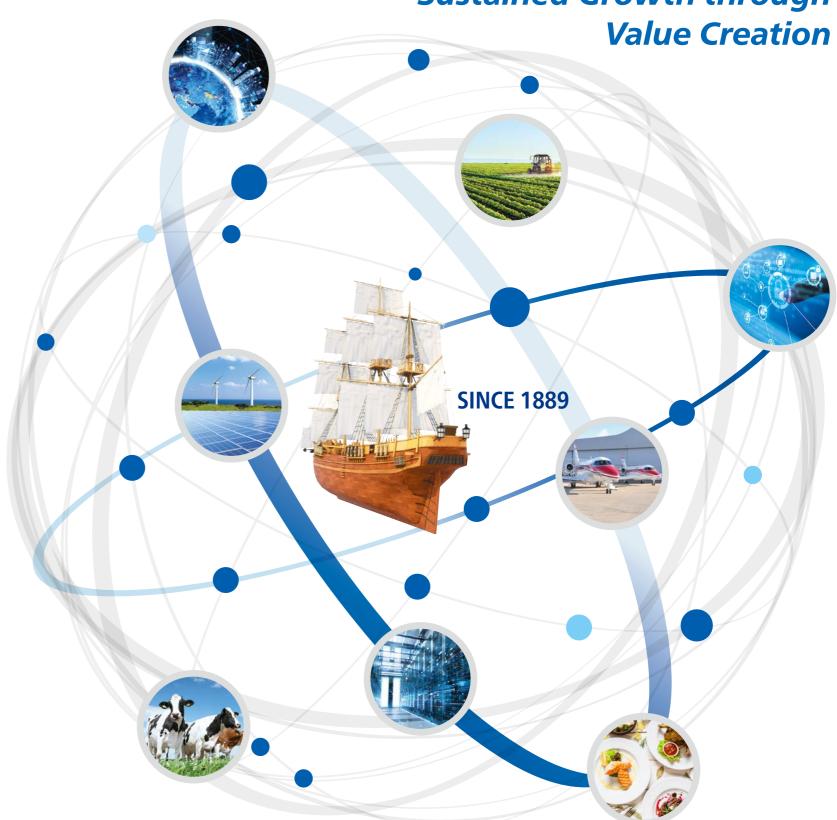


For more information on this Integrated Report, or to obtain additional copies, please contact:

Public & Investor Relations Section, Finance Department, Kanematsu Corporation

7-2 Marunouchi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-7017, Japan Tel: 81-3-6747-5000





## **INTEGRATED REPORT 2023**

# Sustained Growth through

## **Editorial Policy**

#### On the Publication of the Kanematsu Integrated Report 2023

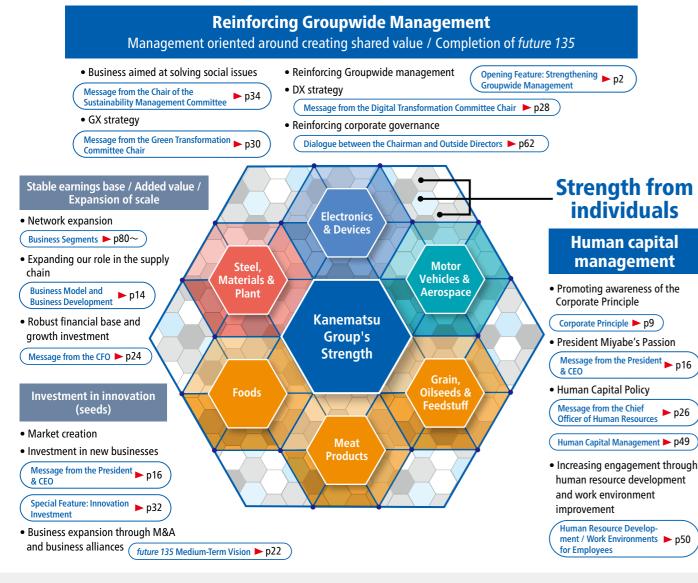
In the Kanematsu Integrated Report 2023, in order to highlight our particular features as a trading company, we have particularly focused on 1. Reinforcing Groupwide management and 2. Human capital management, seeking to communicate the organizational strength of the Kanematsu Group and the strength provided by all the individuals within the Group.

In terms of reinforcing Groupwide management, the report focuses on the Group's redoubled efforts-spurred by the recent addition of Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. and Kanematsu Sustech Corporation as wholly owned subsidiaries - to work as one toward solving social issues, in particular accelerating digital transformation (DX) and green transformation (GX), and highlights initiatives aimed at the achievement of future 135 and beyond. As for human capital management, the report explains the characteristics and strengths of our human capital, the Group's greatest asset, as well as challenges in this area, in light of the Group's newly established Human Capital Policy.

In preparing this report, we referenced various relevant guidelines and responses to surveys regarding previous reports, with cooperation from departments across the Company and discussion at the Board of Directors to ensure a proper editing process and the appropriateness of the report's content.

The Kanematsu Group will continue to use its Integrated Report as a tool for dialogue with shareholders, investors, and other stakeholders, working to enhance disclosure and increase enterprise value.

## **Our Organizational Strength**



#### **Editorial Policy**

The content of the Kanematsu Group's integrated reports is based on an integrated reporting approach that references the International Integrated Reporting Framework of the IFRS Foundation, the Guidance for Collaborative Value Creation of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and ISO 26000. We hope . . . . . that the report will help readers Guidance for deepen their understanding of the Collaborative Value Creation Kanematsu Group.

#### Forward-Looking Statements

This integrated report contains statements regarding the Kanematsu Group's plans, strategies, and expectations for future performance. Such statements are inherently subject to risk and uncertainty. Actual results could diverge materially from the Group's projections due to changes in the economic and market environment surrounding the Group's business areas, such as exchange rate fluctuation

#### Scope of Report

Published: September 2023 April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023 (fiscal 2023) Period covered: (Includes some information about events outside the period covered) Scope of coverage: Kanematsu Corporation and the Kanematsu Group

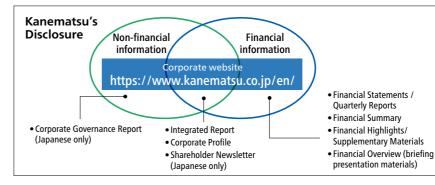
Accounting standards: JGAAP for the year ended March 2014 and earlier and IRFS for the year ended March 2015 and after, unless otherwise noted

#### Contents

## **2** Opening Feature **Strengthening Groupwide** Management

The	The Origins of Value Creation				
The	Kanematsu Group's Value Creation	2			
16	Message from the President &CEO	2			
		2 3 3			
Kane	ematsu's Foundations				
34	Message from the Chair of the Sustainability Management Committee	(			
36	The Key Issues and Our Activities /				
	The Process of Identifying Key Issues				
38	Progress on Key Issues				
40	Addressing the Five Key Issues				
	40 🚷 Building a Sustainable Supply Chain				
	40 The Kanematsu Group's Supply Chain Management				
	42 Initiatives to Ensure Respect for Human Rights				
	45 ( Decarbonization Initiatives				
	Disclosure based on the TCFD Recommendations				
	48 🚱 Mutual Development with Local Communities				
	Social Contribution through Our Operations				

- 49 m Creating an Environment That Enables Diverse Work Styles
- 49 Human Capital Management
- 50 Human Resource Development
- 54 Work Environments for Employees





Shuji Masutani Director, Executive Officer, Chief Officer, Finance (PR & IR), Accounting, **Business Accounting** 



- The Kanematsu Group's Origins / Who We Are 8
- 10 The Kanematsu Group's History
- 12 Value Creation Process
- 14 Business Model and Business Development
- 22 future 135 Medium-Term Vision
- 24 Message from the CFO
- 26 Message from the Chief Officer of Human Resources
- 28 Message from the Digital Transformation Committee Chair
- 30 Message from the Green Transformation Committee Chair
- 32 Special Feature: Innovation Investment



### **62** Dialogue between the Chairman and an Outside Director

- 65 Messages from the Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members 66 Corporate Governance
- 76 Corporate Officers
- 78 Business Segments
  - 80 Electronics & Devices
  - 82 
    Foods
  - 84 
    Meat Products
  - 86 Grain, Oilseeds & Feedstuff
  - 88 Steel, Materials & Plant
  - 90 OMOTO Vehicles & Aerospace
- 92 Financial and ESG Highlights
- 94 Management's Discussion and Analysis
- 96 Major Group Companies
- 97 Corporate Profile

#### IR Disclosure

The Kanematsu Group strives to ensure transparency and foster dialogue through prompt, accurate, and fair disclosure to all stakeholders.

- General Meeting of Shareholders (once a year)
- Financial Results Briefing (twice a year)
- Meetings of institutional investors and analysts with the President & CEO and/or CFO

## Opening Feature: Strengthening Groupwide Management

Groupwide Management Aimed at Long-Term Synergy Generation

Yoshiya Miyabe President & CEO Kanematsu Corporation

We are heightening enterprise value by further realizing synergies within the Group.

# **Kanematsu**

With the aim of promoting Groupwide management to generate long-term synergies, we made takeover bids (TOB) for Kanematsu Electronics (KEL) and Kanematsu Sustech (KSU) executed from January to March 2023. These TOBs were aimed at creating new added value by strengthening digital transformation (DX) and green transformation (GX) as future growth drivers for the Kanematsu Group.

#### Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.

Kanematsu Denshi Service Ltd. (currently Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.) was established in 1968 as a subsidiary of Kanematsu-Gosho, Ltd. (currently Kanematsu Corporation).

#### Capital:

¥9,031 million ¥85,430 million (as of March 31, 2023) Net Sales: Number of Employees: 1,483 (consolidated, as of March 31, 2023) Main Business:

KEL designs and implements information systems and provides operation and consulting services for businesses based on expertise in information technologies. KEL retails, leases, maintains, and develops IT system products and software, and also send loan engineers

#### **Kanematsu Sustech Corporation**

Kanematsu Sustech Corporation was established in 1934 as Nihon Sangyo Gomu Co., Ltd., and entered into a capital alliance with Kanematsu-Gosho, Ltd. (currently Kanematsu Corporation) in 1989. The company name was changed to Kanematsu Sustech Corporation in 2016.

Capital:	¥3,326 million
Net Sales:	¥13,990 million (as of March 31, 2023)
Number of Employees:	286 (consolidated, as of March 31, 2023)
Main Pusinoss:	

Construction and sale of ground improvement works, various ground inspections, sinkage repair, etc. Timber drying, wet preservative and antitermite treatment (wood preservation treatment) and sale, sale of wood preservative treatment equipment and chemicals, etc. Sale of warranty services and installation works for security cameras, recorders, other security equipment, and related equipment

# **Kanematsu Electronics**

#### **Background and Goals of the TOBs**

Miyabe: The Kanematsu Group is composed of about 130 Group companies with over 20,000 business partners. The business and industry knowledge, experience, and network gained from this broad business foundation constitute tremendous management resources. To grow in the future, we must raise the enterprise value of the entire Group by applying these strengths effectively and efficiently across the Group.

Akira Watanabe

Kanematsu Electronics Ltd

President & CEO,

In our ongoing efforts to work with companies within the Group, KEL and KSU have been limited by their position as listed companies. We decided to proceed with these TOBs to bring these companies fully into the Kanematsu Group with the aim of taking advantage of their respective expertise in DX and GX, thereby achieving growth for each company and for the Group as a whole.

We aim to leverage digital technology to create beneficial relationships between Group companies and



# **Kanematsu Sustech**

synergies that transcend the barriers separating the Kanematsu Group's many individual businesses and divisions.

#### **Challenges and Initiatives to Groupwide** Management

Miyabe: We held repeated discussions on what we should do to work towards our overarching goal of having not just these two companies but all of our Group companies act as a united Kanematsu Group.

Watanabe: My company, KEL, works within the fastpaced IT industry, so we thoroughly considered its integration into the Kanematsu Group to determine whether it would be an optimal solution for future management, five or ten years from now. There were some concerns about the impact on the KEL brand, but we determined that there would be significant benefits from joining up,

such as access to the Kanematsu Group's customer base of over 20,000 enterprises and accelerating decision making. Once we decided our response to the TOB, we carefully explained both the concerns and benefits of the move to our employees.

The Kanematsu Group has held meetings of Group company presidents for over 20 years, but there are also newer forums, such as the Digital Transformation Committee launched in 2021, in which the Group can have discussions in the course of regular operations. To demonstrate Groupwide synergies, I believe we need an environment where everyone can discuss a wide variety of topics on equal footing.

KEL has established an organizational culture with relationships of equality. We encourage our employees to build such relationships both within the company and when communicating with customers. By doing so, we are better able to understand the true nature of our customers' problems and derive the right solutions. To realize frank discussions from positions of equality within the Kanematsu Group, it will be necessary to build a communication environment that leverages DX, change the way our employees think, and reform the corporate culture.

Koizumi: I think joining the Kanematsu Group will provide many advantages for KSU. We are a unique company that uses proprietary technology in the ground improvement and timber businesses. I believe that, as part of the Kanematsu Group, we will be able to further expand our value as a manufacturer in such areas as R&D at our technology development centers and manufacturing at our factories. KSU and Kanematsu still need to get to know each other better, but we have made progress in building mutual understanding through several collaborative projects over the past two years. And, as a manufacturer, we will need to take advantage of the Kanematsu Group's strengths to add value to our traditional business model and grow further. In concrete terms, there are many things

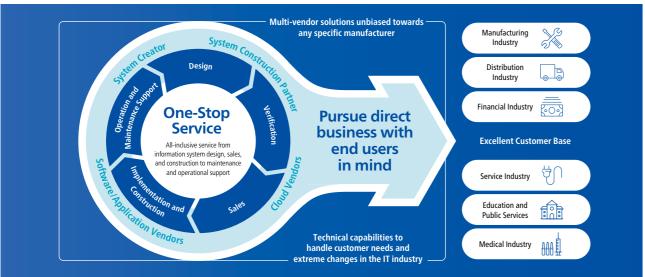
for us to do, such as utilizing Kanematsu's global network to expand our international business, especially that in Asia, as well as advancing business investment and M&A along with human resource development and exchange.

Watanabe: For KEL to promote the DX of the Kanematsu Group, I think many measures will be required, such as personnel exchange through collaborative projects, employee reskilling, and sharing knowledge that can lead to proposals for customers. We have about 1,000 engineers at KEL. To demonstrate KEL's value as part of the Kanematsu Group, our employees will leverage their practical experience and ability to make proposals in the ICT solutions and DX fields. We have started talks with Kanematsu to expand this beyond Japan.



Miyabe: One of KEL's strengths is its expertise in the ICT solutions and DX fields. If we can further expand KEL's strengths and apply them throughout the Group, we will be able to increase the Group's strengths and added value. This will require Groupwide reforms via a variety of measures, such as personnel exchanges to acquire and develop digital talent. Kanematsu Group employees have inherited the Company's founding spirit of "for the Earth and for people" as part of their professional DNA. We will develop human resources who take this spirit to heart to provide even greater value to our customers.

#### **KEL's Business Model**



Koizumi: Like President Watanabe, I also considered our employees' feelings when I provided internal explanations on the TOB. KSU transitioned to the Standard Market of the Tokyo Stock Exchange in April 2022, and the TOB came right after we had encouraged our employees to shoot for the Prime Market, so I think that some of them were probably disappointed. However, since we were concerned about the extent to which we could grow on our own, I explained to our employees that working with Kanematsu would be just as valuable as being listed on the Prime Market.

The "Sustech" in KSU's name refers to our corporate principle, "Support our society with technology," which is similar to the principles that form Kanematsu's so-called DNA. Going forward, we will aim to create synergies and achievements through collaborative GX projects, expand our business to solve global issues, and work on a bigger scale than ever before.

#### Taking on Global Business in DX and GX

Watanabe: In terms of collaboration, we are making progress on a number of projects. One of these is strengthening solutions in the security field. In 2019, Kanematsu Ventures Inc. (KGV), established by Kanematsu in Silicon Valley in 2018, joined Cyber Innovation Partners II, a fund created by the venture capital firm AllegisCyber Capital. KEL participated as a partner and started working as a team with three or four other companies. This kind of global operation is a strength of Kanematsu that is very helpful for KEL, given its in-house global professionals.

Koizumi: We are also collaborating in security. KSU has business in security cameras, and we have been supplying our products to customers of other Kanematsu Group



#### Akira Watanabe

- 1991 Joined Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2003 Manager, Solution Sales Dept. 2-Manufacturers, Solution Sales Div. 2, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2008 General Manager, Solution Sales Div. 2, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2011 Executive Officer, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2013 Director, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2017 Managing Director, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.
- 2019 President & CEO, Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.

### Groupwide Management Aimed at Long-Term Synergy Generation



#### Koichi Koizumi

1984	Joined Kanematsu-Gosho, Ltd. (now Kanematsu Corporation)
2007	Manager of Chicago Head Office, Kanematsu USA Inc.
2013	General Manager of Motor Vehicles and Parts Department
	No. 1, Kanematsu Corporation
2014	Manager of Chicago Head Office, Kanematsu USA Inc.
2018	Executive Officer, Deputy Manager of Motor Vehicles &
	Aerospace Division, General Manager of Motor Vehicles and
	Parts Department No. 1, Kanematsu Corporation
2021	Drasidant Kanomatsu Sustach Corporation

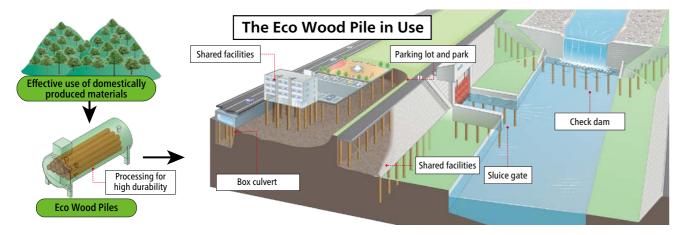
2021 President, Kanematsu Sustech Corporation

companies, including KEL. We plan to work together in the future with Kanematsu's drone businesses to expand into such fields as diagnosing the degradation of medium- to high-rise wooden buildings. Until now, workers have had to conduct large-scale investigations from dangerous aerial work platforms, but by utilizing drones, we are able to reduce the risk of occupational accidents along with the cost and time required. Going forward, we will continue to test this technology with the aim of commercialization. In addition, KSU is using its extremely extensive collection of ground inspection data to develop e-soil, an all-in-one system to handle every stage from sales proposals to design and construction management. Going beyond use within our company, we aim to make this system into a platform for the entire industry.

Miyabe: Through these TOBs, we are now able to see a path forward for the united Group to take on global challenges in both the DX and GX fields.

In the short term, we are examining how to improve operational efficiency through collaboration with KEL as well as how to expand KSU's environmental businesses into other parts of the value chain. In the long term, these two companies will have a huge impact on the Kanematsu Group's DX and GX. A decade from now, DX and GX will be a standard part of how things are done, and there may even be no need to put these concepts into words. In their place, food transformation-or FXcould become the next important movement, such that Kanematsu's Foods, Meat & Grain Division would become a new source of added value for KEL and KSU. Therefore, it will be important to look at the entire Group as a whole and execute management aimed at effectively utilizing each company's strengths over the long term.

Kanematsu Sustech Corporation's Eco Wood Pile Construction Method



Watanabe: Recently, we have been receiving an increasing number of consulting-related inquiries from customers who want us to provide solutions or connect their companywide infrastructure through DX. To meet this demand, we need to quickly secure, cultivate, and invest in digital talent. Planning is also under way for a project to develop digital talent both within the Group and for Japanese society as a whole. By creating educational content and developing digital human resources in stages (through training lasting three months, six months, and one year), we will contribute to the DX of society as a whole.

Koizumi: One of KSU's visions is to "create underground forests through GX." In 2022, we provided Eco Wood Pile, which uses timber preservation treatment technology, for more than five thousand buildings. By replacing cement or steel ground improvement materials with timber, this technology reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 10 tons per building. We therefore calculate that, across the 43,000 buildings where we have used Eco Wood Pile since introducing it 10 years ago, we have avoided emissions totaling 430,000 t-CO2. Going forward, we plan to increase the use of these materials to 10,000 to 15,000 buildings per

year, thereby expanding our "underground forests."

With the improvement of our proprietary Eco Wood Pile technology, we have started expanding its use beyond single-family homes to include large buildings. In recent years, we have increasingly been using this technology for civil engineering applications related to disaster prevention, such as reinforcing the embankments of erosion control dams and reservoirs.

Miyabe: Kanematsu has been trading in these fields for many years, and our strengths in these areas make us a unique trading company. We believe it is important to balance trading and business investment and by, adding together our GX and DX-related strengths, we will advance in a way that allows us to respond flexibly to changes in the external environment. The Kanematsu Group, in line with its philosophy of "for the Earth and for people," has a tremendous amount of non-financial capital. We will continue to carry this capital forward, and I will take the lead in management that leverages synergies across the entire Group and contributes to the improvement of enterprise value, thereby contributing to society as a whole.

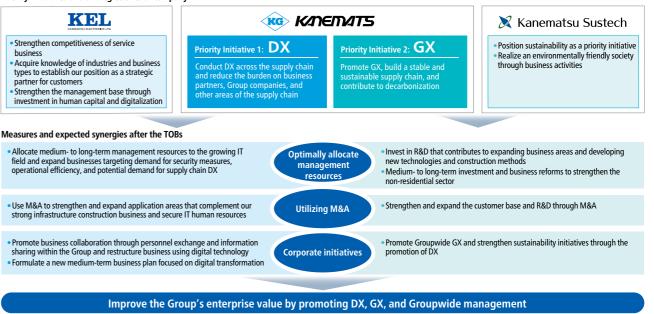


KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023

6

## Significance and Purpose of Making KEL and KSU Wholly Owned Subsidiaries

Priority initiatives and strategies of each company



1) DX: Utilize data and digital technology to create new business models and transform existing businesses 2) GX: Transform the entire socioeconomic system to realize carbon neutrality (reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including CO), and subtract avoided emissions to reach net zero total emissions) 3) Applications: Refers to tools, such as internet browsers and email, in contrast to infrastructure, which refers to hardware, such as servers

#### **Deepening Group Governance**



Kaoru Tanigawa Chairman (Presiding Officer of the Board of Directors)

I believe that making Kanematsu Sustech Corporation and Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. into wholly owned subsidiaries has significantly enhanced governance, thereby improving the value of the entire Group.

Previously, both companies strove to enhance their governance as listed companies, but as listed subsidiaries, some aspects of their governance were insufficient in terms of independence, such as the appointment and proportion of independent outside directors. Such issues were difficult for them to resolve on their own. Since making these companies into wholly owned subsidiaries, the Group has further evolved by maximizing the various business synergies their integration enables, as well as unifying Groupwide governance and internal controls

I believe that this will further increase the Group's credibility from the perspectives of all stakeholders, including investors and business partners, and encourage them to invest and do business with us. I hope you will look forward to the continued growth of the Kanematsu Group.



#### Kazuhiro Tanaka Outside Director

(Chair of the Nominating Committee)

Undoubtedly, we need strong governance systems, for both individual companies and the Group. However, corporate culture is even more important than systems, and the foundation of a company's culture is its management philosophy.

Developing and nurturing corporate culture by disseminating the management philosophy is necessary for good Group governance. This is because each Group company, while fully demonstrating its own individuality, plays a major role in realizing discipline and synergy at the Group level.

Kanematsu Group employees share the philosophy of "for the Earth and for people," which is based on our founding purpose. The Kanematsu Group's philosophy and culture consist of reliability and integrity as built up by our predecessors. Our employees continue to take pride in these today. To strengthen Groupwide management, we will have to reaffirm and redefine these principles and work to ensure that they truly permeate the entire Group through strong leadership from both the Board of Directors and the management team.

## The Origins of Value Creation The Kanematsu Group's Origins

## The aspiration of founder Fusajiro Kanematsu lives on today as the core heritage of Kanematsu.

In 1889, Fusajiro Kanematsu founded Kanematsu. Over the 134 years since its beginnings as an importer of wool from Australia, the Company has expanded into diverse fields spanning fibers to steel, machinery, food, energy, and electronics, growing into a general trading company. Kanematsu has flexibly adapted to changes in international society and the economic environment over the decades, overcoming numerous obstacles and transforming itself. While the Group continues to change and evolve, the entrepreneurial spirit valued by our founder and his aspiration to contribute to international society live on in the Kanematsu Group today.

The Sayings of Fusajiro Kanematsu 📐 https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/company/history/roots.html

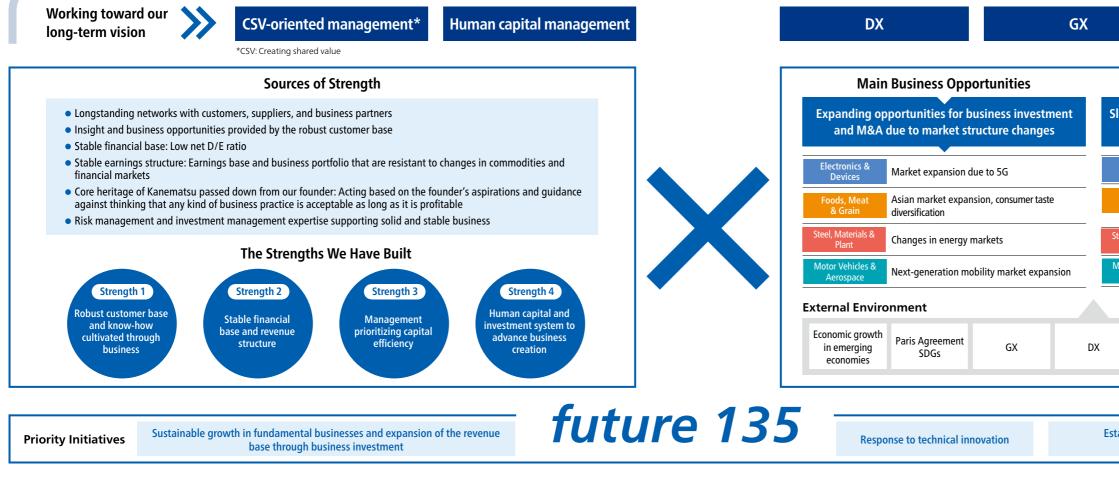


Fusajiro Kanematsu 1845-1913

# "CREATING SHARED VALUE"

## Who We Are

# **Reinforcing Groupwide Management**



#### **Corporate Principle**

#### "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity"

"Sow a seed now," and take action to benefit people around the globe, bade our founder, Fusajiro Kanematsu, setting a standard of public duty that we at Kanematsu continue to uphold through a commitment to ethical business principles and corporate responsibility.

The beliefs and philosophies that inspired Fusajiro Kanematsu in the late nineteenth century Meiji period, a time when Japan was striving to build a national economy, were encapsulated in the document Our Beliefs: Kanematsu's Guiding Principles in 1967, on the occasion of our merger with The Gosho Company.

#### **Our Beliefs: Kanematsu's Guiding Principles**

- . Reflecting the pioneering spirit of our predecessors, we believe that fairness and justice should guide our business dealings and the wise use of creative imagination and ingenuity will bring prosperity.
- 2. Our purpose as a Company is not only to build a sound and flourishing business, but to fulfill our responsibilities as a corporate citizen, contributing to society and the security and well-being of all.
- 3. As members of a corporation, we act not as individuals but as representatives of that organization and as such we are bound by Company rules and attendant loyalties and must work together with a spirit of cooperation while cultivating mutual understanding and respect for fellow members.

