in 14 years)	
		R&D		R&D of new technologies in DG Lab and DA Lab ( $\checkmark$ ChatGPT and web3)	
Π	<b>New Initiatives</b> ① (Current Media Traffic x Payment Platform)	Tabelog	B2C	"Tabelog Order" (Payments at restaurants)	
				"Tabelog Yoyaku" (Pre-payment) (Multilingual inbound payment using <u>ChatGPT</u> )	
			B2B	Invoice card payment service	
				"Tabelog Shiire" (ordering system for restaurants)	
ш	<b>New Initiatives ②</b> (Areas Utilizing New Technology)	Smart E-Commerce (Frictionless Commerce) Business Using New Technologies			
		Establishment of JV		Expansion to E-Commerce businesses, with stores on "Kakaku.com" as the first users	
				Expansion and development to BI.Garage (Media Consortium) is in view	



Upgrade platform and expand the trade area of payment transaction volume utilizing the group's assets of ①media assets (largest in Japan) and ③global investments



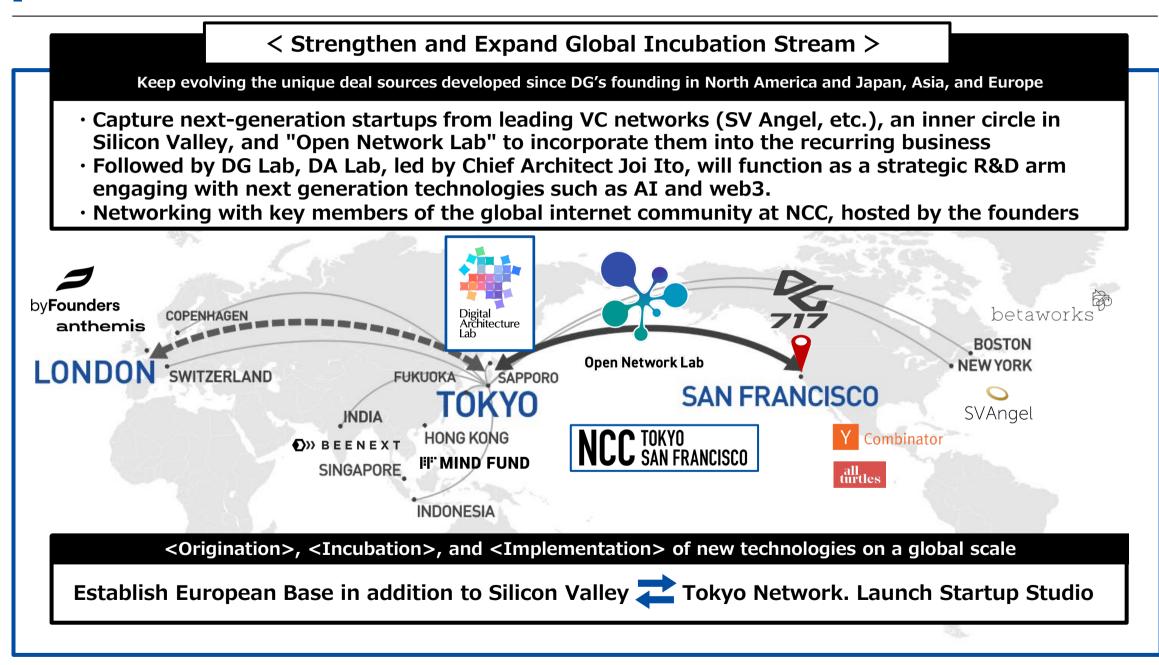
#### Accelerate Growth through Further Updates of Payment Systems

- Stability and redundancy of the payment platform utilizing Oracle's database with real-time bi-directional replication utilizing Oracle's
- Strengthen and expand offshore (India) / near-shore engineering resources
- Real-time display and visualization of merchant business data
- Completed system integration of two DG group payment companies. Started integration of payment platform with Toshiba TEC. DG will continue to function as a key player in the reorganization of the industry

Further Acceleration of B2B Domain and Promotion through Global Expansion and Alliances