	Innovation
l	Main Business Risks
Slowing growt	h in trade businesses due to peaking of domestic markets
Electronics & Devices	Shortage of digital talent
Foods, Meat & Grain	Growing risks to stable procurement, growing demand for human rights protection in the supply chain
Steel, Materials & Plant	Tightening regulations due to decarbonization
Motor Vehicles & Aerospace	Rapid industrial structure changes, logistics disruption

Global population boom

Low birth rate and graying in Japan

Pandemic

Establishment of management infrastructure for achieving sustainable growth

## The Origins of Value Creation The Kanematsu Group's History

In the 2000s, we focused on shrinking interest-bearing debt and improving our financial position to achieve stability. Having done so, under the future 135 medium-term vision established 2018, we have aimed at becoming a unique trading company, pushing toward now boights

	new heights.					
	1889–1950s Founding	1960s-19		1990s-2000s		2013-
	Guided by Kanematsu's founder, a pioneer in trade between Japan and Australia, Kanematsu weath- ered financial panics and built a solid foundation. Eventually, the Company expanded to the United States and other countries.	Development into a gene Kanematsu grows larger, diversifying f and expanding geo	functions as a trading company	Restructuring Following the expansion and collapse of Japan's economic bubble and the Asian Financial Crisis, Kanematsu carried out decisive business selection and concentra- tion aimed at reinforcing its management framework. The Company also worked to improve and strengthen its financial base.	Shift toward aggressive ma	Aggressive managemen
	Solving Social Problems					
	Kanematsu expanded its inter- national trading beyond Australia, opening overseas branches and building a foun- dation for the development of trade with Japan.	In step with Japan's rapid economic g developed third-county trading as we between companies in Japan and ov Group promoted infrastructure develop	ell as importing and exporting verseas. At the same time, the	Responding to the rapid uptake of IT throughout society, Kanematsu advanced business development in line with the needs of the digital age, entering the mobile business and reinforcing informa- tion and communication technology (ICT) functions.	Kanematsu focused on developing products an The Group worked to create new, high-value-	
of Australian Trading founded by Fusajiro Kanematsu in KobeKanematsu-Gosho, Ltd. 1973founding 1990 Company name change Kanematsu Corporation1890 Branch opened in Sydney Direct importing of Australian wool beganIsted on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchangefounding 1990 Company name change Kanematsu Corporation1918 Company name changed to Kanematsu Wool Research Institute established (now KANEYO Co., Ltd.)1972 Ranematsu Semiconductor Corporation estab- lished (now Kanematsu Eductonics Ltd.)1978 Kanematsu Kinzoku Ha established (now Kanematsu Futuretech Solutions Corporation)1978 Ranematsu Computer Systems Ltd. estab- lished (now Kanematsu Computer Systems Ltd. estab- lished (now Kanematsu Agritec Co., Ltd.)1978 Ranematsu Corporation1936 Branches opened in New York and Seattle1954 Ranematsu Hiryo Co., Ltd established (now Kanematsu Agritec Co., Ltd.)1977 Kaneshoku Corporation (now Kanematsu Fourterials & Plant 1958 Kanematsu Yuso Co., Ltd. established (now Kanematsu Sekiyu Gasu Corp. established (now Kanematsu Petroleum Corp.)1970 Kanematsu Kenzai Corp lished (now Kanematsu Ranematsu Kenzai Corp. Ished (now Kanematsu Futureted Corp.)1959 Kanematsu Sekiyu Gasu Corp. established (now Kanematsu Petroleum Corp.)1970 Ranematsu Kenzai Corp lished (now Kanematsu Kenzai Corp.)1967 Acquired a controlling interest in Fine Kuroda1978 Lanematsu Computer (now Kanematsu Computer (now Kanematsu Corp.))1967 Steel, Materials Corp.)1985	100th anniversary of the Company's founding 1990 Company name changed to Kanematsu Corporation Devices 1978 Kanematsu Kinzoku Hanbai Co., Ltd. established (now Kanematsu Advanced Materials Corp.) 1982 Nippon Office Systems Ltd. established Pacific Western Systems Japan estab- lished (now Kanematsu PWS Ltd.)	Kanematsu Sekiyu Hanbai Corp. established (now Kanematsu Petroleum Corp.)	<ul> <li>2013 Resumed dividend payments 2014 <ul> <li>Expanded the executive officer system</li> <li>Established business investment standards</li> <li>Acquired a majority stake in Kanematsu-NNK Corp. (now Kanematsu Sustech Corporation) </li> <li>2015 Completed disposal of commercial real estate holding 2016 <ul> <li>Carried out an absorption-type merger with Diamondtelecom, Inc. aimed at expanding the mob business</li> <li>Issued first series of straight corporate bonds (return the straight bond market)</li> </ul></li></ul></li></ul>	investment •Established Kanematsu Venture gs <b>2019</b> •130th anniversary of the Compa •Formed strategic partnership wi Dawex Systems, entering the da		
	Foods, Meat 1954 Kanematsu Hiryo Co., Ltd established (now Kanematsu Agritec Co., Ltd.) Steel, Materia 1959 Kanematsu Yuso Co., Ltd. established 1960 Kanematsu Sekiyu Gasu Corp. established (now Kanematsu Petroleum Corp.) 1967 Acquired a controlling interest in Fine Kuroda Services Corp., renaming it Kanematsu Gosho Machine Tool Sales Corp. (now Kanematsu KGK Corp.)	<ul> <li>&amp; Grain</li> <li>1977</li> <li>Kaneshoku Corporation established (now Kanematsu Foods Corp.)</li> <li>Is &amp; Plant</li> <li>1970</li> <li>Kanematsu Kenzai Corporation estab- lished (now Kanematsu Trading Corp.)</li> <li>1974</li> <li>Kanematsu Kaseihin Co., Ltd established (now Kanematsu Chemicals Corp.)</li> <li>1985</li> <li>Began trading with Steel Service Oilfield Tubular, Inc.</li> </ul>	2005 Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. became a subsidiary Acquired a majority stake in Shintoa Corp. (100% stake acquired in 2010) 2012 Acquired North American steel tub- ing company Benoit Machine LLC (now Benoit Premium Threading, LLC)	<ul> <li>progress and to establish a solid growth track in preparation for the 125th anniversary.</li> <li>Development of VISION-130 coinciding with the resumption of dividends</li> <li>We aim busines lengest</li> <li>We achi and model</li> </ul> Net Interest-Bearing Debt Reduction	April 2014 – March 2019 "VISION-130" aching the 130th anniversary of the founding of latsu, we returned to our beginnings as a tradin ny and to our Corporate Principle. Our manager we was to "expand the earnings base" through of and mutual development with our business pa- ased on the long history of our trading business. ned to increase our enterprise value by furtherin ss in areas of expertise and investing in new cha- to create new businesses. ieved the goals of the five-year plan in four year owed on to future 135. Positive Effects of Restrue Total Market Valuation	
	Major examples of social contribution and manage- ment oriented around creating shared value	1985 Kanematsu Aerospace Corp. establisher 1985 Band State	ed <b>1927</b> Construction and endowment of the Hitotsubashi University Kanematsu	1929 Endowment of con- struction funds for the Sydney Hospital Kanematsu Memorial	(Billions of yen) 543.8 Greatly improved and strengthened the financial base 86.4	(Billions of yen) 150 100 50 0

Institute of Pathology

2000

(Years ended March 31)

2013

(Years ended March 31)

11 AN

Auditorium

creating shared value

(Kanematsu Memorial Hall)

#### ent

ialized fields and business expansion

nability in such areas as food resources and the environment. o responding to such technological innovation as AI and IoT.

poration's cartridge tec, Inc.)

d Business nce innovation

ures Inc.

npany's founding with France-based e data business

#### 2021

- •Revised and determined five issues of high materiality
- •Took over Seiko Epson Corporation's IC test handler business (now NS Technologies Inc.)

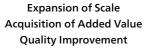
#### 2022

Received A- rating from Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR)

#### 2023

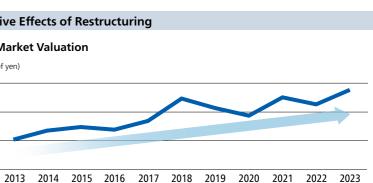
Made tender offers for Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. and Kanematsu Sustech Corporation, turning them into wholly owned subsidiaries





April 2018–March 2024

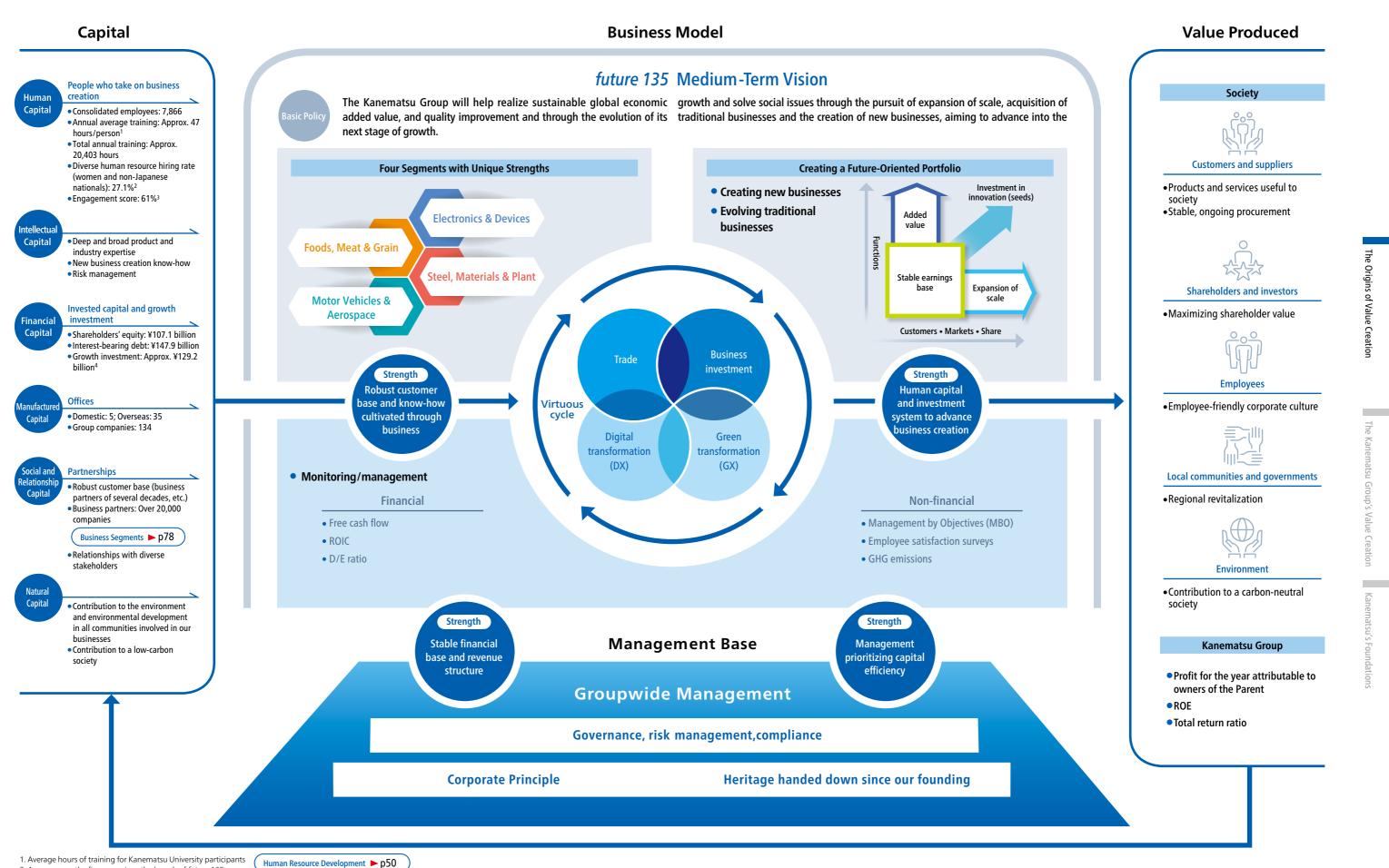
- Sustainable growth in fundamental businesses and expansion of the revenue base through business
- Response to technical innovation
- Establishment of management infrastructure for achieving



## The Origins of Value Creation Value Creation Process



next stage of growth.



2. Average over the five years since the launch of future 135

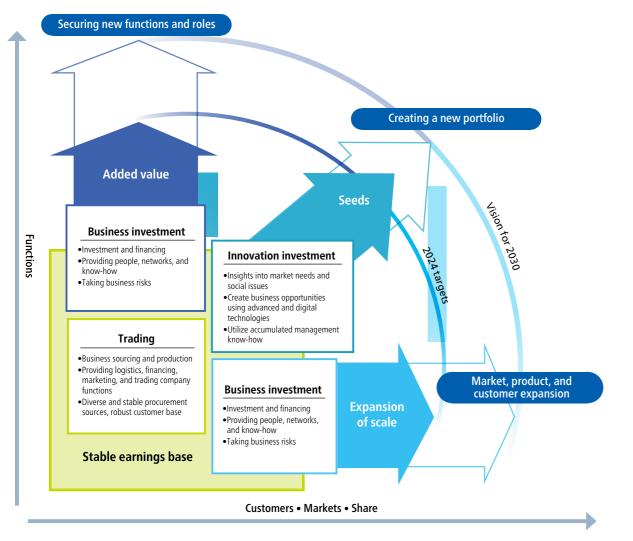
3. Figure for fiscal 2022

4. Cumulative new investment in the first five years of future 135

#### The Origins of Value Creation **Business Model and Business Development**

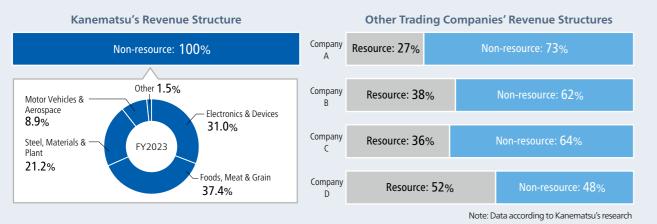
Building on the trading businesses it has nurtured over the decades, the Kanematsu Group is advancing business investment aimed at generating added value and scale expansion. At the same time, we are pursuing innovation investment aimed at establishing a future business portfolio. Through these efforts, we are working to increase enterprise value.

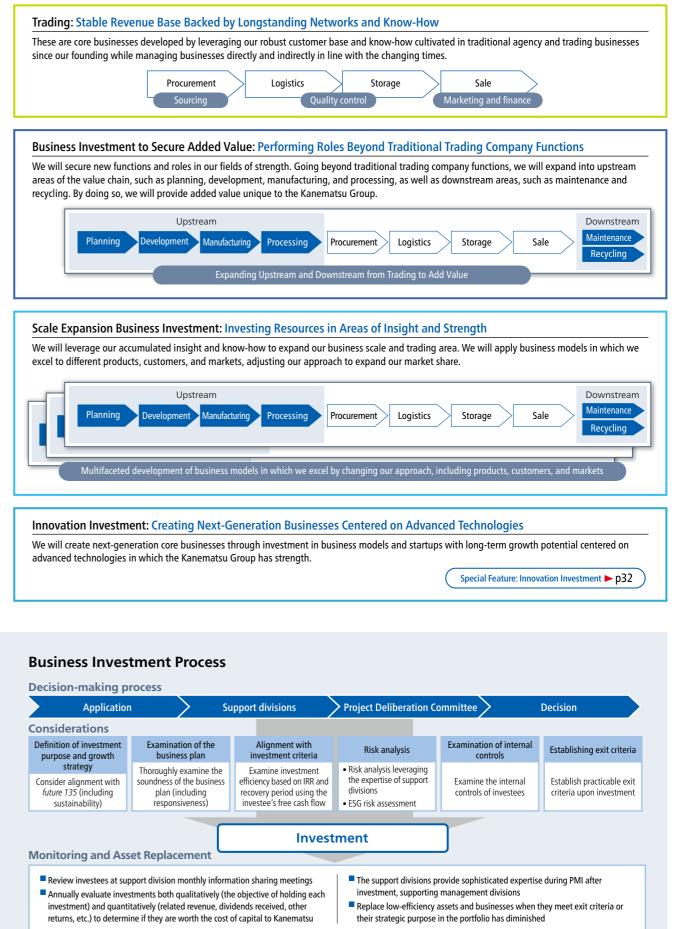
#### **Business Model and Vision for the Future**



#### Business Composition (Compared with Other Trading Companies)

The Kanematsu Group's businesses are mainly in the Group's areas of strength, where it possesses insight and knowhow. We do not invest in businesses that are easily swayed by commodity or financial markets, such as fossil fuels, real estate, or financial businesses, and our stable revenue structure sets us apart from other general trading companies.





By returning to our fundamentals and advancing Groupwide management, we will spark innovation unique to the Kanematsu Group.

#### Returning to Our Fundamentals and Valuing Our Intangible Assets

Since taking office as President & CEO in 2021, I have brought up the importance of returning to our fundamentals on a variety of occasions.

Kanematsu's founding purpose, "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity," bids us to take action to benefit people around the globe. The values of this purpose permeate all that we do. They are aligned with today's Sustainability Development Goals and serve as compass to guide us on the right path forward. Amid the rapid changes of the modern world, I think it is more necessary than ever to return to these fundamentals. At the same time, it has become more than apparent to me through experience in a variety of settings that the founding purpose has truly taken root in the minds of the people of the Kanematsu Group. For example, our business partners often remark on the warmth and care they feel from Kanematsu, or their

surprise at how attentive the service they

President & CEO Yoshiya Miyabe

receive is. Such comments are extremely gratifying for us and naturally reinforce our attachment to the Company while encouraging greater engagement. Furthermore, such reactions demonstrate how our people are unconsciously putting into practice the sayings of our founder, Fusajiro Kanematsu—"belief in the value of work," "profit is just a by-product of business," and "customers come first." Indeed, Kanematsu is full of people working this way. This is also the reason why the Kanematsu Group has such outstanding intangible assets. Given the current emphasis placed on sustainable growth, companies must, of course, work toward growth in terms of numbers and volume. However, I believe that we must also remember the importance of qualitative growth. One of the reasons that I keep bringing up returning to our fundamentals is to remind the people of the Kanematsu Group that we already have in place the kind of conditions needed for qualitative growth and improvement.

The Kanematsu Group's Origins 🕨 p8

The Origins of Value Creatior

#### **Groupwide Management**

Another thing I have been emphasizing repeatedly is the need to do away with the barriers separating divisions and Group companies. The Kanematsu Group does business with some 20,000 companies in and outside Japan, and our staff visit our business partners every day. The information, insight, and experience that this contact provides constitute valuable assets for Kanematsu. This is the basic form of the traveling sales model, i.e., going to where the potential customers are and finding a way to generate business where there is nothing, not even an order. Kanematsu's main business is in optimizing trading—the buying and selling of things—to increase added value across the value chain. The traveling sales mindset lives on as a strength of this trading business, and we will continue to reinforce and take pride in it. Going forward, we will work to make explicit the implicit knowledge our staff have in the form of this information, insight, and experience so that it can be shared across the Group and woven into existing and new businesses and business models to impart added value. To this end, we will build infrastructure and systems to facilitate the sharing and linking of such implicit knowledge in order to comprehensively reinforce the Group's strengths.

To reinforce the business foundations of our Groupwide management, we made Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. and Kanematsu

Sustech Corporation, which had been listed Group companies, into wholly owned subsidiaries via tender offers. The current fiscal year (ending March 2024) is the final year of the future 135 medium-term vision, which includes the key measures of promoting DX and GX. We plan to keep DX and GX as priority initiatives of the new medium-term business plan slated to begin next year. As we advance DX and GX initiatives, both of the newly acquired companies will be essential partners in the Kanematsu Group's growth-Kanematsu Electronics, which operates in the ICT business domain, brings with it abundant insight, experience, and human resources in the area of digital technologies, and Kanematsu Sustech employs proprietary technologies to contribute to decarbonization through such businesses as ground improvement and wood materials.

Until now, we have worked in partnership with these companies, but they were not wholly owned subsidiaries and were both publicly listed, which imposed a variety of limits on what we could do. Now that they have been consolidated into the Group, we will be able to freely allocate Group management resources to them while further advancing cooperation and enhancing overall Group enterprise value. In particular, given the current pressing importance of digital technologies and sustainability across all industries, I think that the expertise of these companies will contribute to the added value and expansion of scale of the Group's



#### businesses worldwide.

As publicly listed companies, both had ample growth potential even as they were before, but they share Kanematsu's DNA, and we felt that integrating them fully into the Group would generate greater synergies at the Group level. This conviction led us to the decision to make the tender offers.

Opening Feature: Strengthening Groupwide Management > p2
future 135 Medium-Term Vision  p22
Message from the Digital Transformation Committee Chair <b>&gt;</b> p28
Message from the Green Transformation Committee Chair <b>&gt;</b> p30

#### Reinforcing Digital Talent and Innovation

In our main business of trading, human resources are our most important management resource and the source of value creation. In particular, digital talent is key to success in new businesses centered on such advanced technologies as IoT and AI, which, going forward, are expected to only increase in importance as growth areas for Kanematsu. Around 60% of our employees work in areas related to the Electronics & Devices Division, and digital literacy is high throughout the Group. To further increase digital literacy, we have now made having all employees obtain the IT Passport qualification an official part of our Human Capital Development Policy.

Furthermore, through the proactive exchange of personnel with Kanematsu Electronics, we will advance the development of digital talent Groupwide, rolling out digital technologies to businesses that have not made much use of them to date. Specifically, we plan to dispatch personnel selected from each business division to Kanematsu Electronics as a way of developing human resources equipped to apply digital technologies in their respective businesses. We are starting these efforts with around 10 employees, but plan to step them up as we go forward. Our business divisions have expressed their eagerness to select and send staff. We have great expectations for these efforts as a test of the fruits of our Groupwide management.

Part of our medium-term vision is to create a new business portfolio through innovation investment. To this end, we need to collaborate with startups that are producing innovative technologies and business models. I think we must be proactive in this area, given that most of the movers and shakers in the world today are companies that were startups just a few years ago. Trading companies engage with the entire value chain, from end to end, so we are well positioned to partner with startups. At the same time, exercising discerning judgement regarding technologies is an area of difficulty for many trading companies, so partnering with venture capital firms (VCs) familiar with that ecosystem can be very effective. For VCs, meanwhile, such partnerships offer the benefit of access to a trading company's business partner network. In other words, the combination of a VC's technological discernment with a trading company's business network can result in a win-win relationship, enabling the creation of a business model only possible with a trading company. The Kanematsu Group includes Kanematsu Ventures Inc., a Group company located in the United States that specializes in finding promising startups in Silicon Valley. Kanematsu Ventures has invested in VC funds in Silicon Valley and is building a network with powerful VCs. These connections have led to a business tie-up with WERU INVESTMENT Co. Ltd., a major Japanese VC. Kanematsu Electronics and other Group companies have expressed interest in dispatching staff to Kanematsu Ventures. Making effective use of Kanematsu Ventures will thus be significant in terms of human capital development, as well. Our innovation investment is currently still in the sowing stage, but going forward, we intend to focus efforts on cybersecurity, the space business, and environmental businesses. A Silicon Valley VC we have partnered with since 2019 has built relationships with startups boasting world-leading cybersecurity technologies. By combining such constantly evolving cutting-edge technologies with the Kanematsu Group's business network, mainly though Kanematsu Electronics, we will expand

new security businesses. In addition,

The Origins of Value Creation



Kanematsu Ventures is increasingly partnering with startups in the new space and green tech arenas, which offer potential for new developments in the space and environmental businesses going forward.

Proactive investment in the most important form of capital for value creationhuman resources—is essential to innovation. To maximize this capital, we have established the Human Capital Policy and set metrics and targets from the perspectives of human capital development and working environment improvement. As we work toward these targets, we will enhance the value of our intangible assets in line with the philosophy that a trading company is its people.

Human Capital Targets and Results **>** p61 Special Feature: Innovation Investment > p32 Message from the Chief Officer of Human Resources > p26

#### Enhancing Enterprise Value by **Reinforcing Global Governance**

Looking back on the business environment of the past few years, in addition to rapidly advancing technologies, such as digitalization and AI, as well as the increasing importance of decarbonization efforts, there have been many major factors that we did not expect at all, such as the pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine situation, all of which have had a major impact on Kanematsu's businesses. This

rising uncertainty has made steering management more difficult, but trading companies are by their nature skilled at adapting to change.

Our networks with business partners and the vast volume of information they provide make us better able to respond to change. In addition, trading companies have few major physical assets, like factories, that have to be shed when change comes. This allows trading companies to be light on their feet, facilitating adaptation. Furthermore, Kanematsu is not engaged in resource businesses, so we are exposed to relatively little volatility, enabling us to maintain stable revenue and financial soundness. In times of uncertainty and of change, Kanematsu's ability to stably secure funds for growth investment is a major strength.

To further solidify our footing, we are working to reinforce global Group governance and internal control. In Japan, the tender offers for Kanematsu Electronics and Kanematsu Sustech have strengthened Group governance. Overseas, as we acquire overseas companies, we are working to build an efficient global governance system. However, the reality is that there are limits to the measures we can take to prevent deliberate misconduct by individuals, and I think this is an area where it is crucial to ensure that the spirit of Kanematsu's founding purpose permeates the Group. Amid calls for strengthening internal control, merely ticking off items on a

checklist is not enough. We must return to our fundamentals and get creative to reinforce governance.

In order to achieve sustainable growth, which is also the purpose of strengthening global governance, we signed the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) on March 12, 2023, endorsing its 10 principles in the four fields of "human rights," "labour," "environment," and "anti-corruption." These are areas in which we had already been working, mainly though the Sustainability Management Committee, but we took this step as an opportunity to exercise creative leadership within the UNGC's global framework and reinforce the global business operations of the Kanematsu Group as a whole. By committing to the UNGC, we seek to level up our sustainability-oriented management and increase the depth of our intangible assets. In this way, we aim to increase our enterprise value.

We are now in the final fiscal year of the future 135 medium-term vision. By reinforcing Groupwide management, we believe that we can achieve the vision's targets. We aim to reach even greater heights in the next stage. To this end, we are taking a fresh look at the



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strengths of and issues faced by each of our divisions and businesses as we formulate the next medium-term business plan to broadly leverage the Kanematsu Group's strengths in society. Taking pride in our roots in the shoeleather business of traveling sales, we will further strengthen our ties with business partners with a focus on digital technologies and sustainability as we aim even higher. "Sow a seed now," and take action to

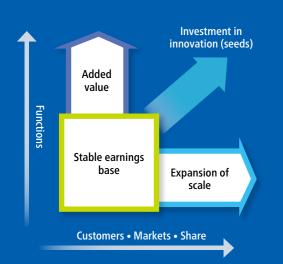
benefit people around the globe. These are our fundamentals.

We ask ourselves what the Kanematsu Group can do for the Earth and for people, and we seek to make such contributions a reality by engaging in dialogue with stakeholders and working to meet their expectations. As we do so, I ask for your continued support and understanding.

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alogue between the Chairman and an utside Director	► p62	
essage from the Chair of the Sustainability anagement Committee	► p34	
itiatives to Ensure Respect for Human Rights	▶p42	

# future 135

#### April 2018 - March 2024 (Revised May 2021)



The Kanematsu Group is pushing ahead with *future 135*, its medium-term vision for the six years ending fiscal 2024, which will mark the 135th anniversary of its founding. In May 2021, following the conclusion of the first three years of the vision, Kanematsu revisited the vision to reaffirm its business direction, especially in light of the progress of business investments and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although there have been no major changes in the basic policy, based on the progress of business investments and the resulting earnings growth, Kanematsu has revised the vision's quantitative targets. Moreover, Kanematsu has added addressing the SDGs and promoting DX to the vision's priority initiatives.

#### **Basic Policy**

The Kanematsu Group will help realize sustainable global economic growth and solve social issues through the pursuit of expansion of scale, acquisition of added value, and quality improvement and through the evolution of its traditional businesses and the creation of new businesses, aiming to advance into the next stage of growth.

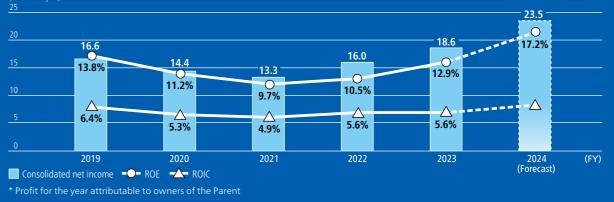
- Continue to expand the strong businesses of the Kanematsu Group and achieve sustainable growth in business areas with a stable earnings base. Aim to achieve consolidated net income\* of ¥20 billion by pursuing the expansion of scale and acquisition of added value through effective business investments.
- Focus on capital efficiency based on the stability of the earnings structure and financial structure, setting target ROE at 10% - 12% and the payout ratio (total return ratio) at 30% – 35%.

\*Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent

Quantitative Targets			
	Final year target (The fiscal year ending March 2024)	Fiscal 2023 results	Fiscal 2024 forecast
Consolidated net income (Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent)	¥20 billion	¥18.6 billion	¥23.5 billion
ROE	10% – 12%	12.9%	17.2%
Total return ratio	30% – 35%	33.7%	32.0%

#### Consolidated net income\*, ROE, and ROIC





#### Approximately ¥129.2 Billion in New Investment in Fields Where We Have Strengths and Insight (Five-Year Cumulative Total)

#### Motor Vehicles & Aerospace: Approx. ¥8.9 billion

(U.S.) Joined cyber security investment fund (U.S.) Invested in startup that develops equipment for rescue helicopters (Europe) Purchased aircraft in the aircraft parts business (Japan) Made takeover bid for KANEYO Co., Ltd. (Japan) Acquired company that develops and manufactures dashboard cameras (U.K.) Entered capital and business alliance with startup that operates Advanced Air Mobility vertiports (Japan) Invested in emerging manufacturer aiming for the practical application of carbon nanotubes (Japan) Invested in Waseda Innovation Fund 3 Limited Partnership (Japan) Acquired additional shares in CARBON FLY, Inc.

#### Steel, Materials & Plant: Approx. ¥11.6 billion

(South Korea) Made equity investment in steel plate processing company (Japan) Acquired specialized metal sash manufacturer (Japan) Acquired plant engineering company (Vietnam) Made equity investment in steel frame and bridge fabricator (U.S.) Established second steel tubing processing factory (South Korea) Made additional equity investment in steel plate processing company (Australia) Invested in startup that manufactures and sells plastic raw material

#### Foods, Meat & Grain: Approx. ¥5.5 billion

(China) Established beef primary processing and sales company (China) Established feedstuff material production plant (Indonesia) Increased investment in processed food product manufacturer (Uruguay) Invested in Uruguayan beef producer

(Japan) Invested in soy plant-based meat producer (Canada) Invested in hexane-free soy processing company (Indonesia) Invested in general food product manufacturer that owns dairy product, food processing, and logistics companies

#### Priority Initiatives

#### Sustainable growth in fundamental businesses and expansion of the revenue base through business investments

- Achieve sustainable growth while achieving a balance between capital and risk assets backed by a stable revenue structure and financial structure -----
- Promote business investment in areas of strength to achieve expansion of scale and acquisition of added value
- Invest in business segments related to environmental, social, and safety issues to help achieve the SDGs

#### **Response to technical innovation**

- Promote Groupwide DX
- Promote and expand new businesses with advanced technology (IoT, AI, etc.) :=======
- Invest in innovation (future-oriented development investment)

#### Establishment of management infrastructure for achieving sustainable growth

- Build a framework for global strategy, including the reinforcement of the overseas earnings base .-----
- Invest in human resources, including the cultivation of management-level human resources
- Improve operational efficiency and employee satisfaction (ES) through continued work style reforms .....



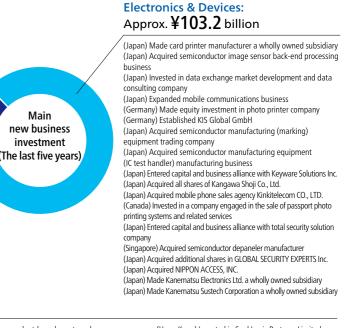
formation Committee Chair

Message from the CFO **>** p24

New investments so far

Message from the Digital Trans-





(Hong Kong) Invested in Soul Logic Partners Limited (Japan) Invested in Foods-i Co., Ltd (Japan) Acquired shares in The Monogatari Corporation

## The Kanematsu Group's Value Creation Message from the CFO



#### Progress of and Outlook for the *future 135* **Medium-Term Vision**

## Fiscal 2023—Among Our Strongest Ever Results

Fiscal 2023, the year ended March 2023, was the fifth vear of the *future 135* medium-term vision (covering fiscal 2019 to fiscal 2024). Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent (consolidated net income) came to ¥18.6 billion, up ¥2.6 billion year on year, approaching our highest ever. This result was driven by the strong performance of security- and network-related projects in the ICT solutions business; growth in orders as a result of robust semiconductor demand in the semiconductor parts and equipment business; increased energy investment within the United States in the steel tubing business; and strong performance on the back of improved market prices in the energy business.

Looking ahead, we forecast consolidated net income of ¥23.5 billion for fiscal 2024, exceeding our target of ¥20.0 billion for the final year of *future 135* (Figure 1).

#### **Financial Impact of Tender Offers for Listed Subsidiaries**

In fiscal 2023, Kanematsu made successful tender offers for the listed subsidiaries Kanematsu Electronics (KEL) and Kanematsu Sustech (KSU). The funds required to acquire KSU came from cash on hand, while those for KEL came from ¥58.4 billion in new loans from financial institutions. As of March 31, 2023, net interest-bearing debt stood at ¥147.9 billion, up ¥96.7 billion from the previous year-end due in part to an increase in operating capital as result of the depreciation of the yen and rising commodity prices. Furthermore, in making the tender offers for the abovementioned consolidated subsidiaries, the difference between the book value of non-controlling interests and the tender offer price, including premiums, led to a decrease in capital surplus. As a result, total equity attributable to owners of the Parent stood at ¥128.5 billion, down ¥31.0 billion from the previous fiscal year-end.

Reflecting the above factors, the net D/E ratio rose from 0.32 at March 31, 2022 to 1.15.

#### **Financial and Capital Strategy Going Forward**

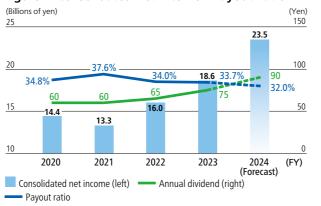
Because the above tender offers changed the balance of shareholders' equity and interest-bearing debt, we have made improving our financial base an immediate management issue.

In fiscal 2023, core operating cash flows after deducting changes in working capital came to an inflow of ¥42.3 billion, as we maintained stable cash generation. Over the coming four years-into the period of the next mediumterm business plan—we will direct cash generated into investments while controlling interest-bearing debt, striking a balance between investment and financial soundness. Over these four years, we will first improve the net D/E ratio to around 1.0 to ensure the stability of the financial base. Even assuming the required level of financial discipline, we still expect to be able to invest around ¥80 billion over the four-year period.

In addition, we have added KEL and KSU to our centralized cash management system, and we will work to further improve Group capital efficiency.

As for the impact of the tender offers on ratings, our





\* Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent

Rating and Investment Information, Inc. (R&I) and Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) credit ratings have remained at A- after the tender offer announcements. By steadily enhancing our financial base going forward, we aim to maintain and improve our ratings.

#### ROE

In fiscal 2023, ROE improved 2.4 percentage points year on year to 12.9%, reflecting the increase in consolidated net income and decrease in shareholders' equity due to the tender offers. It has thus already exceeded the range of 10%–12% targeted in *future 135*. ROIC, an indicator of Group capital efficiency, came to 5.6%, level with the previous fiscal year. The weighted average cost of capital (WACC) was below 3.5%, so we were able to secure an excess return (EVA spread) of more than 2%.

ROIC is taken into account in deliberations of potential investment and financing projects, reflecting a strong internal awareness of cost of capital, but we will consider formulating more detailed operational policies, including operational and management indicators, in the next medium-term business plan. By making every employee aware of ROIC, we will work to expand our enterprise value.

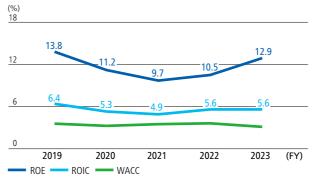
#### **Risk Asset Measurement**

The Kanematsu Group has laid out basic guidelines for controlling and managing risk in its Risk Management Guidelines. Based on said guidelines, we classify and define risks, then respond to each appropriately, aiming to minimize losses to the Kanematsu Group and achieve sound business growth and development.

The Group monitors quantifiable risks (market risk, credit risk, investment risk, country risk, etc.) by regularly measuring such risks and reporting the results to management. Specifically, to measure maximum possible losses (risk assets) we apply a proprietary weighting scheme corresponding to the potential loss risk to all assets included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as well as off-balance sheet items.

As of March 31, 2023, risk assets stood at ¥55.5 billion and total equity attributable to owners of the Parent at ¥128.5 billion, for a risk asset ratio of 0.43. Although this is higher

#### Figure 2. ROE/ROIC/WACC



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than the ratio of 0.31 at the previous fiscal year-end, reflecting an increase in risk assets due to the cheaper yen and rising commodity prices as well as the decrease in shareholders' equity, it is still well below the upper limit we have set of 1.0.

We will continue working to ensure a sound balance of risk assets and risk buffer (shareholders' equity) while increasing enterprise value through business creation and revenue expansion.

#### Shareholder Returns

For fiscal 2023, in light of business performance and the operating environment, we raised the annual per-share dividend ¥10 to ¥75 (an interim dividend of ¥37.5 and a year-end dividend of ¥37.5). This resulted in a consolidated dividend payout ratio of 33.7%, within the total dividend ratio range of 30%–35% targeted in the *future 135* medium-term vision.

For fiscal 2024, we forecast consolidated net income of ¥23.5 billion and plan to increase the annual dividend per share another ¥15 to ¥90 (an interim dividend of ¥45 and a year-end dividend of ¥45). As a result, the consolidated dividend payout ratio is forecast at 32.0%, remaining within the 30%–35% range (Figure 1).

In light of our financial balance following the tender offers, for the time being we plan to provide returns to shareholders in the form of dividends, rather than share buybacks.

Kanematsu regards the appropriate distribution of profits to shareholders as an important management priority. We will continue to pay stable, ongoing dividends based on considerations of business performance, financial position, and the levels of internal reserves necessary for future growth.

#### Our Share Price and Price-to-Book Ratio

Kanematsu's five-year total shareholder return at March 31, 2023, was 134.2%, slightly exceeding the 131.8% of the TOPIX Total Return Index (Figure 3).

As of March 31, 2023, the price-to-book ratio stood above 1.0, at 1.1. We will continue working to increase enterprise value in order to further improve this ratio so that we can fully meet investors' expectation of mediumand long-term growth.

#### Figure 3. Total Shareholder Returns



Note: The values above show fiscal year-end total shareholder returns relative to the values at March 31, 2018, which have been set at 100

# The Kanematsu Group's Value Creation Message from the Chief Officer of Human Resources

# HUMAN CAPITAL STRATEGY **Empower, Enlarge, Excel Our Human Capital Management Fuels Growth**

We have recently established the Human Capital Policy, which lays out our approach to human capital, a profoundly important asset for the Kanematsu Group. Here, I would like to explain our approach to human capital management and my own thoughts as the leader of Kanematsu's efforts in this area.

It is our belief that business is more than transactions and economic activity; at its base, it is built on deeper interpersonal connections. This belief has been passed down since Kanematsu's founding, and is a fundamental value that informs all we do. I have keenly felt the truth of this belief through my own business experience at Kanematsu spanning more than three decades, and it is etched deeply into my mind.

With an eye toward ongoing value creation, we aim to increase our human capital and build organizations that will use our people's abilities to the fullest. Just as Kanematsu has innovated its business models in step with the rapidly changing wider world, in developing human capital, we focus on equipping our people with the knowledge and experience required by the direction of the Company's growth. To that end, we review our training and teaching methods on an ongoing basis, striving to develop human resources who will create greater value.

We also respect diversity and proactively bring in people with different perspectives and experience. This is because we believe that by valuing each individual's unique abilities and passions, and by bringing these individual strengths together, we can nurture excellence and creativity and generate new innovation. Our organizations are places where diverse human resources can shine as they help and respect one another.

We have organized this approach into the Human

Capital Development Policy and Work Environment Policy shown at right. Examples of specific initiatives under these policies are provided on pages 50 to 61.

An experience I had in connection with my hobby of playing the piano drove home for me the power that interpersonal connections can impart in business. After meeting with a business partner, I happened to discover that he was also a violinist. I proposed performing a duet together and he gladly accepted. We practiced together, and eventually put on a little performance. This experience strengthened our relationship, leading to more vibrant discussions about our businesses. Working together toward a common objective based on a shared passion had forged a bond of trust between us, paving the way for new opportunities. By connecting with people and building deep bonds, we are able to engage in business that transcends mere transactions and produces more fulfilling outcomes.

Our goal at the Kanematsu Group is not simply to chase profit, but to enrich lives through our business and exert a positive force in society. By building trust with our customers and partners and providing products and services that inspire them, we will continuously create value and contribute to society.

I sincerely ask our stakeholders for their understanding and support of the Human Capital Policy, and I hope that you will share in our passion and sense of purpose as we implement initiatives under this policy. I promise that we will strive to grow and build the future with you.

#### Hiroshi Yamashina

Senior Executive Officer. Chief Officer, Human Resources, General Affairs, and Logistics & Insurance

**Basic Policy on Human Capital** increase enterprise value. Kanematsu's Values

- Sense of purpose and responsibility for solving issues faced by customers, business partners, and society
- Imagination, ingenuity, and ambition to sow new seeds
- Sincerity in valuing mutual prosperity with customers and business partners
- Enthusiasm for work and team spirit to work toward common goals

**Overview** Kanematsu believes that human resources are the source of value creation. Each individual strives to embody the above values, which we have cherished since our founding, to enable ongoing value creation.

## The Direction of Our Growth

Under the *future 135* medium-term vision, Kanematsu aims for

sustainable growth in fundamental businesses and is advancing business investment aimed at generating added value and scale expansion in its areas of business strength. Furthermore, to establish a new business portfolio, we are working to promote and expand new businesses centered on advanced technologies, such as IoT and AI. We have made Groupwide DX promotion a priority initiative and are working to build stable and sustainable supply chains and establish management infrastructure for realizing ongoing growth. Going forward, to continuously create value over the medium to long term, we have designated three directions of growth: Acquire added value and expand in scale, sow seeds to create new business portfolios, and promote Groupwide DX.

## Human Capital **Development Policy**

# more sustainably create value.

**Overview** To embody the above values, we believe that our people must demonstrate outstanding character, encompassing the ability to act under any conditions, the determination to responsibly carry tasks through to the end, and the ability to communicate appropriately with business partners and others within the Company.

Kanematsu's human resources value a robust spirit of adventure that includes an enthusiasm for developing

# Work Environment Policy

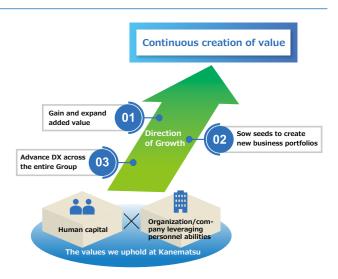
Policy To maximize each person's abilities, we aim to build organizations that offer a wide range of options, allow each individual to make the most of their abilities, and are united by mutual respect. In addition, we promote the maintenance and promotion of employee health and safe working environments as the foundation of these efforts.

**Overview** In order to effectively utilize and support human resources, who are the source of value creation, it is necessary to enhance the organizational environment.

Specifically, we believe that it is necessary to create environments where diverse human resources respect and cooperate with each other as equals, where they can build

Policy Increase our human resources, which are the source of value creation, and build organizations that effectively utilize our human resources' abilities to continuously create value and

> Kanematsu is constantly altering its business models in line with changes in society at large. Even as our values remain the same, the knowledge and experience required by the direction of the Company's growth change. We therefore review our training and teaching methods on an ongoing basis, striving for human capital development that will contribute to greater value creation. We also believe that creating organizations that effectively utilize each individual's abilities is important. To maximize each person's abilities, we work to build organizations that offer a wide range of options, allow each individual to make the most of their abilities, and are united by mutual respect.



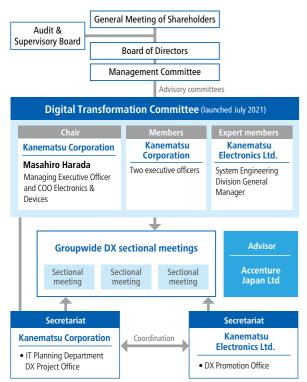
Policy Kanematsu believes that human resources are the source of value creation. Even as our fundamental belief in valuing human capital remain the same, the knowledge and experience required by the direction of the Company's growth change. We therefore engage in hiring, training, and providing education to increase the ranks of our human resources who can

> new businesses and taking on challenges, as well as the ability to think in innovative ways needed to build new business models and develop new ideas not bound by existing concepts. In pursuit of ongoing value creation, we advance human capital development from a foundation of excellent character in line with the Company's direction of growth.

diverse careers, where taking on challenges is encouraged, and where those who do so are rewarded. We believe that diversity, equity and inclusion (DE&I) are fundamental to creating organizations that effectively utilize the abilities of their human resources.



#### **DX Promotional Framework**



# DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY

# Creating Next-Generation Kanematsu Group Businesses through DX

Under the *future 135* medium-term vision, we have made "Promote Groupwide DX" a part of the priority initiative "Response to technical innovation," in line with our aim to accelerate business transformation.

The Digital Transformation Committee was launched in July 2021. As COO Electronics & Devices, I chair the committee. The DX Project Office of Kanematsu Corporation's IT Planning Department and the DX Promotion Department of Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. (KEL) are serving as secretariat for the committee, while sectional meetings with specific themes, such as centralized ID management, enhancing data analysis platforms, and integrating IT assets, are advancing Groupwide DX promotion.

One cross-divisional initiative is the digitization of food and meat product supply chain operations. In this area, we are working to incorporate and utilize digital data, and we plan to expand these efforts to other businesses in the future. At the same time, in response to an increasing number of cyberattacks, we are focusing on enhancing cyber security and providing security education to employees. And, to raise the level of IT literacy across the Group, we are supporting employees working toward public certifications, such as the IT Passport, and otherwise seeking to develop human resources.

As for the digitization business, the Group is diversifying its commercial DX products. We have also established the Business Co-Creation Center as a place to interact with SaaS startups. We are building a data marketplace platform and advancing efforts to enter the next-generation data trading market through investment in data management companies.

As a trading company, Kanematsu is highly adaptable to technological innovation. We will continue to work together as a Group to improve internal and external productivity, create next-generation businesses, and strengthen governance.

#### Masahiro Harada

Managing Executive Officer Digital Transformation Committee Chair

#### Initiatives

#### One-Stop OT Security Installation Support via Co-Creation by KEL, GSX, and Terilogy HD

KEL, a Group company in the ICT business, has created Technical Knowledge Guardian for OT Security, a new service for industrial control operational technology (OT) systems, in a co-creative effort with GLOBAL SECURITY EXPERTS Inc. (GSX), with which it has an equity relationship, and Terilogy Holdings Corporation (Terilogy HD). This service was launched in 2023. By pooling their past achievements, insights, and management resource strengths, the partners are offering an integrated OT security and network support service not possible through any one company alone. Recently, security risks have been rising in step with the advance of manufacturers' efforts to increase competitiveness through DX. Furthermore, security-related standards and guidelines are expected to be increasingly finely segmented among and within specific industries going forward. KEL, GSX and Terilogy HD will work to realize a safe and secure OT environment by

#### The Kanematsu Group's Initiatives to Solve Logistics Industry Issues Expected in 2024

Kanematsu Group company Datatec Co., Ltd. provides the Safety Recorder® (SR) driving recorder for the logistics industry. Driving data from the SR is fed into work hour management software to track performance by automatically calculating total work hours, break times, and drive times. Furthermore, in November 2022, Datatec implemented a joint pilot project with NTT DATA Corporation aimed at reducing the burden placed on delivery drivers. The service they have developed, MiseNAVI™, analyzes vehicle and driving data recorded by the SR to automatically generate guidance for delivery drivers, such as where and how to park at each delivery destination, which it

#### DX through Open Innovation with SaaS Startups

Kanematsu's Business Co-Creation Center (BC3) has partnered with startups that develop B2B SaaS to advance support for DX in store operations. Among BC3's offerings are a service for managing customer wait lines, a service for advance payment using smartphones, a point-of-sale (POS) register app, and an inventory management service, all of which help stores facing serious staffing shortages improve their operational efficiency. BC3 is promoting the formation of a Kanematsu SaaS Ecosystem, encompassing multiple SaaS DX support products, as well as one-stop service. For example, by linking services within the SaaS ecosystem, such as connecting the POS register app with the inventory management service, BC3 is creating services unique to Kanematsu. Going forward, we aim not only to market these services to stores but to broaden their range to include Kanematsu's existing businesses and beyond while expanding the lineup of services in the Kanematsu SaaS ecosystem. Through such efforts, we will

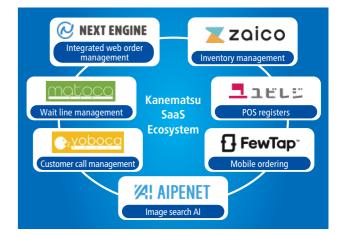
strengthening security services for manufacturing industries and accumulating related knowledge.



communicates via voice prompts to help solve deliveryrelated issues. In addition, Datatec is developing a driving safety diagnostic smartphone app aimed at fostering awareness of safe driving techniques. Kanematsu and Datatec will continue to advance logistics DX to help solve logistics personnel shortages expected as a result of regulatory changes coming into effect in Japan in 2024.



continue to support customers in their efforts to realize operational DX.



### The Kanematsu Group's Value Creation Message from the Green Transformation Committee Chair



# **GREEN TRANSFORMATION STRATEGY**

# **Creating Enterprise** Value by Addressing Environmental Issues

#### **GX** Committee

Board of Directors					
GX Committee					
Chair		Members	Expert members		
<b>Eiji Kan</b> Senior Managing Executive Officer (COO Steel, Materials & Plant)		Executive officers (COO or Chief officer)	Senior Operating Officer, Head Office Sales Division; managers and staff of division planning offices; directors and managers of related companies		
		Secretariat			
Steel, Materials and Plant Planning Office Project Office for Climate Change GX Accelerator Team					
Core members	5 part-t		th concurrent positions in istrative departments)		
Accelerators Approx. 50 part-time staff (with concurrent positions in business divisions/administrative departments/Group companies)			sions/administrative		
New business of [Innovation • Proposing and GX businesses	on]	g • Building in • Knowledg projects	nal GX initiatives [Incubation] nternal GX momentum e-based support for GX g Groupwide GX s		

In 2022, Kanematsu established the Green Transformation Committee (GX Committee), creating an integrated framework for the management and support of environment-related businesses within the Group. There has been a marked increase in environmental awareness among employees and customers lately, and the number of projects brought to us has increased dramatically in just the past year.

Beneath the GX Committee is the GX Accelerator team, comprising employees from across the Company's segments who are highly knowledgeable about their respective industries. These employees carry out wide-ranging support activities to promote environment-related businesses within the Group, from planning and proposing new projects to building internal GX momentum. The GX Committee facilitates the smooth advancement of all such projects by centrally monitoring their status through the GX Accelerator team and conducting periodic reviews.

In addition to projects in the energy, chemicals, plant, and other existing fields, there have been numerous undertakings that contribute to the global environment in such wide-ranging fields as agriculture and food, reaffirming for us the importance of GX.

As just one example, Kanematsu Sustech Corporation, which Kanematsu made a wholly owned subsidiary via tender offer at the end of fiscal 2023, has developed a ground improvement technique using piles made from wood treated with proprietary preservation technology. This technique greatly reduces carbon emissions compared with the typical use of cement or steel for such applications.

The core of a trading company's business lies in creating businesses and making them economically sustainable. I believe that our role with regard to environmental conservation parallels this. By adding environmental value wherever we can to the excellent products that the Group offers, we aim to simultaneously satisfy our customers and contribute to the environment, thereby building environmentally sustainable businesses.

#### Eiji Kan

Senior Managing Executive Officer Green Transformation Committee Chair

#### Initiatives

#### Kanematsu Sustech's Eco Wood Pile Construction

By making effective use of timber produced in Japan, Kanematsu Sustech Corporation is helping to revitalize the Japanese forestry industry and expand demand for domestically produced materials. Construction using Eco Wood Pile stores the CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed by wood during its growth in the ground for decades, realizing a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared with conventional construction methods using cement or steel.

Used for ground improvement, Eco Wood Piles are made from wood that has undergone high-quality pressure treatment to prevent rot and termite damage, enhancing its durability, a process that Kanematsu Sustech has been using since its founding. Through the Eco Wood Pile (S) Society, to date, 225,514 m<sup>3</sup> of Eco Wood Pile material has been used in ground improvement for 44,526 buildings, reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 129,820 tons (as of June 30, 2023).

#### Investment in Australia-Based Samsara Eco

In 2023, Kanematsu invested in Samsara Eco, an Australian environmental technology startup.

Samsara Eco possesses an original enzyme recycling technology that can break down plastic into its original components (monomers) in a short time frame. One example of the possibilities this offers can be found in the familiar product of PET bottles. PET bottles that are unclean or contain coloring agents cannot be recycled via conventional processes. In contrast, Samsara Eco's technologies can break down even plastics containing impurities and additives.

Furthermore, this breakdown process uses no fossil fuels whatsoever, dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Agricultural and Food Supply Chain GX

Kanematsu boasts strengths in food supply chains and does business with a vast number of companies, including farmers, animal feedstuff producers, meat packers, food product manufacturers, retailers, and food service companies. We are advancing efforts to add value through GX by leveraging these strengths. For example, we are working with our wide-ranging business partners to promote sales

#### Kanematsu Petroleum's GX Strategy

Kanematsu Petroleum Corp. is engaged in the supply of thermal energy, a business that has a major impact on greenhouse gas emissions. Aiming to offer decarbonization solutions to customers and promote their uptake, in 2021 Kanematsu Petroleum established a Decarbonization Promotion Office and joined the Japan Climate Leaders' Partnership. As a result, the company has become eligible for subsidies from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Ministry of the Environment for efforts to Kanematsu Sustech will continue to work with Eco Wood Pile (S) Society companies across Japan to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions though the use of the environmentally friendly technology of Eco Wood Pile.



Ground improvement using lumber that has undergone preservation treatment



Samsara Eco's laboratory

in Japanese markets of low-carbon coffee and low-carbon pork products created through the efforts of overseas farmers, the uptake of plant-based meat and other meat substitutes, and the use of burp-reducing cattle feed and low-carbon meat raised on such feed, while working to facilitate carbon storage in the soil of food- and feedstuffproducing regions.

identify ways to save energy and is promoting efforts at its factories to find energy-saving opportunities, switch to eco-friendly fuels, and install energy-saving equipment, as well as operating a business that provides biodiesel for ships and automobiles. Going forward, while advancing collaboration with other companies, Kanematsu Petroleum will continue to deepen its initiatives, including those aimed at decarbonization, as an energy solution company. One of the priority initiatives under medium-term vision future 135 is to promote and expand new businesses that boast advanced technology. Accordingly, in order to drive initiatives toward new business development, in October 2021 we established the innovation investment system. This system supports ambitious efforts to take on new businesses by establishing investment standards suitable to high-uncertainty new businesses. To date, we have used the system to invest in a U.K.-based startup involved in the development and operation of Advanced Air Mobility infrastructure, an emerging Japanese manufacturer that develops and produces carbon nanotubes, and an Australian startup with proprietary plastic recycling technology. Working to build our future business portfolio, we will continue to advance innovation investment as we seek to create next-generation core businesses and enhance enterprise value.

## Investment in Samsara Eco: Using Proprietary **Enzymes to Break Down Plastics into Monomers**

In 2023, Kanematsu invested in Samsara Eco, an Australian environmental technology startup.

Samsara Eco is working to commercialize technologies that can revert plastic to its basic building blocks (monomers) using proprietary enzymes that it designs.

One example of a plastic that can be processed using Samsara Eco's enzyme technology is PET resin, a general-use plastic commonly used in plastic beverage bottles, synthetic fleece fibers, and food packaging. Until now, some recycling of PET resin has been possible using an approach based on the mechanical recycling of sorted and collected PET bottles, but there are problems with this technology: waste PET resin that is colored or unclean cannot be recycled, the quality of the recycled plastic is degraded,

and the recycled plastic can be discolored or contain residual impurities. Samsara Eco's technologies solve these problems, meeting user needs via a new method of recycling.

This technology also helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enabling high-quality plastics to be recycled virtually indefinitely without the input of fossil fuels.

In addition to PET resin, Samsara Eco has developed enzymes for breaking down nylon and other plastics and is steadily advancing toward commercialization.

By investing in Samsara Eco, Kanematsu aims to reduce plastic waste, which has become an important social issue in recent years, and to establish circular businesses through the plastic recycling business.



Plastic waste, a serious social issue



Samsara Eco CEO Paul Riley (left) and technical developer Vanessa Vongsouthi (right)

# Investment in CARBON FLY, a Startup Making **Advanced Carbon Nanotubes**

In 2022, Kanematsu invested in CARBON FLY, Inc., an emerging manufacturer of carbon nanotubes (CNT), and launched efforts aimed at the practical application of CNT.

CARBON FLY boasts proprietary CNT manufacturing technology and has successfully manufactured advanced CNT. The use of CNT as a conductive additive in lithium ion batteries is

rapidly expanding, and, in this and other a we are expanding development focused r on functional and structural materials that leverage the mechanical and chemical pro ties of CNT. By doing so, we will help realize higher-performance batteries and innovation new products.

Kanematsu's investment in CARBON FLY was made using the innovation investment system, because practical applications of CNT are still being developed worldwide and CARBON FLY was in its seed round of fundraising.

In addition, through its alliance with CARBON FLY, Kanematsu will advance initiatives aimed at carbon neutrality using CNT. We have



CNT film

# Limited

Kanematsu has entered an investment and business alliance with Skyports. Through this alliance, we are working to develop and operate takeoff and landing infrastructure (vertiports) for Advanced Air Mobility as well as to commercialize drone delivery services.

In 2022, Kanematsu was selected for funding under a project of the Osaka prefectural government to promote urban businesses in the Advanced Air Mobility field. Working with Skyports, we have implemented feasibility stud-



A Skyports vertiport terminal

areas,
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begun studying the possibilities of developing technologies to generate CNT from the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted by chemical factories as well as of establishing an open carbon recycling framework with Kanematsu as the hub. Through such efforts, we are focusing efforts on environmentally friendly activities with the aim of realizing a sustainable world.

With this investment, we aim to achieve results in terms of both innovative technologies and sustainability and thereby help create social value. We will continue proactive efforts in this area, working to create new business opportunities and build a sustainable world.



CNT filament

# **Investment in Advanced Air Mobility via Skyports**

ies of potential vertiport sites within Osaka. The upcoming Expo 2025 Osaka Kansai is expected to jumpstart the practical application of Advanced Air Mobility in Japan. By commercializing vertiports, which are essential to such applications, we will help realize a revolution in air transport.

In the area of drone delivery, Kanematsu and Kaga City in Ishikawa Prefecture have entered a comprehensive partnership agreement for the promotion of regional revitalization using flying vehicles and drones. Under this agreement, in March 2023, working with Skyports, we completed a proof of concept blood transportation trial using fixed-wing VTOL drones in Kaga City. The use of drones to enable the rapid transportation of vital supplies is a promising approach to solving issues in the medical field and a wide range of other areas. Leveraging the abundant track record and know-how of Skyports in drone delivery services, we will continue to advance efforts to commercialize drone delivery services in Japan.

#### Message from the Chair of the Sustainability Management Committee



# Working toward Corporate Sustainability in the **Human Rights Century**

#### **Establishment of Kanematsu Group's** Human Rights Policy

In 19th century Japan, there were numerous ambitious business people that fought their way out of poverty to success. Few of them, however, chose a path that deliberately steered away from building a plutocratic empire and amassing capital for themselves, electing instead to contribute to the advance of society through business and to leave their mark on social development, even in fields peripheral to their businesses. Kanematsu's founder, Fusajiro Kanematsu, was one such man of business.

The Japanese Wikipedia page for "Japanese ESOP" presents the employee stock option plan (ESOP) devised by Fusajiro Kanematsu Shoten as an early example of a Japanese ESOP. During his lifetime, Fusajiro liked to say that he belonged first to Kanematsu Shoten, not the Kanematsu family, and after his death, the shares of Kanematsu Shoten were distributed among the employees, rather than his relatives, passing on the aspiration to contribute to society through business to the members of the Company.