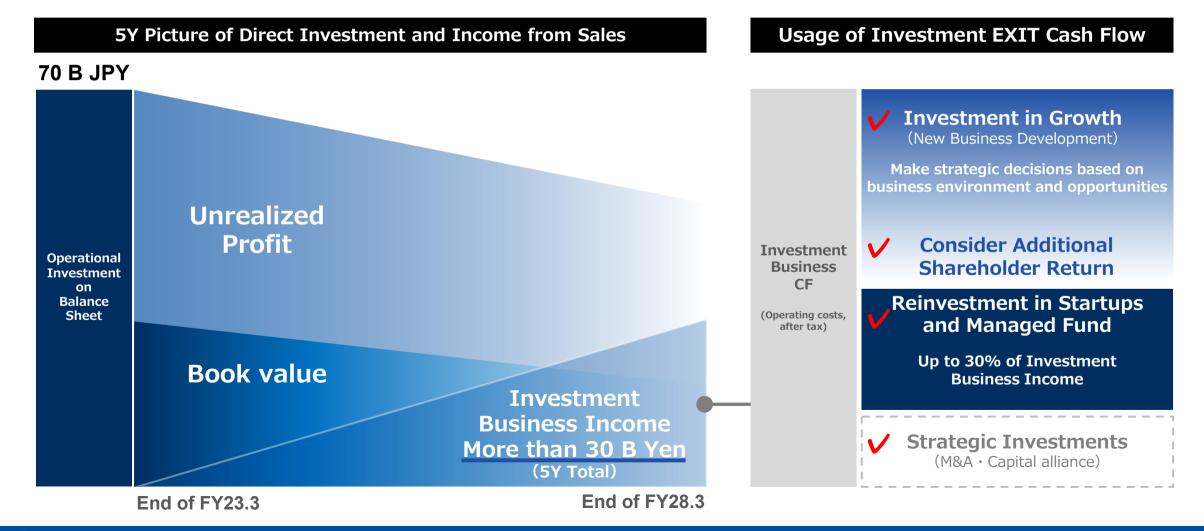
- Strengthen development of B2B market where cashless payment is rapidly increasing
- Deepening alliances with global payment companies / Strengthen Global Payment Orchestration

(Develop multi-currency, multi-payment, and cross-border E-Commerce markets)



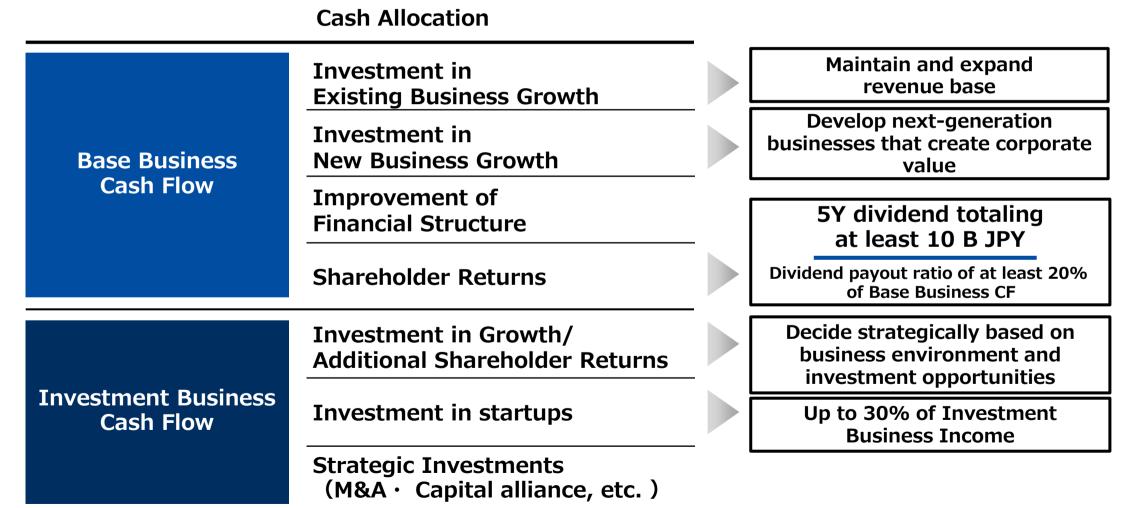
#### **Financial Strategy for Investment Business**

- Sell shares in which the Company has direct investments and earn investment EXIT income (proceeds from sales, etc.)
- Invest in new opportunities selectively. For investments aiming for financial returns, invest from managed funds. Investments
  on the balance sheet is planned to decrease.
- Clarify use of funds for investment EXIT income. Decide strategically on investment in business growth opportunities and additional shareholder returns.



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- Separate allocation resources into CF from Base Business CF\*1, which is generated on a recurring basis, and CF from Investment Business CF\*2, which is highly volatile.
- Stable shareholder returns through Base Business CF. Decision of usage of Investment Business CF will be decided strategically.