Our founding purpose, "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity," expresses a way of thinking aligned with contributing to the public interest, society, the international community, and humanity. Based on these principles, in February 2023, we established the Kanematsu Group's Human Rights Policy, clarifying our approach to initiatives related to ensuring respect for human rights to all stakeholders. Furthermore, in March, we endorsed the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), which calls on its members to uphold and practice its 10 principles in the four fields of "human rights," "labour," "environment," and "anti-corruption."

By fulfilling our responsibility to respect human rights, we will carry on the aspiration of our founder and ensure the sustainability and resilience of our businesses.

#### Targets for 2050 and Improving our ESG Scores

One of the targets that the Kanematsu Group has set under the metrics and targets disclosed in line with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) guidance is to be carbon negative, with net negative emissions of 1 million t-CO<sub>2</sub> (Scopes 1 and 2) in 2050. Japan's total emissions in 2022 were 1,066 million t-CO<sub>2</sub>,\* meaning that we are aiming to contribute to society through a net negative amount equivalent to around 0.1% of current national emissions. This target is aligned with Principle 8 of the UN Global Compact, "Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility."

In recognition of such initiatives, our ESG scores have been steadily increasing year after year (see table below).

Furthermore, in 2023, we were selected for the first time for inclusion in the FTSE Blossom Japan Sector Relative Index, an environmental, social, and governance (ESG) index of domestic stocks used as a

#### Kanematsu Group ESG Scores

	2020	2021	2022	
FTSE Russell	1.4	1.4	2.8	FTSE Blo
S&P Global	14	27	32	
MSCI	BB	BB	BBB	Upgrade
CDP (Climate change)	-	-	В	Evaluatio markets.



#### Sustainability Promotion Framework

		Board of Directors
	Sust	ainability Management Comm
Chair	M	lembers
Director,	27000	utive officers ivisions or chief officers)
senior executive officer (chief officer of corporate planning)	<ul> <li>Electronics &amp; Devices Division</li> <li>Foods Division</li> <li>Meat Products Division</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Grain, Oilseeds &amp; Feedstuff Division</li> <li>Steel, Materials &amp; Plant Division</li> <li>Motor Vehicles &amp; Aerospace Division</li> </ul>
	Secretariat (Sustainab	ility Management Section, Public & I

34

benchmark for passive management since March 2022 by Japan's Government Pension Investment Fund (GPIF). Japanese companies may be selected for inclusion in this index if they have excellent ESG rating from FTSE Russell and meet certain criteria with regard to greenhouse gas emissions per unit of net sales. In addition, Kanematsu has been selected for inclusion in the following three other ESG indices used by the GPIF.

 MSCI Japan Empowering Women Index (WIN) • S&P/JPX Carbon Efficient Index • Morningstar Japan ex-REIT Gender Diversity Tilt Index

The Kanematsu Group's ESG scores still have room to rise higher, and we are confident that we can improve them further. By continuing to advance ESG activities in line with our management philosophy, we will work toward corporate sustainability in this, the human rights century.

Source: Global Note "Global CO2 Emissions Ranking by Country (Based on BP Statistical Review of World Energy)"



ded in April 2023 to the middle of seven ranks.

tion started with the 2022 reorganization of the Tokyo Stock Exchange s. Kanematsu is currently at the third highest of eight ranks.



mittee Expert members Managers of business division planning offices Electronics Steel Materials & Plant Planning Office Planning Office Foods & Grain Otor Vehicles & Aerospace Planning Office Planning Office General Manager, Finance Department (Public & Investor Relatio Investor Relations Section)

(As of April 1, 2023)

#### The Key Issues and Our Activities

In 2021, Kanematsu revised its issues of high materiality, identifying five new key issues. We made these revisions in light of the global increase in awareness of the importance of sustainability and ESG management as well as such major trends as the shift toward decarbonization following the original designation of issues in 2018.

When revising the key issues, we considered Kanematsu's Corporate Principle, importance to management, and stakeholder expectations. Furthermore, the Sustainability Management Committee, which we changed to mainly include the top management of our business divisions, discussed our current projects and future direction.

The three key issues linked by the circle at right are issues to address through business activities, while the two below are key to the management base supporting said business activities.



Based on the SDGs, the UN Global Compact, ISO 26000, and other international guidelines, we identified issues in all of Kanematsu's businesses and compared them with the goals of each division to create a list of issues that must be addressed for the sustainable growth of society and Kanematsu.

to the company and to society

Considering Kanematsu's Corporate Principle, individual divisions' strengths, and the needs and expectations of society, we plotted the issues identified in step 1 on a materiality matrix.\* with importance to external stakeholders on the vertical axis and importance to the Kanematsu Group on the horizontal axis.

\* The materiality matrix is disclosed on Kanematsu's website.

02

stakeholders

03

Decarbonization

Initiatives

In addition to discussions by the Sustainability Management Committee, which comprises mainly officers from business divisions and the chief officer of corporate planning, we held discussions with the outside directors and other stakeholders to confirm the appropriateness of the identification process and the issues under consideration.

Periodic review in light of changes in the external environment

01



- Alliance with The Norinchukin Bank to reduce GHG emissions in the agriculture and food industries
- Business alliance with Asuene Inc., which provides cloud services used to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Pilot testing of Datatec Co., Ltd.'s Misenavi
- Delivery of EV chargers in Brazil





 Start of sale of electricity from a small-scale wind-power generation project





- Sustainable coffee plantation-related initiatives p40
- Forest conservation initiatives (REDD+)
- Eco Wood Pile environmentally friendly ground improvement using domestically produced timber



Proof-of-concept trial of blood transportation by drone



- Delivered hospital boat for the Marshall Islands
- Raising awareness and offering guidance on safe internet use
- Supporting the Vun Art employment support association for disabled persons by ordering canvas bags (Kanematsu Vietnam)



- Implementation of new activity-based work (ABW) > p57 work style
- Implementation of "Hello Baby" leave system
- Participation in the Human Capita Management Consortium



- Enhancing the corporate governance system
- Enhancing internal control and risk management systems

#### Identify key issues

In May 2021, the key issues were approved by the Sustainability Management Committee and finalized by resolution of the Board of Directors.



atsu's Foundation:

#### **Progress on Key Issues**

Progress on Key Issues			Electronics & Devices Foods, Meat & Gr
Materiality / Related SDGs	Risks	Opportunities	Nc
<image/> <image/> <image/> <image/> <image/>	<ul> <li>Business continuity risk in existing business models due to inadequate response</li> <li>Decreased competitiveness and trust due to delay in addressing human rights issues in the supply chain</li> <li>Unbalanced food supply and demand due to global population increase</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Growing demand for sustainable and environmentally friendly products, creation of new markets and services</li> <li>Gaining customer trust and create new businesses based on approach that addresses sustainability and human rights issues</li> <li>Food demand expansion and diversification due to population rise</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Launched sales of environmentall</li> <li>Kanematsu Sustech Corporation's I 30th Global Environment Awards Buildings constructed: 5,131 ( Material used: 26,970 m<sup>3</sup> (up</li> <li>Increased sustainable coffee sales</li> <li>Received certification from the Ro</li> <li>Kaneyo Co., Ltd. launched a down</li> <li>Established human rights policies</li> </ul>
Decarbonization Initiatives         Aiming to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions, we will promote our clean fuel and renewable energy business to contribute to the mitigation of global warming.         Image: Control of the image: Control o	<ul> <li>Decrease in sales of related products alongside decrease in demand for fossil fuels</li> <li>Increased burden of carbon pricing and carbon border taxes</li> <li>Factory damage and supply chain disruption due to increasingly severe extreme weather events</li> <li>Changes in food-producing regions due to average temperature increases</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Introduction of new products and services alongside development and popularization of new and low-carbon technologies</li> <li>Increase in new climate change-conscious applications and products</li> <li>Creation of new commercial channels alongside the development of food- producing regions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Distributed DAIZ Inc.'s plant-based</li> <li>Kanematsu Petroleum Corp. selecter</li> <li>SHIFT Program  P41</li> <li>Joint Crediting Mechanism (JCM) pr</li> <li>1 new project; 8 projects in ope</li> <li>Started the sale of electricity from a</li> <li>Kanematsu Yuso Co., Ltd.'s Kokura G</li> <li>Kanematsu Petroleum Corp., for an</li> <li>Entered an alliance with The Norinor</li> <li>industries</li> <li>Entered a business alliance with Asu</li> <li>Implemented GX accelerator activit</li> <li>Core members: 8; registered members</li> </ul>
Mutual Development with Local CommunitiesThrough our global operations, we will support the lives of people around the globe, work on improving social infrastructure, and contribute to the sustainable growth and development of local communities.Image: Straight or Straightoor Straightoor Straight or Straig	<ul> <li>Regulatory changes and business continuity risk due to legal or political changes</li> <li>Decline in relationships of trust due to defects in infrastructure or services provided</li> <li>Business continuity risk due to human rights issues in business regions</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>New business creation based on initiatives to solve social issues</li> <li>Building relationships of trust and stabilizing businesses through operations aligned with the needs of local communities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Entered an agreement to provide tion, and consulting center for agr</li> <li>Implemented a proof-of-concept the Prefecture p41</li> <li>Cooperated in anti-terrorism grant Maldives and Sri Lanka</li> <li>Kanematsu Vietnam supported the by ordering 400 canvas bags</li> </ul>
Image: Note of the example of the e	<ul> <li>Declines in efficiency and productivity due to delays in creating suitable work environments</li> <li>Loss of talent and business opportunities due to inadequate initiatives to create suitable work environments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reinforcing competitiveness and establishing a foundation for stable growth through diversity-oriented management</li> <li>Creation of new value and innovation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Launched D&amp;I promotion project f</li> <li>Held D&amp;I web training on adaptin</li> <li>Kanematsu University (July 2022- Basic course (161 participants Advanced course (101 particip Professional course (53 partic</li> <li>Business plan training (Septembe</li> <li>Executive management training ( Implemented new activity-based</li> <li>Full flextime system usage: 81.8%</li> </ul>
Enhancement of Governance and Compliance We will maintain a robust supervisory system to prevent accidents and fraud and aim for sustainable growth through the transparent disclosure of information to stakeholders.	<ul> <li>Business continuity risk due to internal control dysfunction</li> <li>Decrease in enterprise value due to legal violations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clarification of decision-making processes through the creation of a robust governance system</li> <li>Increase in enterprise value through highly transparent disclosure</li> <li>Strengthening relationships with stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Nominating Committee and Comp three, including the committee ch</li> <li>Percentage of independent outsid</li> <li>Held compliance-related e-learnir</li> <li>Implemented management DX, fu</li> </ul>

38 KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023

& Grain 📕 Steel, Materials & Plant 📘 Motor Vehicles & Aerospace 🔵 Companywide
Notable Initiatives (Fiscal 2023)
tally friendly labels made with LIMEX Sheet p40 n's Eco Wood Pile won the Minister of the Environment Prize in the ds 31 (up 1.5% year on year; cumulative total: 43,348) (up 10.0% year on year; cumulative total: 218,840 m <sup>3</sup> ) ales volume (up 2% year on year) e Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS) own comforter recycling business (material recycled: 8,934 kg) cies and began to conduct human rights due diligence
eed meat made from sprouted soybeans ected as a supporting organization of the Ministry of the Environment's 1) projects:
operation; 1 project in application process m a small-scale wind-power generation project (total capacity: 96 kW) ira Oil Depot transitioned to the use of LP gas boilers with support from an estimated 200 t/year CO <sub>2</sub> emissions reduction rinchukin Bank to reduce GHG emissions in the agriculture and food
Asuene Inc., which provides cloud services used to reduce CO2 emissions tivities (Groupwide decarbonization project team) mbers: 48 (20 in fiscal 2022)
ide inspection and analysis supplies to a quality inspection, verifica- agricultural, forestry, and fishery products in Vietnam pt trial of blood transportation by drone in Kaga City, Ishikawa
rrant program as part of the Japanese government's ODA in the d the Vun Art employment support association for disabled persons
ect team directly under the President & CEO pting to cultural differences (682 participants) 22–June 2023)  p50 ants) ticipants) rticipants) nber 2022–March 2023; 52 participants) ng (August 2022–March 2023; 58 participants) p51 sed work (ABW) work style .8%

ompensation Committee: Each comprise four members, of which e chairs, are independent outside directors <u>> p68</u> Itside directors: 43% (three of seven total directors) rning classes

K, fully digitized and improved transparency of meeting operations

#### Addressing the Five Key Issues



#### Building a Sustainable Supply Chain

#### The Kanematsu Group's Supply Chain Management

The Kanematsu Group has codified the founding purpose of Kanematsu's founder, Fusajiro Kanematsu, in its Corporate Principle. We engage in business in Japan and around the globe based on our mission of contributing to international society and economic development. As we provide all kinds of goods, functions, and services in our wide-ranging businesses and build diverse supply chains, we recognize that protecting the global environment and human rights is an urgent issue. With an eye toward

cooperation and mutual development with our customers and business partners, we will continue to leverage the insight and know-how accumulated over Kanematsu's long history to provide goods and services with added value. Through these corporate activities, we aim to achieve the sustained development of the global environment, society, economy, and of the Kanematsu Group.

#### **Business Highlights**

#### Electronics & Devices



#### Contributing to Sustainability with **Environmentally Friendly Labels**

Kanematsu is developing and selling environmentally friendly labels made with LIMEX Sheet, a material developed and manufactured by TBM Co., Ltd. that is made mainly from limestone. LIMEX Sheet contains no wood pulp, and the amount of water used in its production is much lower than that used in making paper labels, helping to conserve forestry and water resources.

Not only does LIMEX Sheet offer superior durability and water resistance in comparison to paper, but compared with other synthetic papers commonly used for labels, such as polypropylene (PP) or polyethylene terephthalate (PET) sheets, the use of LIMEX Sheet for labels produces lower emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases and reduces petroleum-derived plastic usage.



#### 20 Years of Supplying Sustainable Coffee

Kanematsu recently celebrated 20 years of business with Daterra Coffee, a producer of what are considered to be the highest quality coffee beans in Brazil. As a sustainable coffee pioneer that emphasizes both quality and environmental factors, Daterra Coffee was the first coffee plantation in Brazil to be certified by the Rainforest Alliance, which aims to protect tropical rainforests and improve labor environments

When we initiated our business with Daterra Coffee in 2003, considerations of sustainability in the food supply chain were still unusual. However, Kanematsu saw the value in Daterra Coffee's ethos of sustainability and has worked with Daterra Coffee as a partner ever since. Together, we will continue working as pioneers of sustainable coffee, further contributing to local communities and the natural environment while providing safe and delicious coffee to consumers.

## Meat Products



#### **Beef Tongue Processing at** Harakara

As a long-time pioneer in the meat product industry boasting a leading market share, Kanematsu has amassed a wealth of insight and a robust product lineup. Upstream, we are working to reinforce relationships and diversify supply sources through equity investment in and business tie-ups with suppliers, while downstream we are building frameworks for the stable supply of safe, reliable products that offer high added value and meet customer needs.

As part of these efforts, we are currently advancing an initiative to have beef tongue imported by Kanematsu processed at a facility operated by the social welfare corporation Harakara in Miyagi Prefecture.

Harakara's aim of making communities more livable by creating work opportunities for people with disabilities aligns with Kanematsu's key issue of "Mutual development with local communities," which is aimed at contributing to sustainable community growth and development. The beef tongue processed at this facility has been well received by customers.

#### Grain, Oilseeds & Feedstuff

#### Steel, Materials & Plant



#### Aiming for a Sustainable **Aquaculture Supply Chain**

Kanematsu, UMITO Partners Inc., Ikeshita Sangyo, and Hamahei Gyogyo have jointly established the Hokkaido Japanese Sardine Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) with the aim of obtaining MSC certification \*

As the world's population increases, the global consumption of marine products is expanding, and fish farm production volume is steadily increasing, as are the importance of and needs for aquaculture products as a source of protein. However, aquaculture also presents issues related to reducing the burden on ecosystems and the global environment. For example, the production of the fish meal used as feed in aquaculture can lead to the overexploitation of fishery resources, and uneaten feed left in the water at farms can negatively affect local water quality.

Through the FIP, Kanematsu is working to build a business while solving environmental and social issues, such as those related to water pollution and biodiversity. By doing so, we aim to help increase the sustainability of domestically produced animal feedstuff ingredients and enhance the competitiveness of Japan's overall aquaculture supply chain.

\* Marine Stewardship Council certification is given to marine products, such as fish, shellfish, shrimp, and crab, that meet certain conditions related to the sustainable use of natural marine products and protection of the marine environment.

# Support for High-efficiency Installations for Facilities with

Based on its track record to date, in 2023 Kanematsu Petroleum Corp. was registered as a supporting organization for formulating decarbonization plans under the Ministry of the Environment's SHIFT Program. The SHIFT Program aims to create leading examples of decarbonization practices at factories and workplaces, widely publicize and horizontally apply such knowledge, and thereby contribute to achieving Japan's 2030 target for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and 2050 target of carbon neutrality. Subsidies are granted for projects in the following two categories.

- 1. Formulating decarbonization promotion plans
- 2. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through the introduction of high-efficiency equipment, fuel conversion work, or operational improvements based on such decarbonization promotion plans; calculating emissions volumes; and retiring emission allowances

Kanematsu Petroleum Corp. will use the subsidies from the national government to provide a wide range of proposals to customers through activities that include the identification of energy-saving opportunities and the subsequent introduction of high-efficiency equipment and fuel conversion work. Aiming to contribute to the accelerating tide of decarbonization across society, the Kanematsu Group will begin by steadily implementing energysaving measures close at hand to help customers reduce their carbon emissions



#### Motor Vehicles & Aerospace



#### **Proof-of-Concept Trial of Blood Transportation by Drone**

In cooperation with Kaga City in Ishikawa Prefecture, Kanematsu implemented a proof-of-concept trial of blood transportation by drone. Kanematsu and Kaga City have entered a comprehensive partnership agreement for the promotion of regional revitalization using flying vehicles and drones, and Kaga City is implementing activities aimed achieving an "industrial revolution in the sky" to attract and retain businesses in the Advanced Air Mobility industry. The trial was implemented as part of these efforts with the aim of establishing a practical medical drone delivery network in the future.

Skyports Limited, with which Kanematsu has an equity and business alliance, took part in the trial as its operator, verifying factors related to temperature control, temperature management, and the number of deliveries possible using drone transportation. The trial featured the first flight in Japan of the Kookaburra drone made by Swoop Aero, flying along two delivery routes of 6 km and 10 km between medical facilities in Kaga City.

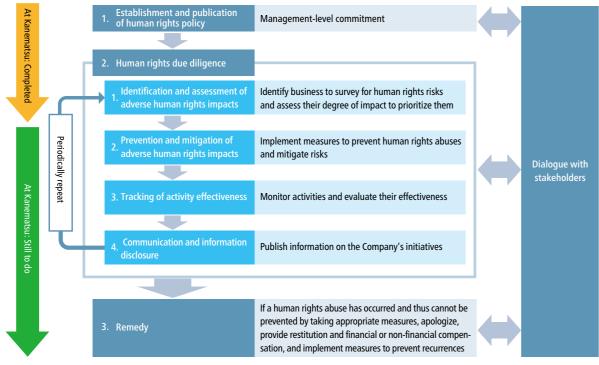
By combining the functions and experience of Skyports and the Kanematsu Group's network, we will continue working toward the practical implementation of drone businesses in Japan and contribute to the creation of a sustainable society.



#### **Building a Sustainable Supply Chain**

#### Initiatives to Ensure Respect for Human Rights

#### **Overview of Efforts to Respect Human Rights in Business**



Note: Diagram prepared by Kanematsu based on a diagram created by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

#### Establishment of Kanematsu Group's Human Rights Policy

In February 2023, the Kanematsu Group's Human Rights Policy was established, with the approval of the Board of Directors, based on United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and international norms related to human rights. Our founding purpose, "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity" aligns with our contemporary conceptions of the public good and

contribution to society, to the international community, and to humanity. The starting point for all of Kanematsu's corporate activities, we carry this purpose forward with us in our Corporate Principle. The Kanematsu Group's Human Rights Policy is based on the Corporate Principle and clarifies our measures to ensure respect for human rights in order to fulfill our responsibilities to all stakeholders.

For more details, please visit our website.

https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/sustainability/respect\_to\_human\_rights/

#### Human Rights Due Diligence

The Kanematsu Group has established and continuously operates a system of human rights due diligence to identify and assess adverse human rights impacts on stakeholders involved with its business activities in order to prevent or mitigate such adverse impacts. We began the process of identifying and assessing adverse impacts by

identifying businesses to survey for human rights risks from among our wide-ranging businesses. Next, we assessed the impact of the potential human rights issues anticipated in the identified businesses in terms of likelihood of occurrence and severity of impact.

#### Identifying Businesses to Survey for Human Rights Risks

To begin the human rights risk survey, we first utilized an external database on ESG issues to compare our businesses against sectors that have a high frequency of human rights issues in order to estimate the frequency of each type of human rights issue in each of our businesses. As a result of this process, based on the number of issues in each sector in the broader economy and the degree of

similarity of our businesses with these sectors, we determined that the energy and food businesses should be the survey targets. Note that we determined that the Group's plant and infrastructure business is dissimilar to the database's construction industry sector as it handles facilities and equipment specific to ODA-related projects.

Frequency of Human and Similarity to the	e Small	Medium Large					
Sector	Technology Hardware and Equipment			Telecommunications	Food and Beverage	Industrial Metals	
Kanematsu's Businesses Human rights issues	Semiconductor Components, Semiconductor Equipment	Industrial Electronics, Electronic Materials	ICT Solutions	Mobile	Foods	Steel	
Poor employment conditions (Appropriate working hours)							
Poor employment condition (Appropriate wage)							
Social discrimination / Discrimination in employment							
Occupational health and safety issues							
Freedom of association and collective bargaining							
Forced labor							
Child labor							
Local participation issues / Impacts on communities							
Privacy rights							
Overall							

and Similarity to the					Small Small	Medium Large
Sector	Technology Hardware and Equipment	Electronic and Electrical Equipment	Software and Computer Services	Telecommunications	Food and Beverage	Industrial Metals
Kanematsu's Businesses Human rights issues	Semiconductor Components, Semiconductor Equipment	Industrial Electronics, Electronic Materials	ICT Solutions	Mobile	Foods	Steel
Poor employment conditions (Appropriate working hours)						
Poor employment condition (Appropriate wage)						
Social discrimination / Discrimination in employment						
Occupational health and safety issues						
Freedom of association and collective bargaining						
Forced labor						
Child labor						
Local participation issues / Impacts on communities						
Privacy rights						
Overall						

Sector	Oil and Gas	Chemicals	Construction and Materials	Industrial Engineering	Aerospace and Defense	Automobiles and Parts
Kanematsu's Businesses Human rights issues	Energy	Functional Chemicals	Plant and Infrastructure	Machine Tools & Industrial Machinery	Aerospace	Motor Vehicles and Parts
Poor employment conditions (Appropriate working hours)						
Poor employment condition (Appropriate wage)						
Social discrimination / Discrimination in employment						
Occupational health and safety issues						
Freedom of association and collective bargaining						
Forced labor						
Child labor						
Local participation issues / Impacts on communities						
Privacy rights						
Overall						

Selected as businesses to survey for human rights risk

**Building a Sustainable Supply Chain** 

Initiatives to Ensure Respect for Human Rights

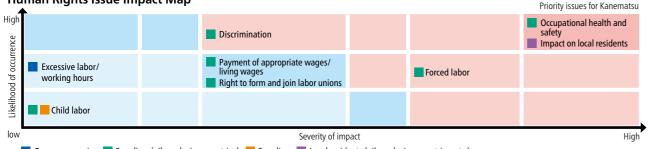
#### Human Rights Issue Impact Assessment

Next, we assessed the impact by stakeholder\* of the potential human rights issues anticipated in the energy business and foods business in terms of likelihood of occurrence and severity of impact. Based on these assessments, we plotted a human rights issue impact map for each of these businesses.

\* Stakeholders included in assessments: Employees, Group companies, contractors, suppliers, local residents, and consumers

#### **Energy Business**

#### Human Rights Issue Impact Map



Likelihood of

occurrence

How likely or

unlikely human

rights issues are

to occur

Impact severity

How severe the impact of issues is when they occur

3. Possibility of restitution (possibility of remedy)

1. Degree of adverse impact (scale)

Number of people affected (scope)

Group companies Suppliers (oil-producing countries) Suppliers Local residents (oil-producing countries, etc.)

#### Foods Business (sesame, coffee, food products processed in China)

#### Human Rights Issue Impact Map



Note: Human rights issues affecting multiple stakeholder types are plotted with reference to the stakeholder assessed to present the most severe impact.

#### **Identifying Salient Human Rights Issues**

Through the human rights issue impact assessment, we identified and prioritized the salient human rights issues and impacted stakeholders in each of our businesses (human rights issues in red are those of particular priority in that particular business).

Costor	Procur	ement		R&D, production		Chinaina	Sales	Distribution	Use by customers	Disposal/
Sector	Local residents	Contractors	Suppliers (overseas)	Suppliers (domestic)	Suppliers (Kanematsu Group)	Shipping	Employees		Consumers	recycling
Energy	Impact on local residents			Occupational health and safety						
Foods			<ul> <li>Forced labor</li> <li>Child labor</li> <li>Discrimination</li> </ul>							

#### **Initiatives Going Forward**

The next step will be to compile information on current initiatives in each business and develop a human rights due diligence plan. We will also investigate the potential and actual impact of each human rights issue and begin to consider prevention and mitigation measures.



**Decarbonization Initiatives** 

Disclosure based on the TCFD Recommendations

Kanematsu endorsed the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) in June 2021. We strive to disclose information in accordance with the TCFD's framework to make it easier for stakeholders to learn about and understand the climate change-related risks and opportunities associated with our business. A summary of this disclosure is provided below, with more details available on a dedicated page on our website.

#### Please visit our website for details.

Governance and Risk Management	
TCFD recommended disclosures	
Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities.	Monitoring org
Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related	Role of mana
risks and opportunities.	

#### **Governance System**



#### **Risk Management**

TCFD recommended disclosures	Our initiatives (summary)				
Describe the organization's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks	Identification and assessment Business divisions				
Describe the organization's processes for managing climate-related risks	Management	Sustainability Management Committee			
Describe how processes for identifying, assessing, and managing climate- related risks are integrated into the organization's overall risk management	Integration (reporting, monitoring and supervision)	Business divisions $\rightarrow$ Sustainability Management Committee $\rightarrow$ Board of Directors			

#### Strategy

The promotion of investment in environment-related business areas is one of the priority initiatives under our medium-term vision, future 135, and we consider addressing climate change to be a business opportunity.

We have conducted a scenario analysis on the Group

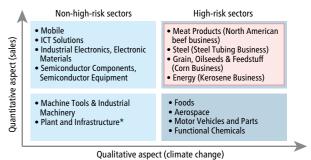
#### Selection of Businesses for Scenario Analysis

To evaluate the gualitative impact of climate change on the Group's businesses, we first classified them into highrisk sectors and non-high-risk sectors as per the TCFD recommendations. Next, we categorized the impact on the Group from the quantitative perspective of sales. Of the four businesses that showed a large qualitative impact and quantitative impact, we selected the businesses that account for a relatively large portion of our sales on a consolidated basis (IFRS revenue) for scenario analysis.

- Continued from fiscal 2022: North American beef business, steel tubing business
- •Selected in fiscal 2023: Corn business, kerosene business



businesses selected as subject to significant impact from climate change. As a result of the analysis, we believe that even though both risks and opportunities exist in all the scenarios, the impact from opportunities surpasses that from risks.



## \* The Kanematsu Group's plant and infrastructure business mainly comprises Official Development Assistance and Joint Crediting Mechanism projects



#### **Decarbonization Initiatives**

#### Disclosure based on the TCFD Recommendations

TCFD recommended disclosures	Our initiatives (summary)
Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organization has identified over the short, medium, and long term	Risks and opportunities         • Performed scenario analysis of four businesses with a large impact on the Group on the basis of climate-related impacts (qualitative aspect) and sales/profit (quantitative aspect)         • Analyses of the corn business and kerosene business, which were newly included in fiscal 2023, are shown below         For the analyses of the North American beef business and steel tubing business, please visit our website <a href="https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/sustainability/tcfd/">https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/sustainability/tcfd/</a>
Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organization's businesses, strategy, and financial planning	Impacts Categorize into large/medium/small
Describe the resilience of the organization's strategy, taking into consideration different climate-related scenarios, including a 2°C or lower scenario	<ul> <li>Analysis results</li> <li>Potential risks and opportunities exist for the North American beef business, steel tubing business, corn business, and kerosene business in all scenarios</li> <li>On the basis of the analysis, we are formulating business strategy that focuses on climate change-related opportunities</li> <li>We will promote investment in environment-related business areas as a priority initiative under our medium-term vision, <i>future 135</i></li> <li>⇒Achievement in fiscal 2023: Investment in Australian environmental technology startup Samsara Eco</li> </ul>

#### Impacts of Climate-Related Risks and Opportunities

The financial impacts of climate-related risks and opportunities presented here are the impacts on the profits or expenses of the businesses selected for the scenario analysis, not on those of the Company as a whole. The impacts are classified into three categories: Large, medium, and small.



#### **Corn Business**

	Climate change drivers				4°C scenario		2°C or scer	lower Iario	Measures
			(0)		2030	2050	2030	2050	
	legal	Increased adoption of carbon pricing	×	Increased carbon pricing burden on processing facilities	4	4	4	-	Revise sales prices
	Policy and legal		×	<ul> <li>Increase in procurement costs as a result of higher local operational costs</li> </ul>	-	-	_	_	
		Tightening CO <sub>2</sub> regulations	хо	caused by rising fuel prices •Increase/decrease in transportation costs resulting from rising fuel prices	-	4	1	1	Select and develop production areas in neighboring regions with shorter transport distances
	Technology	Adoption of plant-based meat alternatives	хо	Decline in demand for feed as result of decreased demand for beef and other meats caused by the adoption of plant- based meat alternatives	_	_	-	-	<ul> <li>Sell raw materials for DAIZ Inc.'s Miracle Meat (plant-based meat)</li> <li>Begin supply of grain for use in plant- based meat alternatives</li> </ul>
Transition risks		Changes in consumer awareness and preferences	хо	Decline in demand for feed as a result of decreased demand for beef and other meats	-	-	-	-	Establish feed mills for chickens and pigs, which will see relatively small declines in demand
Transi	Market	Technology development and market expansion for	×	Increase in procurement costs as a result of rising raw material costs caused by increased demand for non- feed uses, such as ethanol production	_	_	-	-	Revise sales prices
	Σ	renewable energy fuels	ο	Growth in demand for raw materials for low-GHG emission products	_	_	-	-	Cultivate demand for bioplastics
		Fluctuations in electricity costs	×	Increase in electricity costs at processing and storage sites	_	_	_	4	Revise sales prices
	Reputation	Reputation among customers, consumers, and investors	×	Changes in reputation among customers, consumers, and investors based on process of climate-change measures	_	_	_	_	Begin supply of grain for use in plant- based meat alternatives     Sell raw materials for DAIZ Inc.'s Miracle Meat (plant-based meat)

	Climate change drivers		Risk (×) Opportunity Financial impact		4°C scenario		2°C or lower scenario		Measures
			(0)		2030	2050	2030	2050	
risks	Physical (acute)	Intensification of abnormal weather (e.g. cyclones, floods)	×	Loss of sales opportunities due to supply chain disruption	•	•	-	•	<ul> <li>Implement initiatives to strengthen supply chain resilience</li> <li>Diversify suppliers and domestic storage locations</li> </ul>
Physical	Physical (chronic)	•Rise in average temperature •Changes in rainfall and other weather patterns	× × o	<ul> <li>Increase in procurement costs resulting from rising corn prices</li> <li>Decline in corn harvest due to worsening droughts</li> </ul>	_	-	_	-	•Revise sales prices •Develop new production areas

Risk A significant decline in demand for corn feed is expected as a result of slowing demand for beef and other meats in the 2°C or lower scenario.

Opportunity Demand is expected for low-GHG emission products, such as bioplastics.

#### **Kerosene Business**

		Climate change drivers	Risk (×) Opportunity	Financial impact	4°C so	enario		lower Iario	Measures
			(0)		2030	2050	2030	2050	
	egal	Increased adoption of carbon pricing	×	Increase in operational costs (use of energy, use of fuel for Group vessels and cars, etc.) due to increase in carbon taxes	•	•	•	•	•Revise sales prices •Sell low-carbon products
	Policy and legal	Tightening CO <sub>2</sub> regulations	× × o	•Stricter energy-saving standard regulations •Decline in sales resulting from reduced demand for kerosene caused by a shift toward low-carbon energy •Increase demand for renewable energy	-	-	-	-	Expand renewable energy businesses, such as the biomass fuel business
Transition risks	Technology	Development and adoption of low-carbon technologies	хо	Increase in investment in the development of new technologies, such as EOR and CCS	_	_	_	_	Develop and sell products related to EOR and CCS in the steel tubing business
Tran	Market	Replacement with low- GHG emission products	хо	Decrease in sales due to the adoption of electrical power	_	_	_	_	Expand renewable energy business
	Mar	Rising raw material costs	×	Increase in kerosene procurement costs due to rising crude oil prices	*	•	_	_	Revise sales prices
	Reputation	Reputation among customers, consumers, and investors	×	Changes in reputation among customers, consumers, and investors based on progress of climate change- related measures	_	_	_	_	•Conduct proactive stakeholder engagement •Continue transparent information disclosure
l risks	Physical (acute)	Intensification of abnormal weather (e.g. cyclones, floods)	×	Loss of sales opportunities due to supply chain disruption	•	-	•	-	•Ensure BCP measures in the supply chain •Build a framework for mutual support in times of disaster with other companies in the industry
Physical risks	Physical (chronic)	Rise in sea level	× ×	<ul> <li>Processing site relocation costs</li> <li>Increase in capital expenditure to take measures against rising sea levels (relocation of facilities, etc.)</li> </ul>	_		_		•Relocate distribution centers •Revise sales prices

\* Based on the WEO 2022, the 4°C scenario assumes an increase in crude oil prices as a result of increased demand, and the 2°C or lower scenario assumes a decline in crude oil prices due to decreased demand.

Risk The 2°C or lower scenario forecasts a decline in demand for kerosene as a result of tighter regulations, and the 4°C scenario forecasts an increase in procurement costs due to increased demand. Opportunity Expansion of the renewable energy business and sales of low-GHG emission products.



KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023 46



#### **Decarbonization Initiatives**

Disclosure based on the TCFD Recommendations

#### **Metrics and Targets**

First, we will aim to guickly achieve carbon neutrality by 2025. We will reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by shifting to renewable energy. Any remaining emissions that cannot be reduced in this way will be offset with the credits generated from our businesses—converting our contribution to GHG emissions reduction via REDD+ projects into creditsto achieve carbon neutrality. From there, we will continue

expanding our clean fuel and renewable energy businesses, REDD+ projects, and Joint Crediting Mechanism projects to increase avoided emissions, aiming to become carbon negative with negative net emissions of 150,000 t-CO<sub>2</sub> and 1,000,000 t-CO<sub>2</sub> by 2030 and 2050, respectively, and thereby contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions both within Japan and internationally.

TCFD recommended disclosures		(	Our initiatives (summary)								
sclose the metrics used by the organization to sess climate-related risks and opportunities in e with its strategy and risk management process	Metric	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions									
	GHG emissions	Fiscal 2023: 28,321 t-CO <sub>2</sub> ( (Assured breakdown: Scope	1: 9,507 t-CO <sub>2</sub> / Scope 2	: 18,814 t-CO <sub>2</sub> )							
	Please visit our website for the independent verification report on these figures (Japa										
sclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and, if appropriate, Scope GHG emissions and the related risks	https://www.ka	https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/sustainability/files/Independent_Assurance_Report_jp_20230810.pdf									
		Fiscal 2022: 29,497 t-CO <sub>2</sub> (95 Group companies, including the Company) (Assured breakdown: Scope 1: 9,772 t-CO <sub>2</sub> / Scope 2: 19,725 t-CO <sub>2</sub> ) Fiscal 2021: 27,800 t-CO <sub>2</sub> (94 Group companies, including the Company) (Estimated breakdown: Scope 1: 9,200 t-CO <sub>2</sub> / Scope 2: 18,600 t-CO <sub>2</sub> )									
scribe the targets used by the organization to	Targets	2025 Carbon neutral <sup>1</sup> 2030 Carbon negative <sup>2</sup> : 2050 Carbon negative:									
anage climate-related risks and opportunities and formance against targets	<ol> <li>Carbon neutral is a state in which the Group's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Scopes 1 and 2) are balanced with the credit by the Group through forest conservation projects and Joint Crediting Mechanism projects and avoided en 2. Carbon negative is a state in which the credits generated by the Group through forest conservation project Crediting Mechanism projects and avoided emissions exceed the Group's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Scopes 1 and 2).</li> </ol>										
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions Avoided CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	€ € Carbon neut	ral	Carbon negative 150,000 t-CO <sub>2</sub>		Carbon negative 1,000,000 t-CO <sub>2</sub>						
•											
2020	2025	2030		2050	(Year)						

#### Mutual Development with Local Communities

#### Social Contribution through Our Operations

Every employee of the Kanematsu Group, as a good citizen, acts with an awareness of the importance of their social responsibilities, proactively working to solve social issues through business and social contribution activities with the aim of realizing a sustainable society. At the same time, through volunteering, employees broaden their horizons, learn new values, and gain new insights, helping to create richer and more vibrant communities.

Please visit our website for details. https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/sustainability/contribute/social\_contribution.html



**Human Capital Management** 

#### The Promise of Human Capital Management Leveraging the Strengths of a Trading Company

Kanematsu's human capital management initiatives are steadily evolving. In November 2022, with the head office move, Kanematsu adopted an activitybased work system, realizing a flat approach to working that transcends the barriers between divisions. The cheerful expressions on the faces of the employees are the greatest testament to the success of the change to new work styles. Employees can be seen spending their lunch time as they please at Café The Perch, the café located in the center of the office, and quietly pondering new projects in the library area.

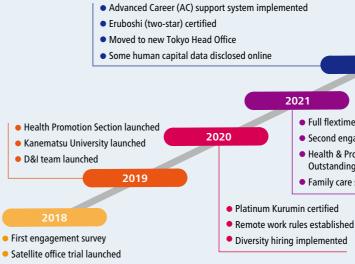
At the same time, Kanematsu recently announced a robust Human Capital Policy, reflecting the evolution of its D&I-diversity and inclusion-initiatives to include equity, becoming DE&I. Indeed, Kanematsu has been conducting educational activities, such as Pride Week, a series of events to promote understanding of DE&I, including LGBTQ+ issues, held to coincide with the promulgation of Japan's LGBT Understanding Promotion Act. Furthermore, the Company is engaged in active discussions aimed at creating a new personnel system.

I see particular promise in Kanematsu's implementation of human capital management leveraging its strengths as a trading company. Now in my fifth year as an outside director, I feel that there is something remarkable about Kanematsu's intellectual capital, the core of the Group's intangible assets. Through the repeated creation of businesses from scratch, in and outside Japan, Kanematsu has built up a wide-ranging wealth of expertise in business creation. At the same time, the Company's invaluable bonds with its business partners, based on relationships of trust, are an important intangible asset in the form of social and relationship equity. Needless to say, intangible assets are what investors focus on most, as they are essential to the creation of the tangible assets of businesses and their successes.

And, of course, the source of this intellectual capital is nothing other than human capital.

In my role as an outside director, I will do my utmost to help Kanematsu leverage its strengths as a trading company to the fullest in implementing human capital management that leads to business creation.

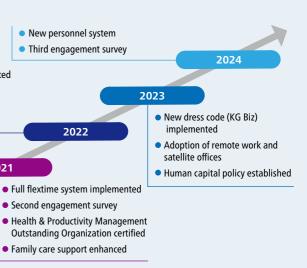
#### Human Capital Management Initiatives







Yuko Tahara **Outside Director** 



KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023 49



Human Resource Development

#### Human Capital Development Policy

In accordance with on the Human Capital Development Policy presented on page 27, we are implementing the following initiatives based on the key human resource development themes shown below.

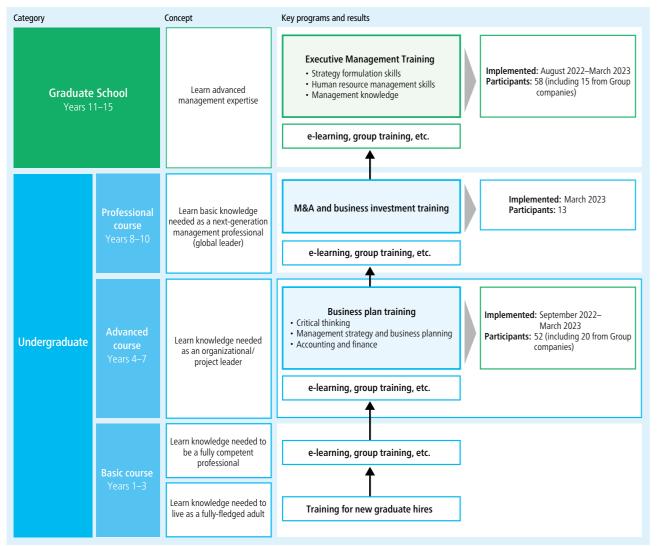
## Acquisition of Added Value and Expansion of Scale

#### **Kanematsu University**

Kanematsu University, a reinforced, more systematic version of previous training systems, was launched in July 2019 to develop management professionals who will create new businesses. The university curriculum comprises three categories: 1. General education, 2. Interpersonal knowledge and skills, and 3. Professional knowledge and skills. Courses are administered via e-learning or group

training, depending on the content. The rich array of content ranges from the fundamental, such as business manners and foreign languages, to specialized knowledge and skills, such as business investment, legal matters, and anger management. Through Kanematsu University, we are developing the next generation of management-level human resources.

#### Human Resource Development Programs and Participants (July 2022–June 2023)



#### **Overall Approach to Human Resource Development**

Graduate S	School Program Goal for Human Resources
Concept	Learn advanced management expertise
Goal	
<ul> <li>Has progressed</li> <li>Specific kno</li> <li>Knowledge</li> <li>Practical ski human reso</li> <li>Practical ski</li> </ul>	d management knowledge from theoretical understanding of management to practical ability wledge of management strategy and M&A in multiple businesses of corporate governance and risk management Ills in setting goals, operational management, team building, and urce development Ills in mission formulation, developing medium- and long-term tegy, and organizational design

#### **Executive Management Training**

As part of Kanematsu University, a new executive management training system was created ahead of the start of classes in fiscal 2017 to foster the skills needed to operate businesses and organizations from an executive management perspective. Specifically, the targets of this training are to foster strategy formulation and human

#### **VOICE** Comment from an Executive Management Trainee's Perspective



#### Monetary and Time Investment in Human Resource Development (Non-Consolidated)

Monetary investment	<ul> <li>¥91.39 million; ¥110,000 per full-time employee'</li> <li>(Cost of Kanematsu University: ¥67 million; ¥150,000 per</li> <li>1. Number of employees calculated based on full retirees, or temporary employees</li> </ul>						
Training hours	Total training hours <sup>2</sup> : 20,403; 25 hours per full-time empl (Kanematsu University training hours: 47 hours per parti 2. Total for Kanematsu University courses						
otes 1. Data for July 1, 20	21 to June 30, 2022						

2. Total training hours for the 43 Undergraduate program courses and Graduate School program (per-student basis)

•Basic course (175 participants): 63 hours Advanced course (112 participants): 28 hours

•Professional course (47 participants): 19 hours •Graduate School (102 participants): 50 hours

#### Undergraduate Program Goal for Human Resources

Concept	Gain comprehensive basic knowledge needed for management	
Goal		

- Has the discernment of a business creator and manager as a next-generation management professional (global leader); can be entrusted with actual business management in a management role • Knowledge: Overall management knowledge, including management
  - strategy, finance, and accounting
- Experience: Experience in a project management office and in organizational management

resource management abilities and impart the basic knowledge an executive manager must have. As we aim for the acquisition of added value and expansion of scale, we are working to develop human resources with the ability to lead organizations and manage businesses.

The six-month executive management training program consisted of lectures by outside instructors and case studies, providing comprehensive education in the practical knowledge and perspectives required in management-level human resources. In addition to classroom studies, the program included self-analysis based on 360-degree evaluations, interviews with current management-level professionals, and group work with the other trainees from a wide range of divisions. Through this wide array of stimulating inputs, the course prompted us to reexamine our own values and articulate our own visions for our futures.

The executive management training enabled me to not only increase my basic knowledge of management but gain a more concrete understanding of what it will take to reach the vision I have for my future, which I feel was extremely valuable. Going forward, I will apply what I have learned to my current work, continuing to engage in friendly competition with the other participants as I leverage these insights in new business creation and organizational operations.

#### er participant)

Ill-time equivalent (FTE); does not include employees on leave, re-hired

plovee ticipant)



Human Resource Development

## Sowing Seeds to Create a New Portfolio

#### **Diversity Hiring and Mid-Career Hiring**

To create a new business portfolio that goes beyond merely iterating on our existing businesses, we believe that we will need to enter new markets with new products and customers that we cannot adequately approach with our existing internal knowledge and experience. We are therefore working to secure diverse human resources. In our new graduate hiring, with an eye to recruiting

students with diverse backgrounds from around the world, we are hiring international students graduating from Japanese universities and Japanese students graduating from overseas universities. In addition, we are expanding mid-career hiring to bring in knowledge and experience that differs from what we have internally.

#### **VOICE** Comment from a Non-Japanese Citizen Employee



Section 1, Motor Vehicles & Parts Department No. 1

I came to Japan to from South Korea in 2015, and after graduating from a four-year university here, I was hired as a new graduate by Kanematsu. Kanematsu caught my interest and I chose it because, as a trading company with diverse functions that operates in a wide range of business areas around the world, I got the sense that it would offer me the chance to take the lead in blazing my own path forward.

Currently, in parallel to my work in Kanematsu's existing motor vehicle and parts exporting business, I am also engaged in new business creation efforts. Leveraging my background, knowledge, and experience, I am working with companies in South Korea to formulate a new EV-related business.

Going forward, I hope to get this new business off the ground, and eventually expand it globally.

## **VOICE** Comment from a Mid-Career Hire



Yoko Kaneko Oilseed & Processed Soy Products Section, Food & Grain Materials Department

I came to Kanematsu as a mid-career hire in 2020. My work now is mainly in importing canola and other edible oil raw ingredients and selling them to food product manufacturers in Japan. I have many years of experience in handling food ingredients at a trading company from my previous job, and I apply that experience to business every day.

Looking at Kanematsu from the outside, before I was hired, my impression was that it was a kind of collective of experts, one in which each individual was highly knowledgeable about the products they work with. In line with that idea, in my current work, I strive to exert a presence as a true professional for my customers.

Rather than merely concentrating on sales, I am aware of the importance of making proposals that connect with the broader visions of customers, and I hope to take on new challenges and widen my horizons in order to realize such proposals.

#### Fostering Experience through Transfers

Taking advantage of the wide variety of businesses of the Kanematsu Group, we are deepening the diversity of our human resources' knowledge and experience through internal transfers and personnel exchanges with Group companies and portfolio companies. In addition, we have established a career consulting team of gualified career consultants to provide an environment that supports employees' autonomous career development.

#### **VOICE** Comment from a Member of the Career Consulting Team



## Promote Groupwide DX

#### **Developing DX Business Personnel**

In our supply chains, we are promoting DX in cooperation with our business partners to aid them in overcoming the difficulties they face in transforming their operations, with the goal of utilizing digital and automation technologies to transition to next-generation businesses.

We believe that our DX business personnel must possess both insight into digital technologies and the

#### Furatto, Degitaru?

From January 2023, the Company has operated the DX data website called "Furatto, Degitaru?" for use in-house and by Group companies. Centered on cases of internal DX initiatives, we distribute content every other week in the form of articles, webinars, and columns on the topics of the vividness and realism of the DX project based on the business format and situation of general trading companies.

In the six months since the announcement, over 80% of employees have viewed online videos, and the



A webinar for a dialogue about the Company's case of centralizing

Today, as life spans grow longer, it is more important than ever for individuals to autonomously develop their careers. At the same time, companies are being called upon to provide systems and environments that support such efforts. In addition to support through a transfer system that respects individuals' career aspirations, we also provide more intangible support by leveraging the knowledge we offer as a result of our professional qualifications. By providing career-related training, disseminating information, offering consultations, and conducting interviews, we will continue to provide support for autonomous career development tailored to each employee.

ability to combine this with business acumen. We are therefore not only implementing training to enhance IT literacy, but implementing personnel exchanges with Group companies that handle digital technologies to develop professionals who can promote DX in step with our business partners' levels of digitization.

effort has helped create specific uses for digital technologies. We nurture a DX mindset among every Group employee and provide support for taking the first step toward utilizing digital technology. Going forward, we will expand content, mainly themes based on viewer data analyses and interview surveys, as a part of our efforts to nurture grounded DX personnel. (The illustration below is the internal declaration banner for content distributed in the past.)



A participation report for an exhibition tour for employees interested in owned media

#### Work Environments for Employees

#### Work Environment Policy

We are implementing the following initiatives based on the Work Environment Policy (see p. 27).

To enhance employee engagement, we have designated four core values for organizational and corporate development, as shown in the diagram at right: Leverage Individuality, Equality & Respect, Support Ambitious Efforts, and Work Style Options. Going forward, we will revise the core values as needed to maximize the abilities of all of our people.

The key themes of our Work Environment Policy are as follows.



Core Values for Organizational and Corporate

**Development Leveraging Human Resources** 

## Leveraging Individuality through Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&I)

The Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Team (now the DE&I Team) was launched in 2019 to proactively incorporate many kinds of difference. We aim to grow in size and strength as a global company that will continue to contribute to society over the next century and, to this end, to be a flexible organization in which everyone is compensated fairly and equitably and able to fully utilize their diverse abilities.

#### **Companywide Initiatives**

Kanematsu has formed a DE&I Team that is promoting respect for and acceptance of diverse values and ways of thinking in order to create environments that will make it easier for all employees to work and utilize their abilities. To encourage employees to take ownership of DE&I issues, we provide Companywide e-learning, share information about the careers of diverse employees, and hold lectures. In fiscal 2022, we established a Companywide project team for efforts in this area, and in fiscal 2023, under the direct control of the President & CEO, this team implemented initiatives to accelerate inclusion.

#### **VOICE** Comments from DE&I Team Members



#### Kouta Ito

Motivated by a desire to make Kanematsu a better company by utilizing the strengths of diverse divisions and people, through the DE&I team, I promoted the use of more informal language between employees of different levels and organized lunches for people interested in common topics, aiming to foster a flatter culture in which everyone can freely talk to one another regardless of rank or position.

#### Tsuzumi Hirano

Motivated by a desire to enable all women to be themselves and thrive, and to provide opportunities to learn and think about challenges related to health, career, and mental health, I organized an International Women's Day event with a focus on learning about these topics as they directly impact employees.

#### Support for Balancing Work and Childcare

Since 2020, Kanematsu has received "Platinum Kurumin" certification from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. This certification is granted to companies that are implementing particularly high-level initiatives to support their employees in balancing work and childcare. Aiming to enable employees to autonomously engage in their work and continue to fully participate professionally regardless of the ups and downs of life events, we are expanding our

#### Women's Participation and Advancement

In August 2022, Kanematsu received "Eruboshi" certification from the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. This certification is granted to companies that have implemented excellent efforts to promote women's participation and advancement in the workplace. Kanematsu was certified as having attained the second of three levels (two stars), having met the certification standards in the four categories of "recruitment," "length of continuous employment," "working hours and work styles," and

#### **VOICE** Comment from an Employee Working Overseas



#### General Employer Action Plan (Women's Participation and Advancement)

Duration	April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2024
Issues the Company Faces	Although Kanematsu hires a certain number of women every year, the percentages of women among all new graduate hires, employees in core operations, and employees in management positions are low.
Targets	<ol> <li>Increase the number of women working in core operations in assistant section manager-level or higher positions to 35 (from 27 at the end of fiscal 2019)</li> <li>Increase the percentage of women among new graduate hires to 42% (from 34% in fiscal 2019).</li> </ol>
Initiatives	Increasing the percentage of women among new graduate hires and creating systems to promote female employee retention

systems of shortened work hours for childcare, flextime, and discounts on babysitting services. Furthermore, in October 2022 we introduced a childcare leave system, "Hello Baby" leave, aimed promoting childcare in a more



genderless way, and we are working to further improve conditions internally to support employees.

"diverse career development paths." Indeed, we have implemented systems that allow employees to choose from diverse career paths, including a system for rehiring employees who left the Company to accompany a spouse who



was transferred to another location and a system that allows region specific employees to take manager or assistant manager positions.

Since December 2021, I have been stationed in Taiwan as Treasurer of Kanematsu Taiwan Corporation. I am responsible for overall administrative operations of Kanematsu Taiwan and other Group companies in Taiwan.

My work includes not only finance and accounting, in which I have previous experience, but extends across personnel, general affairs, legal, and IT, which take on every day through trial and error. It is often difficult, but getting to broaden the scope of my work and knowledge is also fun and satisfying.

I joined Kanematsu as a region specific employee that could only be assigned to work within a specified area, and I had never even been on an overseas business trip, so I feel very fortunate to have had the chance to bring my family (my spouse and two children) with me on an overseas assignment, and to have had the understanding of those around me necessary to do so. Making the decision to change to a career-track position, which entails being stationed overseas, and pushing myself in this way has broadened my horizons. I hope to use this broader perspective to contribute to the Kanematsu Group through my work.

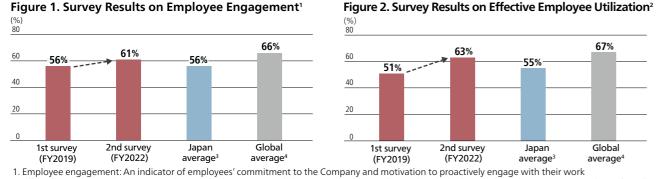
Years ended March 31	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Female career-track employees* at fiscal year-end	52	54	64	66	68
Female employees at manager level or above at fiscal year-end	3	4	5	7	9
Female responsibility band employees at fiscal year-end	27	28	31	31	38
Women among new graduate hires	34.0%	39.0%	51.0%	63.6%	43.9%

Note: Figures for Kanematsu Corporation (non-consolidated) \* Employees for whom work location is determined according to the Company's needs and not restricted to any specific area. These employees eventually move into core operations.

Work Environments for Employees

## Enhancing Engagement to Maximize Performance

Kanematsu has made improving employee satisfaction a priority initiative under future 135. As part of efforts in this area, we carry out employee engagement surveys of all Kanematsu employees to understand where we stand and the issues we face, verifying the effects of measures implemented as we work to enhance employee satisfaction. We carried out the first employee engagement survey in fiscal 2019, followed by a second survey in fiscal 2022, the halfway point of future 135. The second survey showed improvement in employee satisfaction compared with the first (Figures 1 and 2).



2. Effective employee utilization: An indicator of how appropriately human resources are allocated and whether work environments are employee-friendly in a way that helps them utilize their abilities to the fullest

3. Japan average calculated across approximately 90 companies with approximately 800,000 employees

4. Global average calculated across approximately 700 companies with approximately 7,000,000 employees (average score of the top 10% of global companies by financial performance in their respective industries)

We believe the improvement in employee satisfaction reflects the effects of the measures we have implemented, including the launch of Kanematsu University, workflow reform through systems and other infrastructure improvement, and the promotion of DE&I and health and productivity management. However, the survey also showed that our level of employee engagement is still below the global average, and multiple hurdles to increasing employee satisfaction remain, such as organizational silos and the need to develop a culture that encourages ambitious efforts. To address these issues, we are implementing the following initiatives.

#### Hitotsubu Club

In light of the engagement survey finding that there is a need for greater encouragement for those taking on new challenges, in July 2022, we launched the Hitotsubu ("One Seed") Club as a cross-divisional community.

Employees take part in the Hitotsubu Club on a voluntary basis, regardless of division, seniority or position, to formulate and develop ideas and proposals for new businesses through interactive events and chat. When proposals are deemed promising, the Company provides support to bring them to fruition.

As of June 2023, events have been held nine times, providing a venue for ambitious efforts aimed at cultivating a new culture. These included "Alumni Seminars" with former employees who have started their own businesses, as well as lectures and discussions with executives of other companies, enabling participants to share diverse insights and actively explore ideas. The club's group chat has been similarly active, with more than 80 participants.

Multiple proposals that have sprung from this initiative are now moving forward through further study, and



Lecture event with Shigeharu Asagiri, President and CEO of Kyodoshoji Corporation, which sells COEDO Beer

expenditure.

one has received final approval resulting in capital

To expand this project in fiscal 2024, five employees volunteered to act as the club's secretariat and have been operating it since April of this year. With the stated mission

#### Activity-Based Working

Reflecting Kanematsu's founding purpose, "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity," we believe that in order to sow the seeds of new businesses and flexibly change and adapt while continuing to create value, we must go beyond conventional approaches of



#### **VOICE** Comment from the Head Office Relocation Project Managers



The new head office received the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Award in the 36th Nikkei New Office Awards, which recognize offices that provide outstanding comfort and functionality. Press release https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/press/20230915\_003129.html

#### **New Personnel System**

We are discussing revisions to the personnel system that will facilitate a climate in which each employee can set challenging goals for themselves and thereby raise the level of the entire organization, as well as the establishment of systems that reward such efforts and achievements.

of creating a corporate culture within Kanematsu of ongoing business creation by embracing challenges and change, the secretariat will formulate bottom-up proposals for new projects and systems aimed at further developing our corporate culture.

operating within organizational silos to generate innovation that spans business areas. To this end, coinciding with the relocation of the Tokyo Head Office, we have adopted activity-based working (ABW).

ABW is a work style in which employees can choose for themselves where to work with a sense of purpose in line with the specific work they are doing that day and their schedule, much like a free address system. We decided to include all divisions, without exception, in ABW, with the aim of enlivening interaction between employees of different divisions and ages all throughout the Company. By providing spaces that better enable employees to communicate and collaborate or to concentrate on their work, I think that we have been successful in providing value that only such an office can so that employees will want to come into the office, which is all the more meaningful today.

Work Environments for Employees

## Diverse Work Styles

#### **Flextime System**

In fiscal 2022, we implemented a full flextime system to promote flexible work styles. In principle, employees can freely adjust the times they begin and end their work in accordance with the varying demands of their own schedules, enabling more individually optimized and efficient work styles.