**\*1 Basic Business CF**: Pre-tax income from operations that generate recurring profit + Depreciation Cost + Dividends from affiliates – Headquarters cost – Transient Profit + Transient Loss **\*2 Investment Business CF**: Investment income (proceeds from sales, fund distributions, etc.) – Investment business operating costs (SG&A, income taxes, etc.)

# "Earthshot"

Aim to develop a sustainable society on a large scale, by supporting ESG management of portfolio companies and investing in ESG startups.

#### - Support sustainable growth of portfolio startups

Launched in 2010, Onlab, Japan's first seed accelerator program, has supported over 140 startups to date. DG is running programs to strengthen ESG management, which is now a global standard. for its portfolio companies that will be active globally in the future. DG continues to contribute to building a sustainable society on a large scale.



#### **Investment in ESG-related startups**

Invest in startups through Open Network Lab & ESG I "Earthshot Fund" with themes related to major social, technological, and environmental changes occurring on a global scale.

< Selected Related Investments >



#### **Establishment of Sustainability Committee**

New committees and specialized departments to be established to further promote sustainability management

**DG Group's Main Priorities** 



#### **Current Corporate Governance Structure**

#### Audit and Supervisory Committee

Transitioned to a company with an audit committee system in September 2016 to strengthen the audit and supervisory functions of the Board of Directors.

#### **Nomination and Compensation Advisory Committee**

A voluntary advisory committee composed of a majority of independent outside directors

#### **Ratio of independent outside directors**

The ratio of independent outside directors on the Board of Directors has increased to 46% to reflect the opinions of minority shareholders (38% at the General Meeting of Shareholders in June 2021.)

#### Diversity

Ensure diversity of the Board of Directors by having members with diverse backgrounds. In addition to members with experiences that contribute to the Company's business and top management experience at corporations, knowledge of advanced technologies, accounting and legal expertise, and international business experience.

#### **Change in Business Segments**

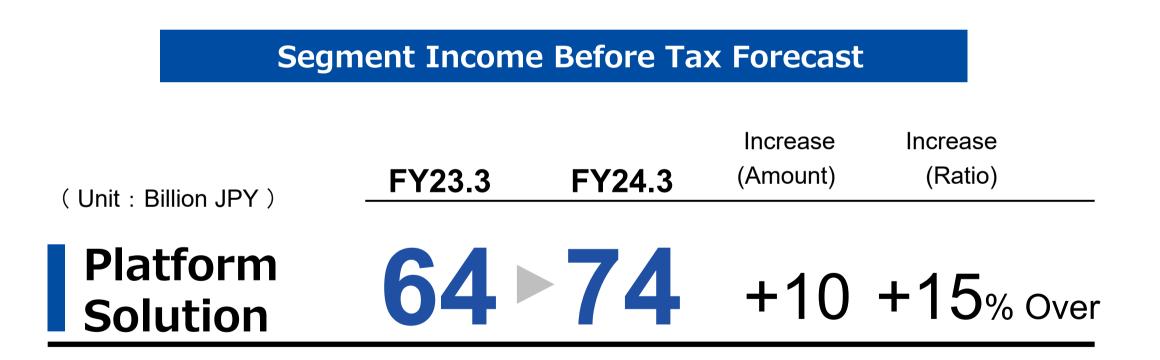


#### **Business Environment and Challenges**

- In a competitive business environment with technology evolving rapidly, growth is not possible with each business areas operating separately
- Integration of our diverse business assets is essential for growth

Financial Technology (Payment Business) Marketing Technology (Marketing Business)	I Platform Solution	<ul> <li>Integration of payment business and marketing business</li> <li>Strengthen cross-selling among clients and reinforce recurring revenue model</li> </ul>
Long-term Incubation (Long-term Strategic Business) Headquarters Costs New Business	I Long-term Incubation	<ul> <li>Businesses with Kakaku.com Group and other new strategic businesseses</li> <li>Develop commerce and Fintech product services that contribute to multi-layering and recurring revenue, mainly in Japan</li> </ul>
Incubation Technology (Investment Business)	Global Investment Incubation	<ul> <li>Global startup investments</li> <li>Explore new technologies and services through alliances with startups</li> </ul>

Platform Solutions Segment, aims to generate competitive advantages and recurring type revenues by integrating data/marketing and DX services, in addition to its solid growth in the payment business. Aim over 15% YoY increase in income before tax.



# **C** Digital Garage



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