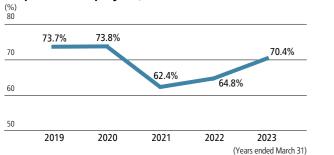
#### **Telework System**

To promote employee well-being and to enhance work efficiency by, for example, reducing time spent in transit when visiting sites out of the office, we established a telework system encompassing working from home and from satellite offices in April 2023. Aiming to respect employees' autonomous work styles while improving corporate performance, we position telework as one work style option.

#### Encouraging the Use of Paid Vacation/Leave

Kanematsu has established the Bronze Week Plus System for encouraging the planned use of annual paid vacation days. This is intended to make it easier for employees to take off the time they are entitled to and create workplaces that are more comfortable and rewarding. We will continue working to create even more employee-friendly workplaces and aim to help employees maintain a healthy balance between their work and private lives.

#### Annual Vacation Usage Rate (All Kanematsu **Corporation Employees)**



#### **Bronze Week Plus System Outline**

Definition: The Bronze Week Plus system makes it easier to take off a bridge day between two ordinary days off, the day before or after a three-day weekend, or two days before or after a normal weekend, effectively extending the number of consecutive days off for the individual to four or more. This system is aimed at helping employees have special Purpose: experiences that are difficult to realize with shorter breaks so that they will feel refreshed and have new ideas that they can then put to use in their work.

#### Kanematsu Group Work Style Grand Prize

We held the Kanematsu Group Work Style Grand Prize over the week of August 1–5, 2022, to share positive examples and model cases of flexible work styles achieved using our internal systems as well as the dreams and goals behind them, while also prompting employees to reexamine their own work styles. An entry that included the triple-threat of work, graduate school, and time with family won the most votes from employees and took the grand prize.

Kanematsu Group Work Style Grand Prize winner Yuya Tani, Legal Section No. 1, Legal and Compliance Department (right)

Yoshiya Miyabe, President & CEO (left)



#### **Childcare Support Systems**

In addition to maternity and childcare leave systems, we have a number of systems in place to allow parents to continue working while pregnant or raising children. These include reduced duties and time off for doctor's visits during pregnancy, time off to care for sick children, a system of shortened work hours and flextime after returning from leave, and a system of providing discounts on babysitting services. After returning from leave, employees are eligible for reduced work hours up to the end of the child's third year of elementary school and may work reduced hours with no reduction in pay until the child's third birthday. Many employees take childcare leave, and when they return to work, as a rule, they are placed

## **VOICE** Comment from a Male Childcare Leave User



Manager, Finance Section, Finance Department

I took a month of childcare leave after the births of both my first and second children. As a parent, I wanted to take part in childcare and felt that I should do so more. Neither the fact that I was the father, not the mother, nor my position within the Company changed that.

#### Family Care Support Systems

In addition to the conventional family care leave system, Kanematsu provides special paid holidays for family care ("special family care holidays").

We have also created a handbook for using support systems for balancing work and family care as part of efforts to provide information to employees who have concerns about family care. In addition, we have not only contracted with an external family care consultation service that employees can use at any time, but appointed a childraising and family care consultation officer, enabling oneto-one consultation on these matters. Information about

Kanematsu's family care-related systems is publicly available on the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's Ryoritsu Shien no Hiroba website. In recognition of such systems, in 2021 Kanematsu was granted "Tomonin" certification as a



in the divisions in which they worked before. These measures are taken to create a pleasant working environment.

Furthermore, on October 1, 2022, we launched a new childcare leave system called "Hello Baby" leave. This system grants employees up to eight weeks of special paid leave within the eight-week period starting the day after their child is born. The maximum legal requirement for providing paternity leave after childbirth in Japan is four weeks, unpaid. By offering leave that is up to double that length and paid, we are promoting employees' active involvement in childcare and fostering a culture in which employees can actively participate professionally regardless of gender.

When my first child was born, no managerial employees within the Company had ever taken childcare leave. However, thanks to the understanding and support of those around me, we were able to make it work, and I got to spend invaluable time with my child during the rapid growth of infancy. Even so, part of me felt like taking just one month would not make much a difference at the Company, especially compared with other parents who took longer childcare leave, but when I returned to work, the positive response was greater than I imagined. It seemed that my proactive stance on participating in childcare as a male manager had gotten across without my having to say anything.

I feel that Kanematsu has cultivated an atmosphere that makes it easy to take childcare leave and has established conditions that enable all employees to autonomously engage in their work and continue to actively participate in each of their respective life stages. Leveraging my own experience and position, I hope to further advance efforts to improve conditions for employees worried about their careers or work styles after returning from childcare leave, aiming to build an organization in which employees feel they can work for a lifetime.

Years ended March	31	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Users of childcare leave	Women	18	20	24	31	29
Users of childcare leave	Men	2	0	4	6	10
"Hello Baby" leave	Women	-	-	-	-	0
(Launched Oct. 2022)	Men	-	-	-	-	6
Users of special childbirth leave for spouse	12	14	7	10	2	
Users of leave to care for	Women	26	29	26	31	36
sick children	Men	23	20	18	21	13
Users of family care leave		1	1	0	0	0
Users of special family	Women	11	13	11	12	13
care holidays	Men	10	10	7	8	2

company that provides work environments that enable employees to balance work with family care.

Kanematsu's Foundation

Work Environments for Employees

#### New Dress Code

We have updated our office dress code to enable employees to dress more appropriately for the season and climate. This change is aimed at combating global warming and protecting the environment while also promoting greater independence, productivity, and creativity by allowing each employee to choose attire that is easier for them to work in.

## Health & Productivity Management Focused on Employee Well-Being and Employee-Friendly Labor Practices

#### **Initiatives for Health & Productivity Management**

Kanematsu was recognized as a 2023 Certified Health & Productivity Management Outstanding Organization in the large enterprise category of the Certified Health & Productivity Management Organizations Recognition Program organized by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and Nippon Kenko Kaigi. This marks our third consecutive year of recognition under the program.



#### Kanematsu Health & Productivity Management Declaration

Kanematsu believes that maintaining and improving employee health is a crucial management issue for achieving sustainable growth. Accordingly, to advance health & productivity management, we strive to do the following.

1. Health management: We support employees' individual efforts to proactively maintain and improve their health. 2. Environment improvement: We create workplaces that ensure employees can work without endangering their health and participate fully. We study, implement, confirm effectiveness, and take steps to improve measures related to health management and 3. Ongoing improvement: environmental improvement on an ongoing basis.

#### **Establishment of the Health & Productivity Promotion System**

Kanematsu is promoting health & productivity management based on a system comprising the Human Resources Department, industrial physicians, the Medical Center, the Occupational Health Committee, and the health insurance society, with the Chief Officer of Human Resources designated as the Health & Productivity Management Promotion Officer.

Furthermore, we have established a framework for reporting on health & productivity management initiatives to the Management Committee.





#### **Monitoring Employee Health**

In fiscal 2024, Kanematsu plans to implement initiatives to improve the visibility of data on employee health using a health management system. Working with the Kanematsu Health Insurance Society, we will efficiently analyze data to implement effective measures tailored to employee health status.

#### Lifestyle-Related Illness Prevention

We are working toward the prevention and early detection of lifestyle-related illnesses through such measures as increasing the proportion of employees who undergo regular medical checkups and receive specific health guidance.

#### **Mental Health Measures**

To promote the early detection and prevention of mental health problems, we implement annual stress checks for all employees. For employees with high levels of stress, we provide counseling with industrial physicians and conduct group analyses at the organizational level. We also provide training for managerial employees on supporting the mental health of their subordinates as part of efforts to raise awareness of the importance of mental health.

#### Anti-Harassment Measures

To combat harassment, we have set up an internal consultation hotline, distribute a handbook to raise awareness, and conduct harassment prevention training.

#### **Occupational Health Committee**

We have established the Occupational Health Committee to protect employee health and foster a cheerful work environment. Operating under the supervision of the General Manager of Health and Safety (the General Manager of the Human Resources Department), the committee comprises industrial physicians, occupational

## Human Capital Targets and Results

#### Human Capital Development Policy

Key theme	КРІ	FY2023 Result	FY2027 target
Acquisition of Added Value and Expansion of Scale	Executive management training participation rate	72.2% of career-track employees with Kanematsu for 11 years or more	100% of career-track employees with Kanematsu for 11 years or more
Sowing Seeds to Create a New Portfolio	Diverse human resource hiring rate (women and non-Japanese nationals)	27.1% <sup>1</sup>	35% (Four-year average)
Promote Groupwide DX	<ul> <li>IT Passport test pass rate</li> <li>DX-related training participation rate<sup>2</sup></li> <li>Personnel exchange with Group ICT/data business companies</li> </ul>	_ _ _	100% 70% 60 employees (Four-year total)

1. Average for the five years following the future 135 medium-term vision 2. The rate of employees who take part in either business process management training or DX project promotion training

#### Work Environment Policy

Key theme	KPI	FY2023 Result	FY2027 target
Leveraging Diverse Individuality through DE&I	<ul> <li>Percent of management positions held by women</li> <li>Childcare leave usage rate among eligible men</li> </ul>	4.9% 88%	7% 100%
Enhancing Engagement to Maximize Performance	Engagement score	61%1	The global average of companies in the top 10% <sup>2</sup>
Diverse Work Styles	<ul> <li>Annual vacation usage rate</li> <li>Full flex system usage rate</li> </ul>	70.4% 81.8%	75% 95%
Health & Productivity Management Focused on Employee Well-Being and Employee-Friendly Labor Practices	<ul> <li>Rate of employees undergoing regular medical checkups</li> <li>Rate of employees undergoing stress checks</li> <li>Harassment prevention training participation rate</li> </ul>	97.2% 98.1% 100%	100% 100% Keep at 100%

1 Result for the year ended March 31 2022

10% based on financial performance in their respective industries); this score was 66% in 2021

health managers, employees recommended by the Company, and employees recommended by the labor union. The committee meets once a month, with labor and management jointly discussing and promoting related measures while receiving advice from industrial physicians.

2. Global average calculated across approximately 700 companies with approximately 7,000,000 employees (average score of global companies in the top

Kanematsu's Foundation:

KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023 61

#### Kanematsu's Foundations

Dialogue between the Chairman and an Outside Director

The Kind of Trading Company the Kanematsu Group Aims to Be Following the Recent **Tender Offers** 

**Tanigawa** In the near future, trading companies will need to evolve structurally to add further added value, building on the base of trading, their traditional livelihood. One aspect of the kind of trading company we aim to be entails capturing greater added value by expanding beyond that base, extending our business scope both up- and downstream. By combining this expansion with our new strength in digital technologies, we will provide added value. In this way, we aim to provide greater abundance and well-being for stakeholders, including business partners and employees. As we work toward this goal, I think that we should constantly be building and improving Groupwide governance and internal control systems to ensure a foundation that will not waver, regardless of the management environment.

**Sasa** I understand the idea that upstream areas, including manufacturing, can be a way to provide added value, and I think they will be important in the future. Olympus Corporation, where I formerly served as president, is a manufacturer, carrying out everything from product planning and technological and product development to manufacturing, and finally sales and service. In this, an important focus for that company is solving issues for doctors and patients; in other words, it is a solutions-oriented business. I think that Kanematsu is similar in that regard, and this is where the sense that Kanematsu needs to get involved upstream comes from. Kanematsu already has strong foundations and ties with customers downstream. And that's the most important thing, because the issues that require solutions always come from the customer.

Tanigawa Indeed, what I think of as a trading company professional is precisely the kind of person who has come up through that kind of work.



# **Building Frameworks to Take Us Toward Our Vision**

Chairman Kaoru Tanigawa, who is also the presiding officer of the Board of Directors, and Hiroyuki Sasa, who recently completed his first year as outside director of Kanematsu, sat down to discuss the kind of governance needed in today's rapidly changing business environment, efforts to achieve such governance, and challenges going forward.

Providing added value to address the needs and issues faced by customers is our key role. The Kanematsu Group will work as one to create systems that will enable us to apply solutionsoriented business successes to other fields and business units.

#### The Heart of Corporate Governance

Tanigawa As a trading company, Kanematsu has a vast number of Group companies, so making sure that the Group's Corporate Principle permeates the entire organization and maintaining Groupwide internal control through governance are eternal challenges that lie at the heart of getting the Group to work as one. While working to promote awareness of the Corporate Principle at Group companies, we review them for risk through audit functions and provide feedback—a process that I imagine has been ongoing for the last century.

**Sasa** Group governance and management are two sides of the same coin. The business itself, its support functions, and the unifying force that accelerates business-all

three of these factors must operate in unison, and Group governance exists to ensure that they do. At the core of management are the management philosophy and the specific measures necessary to achieve it. However, the mere presence of these core elements does not necessarily provide clear rules that the people of the Group on the ground should follow day to day-that's where internal control frameworks come in.

Tanigawa I think that awareness of the content of the Kanematsu Group's Corporate Principle has permeated the Group, but there is still some ground to be covered in terms of actually putting it into practice. I am responsible for the Internal Auditing Department, and when a Group company's corporate principles are significantly out of step with the Group's, we identify that discrepancy as an issue. From there, we work to rebuild relevant frameworks through auditing, focusing on whether the company has in place the kind of rules and internal control mechanisms that are important to the Group in a process of repeated evaluation and improvement over several years. This ongoing process

of review and monitoring is perhaps similar to a PDCA cycle.

Sasa Yes, there's really no other way. Ultimately, there must be common value standards that support or embody the Group's principles, and it is important to work to make sure that these are shared and understood all throughout the Group.

Tanigawa I think that governance is the core of effective corporate functioning. If governance is not firmly in place, the company simply doesn't work. However, I think that inevitably-and this is why we are talking about this so much—as we expand into manufacturing to bring new added value to our businesses, the character of the governance and internal control needed will be different and unlike those that we know. This is an area in which we will be depending on your help.

Sasa When I first came on as an outside director, I did feel major differences between the manufacturer where I worked before and Kanematsu, a trading company. However, I can certainly understand Kanematsu's desire to proactively

enter the manufacturing sector, which is upstream in the value chain, in order to expand the added value of its existing businesses under future 135.

Tanigawa Nowadays, it is essential to go beyond the category of trading, and we must supply products with added value that meets market and client needs in such areas as processing. This is forcing us closer to the manufacturing domain. For example, the business of the Meat Products Division has conventionally centered on purchasing beef, but processes that make it ready for sale by wholesalers or retailers can be a good way of further adding value. I'm sure you must have noticed, but Kanematsu's business portfolio has not changed over the past 20 years. In some ways, that's just the way it is for us as a trading company, but the world today is embracing innovation and transformation, and so are we. The creation of new businesses now will drive growth for the next generation. Indeed, I think that creating new businesses may be the true mission of management over the medium to long term. And, it is the area we have been having the most

difficulty with.

#### Hiroyuki Sasa Outside Director

Sasa The Kanematsu Group encompasses a wide variety of business models. As such, going forward, as a methodology for creating businesses based on the Group's unique systems and challenges, it will be important to finds ways to universalize and formalize new added value and establish it as a strength of the Kanematsu Group.

**Tanigawa** I think that it will be important to use DX to build such a methodology. The Kanematsu Group includes the Electronics & Devices Division, and we are now positioned to deepen our relationships with subsidiary Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. to jointly create value, so I think we will be able to guickly build mechanisms to create added value.

#### The Functions and Mission of the Board of Directors

Sasa As businesses expand, the importance of risk management increases. If the speed and scope of risk management are not calibrated correctly, risks will grow. It's impossible to guard against every possible risk, so centralizing information and response methods for dealing with crises when they occur is essential. In addition to crisis management within each business division, I believe that a matrix system should be implemented from the perspective of crossdivisional management functions. The other issue will be achieving globally centralized crisis response.

Tanigawa Yes, risk control is part of the function and mission of the Board of Directors. Namely, balancing growth and risk management. The Kanematsu Group has vertically organized businesses with a variety of functions that connect across them horizontally and diagonally, and we aim to strengthen operations throughout this matrix. We already have in place a quick response framework that establishes a committee to centrally gather information and issue instructions when an issue arises. In terms of day-to-day business risks, I think it is important to always be

prepared to respond to emergencies, for example, by ensuring that internal control monitoring functions effectively.

#### Issues and Measures Going Forward

Sasa Challenges also remain in terms of truly global operations. To be frank, I think that some aspects of Kanematsu's Group management are outdated and seem to be stuck in a uniquely Japanese style of conservative management. What it means to be truly global is hard to define, but it's more than just having a high percentage of sales from overseas operations or establishing overseas manufacturing bases. When I took office as president of Olympus, around 80% of the company's sales were from overseas, but it still had that uniquely Japanese management style that lacked speed. So, we dug deep to figure out what could give us the edge we needed to compete on an equal footing with global competitors. What we arrived at was a management framework to advance initiatives, speed in doing so, and sufficient driving force behind management decisions and governance to withstand competition.



**Tanigawa** The Kanematsu Group is a trading company that began with the founding purpose of sowing and nurturing the seeds of prosperity for Japan, so naturally, until now, importing foods, semiconductors, energy, and other goods from overseas has accounted for the overwhelming share of our business. However, as the Japanese market

shrinks going forward, there will come a time when this business model alone is no longer viable. In preparation for this, we are expanding third-country trading and overseas M&A. We assume that this will require forms of governance and new approaches that are different to those we have employed until now.

Sasa The next step Kanematsu will need to take is strengthening functions. This will depend significantly on how the Company goes about linking its horizontal functions globally, and how guickly it seeks to evolve into a global company. In the case of Olympus, our competitors had, for example, personnel systems designed to put the best suited person in each position, regardless of nationality or gender. We knew that if we took the conventional Japanese approach of developing only in-house human resources without looking outward, we would lose badly. We took the big step of reforming our personnel system to be like those of our competitors and, as a result, many important positions came to be filled by personnel from outside Japan. It took work to make sure that our employees in Japan understood the intention and importance of this change, but it ultimately led to an increase in motivation for employees Groupwide.

Tanigawa That is an area where Kanematsu needs to learn from Olympus. The Kanematsu Group hires and develops human resources in Japan and sends them overseas, and also hires overseas personal for work and development in Japan. Going forward, however, to step up businesses in other countries, and especially to expand our businesses through M&A or other means, we will need local overseas human resources in top management positions, and local hiring and development will be essential. I think that, a decade from now, a sizable portion of the Group's employees is likely to be non-Japanese nationals.

**Sasa** I mentioned before that some things at Kanematsu felt outdated. At



Olympus, we acted with speed, changing corporate systems and frameworks to be on par with global competitors in just three years. I would ask, then, since Kanematsu marked a new start with restructuring efforts in 1999, has the Company really achieved transformational change? Although some of this comes down to the mindsets of top management, management methods, and the external environment, I think that Kanematsu should be more proactive. I want to know if Kanematsu's management and executives are serious about changing. No matter how much they exhort employees to change, if they don't change themselves, nothing will. I feel that it is my role as outside director to speak my mind frankly on such matters.

Tanigawa In the Kanematsu Group's long history, there have been some very difficult times, and the lesson we took from these is the importance of rock-solid, unerring management. To this end, we have long worked to constantly improve and evolve reliable governance, internal control, and crisis management systems. Now, while maintaining a strong defense through governance, I hope to see our executives be active and ambitious on offense. We have many employees who are passionate about creating next-generation businesses, and our businesses are evolving in dynamic ways. I believe that the challenge for us going forward will be to maintain effective management control while respecting the individuality and freedom of each employee to harness that passion and dynamism as a Groupwide force for global change.



Yusaku Kurahashi Audit & Supervisory Board Member (Outside)



Nobuko Inaba Audit & Supervisory Board Member (Outside)

#### **Further Evolving Group Governance**

I feel that the Kanematsu Group's governance has continued to evolve. The Board of Directors has made system-related changes aimed at increasing independence, securing diversity, and optimizing the skill matrix while also taking such steps as setting the agenda to secure opportunities for strategic, big-picture deliberations of medium- to long-term growth, resulting in lively, substantive discussions. It's not uncommon for Board discussions to be lengthy and intense, requiring a degree of intellectual stamina—in a good way—on the part of participants. The Audit & Supervisory Board, meanwhile, mainly discusses matters designated for its deliberation and regular audits of operations carried out by the non-outside members. Through meetings with executives, discussions with the outside directors, and regular reports from the Internal Auditing Department and accounting auditor, the Audit & Supervisory Board works to keep tabs on and understand management issues and risks. Going forward, key governance issues will include continuing to increase the effectiveness of the Board of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board, investing in human capital, promoting DX, generating Group synergies, offering new added value as a trading company, and reinforcing internal control. I hope to contribute to addressing these as an outside Audit & Supervisory Board member.

#### The Present and Future of the Kanematsu Group's Governance

Before Board of Directors meetings, participants are provided with detailed materials about each proposal. These include opinions from various standpoints, based on objective evidence, about risks identified by related divisions as well as the conclusions reached by committees and data on relevant conditions. Ample time is allotted and effort expended to the consideration and discussion of matters before they reach the Board of Directors, and the Company's approach to handling matters of internal control and defensive governance is outstanding. However, while the number of agenda items taken up by the Board of Directors has been decreasing, it remains high, and the ample prior considerations and discussions can also be said to come at the expense of swift management decision making. To survive and thrive going forward, Kanematsu is working to expand its business areas, develop globally, and advance M&A. The success of such efforts will require governance that provides not only a robust defense, but also an offense with speed through the flexible transfer of authority. By incorporating this kind of perspective, I think that Kanematsu will be able to enhance its enterprise value even further.

#### Message from the Chief Officer of the Internal Auditing Department



Kaori Kusuda Executive Officer Chief Officer, Internal Auditing Dept.; General Manager, Internal Auditing Dept.

The Internal Auditing Department carries out audits of operations at Group companies based on an annual audit plan formulated according to a risk-based approach. As a result of the expansion of scale targeted under the medium-term vision, the Kanematsu Group has grown to 134 companies; to handle the manufacturing operating companies, we have hired a staff with experience in auditing manufacturers, ensuring that we can audit a diverse range of transaction types. Also, we require consolidated Group companies to perform self-inspections for the purpose of monitoring the development and operation of control activities at the front lines of operations. We have included new initiatives related to social issues, such as environmental and human rights considerations, into these inspections, and, if their effectiveness and utility is verified, we add them to our list of audit items and thereby enhance our auditing operations. As a new initiative, we are conducting audits along Group-wide themes to identify risks and management issues common across Group companies and are focusing on auditing the effectiveness of group IT controls to assess the status of individual companies' DX promotion, including the use of AI, as well as risks related to the underlying information security.

#### Our Basic Stance on Corporate Governance

Kanematsu's founder himself put down the words "Let us sow and nurture the seeds of global prosperity." The Kanematsu Group recognizes the pioneering spirit fostered by our predecessors along with the wise use of our creative imagination and ingenuity, fulfilling our corporate social responsibilities through sound, flourishing businesses, and adherence to Company rules as key parts of its Corporate Principle. We operate in accordance with this principle and our Code of Conduct, striving to carry out corporate activities to serve our various stakeholders

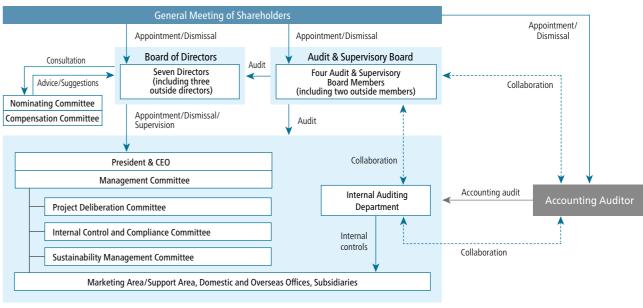
and help realize a sustainable society by providing socially valuable goods and services. To this end, Kanematsu endeavors to strengthen corporate governance to increase the transparency of management and create a more equitable, efficient, and sound company. We work to improve corporate governance with the aim of increasing our enterprise value and winning the support of all our stakeholders, including shareholders, customers, business partners, and employees.

Corporate	Governance Structure (a	is of July 2023)						
Role and co	mposition of each body							Ale Standing Female Male Outside
Body	Board of Directors	Nominating Committee	Compensation Committee	Management Committee	Audit & Supervisory Board	Project Deliberation Committee	Internal Control and Compliance Committee	Sustainability Management Committee
Composition	7 members • Presiding officer: Chairman of the Board of Directors • Standing directors: 3 • Outside directors: 3 • Outside directors: 3	<ul> <li>4 members</li> <li>Committee chair: Outside director</li> <li>Chairman of the Board of Directors</li> <li>Outside directors: 2</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 members</li> <li>Committee chair: Outside director</li> <li>President &amp; CEO</li> <li>Outside directors: 2</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>12 members</li> <li>Presiding officer: President &amp; CEO</li> <li>Chairman of the Board of Directors</li> <li>Executive officers: 10</li> <li>Executive officers: 10</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4 members</li> <li>Presiding officer: Standing Audit &amp; Supervisory Board member</li> <li>Standing Audit &amp; Supervisory Board member: 1</li> <li>Outside Audit &amp; Supervisory Board members: 2</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>3 members</li> <li>Presiding officer: Chief Officer of Credit Control</li> <li>Executive officers: 2 (chief officers of finance and accounting and corporate planning)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5 members</li> <li>Committee chair: Chairman of the Board of Directors</li> <li>Committee vice-chair: President &amp; CEO</li> <li>Executive officers: 3</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>7 members</li> <li>• Committee chair: Chief Officer of Corporate Planning</li> <li>• Executive officers: 6</li> </ul>
	Three of the seven directors are outside directors in order to promote appropriate decision making and further reinforce the supervision of business execution.	Three of the four members, including the committee chair, are independent outside directors. The committee reinforces the indepen- dence, objectivity, and account- ability of the Board of Directors.	Three of the four members, including the committee chair, are independent outside directors. The committee reinforces the indepen- dence, objectivity, and account- ability of the Board of Directors.	The committee has 12 members, comprising the chairman of the Board of Directors and certain exec- utive officers, including the president.	Two (half) of the four Audit & Supervisory Board members are outside members in order to increase the transparency of management and create a more equi- table, efficient, and sound company.	The committee comprises the chief offi- cers of credit control, finance and accounting, and corporate planning	The committee has five members, comprising the chairman of the Board of Directors and certain executive offi- cers, including the president.	The committee comprises six officers from business divisions (executive offi- cers) and the chief officer of corporate planning (an executive officer), who chairs the committee.
Objective, Authority, and Function	The Board of Directors decides on matters required of it as set out in law and Kanematsu's Articles of Incorporation as well as manage- ment policy and other important matters related to business execu- tion. The Board also provides over- sight of the business execution of directors and executive officers by taking up important matters referred from the Management Committee and receiving various reports. Decisions regarding the execu- tion of other business operations (mainly matters to be reported as stipulated in the Board of Directors regulations) are delegated to the Management Committee or execu- tive officers in accordance with the rules on administrative authority established by the Board of Directors.		In response to inquiries from the Board of Directors, the Compensation Committee deliber- ates on such matters as policy regarding the setting of compensa- tion levels and types for individual directors and executive officers, the compensation itself, and the neces- sary policy, rules, and procedures for reaching related resolutions. Based on these deliberations, the committee provides advice and recommendations to the Board of Directors.		Kanematsu uses the audit & supervisory board system. The Audit & Supervisory Board and its members act independently to audit directors' performance of their duties. The Audit & Supervisory Board works with the Board of Directors to provide part of the Company's auditing function and audits the directors' performance of their duties as an independent body acting on behalf of shareholders.	To speed up the decision making, enhance deliberations, and minimize business risks, prior to resolutions on such important matters as major invest- ments and loans, the Project Deliberation Committee examines and deliberates the matters in question from a Company-wide perspective and provides advice to the respective decision-making bodies or individuals.	As a Companywide internal body, the Internal Control and Compliance Committee comprehensively assesses risks facing the Kanematsu Group, seeks to enhance operational effective- ness and efficiency, and strives to ensure the reliability of Group financial reporting.	To help solve increasingly serious social and environmental problems, including climate change, Kanematsu established the Sustainability Management Committee, which deliberates on climate-related risks identified and evaluated by the business divisions. The committee also regularly calculates the Group's CO <sub>2</sub> emissions and discusses changes in emissions and policy for related measures as part of imple- menting comprehensive risk management. Furthermore, the committee iden- tifies and revises the Company's key issues and deliberates on overall sustainability initiatives, including ensuring respect for human rights, as well as the Company's participation in outside initiatives, such as support for the United Nations Global Compact.
Meeting Frequency	Regular meetings: Once a month Extraordinary meetings held as needed	Held as needed	Held as needed	Generally twice a month Extraordinary meetings held as needed	Regular meetings: Once a month Extraordinary meetings held as needed	Extraordinary meetings held as needed (About twice a month)	Generally held twice a year, in April and July	Held as needed
Meetings in Fiscal 2023	20	5	4	28	13	27	4	5

#### The Evolution of Our Corporate Governance System (as of the end of the General Meeting of Shareholders following each fiscal year-end)

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
System			Expanded th	xpanded the executive officer system								
Committees				Established the Nominating Committee and Compensation Committee					ittee			
Directors		10	6	7	7	8	8	6	6	6	7	7
Standing dire	ectors	10	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4
Outside director		0	1	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	3	3
Outside director ratio		0%	17%	29%	29%	38%	38%	33%	33%	33%	43%	43%
Audit & Supervi	isory Board members	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Outside Audi Board memb	it & Supervisory ers	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2
Nominating	Committee chair				Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Outside	Outside
Committee	Members				4	4	3	3	3	3	4	4
	(Outside members)				3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3
Compensation	Committee chair				Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Standing	Outside	Outside
Committee	Members				4	4	3	3	3	3	4	4
	(Outside members)				3	3	2	2	2	2	3	3

#### Corporate Governance Structure (as of June 27, 2023)



#### Meeting Attendance (Fiscal 2023), Professional Background, and Skill Matrix

		Professional background	Professional background Board of			Professional background Bo		Professional background		f Directors		inating mittee		oensation nmittee		Audit & Sup	pervisory Board	Skills needed for medium- and long-term management strategy and the Board of Directors								
				5/2022		5/2022		5/2022	Management Committee	t l	51/2022	Medium- to long-term enhancement of corporate value				Business investment		Sustainability, DX		ĸ						
		Experience as corporate officer or division chief officer at Kanematsu or as a corporate officer outside the Company	Overseas work experience		FY2023 attendance		FY2023 attendance		FY2023 attendance			FY2023 attendance	Corporate management	Business strategy planning	Human resource management	Governance	Investment decisions	Finance	SDGs (ESG) management thinking	Technology/ DX	Innovation					
Kaoru Tanigawa	Chairman	Chief Officer, Electronics & Devices Division; Chief Officer, Corporate Planning; President; Chairman; Chief Officer, Internal Auditing Dept. (incumbent)	U.S.A. (15 years)	O Presiding officer	20/20	0	5/5			0			O	O	0	O	O	0	0	O	0					
Yoshiya Miyabe	President & CEO	Deputy Chief Officer, Electronics & IT Division; Chief Officer, Motor Vehicles & Aerospace Division; President (incumbent)	U.S.A. (10 years)	0	20/20			0	4/4	O Presiding officer			O	O	0	0	O	0	0	O	O					
Tetsuro Tsutano	Director	Chief Officer, Finance, Accounting, Business Accounting; Chief Officer, Corporate Planning and IT Planning (incumbent)	U.S.A. (4 years)	0	20/20					0				O		0	O	0	O		O					
Shuji Masutani	Director	Chief Officer, Finance, Accounting, Business Accounting (incumbent)	U.K. (2 years) Germany (2 years)	0	17/17					0						0	O	O								
Yuko Tahara	Director (outside, independent)	Outside director (incumbent)		0	20/20	0	5/5	O Chair	4/4				0		O					O	O					
Kazuhiro Tanaka	Director (outside, independent)	Outside director (incumbent)		0	20/20	O Chair	5/5	0	4/4							O			O							
Hiroyuki Sasa	Director (outside, independent)	Outside director (incumbent)	U.S.A. (5 years)	0	17/17	0	5/5	0	1/1				O	O	0	O	0				0					
Motohisa Hirai	Audit & Supervisory Board member	President, an overseas subsidiary (Hong Kong); Audit & Supervisory Board member (incumbent)	Germany (6 years) Hong Kong (3 years)		20/20						0	13/13				O	are marl expecte	ked with "O," d to contribu	while areas in te are marked		e particularly					
Yoshio Tajima	Audit & Supervisory Board member	Director at a Group affiliate (Electronics & Devices)	Australia (4 years) U.S.A. (5 years)		_						0	_				O	2. Director Hiroyuki Sasa was appointed at the June 24, 2022 General Meeting of Shareholders, the numbers of meetings of the Board of Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board that he was eligible to attend differ from those for the other directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members.									
Yusaku Kurahashi	Audit & Supervisory Board member (outside, independent)	Outside Audit & Supervisory Board member (incumbent)			19/20						0	13/13				0	<ol> <li>Audit &amp; Supervisory Board member Yoshio Tajima was appointed at the June 27, 2023 General Meeting of Shareholders.</li> </ol>									
Nobuko Inaba	Audit & Supervisory Board member (outside, independent)	Outside Audit & Supervisory Board member (incumbent)			18/20						0	13/13	0			O	_									

Details regarding the professional background of each director and Audit & Supervisory Board member are available in the Notice of the 129th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders.

#### Notice of the 129th Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders p. 20

https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/en/ir/files/Notice\_of\_the\_129th\_ordinary\_general\_meeting\_of\_shareholders.pdf

KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023 69

The Origins of Value Creation

Kanematsu's Foundations

#### **Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Board of Directors**

Each year, Kanematsu implements evaluations of the effectiveness of the Board of Directors to identify issues to address in the following year and confirm the status of measures undertaken to address issues identified the previous year. Through this process of evaluation and the implementation of measures to address issues identified, Kanematsu works to continually improve the effectiveness of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors and its secretariat implemented the measures listed below in fiscal 2023. We will continue working to resolve issues on an ongoing basis.

#### **Board of Directors Effectiveness Evaluation Process**



#### Initiatives to Address Issues Identified in the Previous Year

Issues	Initiatives in Fiscal 2023
Board of Directors composition	• Secured the diversity of members and discussed skills needed in the Board of Directors identified in the skill matrix. Decided to seek an outside director with corporate management experience from the perspective of promoting investment, part of the <i>future 135</i> medium-term vision.
Board of Directors discussions and operations	<ul> <li>Enhanced prior explanations of agenda items by the Board's secretariat for outside directors to improve the quality of Board of Directors discussions.</li> <li>Discussed Group growth strategy, focusing on Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. and Kanematsu Sustech Corporation.</li> <li>Worked toward the establishment of a human capital policy.</li> </ul>
Knowledge and training necessary for Board members	<ul> <li>Held training for officers with external experts on business and human rights, a training topic highly requested in effectiveness evaluations due to its importance to sustainability.</li> <li>Executive officers provided explanations of businesses by theme to enhance outside directors' understanding of business execution.</li> </ul>
Dialogue with shareholders and investors	Shared transcripts of IR meetings at the Board of Directors
Other/Overall	Reinforced monitoring functions related to sustainability based on regular reports from the Sustainability Management Committee.

# Survey Items

- Board of Directors composition
- Board of Directors operation and discussions
- Support system and training for directors and Audit & Supervisory Board members
- Dialogue with shareholders and investors
- Opinions on the overall operation of the Board of Directors

#### Issues to Address Going Forward

- Medium- and long-term management strategy; formulating the next medium-term business plan
- · Identifying the skills needed in directors under the next mediumterm business plan
- Medium- and long-term growth strategy; approach to financial and non-financial aspects
- AI and other new technologies
- Utilizing human capital and personnel system reform
- Support system for outside directors
- Group growth strategy, focusing on DX/GX

#### Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Member Compensation

#### **Total Compensation (Fiscal 2023)**

		Total Co	Number of Individuals		
	Total Compensation	Monetary Co	ompensation	Non-monetary	Receiving
	(millions of yen)	Basic Compensation	Performance-linked Compensation	Performance-linked Stock Compensation	Compensation
Directors (excluding outside directors)	240	150	40	49	5
Outside Directors	28	28	-	-	3
Audit & Supervisory Board Members (excluding outside members)	57	57	-	_	2
Outside Audit & Supervisory Board Members	19	19	-	_	2
Total	344	255	40	49	12

#### **Basic Policy**

Basic Cor

Monthly fixe

compensatio

Kanematsu's basic policy for director compensation is to adopt a compensation system that is linked to the interests of shareholders in order to ensure that the system sufficiently incentivizes the sustainable enhancement of corporate value while also ensuring that the compensation of individual directors is set at levels appropriate to their respective

### **Director and Audit & Supervisory Board Member Compensation System**

						LAC	
mpensation	+		Performance-Linked Compensation				
ed on		Cash compensation that reflects the performance indicator the year attributable to owners of the Parent)					ndicator (
		<ul> <li>bonus or</li> <li>Total pay owners or of the Pa</li> <li>The amore</li> </ul>	attributabl nce a year ment amo of the Parer rent is less unts paid t payment a	e to owner unt: 0.25% nt (or ¥0 if than ¥5.0 o individua amount in J	rs of the Pa of profit for profit for the billion) or al directors proportion	arent) and i or the year ne year att ¥50 milliou are deterr to points s	its value i attributa ributable n, whiche mined by set out for
		Rank	Chairman of the Board of Directors President	Vice President	Director and Senior Managing Executive Officer	Director and Managing Executive Officer	Director and Senior Executive Officer
		Points	1.0	0.74	0.59	0.53	0.45
		Maximum					

 Individual payment amount formula: Individual payment amount = Total payment amount × The individual's

8,500

7,600

10,700

14,400

payment (thousands

of yen)

rank-based points ÷ Sum of rank-based points awarded to all directors

Monetary compensation: Annual monetary compensation is capped at ¥300 million for directors (including ¥40 million for outside directors) and ¥84 million for Audit & Supervisory Board members

40%–70% of total compensation	15%–45% of total compensation
Policy and methods for deciding compensation amounts and calculation methods	<ul> <li>Board of Directors</li> <li>Decides amounts within the maximum amount of director compensation decided by resolution of the General Meeting of Shareholders.</li> <li>Decides calculation methods and amount determination policies I on recommendations from the General Meeting of Shareholders</li> </ul>

The Compensation Committee considers the proportion of each type of compensation for executive directors, taking into account compensation levels benchmarked against companies of a similar business scale to the Company or in related industries or with similar business formats; the Board of Directors respects such considerations when determining the details of compensation for each director

Outside Directors			
Basic Compensation			
Outside directors are paid only monthly compensation and are not paid performance- linked compensation.			

responsibilities. Specifically, compensation for executive directors consists of basic compensation as fixed compensation, performance-linked compensation, and stock compensation. Compensation for Outside Directors, who provide oversight, consists of only basic compensation in light of their duties.

#### Executive Directors +1 Stock Compensation (profit for · Stock compensation that reflects the performance indicator (profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent); the number of shares to be granted is calculated in accordance with the level of achievement of (profit for performance targets set forth in the medium-term business plan and is paid as a other factors, and shares are delivered upon retirement • This compensation is also granted to executive officers table to • Compensation is the total of amounts calculated each year during the e to owners term of the medium-term business plan (April 1, 2018 to March 31, never is less 2024) (amounts less than ¥1 are rounded up to the nearest yen) / dividina Stock compensation = Amount of performance-linked stock or each rank compensation × The individual's rank-based points ÷ Sum of rank-based points awarded to all directors ints Profit for the year attributable t ¥5.0 billion to ¥25.0 billion to ¥30.0 Less than less than ¥25.0 less than ¥30.0 Director billion o ¥5.0 billion and owners of the billion billion above Parent Executive Officer Performanc Profit for the Profit for the yea linked stock ear attributabl attributable to 0 ¥60 millior 0.37 owners of the owners of the Parent × 0.18% Parent $\times 0.20\%$ formula 6,500 5,300 • Individual payment formula (for individuals who were directors on the final day of the evaluation period) Stock issuance points = Stock compensation amount $\div$ Per-share book value of Kanematsu stock held by the trust Maximum Shares (Stock Issuance Points) Awarded per Fiscal Year Directo Directo Directo Director and Senior Managing of the and and Senior Vice and Managing Rank Board of Executive Executive Officer Officer Executiv President Officer Maximum shares (stock 53,000 39,000 31,000 28,000 23,000 19,000 issuance points) The funds to be contributed by the Company to acquire Company shares needed to for delivery to directors have been set at ¥450 million; shares may be acquired through the stock market or through the disposal of treasury stock. 15%-30% of total compensation Compensation Committee • Deliberates on policy for determining the content of compensation for individual directors, the content of compensation, the basic policy necessary to make resolutions on these, rules, and procedures and makes recommendations to the based Board of Directors

#### Audit & Supervisory Board Members

#### **Basic Compensation**

Audit & Supervisory Board members are paid monthly compensation determined by the Audit & Supervisory Board and are not paid performance-linked compensation.

https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/ir/library/yuho.html

ematsu's Foundations

### **Internal Control**

### The Kanematsu Group's Internal Control System

To provide systems for ensuring appropriate business operations as stipulated in the Companies Act and the Regulations for Enforcement of the Companies Act, Kanematsu has adopted the "Basic Policy on the Establishment of Internal Control Systems" by resolution of the Board of Directors (established May 1, 2006, last amended June 24, 2022). The Company maintains and operates an internal control system in accordance with this basic policy.

In addition, in line with internal control reporting systems defined in the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law, we have established the "Kanematsu Group's Internal Control Overall Policy". The effectiveness of internal control

#### Compliance

The Internal Control and Compliance Committee provides support and guidance to ensure that the Group maintains proper compliance. As part of such efforts, the committee has prepared the Kanematsu Group Compliance Handbook, which explains related measures with concrete examples and clearly states that the Group rejects any and all ties with antisocial forces. The Handbook has been made available through the Company intranet to promote thorough awareness. The Handbook also clearly lays out the system of division and Group company compliance officers, rules for reporting Compliance Matters,\* and the hotline systems for directly reporting to and consulting with Internal Control and Compliance Committee members or external counsel

In addition to the Handbook, we are implementing internal training to promote strict compliance, including the prevention of bribery and corruption. To educate employees about harassment, we have prepared and circulate a Harassment Handbook that features concrete examples, and we highlight examples of harassment as part of our internal compliance training. We also implement management training on handling reports and incidents of bullying and harassment. Through these efforts, we are working to further instill and enhance compliance awareness on an ongoing basis.

Furthermore, at meetings of Group company presidents, which bring together the top management of Kanematsu and its main subsidiaries and affiliates, participants discuss Groupwide issues and share information related to internal control, compliance, and risk management.

When a Compliance Matter occurs within the Group, it is promptly reported to the Internal Control and Compliance Committee, which provides opinions and directions regarding the matter as necessary. The compliance officer of the division or Group company where the matter occurred then takes corrective action and implements measures to prevent recurrences, respecting the committee's opinions and directions to the greatest extent possible.

regarding Groupwide governance, settlement of accounts, IT, and operational processes is internally monitored by the companies and divisions that implement such operations as well as by the Legal and Compliance Department, which provides independent assessment.

Furthermore, we have established the Internal Control and Compliance Committee, which is chaired by Chairman Tanigawa, to head the Group's overall internal control. This committee carries out planning, conducts research, and provides recommendations and guidance regarding internal control development, operation, and assessment.

#### **Bribery Prevention Initiatives**

The Kanematsu Group Compliance Handbook lays out the Group's prohibitions on bribery and excessive gifts and entertainment for business partners, both in Japan and overseas, with a view to ensuring fair business activities.

#### 1. Prohibition of Bribery

Under the laws of the countries in which the Group operates, the Kanematsu Group's officers and employees are forbidden from engaging in the bribery of public officials or persons in comparable positions (such as officers and employees of JBIC, JETRO, JICA, or foreign state-run companies).

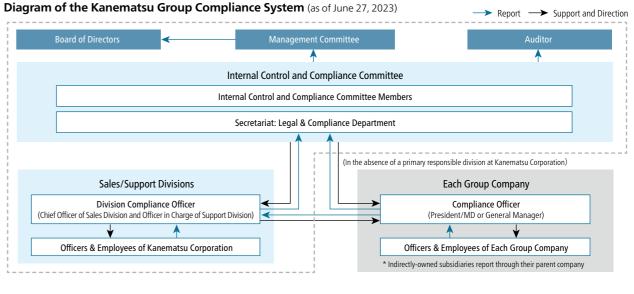
#### 2. Prohibition of Excessive Gifts and Entertainment

The Kanematsu Group prohibits the provision of entertainment, gifts, or other tangible or intangible benefits in excess of reasonable, socially acceptable norms to officers and employees of business partners, whether in Japan or overseas, regardless of whether they are public or quasi-public officials or officers or employees of private companies and regardless of whether such provision is funded by the Company or personally by individuals. In addition, when entertainment or gifts are provided to business partners for legitimate business purposes, such entertainment or gifts must be applied for and approved in advance in accordance with the internal rules established by each Group company.

#### 3. Raising Awareness of Compliance with the Laws of **Relevant Countries**

The Kanematsu Group takes steps to raise awareness internally of compliance not only with Japan's Unfair Competition Prevention Act, but also with laws under which acts committed by Japanese companies outside the United States or United Kingdom are punishable, such as the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and the U.K. Bribery Act.

In fiscal 2023, there were zero violations of policies related to preventing corruption.



#### Information Management System

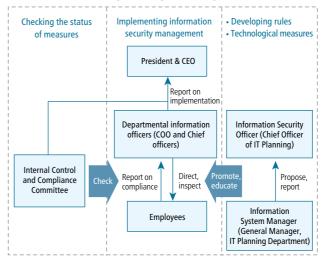
#### Information Asset Categorization

Under the leadership of departmental information officers (chief officers of business divisions and administrative departments), each organization within Kanematsu organizes the information assets handled in its business operations into three categories of confidentiality (strictly confidential, internal use only, and general). The categorization is reviewed annually to promote awareness among officers and employees.

#### Information Asset Categorization

Important information assets categorized as strictly confidential or internal use only, whether recorded on paper, in digital form, or using other analog media, are managed and utilized in accordance with the Information Asset Management Rules, which stipulate procedures for their appropriate handling, as well as detailed regulations for general employees and information system managers that specify procedures and key points to be observed.

#### Information Security Management System



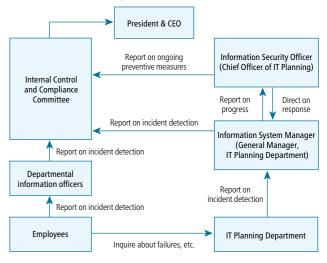
# Information Asset Categorization

In light of the demand for digitization, detailed rules for document retention have been integrated into the subordinate rules of the Information Asset Management Rules, and data and paper documents are retained for a specified period of time in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

# Information Asset Categorization

Because the risk of information leaks cannot be completely eliminated, Kanematsu has designated procedures for handling leaks of important information assets and other such incidents. In the event of such an incident, the Internal Control and Compliance Committee gathers information and works with relevant departments to implement a response.

# **Incident Response System**



<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Compliance Matter" means matters which may damage company property or reputation of Kanematsu Group through violation of laws and regulations, company regulations or general societal norms

#### **Risk Management System**

The Kanematsu Group has established the following framework for managing risks by risk category. Specific risk countermeasures are disclosed in the notice of the Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders and in the annual Securities Report (in Japanese).

Risk Management System (Japanese) https://www.kanematsu.co.jp/ir/library/yuho.html

approval request system based on the Rules on Delegation

of Authority for making judgments and decisions about

#### **Business Risk Categories, Definitions, and Departments Responsible**

The Risk Management Guidelines categorize and define the Kanematsu Group's business risks and specify the primary department responsible for the management of each. The designated departments regularly take steps to identify specific risks, understand the mechanisms of risk realization, frequency, and impact, formulate responses for when risks are realized, and gather information to detect signs of risks.

business risks. The Project Deliberation Committee evaluates important investments and loans, including their execution, continuance, and withdrawal, based on the comprehensive examination of relevant risks, aiming to minimize the Group's losses and promote sound business growth.

The Kanematsu Group has established an internal

Category	Subcategory	Definition	Department responsible
	Commodity risk	The risk of incurring losses on trading of commodities and other goods in Japan or overseas due to severe fluctuations in commodities markets or declining demand as a result of changes in market conditions, price reductions due to competition, obsolescence due to technological innovation, etc.	Business Accounting Department
Exchange rate risk		The risk of incurring losses on transactions denominated in foreign currencies due to exchange rate fluctuations	Finance Department
Market risk	Interest rate risk	The risk of incurring losses due to interest rate fluctuations	Finance Department
Investment risk		<ul> <li>The risk of incurring losses in investment transactions of marketable securities due to stock market fluctuations, etc.</li> <li>The risk of incurring losses due to inability to liquidate investments</li> </ul>	Credit Control Department
	Business investment risk	<ul> <li>The risk of incurring losses due to fluctuations in the value of business investments made to further develop existing businesses or expand business areas attributable to market risks or investees' financial condition or business success or failure</li> <li>The risk of incurring losses due to inability to develop businesses as planned or withdraw because of local laws or relationships with partners, etc.</li> </ul>	Corporate Planning Department
Credit risk Transactional credit risk Country risk		<ul> <li>The risk of incurring losses due to late repayments or defaults on credit extended by the Group, such as accounts receivable, advance payments, loans, and guarantees, because of deterioration in the financial standing of trading partners, etc.</li> <li>The risk of being forced to honor obligations and thereby incur a monetary loss due to a trade partner's default on its obligation or contract in the course of forming and carrying out commodity supply agreements, subcontract agreements, or other agreements</li> </ul>	Credit Control Department
		The risk of incurring losses in overseas transactions, investments, and loans due to the suspension of foreign payments because of political and economic conditions in the relevant country, etc.	Credit Control Department
	Legal risk	The risk of incurring additional costs or other losses due to changes in laws and regulations or differences in the recognition or interpretation of contracts with business partners	Legal and Compliance Department
	Information security risk	<ul> <li>The risk of negative effects on corporate activities due to information, either in tangible or intangible form, not being properly stored or preserved</li> <li>The risk of incurring damages due to the leaking of confidential or personal information</li> </ul>	IT Planning Department (General Affairs Department)
Operational risk Operation ri	Environmental risk	The risk of incurring business disadvantage due to being avoided by business partners or society as a result of actions that are detrimental to the environment	General Affairs Department
	Operation risk	The risk of incurring losses due to designated business processes not being carried out or being overlooked despite having in place internal rules and regulations governing corporate activities	Support divisions
	Compliance risk	The risk of incurring tangible or intangible losses due to the occurrence of legal or regulatory violations or wrongdoing as a result of such issues being overlooked despite having in place preventive countermeasures	Legal and Compliance Department (Logistics and Insurance Dept, Food Safety Management Office)

#### **Business Investment Process**

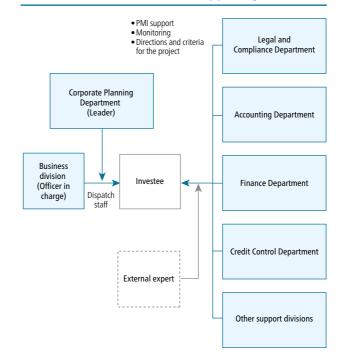
The Kanematsu Group does not pursue investment to secure short-term gains, rather, it does so with the general assumption that investments will be held long-term. After executing an investment, we make full use of the Group's functions to maximize the enterprise value of the investee, increase trading revenue, and improve consolidated earnings.

In addition, in order to grow business revenue and ensure prompt withdrawal from inefficient investments, we conduct thorough periodic reviews and monitor investees, evaluating them both qualitatively (the purpose of holding the investment) and quantitatively (related revenue, dividend income, and other returns, etc.) to determine whether each investment justifies the Company's cost of capital.

#### **Decision-Making Process**



#### **Business Investment Process Support System**



#### **Groupwide Activities**

Group company presidents meet twice a year and as necessary to share information on Groupwide business activities. These meetings are aimed at ensuring mutual understanding and awareness with regard to corporate governance issues.

#### Post-Merger Integration Promotion System

The Kanematsu Group works to enhance its system for ongoing post-merger integration (PMI) to ensure that investees are appropriately managed as members of the Group and maximize their enterprise value. Specifically, the qualitative standards of the investment guidelines applied when making an investment include provisions for clarifying the officer at Kanematsu responsible for PMI and dispatching a representative from Kanematsu who is highly knowledgeable about the investee's business. This is intended to promote close collaboration with Kanematsu's support divisions, which offer sophisticated expertise, and thereby make maximum use of the Company's functions.

#### Monitoring and Asset Replacement

At their monthly information sharing meetings, the support divisions share information about everything from preapproval investment planning to post-investment monitoring, progress, and items of concern. This information is also reported to members of the Management Committee.

When a problem arises in business implementation following an investment, the support divisions issue directions for improvement to the relevant business divisions and report on related measures and plans to Kanematsu's deliberative bodies as necessary.

Based on monitoring, we advance the replacement of low-efficiency assets and businesses when they meet our exit criteria or their strategic purpose in the portfolio has diminished.

# Kanematsu's Foundations **Corporate Officers** (As of June 27, 2023)

## **Directors and Audit & Supervisory Board Members**



Kaoru Tanigawa Chairman Shares held: 38,600 1981 Joined Kanematsu-Gosho Ltd. 2015 Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer 2017 President 2021 Chairman (incumbent)



Yoshiya Miyabe President & CEO Shares held: 26,100 1983 Joined Kanematsu-Gosho Ltd. 2018 Director, Senior Managing Executive Officer 2021 President (incumbent)



**Tetsuro Tsutano** Director Shares held: 25,600 1992 Joined Kanematsu Corporation 2017 Director, Executive Officer 2018 Director, Senior Executive Officer (incumbent)



Shuji Masutani Director Shares held: 4,000 1990 Joined Kanematsu Corporation 2021 Executive Officer 2022 Director, Executive Officer (incumbent)

# **Executive Officers**



Yoshiya Miyabe President & CEO



**Toshihide Motoshita** Senior Managing Executive Officer Chief Officer, Credit Control, Legal and Compliance

Eiji Kan Senior Managing Executive Officer COO Steel, Materials & Plant, Green Transformation Committee Chair General Manager, Osaka Branch: General Manager, Nagoya Branch



Yuko Tahara Director (Outside) Shares held: 0

1998 President and CEO, Basic Inc. (incumbent) 2012 Representative Director, Knowledge Management Lab (incumbent)

- 2018 Outside Director & Member of the Audit and Supervisory Committee, Sanyo Homes Corporation (incumbent) 2019 Outside Director, Kanematsu Corporation
- (incumbent) 2021 Professor, School of Professional Education, The Graduate School of Information & Communication (now the Graduate School of Social Design) (incumbent)



Kazuhiro Tanaka Director (Outside) Shares held: 0

2010 Professor Graduate School of Commerce and Management, Hitotsubashi University 2018 Professor, Graduate School of Business Administration, Hitotsubashi University

(incumbent) 2019 Dean, Graduate School of Business Administration and Faculty of Commerce and Management, Hitotsubashi University 2020 Outside Director, Kanematsu Corporation

(incumbent)



Hiroyuki Sasa Director (Outside) Shares held: 0

2012 Director, Representative Executive Officer, President, Olympus Corporation 2019 Director, Olympus Corporation 2020 Outside Director, Kvosan Electric Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (incumbent) 2022 Outside Director, Kanematsu Corporation (incumbent)



Motohisa Hirai Audit & Supervisory Board Member (full-time) Shares held: 5,400 1976 Joined Kanematsu-Gosho Ltd. 2014 Senior Managing Director, Kanematsu NNK Corporation (now Kanematsu Sustech Corporation) 2020 Audit & Supervisory Board Member, Kanematsu Corporation (incumbent)



Yoshio Tajima Audit & Supervisory Board Member (full-time) Shares held: 600 1984 Joined Kanematsu-Gosho Ltd. 2014 Director, Kanematsu Communications Ltd 2016 Managing Director, Kanematsu Communications Ltd. 2017 Director, Managing Executive Officer, Kanematsu Communications Ltd. 2023 Audit & Supervisory Board Member, Kanematsu Corporation (incumbent)



Yusaku Kurahashi Audit & Supervisory Board Member (Outside) Shares held: 0 2007 Registered as attorney at law and joined

- Nakamura, Tsunoda & Matsumoto 2015 Partner of Nakamura, Tsunoda & Matsumoto (incumbent)
- 2019 Audit & Supervisory Board Member, Kanematsu Corporation (incumbent) 2020 Outside Director (Audit & Supervisory Committee Member) UNITED ARROWS ITD
- (incumbent) 2023 Opened Kurahashi Law Office . Representative Partner, Kurahashi Law Office (incumbent)



Nobuko Inaba Audit & Supervisory Board Member (Outside) Shares held: 0 2005 President, Inaba C.P.A. Office

(incumbent) 2007 Representative Director, PAS Corporation (now Hayabusa Consulting Corporation) (incumbent)

Member, Tokyo TY Financial Group, Inc (now Tokyo Kiraboshi Financial Group, Inc.) (incumbent) 2019 Outside Corporate Auditor, DeNA Co., Ltd. (incumbent)

2021 Audit & Supervisory Board Member, Kanematsu Corporation (incumbent) Senior Partner, Yasumori Audit Corporation (incumbent)







Tetsuro Tsutano Senior Executive Officer Chief Officer, Corporate Planning, IT Planning, Technologies and Business Collaboration



Ryoichi Kidokoro Senior Executive Officer COO Motor Vehicles & Aerospace





Materials & Plant



PLC; General Manager, Milano Office; General Manager, The Representative of Kanematsu

GmbH Budapest



**Executive Officer** President, Kanematsu USA Inc.; General Manager Chicago Head Office



Shuji Masutani **Executive Officer** Chief Officer, Finance, Accounting, Business Accounting



Kaori Kusuda **Executive Officer** Chief Officer, Internal Auditing Dept.; General Manager, Internal Auditing

KANEMATSU Integrated Report 2023

76

1 Ms. Yuko Tahara, Mr. Kazuhiro Tanaka and Mr. Hiroyuki Sasa are outside directors.





Osamu Iwata **Executive Officer** Chief Officer, Steel,











Masahiro Harada Managing Executive Officer COO Electronics & Devices,

Digital Transformation Committee Chair







Toru Hashimoto **Executive Officer** COO Meat Products

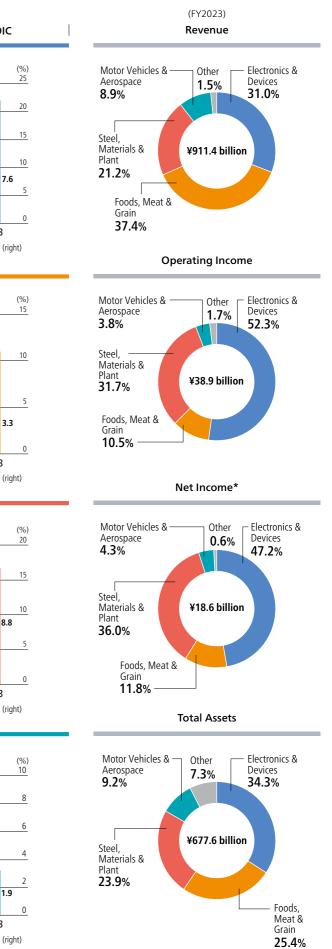


Koichi Nishimura **Executive Officer** COO Foods



# Kanematsu's Foundations **Business Segments**

	Main Business	Revenue	Operating Profit	Net Income*/ROIC
<section-header></section-header>	<ul> <li>Semiconductor Equipment</li> <li>Electronic Components and Materials</li> <li>Industrial Electronics</li> <li>Semiconductors &amp; Devices</li> <li>ICT Solutions</li> <li>Mobile</li> <li>CCTV Systems</li> <li>Data, AI, and SaaS</li> </ul>	(¥ billion) 300.0 282.5 200.0 100.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(Y billion) 25.0 17.6 15.0 10.0 5.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(¥ billion) (9 10.0 22 6.0 6.0 7.9 8.8 6.0 9.2 8.0 7.6 1 2.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023 Net Income (left) ROIC (right)
Foods, Meat & GrainFoodsImage: Second state of the second state	<ul> <li>Foods (Agricultural Products, Marine Products, Beverages, Liquor)</li> <li>Cooked and Processed Foods</li> <li>Processed Agricultural Products</li> <li>Meat Product Ingredients (Beef, Pork, Poultry, etc.)</li> <li>Processed Meat Products</li> <li>Grain, Food Soybeans, Oilseeds</li> <li>Feedstuff Materials, Mixed Feedstuff</li> </ul>	(¥ billion) 400.0 340.4 300.0 244.6 200.0 100.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(¥ billion) 5.0 4.0 4.1 3.5 3.0 2.0 1.5 1.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(¥ billion) (9 3.0 2.5 2.2 1 1.0 2.8 4.8 3.3 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023 (FY) ROIC (right)
Steel, Materials & Plant	<ul> <li>Steel</li> <li>Steel Tubing</li> <li>Chemicals</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Plant &amp; Ships</li> <li>Machine Tools &amp; Industrial Machinery</li> </ul>	(¥ billion) 200.0 193.4 150.0 148.0 100.0 96.8 50.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(¥ billion) 15.0 12.0 9.0 6.0 4.1 3.0 1.8 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	(¥ billion) (9 8.0 2 6.0 6.7 1 4.0 3.3 8.8 2.0 2.1 4.9 8.8 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023 (FY) 2021 2022 2023 Net Income (left) ROIC (right)
Motor Vehicles & AerospaceImage: Arrow of the second	<ul> <li>Motor Vehicles and Parts</li> <li>Aerospace</li> </ul>	(¥ bilion) 100.0 80.0 81.3 60.0 40.0 20.0 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023	$\frac{2.0}{0}$ $\frac{2.1}{1.0}$ $\frac{1.7}{0}$ $\frac{1.7}{1.5}$ $\frac{1.0}{0}$ $\frac{1.7}{1.5}$ $\frac{1.5}{1.0}$	(¥ billion) (9 2.5 1 2.0 1.5 1.5 1.5 1.0 4.3 4.3 0.5 0.8 1.9 0 (FY) 2021 2022 2023 Net Income (left) ROIC (right)



Kanematsu's Foundations

# **Electronics & Devices**



Masahiro Harada Managing Executive Officer COO Electronics & Devices

#### Semiconductor Equipment, Electronic Components and Materials, Industrial Electronics, Semiconductors & Devices, ICT Solutions, Mobile, CCTV Systems, Data, AI, SaaS

The Electronics & Devices segment handles a value chain spanning ICT solutions, mobile, and electronics-related materials parts, devices and equipment, providing unique added value across a wide range of fields. Using our solid technological prowess and wealth of know-how in electronics, we are advancing new initiatives in the IoT and AI fields and offering new value to contribute to society.

#### **Key SDGs**

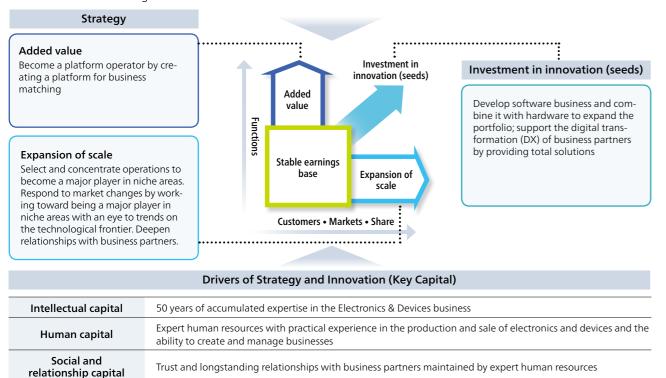
The Electronics & Devices segment employs constantly evolving digital technologies to engage in new business, helping to build foundations for industry and technological innovation. The segment is also contributing to efforts to combat climate change by expanding businesses related to next-generation batteries, including lithium-ion batteries and solid-state batteries. By supporting the use of IT and DX

in traditional industries, we hope to build organic partnerships, increase the overall efficiency and added value of industry, and help achieve the SDGs.



#### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

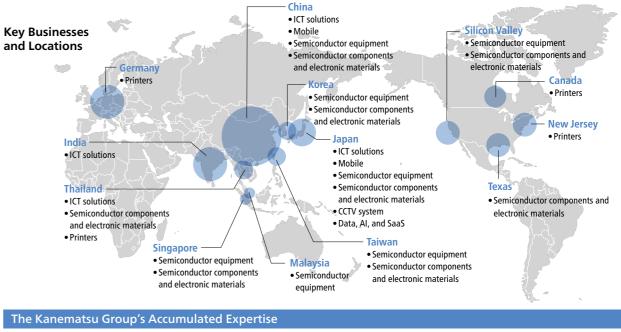
The market is expanding and changing extremely quickly. The keys to success will be selection and concentration and being keenly alert to advanced technologies



# Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

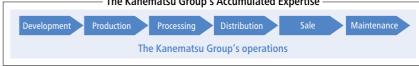
In the ICT solutions business, we acquired shares in an infrastructure and systems development contractor, making it consolidated subsidiary. Further business expansion is expected in the public and educational sectors. We also acquired additional shares in GLOBAL SECURITY EXPERTS Inc., which operates wide-ranging businesses in the information security field, strengthening our ability to meet growing security demand. In the mobile business, we advanced efforts to acquire a primary distributor of telecommunications operators based in the Kansai area as well as secondary distributors across Japan as subsidiaries and worked to improve operational efficiency at

the individual store level. In the semiconductor component and equipment businesses, we acquired a Singapore-based depaneler manufacturer, while in the electronic devices and materials businesses we acquired a Canada-based manufacturer of passport photo printing systems. Through such business investment across the segment's business fields, we advanced the expansion of scale and acquisition of added value—priority initiatives of the *future135* medium-term vision. In fiscal 2023, the final year of the medium-term vision, we will continue to advance the priority initiatives toward the achievement of the vision's targets.



#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

We cover the wide-ranging value chains of the electronics and devices industry, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



#### **Business Environment**

Japan

# Opportunities Entrenchment of remote work The creation and expansion of related technology and service markets driven by the adoption of AI, IoT, robotics, and 5G Accelerating DX and GX initiatives at companies in als businesses Risks Increasing sophistication and complexity of information security, shortage of specialized professionals, and tightening regulations Industry reorganization, the impact of core technologies, and technological innovation Supply chain interruptions due to changing international conditions or geopolitical risks

## Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

JAPAN PURE CHEMICAL is a chemical product manufacturer engaged in the development, manufacture and sale of noble metal plating chemicals for electronic components and semiconductors. Our business with the Kanematsu Group goes back more than 30 years—more than half of our 53-year history.

Over the years, as the manufacturing of electronic components rapidly shifted first from Japan to Taiwan and then from Taiwan to mainland China, the Kanematsu Group leveraged its customer network to provide us with immense support in marketing our

tomer satisfaction

to aim for synergistic growth.

#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

### **Action Plan**

- Provide solutions and services in such areas as VDI and connectivity to reinforce the earnings base of the ICT solutions and mobile businesses
- Provide new value to expand opportunities for profit by offering related solutions in the ICT solutions and mobile businesses as well as related products in the semiconductor component and equipment businesses and the electronic devices and materi-
- Promote M&A and innovation investment in solutions providers, including startups, and expand profit through synergies with existing businesses

#### Countermeasures

- Acquire and expand solutions platforms based on capital alliances and partnerships with companies in and outside Japan that have specialized technologies
- Expand scale by acquiring companies and businesses and acquire and develop new products and solutions through innovation investment
- Optimize supply chains by expanding the functions of overseas locations and diversify the portfolio using advanced technologies
- products overseas. Personnel exchange, including sending our engineers to the Kanematsu Group's overseas locations and receiving staff dispatched from the Kanematsu Group, helped us enhance cus-
- In cutting-edge electronics manufacturing, the importance thereby connecting directly with customers, and of building personal networks, is a constant. Going forward, we will combine our strengths as manufacturer with the Kanematsu Group's network strengths



Representative Director and President JAPAN PURE CHEMICAL CO., LTD.

### Kanematsu's Foundations **Business Segments**

# Foods, Meat & Grain Foods



Koichi Nishimura Executive Officer, COO Foods

Foods (Agricultural Products, Marine Products, Beverages, Liquor), Cooked and Processed Foods, Processed Agricultural Products

Committed to safe, secure food, this division applies a manufacturer's perspective to maintain an integrated supply system spanning raw material procurement through finished product processing.

With a broad lineup that includes agricultural products, marine products, coffee, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and cooked foods, the Foods Division meets diverse market needs.

#### Key SDGs

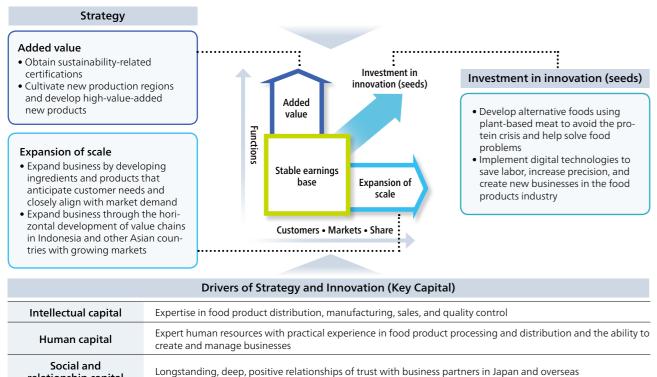
The Foods division seeks to secure stable food sources and contribute to local communities by promoting business in environmentally friendly and sustainable agricultural and marine products, such as Rainforest Alliance-certified coffee and MSC/ASC-certified\* marine products. Furthermore, by developing alternative foods, we are working to secure new sources of protein and thereby improve access to nutrition while reducing the environmental burden and other negative impacts of processed food products. Through these efforts, we are contributing to sustainability.

\* MSC: Marine Stewardship Council; ASC: Aquaculture Stewardship Council



#### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

Consumer needs are diversifying alongside changes in lifestyles and values. The key to success will be a market-oriented approach.



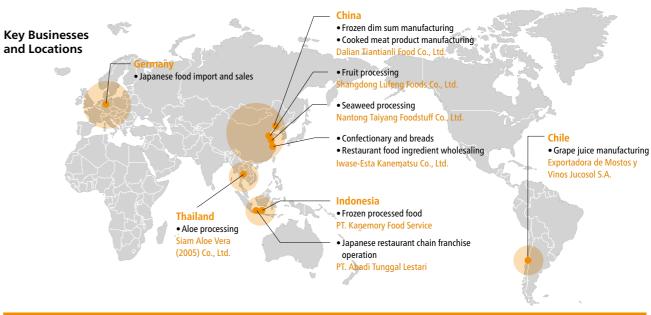
#### Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

The Foods Division works with suppliers around the world via investment, exclusive contracts, and facility loan agreements to strengthen its ability to procure high-quality raw materials overseas. To ensure the level of quality that consumers in Japan expect, we reinforce production and quality control systems, which are overseen by specialists, working to secure a stable supply of safe, reliable food. To meet demand for food prepared at home and ready-made meals, we work with food product manufacturers in Japan and overseas to strengthen the development of products for retail markets, including frozen foods, alcoholic beverages, and coffee. Recently, in response to supply concerns arising from the Russian invasion of Ukraine as well as rising import costs due to global inflation and the depreciation of the

yen, we have been developing alternative production regions that offer price advantages and a stable supply of various imported raw materials

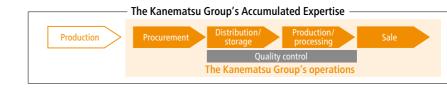
In addition, in response to growing awareness of sustainability among consumers, we accelerated sales of sustainable raw materials in such categories as coffee and marine products.

In Asian markets, we are working with Indonesian general food product manufacturer PT. Cisarua Mountain Dairy Tbk (Cimory), in which we have invested as a strategic business partner, not only collaborating in food products, but also advancing initiatives that leverage the Group's comprehensive strengths in such areas as DX and GX.



#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

We cover the wide-ranging value chains of the food industry, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



#### **Business Environment**

Opportunities	
<ul> <li>Demographic graying of consumers and rising health awareness</li> <li>Personnel shortages and rising staffing costs in the food products industry</li> <li>Growing food demand and shift from focus on quan- tity toward quality in Asia</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Develop pr</li> <li>Develop ar targeted to</li> <li>Leverage D</li> <li>Expand me businesses</li> </ul>
Risks	
RISKS	
<ul> <li>Damage to agricultural products under cultivation or operational disruptions of processing and manufac- turing facilities or logistics attributable to global warming or extreme weather events</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Hedge risk: water resol</li> <li>Reinforce for Trade in age</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Health hazards for consumers due to the contamina- tion of food products</li> </ul>	parties and

Global population growth and food resource depletion

#### Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

The partnership formed in 2012 between Cimory and Kanematsu, which resulted in the establishment of PT. Kanemory Food Service, has been a mutually beneficial venture. Kanematsu has been able to expand its reach in the Indonesian market while Cimory has capitalized on Kanematsu's expertise to improve its food processing capabilities. We are thrilled to have developed a strong partnership over the years.

Kanematsu's recent acquisition of shares in Cimory is a strategic move that aims to fortify the Indonesian food value chain, enter the

relationship capital

#### Action Plan

- production sites for fresh agricultural products that are safe and reliable and commercialize delicious and easy to prepare processed food products to specific markets around the world
- DX to save labor in sorting and processing and improve quality echanisms for providing safe, reliable food at Japanese standards and grow s in local production for local consumption

#### Countermeasures

- ks by working with production sites distributed around the world; secure ources and promote cultivation
- food safety management systems based on ISO 22000 and FSSC 22000 gricultural and marine products that are certified as sustainable by third id promote the use of renewable products

general food wholesale business by tapping into Cimory's marketing channels, and offer support to Japanese food companies and retailers intending to penetrate the Indonesian market. The success of this partnership highlights the value of collaboration and emphasizes the benefits of sharing expertise and resources in creating value for the end customer. We continue to look forward to working together for many years to come, building on the strengths of our partnership to achieve even greater success.



**Bambang Sutantio** Group Founder & President Commissioner PT. Cisarua Mountain Dairy Tbk (Cimory)

# Foods, Meat & Grain Meat Products



Toru Hashimoto Executive Officer, **COO** Meat Products

#### Meat Product Ingredients (Beef, Pork, Poultry, etc.), Processed Meat Products

Leveraging our accumulated know-how as an industry leader in the meat products business, we build meat product value chains, from securing raw ingredient sources to processing and sales, to provide a stable supply of safe, reliable, high-value-added products that meet customer needs.

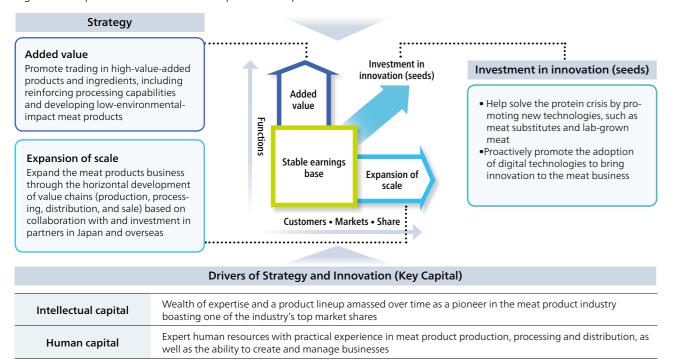
#### **Key SDGs**

The Meat Products division promotes business in animal products produced with low environmental impact, such as Uruguayan beef; develops new producing regions and suppliers; and proactively engages in business using new food technologies, such as those for meat substitutes, to help secure sustainable food sources.



#### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

Markets in Japan are mature, while markets in other parts of Asia are growing. The key to success will be maintaining and deepening relationships of trust with our business partners in Japan and overseas.



Relationships of trust with business partners in Japan and overseas built up over time

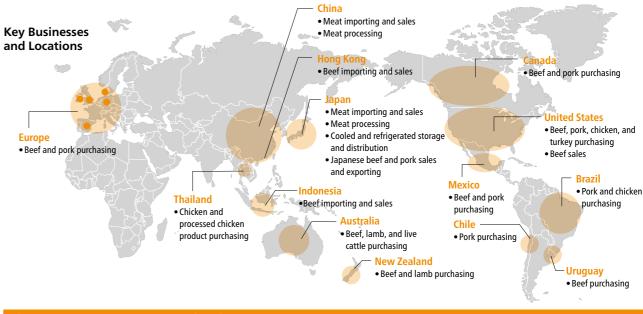
### Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

We continue to build value chains to establish stable a supply of safe, reliable, high-quality products that meet customer needs. In upstream areas, we worked to develop new producing regions and suppliers to address concerns related to supply-related risks due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and rising prices in major producing regions. We also worked to reinforce relationships with existing suppliers through business tie-ups and investment, continuing to build a stable supply structure for meat product ingredients. Furthermore, in Japan, China, and Indonesia, we expanded our value

chain by investing in and establishing joint ventures with food service companies.

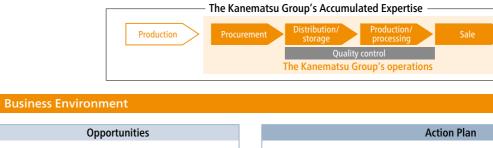
In addition, we advanced DX by leveraging a variety of digital technologies, with efforts including building an online platform for meat product trading and promoting consumer recognition of imported meats through owned media.

Going forward, by developing producing regions, reinforcing the value chain and promoting DX and GX, we aim to lead the meat product industry forward.



#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

We cover the wide-ranging value chains of the meat products industry, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



markets

- Expansion of imports due to reduced import tariffs under the TPP11, the EPA with the European Union, and the TAG with the United States
- Growing demand for meat products in Asian markets
- Growing consumer awareness of safety and reliability issues

#### Risks

- Supply shortages due to conflicts, pandemics, or animal disease outbreaks
- Raw ingredient price fluctuations
- Decrease in Japan-bound supply availability due to growth in demand for meat products in other Asian markets
- Future protein supply shortages due to global population growth

#### Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

For more than half a century, the Kanematsu Group has helped us procure meat, the main raw ingredient in our products.

In food product manufacturing, partners who are capable of providing stable supplies of safe raw ingredients are essential. Kanematsu is crucial to our raw material procurement, playing a key role at every stage from finding partners to building relationships of trust.

foods.

Social and

relationship capital



- Advance business investment and M&A to reinforce domestic sales capabilities by strengthening functions within the Meat Products group
- Extend business models used in Japan to expand meat product businesses in Asian
- Step up initiatives undertaken with current suppliers and cultivate new production sites to develop safe, secure, high-value-added products with a stable supply stream

#### Countermeasures

- Diversify production sites to better distribute suppliers
- Diversify customers and expand processing businesses to mitigate price fluctuation risk Reinforce procurement capabilities by deepening initiatives with suppliers
- Enter the meat substitute market

Global conditions are changing rapidly, and the future is increasingly uncertain. Working with the Kanematsu Group and its wide-ranging global network, we will continue to provide safe and reliable food products in order to contribute to the happiness of our customers via quality



Shiqeki Fukushima Managing Director and General Manager, Meat Business Department Marudai Food Co., Ltd.

# Foods, Meat & Grain Grain, Oilseeds & Feedstuff



Jun Nakajima **Executive Officer** COO Grain, Oilseeds & Feedstuff

The Grain, Oilseeds & Feedstuff Division stably procures the grains and production materials that form the foundation for diverse food production from around the world, providing stable supplies to food product manufacturers in Japan and Asia.

Grain, Food Soybeans, Oilseeds, Feedstuff Materials, Mixed Feedstuff

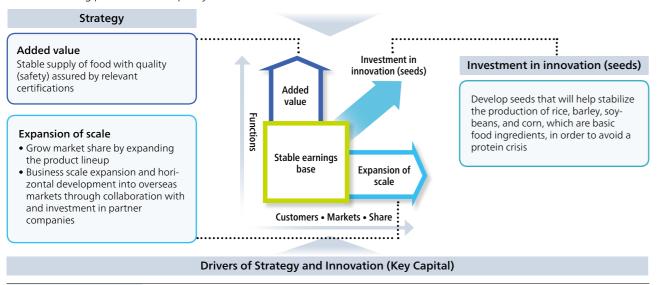
While increases in grain prices have leveled off for the time being, the global population continues to grow, and the increase in the middle-income population, in particular, is driving rapid growth in demand for protein. As such, demand for grain used in protein production is also expected to see continued growth. Amid mounting risks posed by climate change and geopolitical factors, we constantly strive to enhance our ability to provide a stable supply and consistent quality.

#### **Key SDGs**

As climate change advances and demand for food increases, global food production and supply is becoming a more pressing issue. Kanematsu is working to secure food supply based on sustainably managed production in order to support healthy and abundant diets. We also support productivity improvements via the adoption of new technologies.

### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

Demand for protein will grow, but supply risks due to extreme weather events and other factors will increase. The key to success will be stabilizing production and quality control.



Intellectual capital	<ul> <li>Value chain expertise capable of providing a stable supply of oilseeds and staple grains, such as rice, barley, soybeans, and corn, as well a wide range of related products</li> <li>Quality control expertise capable of providing a supply of high-quality products from production sites in and outside Japan</li> </ul>		
Human capital	Human resources with a wealth of expert product knowledge		
Manufactured capital	Supply bases in key food production regions worldwide capable of securing a stable food supply		
Social and relationship capital	Trust and longstanding relationships with business partners that help ensure stable supply		

### Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

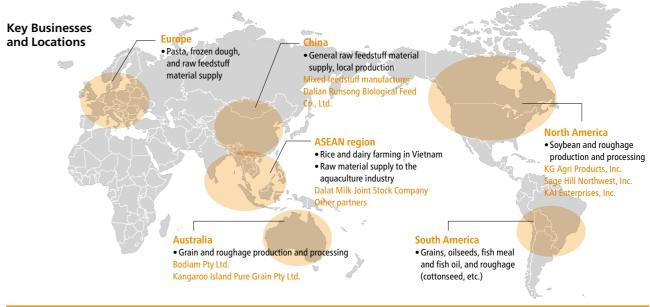
In the rice business, we have a leading share of Japan's imported rice market and are expanding rice trading overseas, for example, through exports to Southeast Asia and Europe. Aiming to further expand the business, we are also working to reinforce the trading of high-value-added rice, such as no-wash rice and jasmine rice, in Vietnam.

In the food soybean and oilseed business, we are leveraging our diverse supply network comprising a wholly owned sorting plant and partner plants in North America to maintain a leading market share in Japan. We are also working to expand our market share through the provision of even greater added value via initiatives in such areas as seed improvement using genome

editing and AI analysis technology, soy materials for meat substitutes, and soy ingredients certified by the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS), which provides certification of sustainable soybean cultivation and social responsibility in the soy sector.

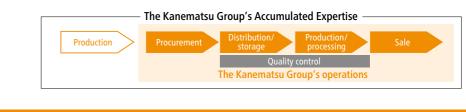
In the domestic feedstuff business, we maintained a stable supply of wide-ranging feedstuff materials from producing regions around the world amidst impacts from the conflict in Ukraine and turmoil in container shipping operations.

In the overseas feedstuff business, in the area of aquafeed materials, we worked to obtain resource management certification while expanding sales of fish meal and fish oil in Asian markets.



#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

We cover the wide-ranging value chains of the grain industry, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



### **Business Environment**

Opportunities	
<ul> <li>Increasing regularity of extreme weather events</li> <li>Growing global demand</li> <li>Growing demand for quality</li> <li>Bringing in new technologies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Diversify supp</li> <li>Capture growi</li> <li>Enhance quali forage, and ot</li> <li>Use IoT, genor our partner</li> </ul>
Risks	
<ul> <li>Price fluctuations</li> <li>Supply disruptions due to extreme weather events</li> <li>Quality control</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enter into hed</li> <li>Secure stable</li> <li>Enhance quali</li> </ul>

#### Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

The Kanematsu Group is a key business partner for us in the procurement of raw materials for our mainstay products.

Agricultural product procurement is impacted by a wide range of factors, from weather to market fluctuations and geopolitical risks. Recently, we have faced an unclear outlook due to supply chain interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine, among other factors, and the environment surrounding raw material procurement is growing increasingly challenging.

for product manufacturing.

ment.

## **Action Plan**

- ply regions leveraging our global network
- ing demand in China and other Asian markets
- lity at production facilities for mixed feedstuff, fertilizer, soybeans, other products
- ome editing, and other technologies to help increase the productivity of

### Countermeasures

- dges via futures markets, such as the Chicago Mercantile Exchange supply by diversifying production sites and suppliers
- lity control through upstream production and sourcing businesses

- Under these circumstances, the Kanematsu Group has been working to build a stable supply system that is highly agile and resilient by utilizing its diverse global supply network and its own supply bases while working to incorporate crop varieties suitable
- I look forward to seeing the Kanematsu Group evolve these functions as it continues to strengthen its relationship of trust with us and carry out stable raw ingredient procure-



Director and General Manager, Purchasing Department Kikkoman Business Service Company

# Steel, Materials & Plant



Eiji Kan Senior Managing Executive Officer, COO Steel, Materials & Plant

The Steel, Materials & Plant segment covers a full range of iron and steel products, energy solutions, chemicals, industrial plant and infrastructure facilities, and ships. Across a wide variety of operations, highly specialized staff uphold Kanematsu's commitment to supplying and developing high value- added and environmentally friendly products.

Steel, Steel Tubing, Chemicals, Energy, Plant & Ships, Machine Tools & Industrial Machinery

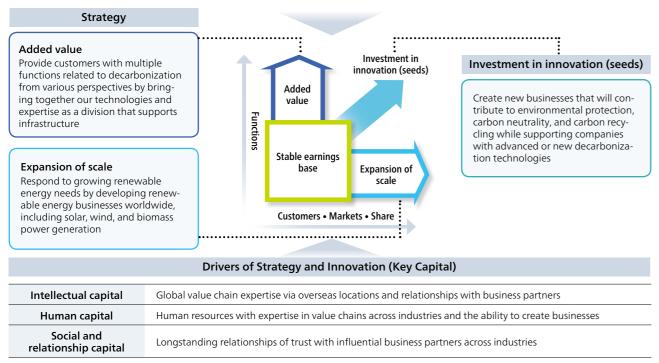
#### **Key SDGs**

The Steel, Materials & Plant segment contributes to environmental sustainability through the promotion of solar power, wind power, biomass fuels, and other sustainable energy as well as the effective use of environmentally friendly materials.

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#### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

As carbon risk grows, green transformation needs are expanding. The key to success will be providing various forms of support for customers' decarbonization efforts.



#### Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

In the chemicals business, in addition to focusing on existing businesses in functional chemicals, life science, and health care, we are proactively working toward business expansion, including investing in new technologies for plastic recycling.

In the iron and steel business, the steel material treatment businesses in which we have invested in South Korea and Vietnam continue to grow steadily and are generating synergies with Group companies engaged in building construction.

In specialty steel, we have greatly expanded into businesses in environmentally conscious fields, such as flue gas desulfurization equipment, air conditioners, electric vehicles, and hydrogen and ammonia production equipment. We have also expanded the range of products we handle from generalpurpose stainless steel to include such high-value-added products as high alloy steel, nickel, and titanium.

In the steel tubing business, oil drilling demand was firm, reflecting rising global energy demand. At the newly opened technical center of our U.S.-based threading processing subsidiary, we are focusing efforts on environmental response, including the development of threading for steel tubing used in subterranean CO<sub>2</sub> injection.

In the energy business, the biomass fuel business continues to steadily grow, and we are creating frameworks to meet demand for various forms of energy. In the plant and ships business, performance in shipbuilding businesses in South Korea, Taiwan, and elsewhere was strong, reflecting the postpandemic rise in logistics demand. In addition, we are working to both contribute to the environment and achieve business growth by deepening initiatives related to solar power and domestic wind power generation.



#### The Kanematsu Group's Accumulated Expertise

We cover the wide-ranging value chains of several industries, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



#### **Business Environment**

## Opportunities Changes in the global energy market structure, including declining demand for fossil fuels Growing global awareness of environmental problems, ucts as seen in GX efforts and the SDGs Diversifying consumer needs and behavior patterns Risks Further changes to market structures and the realization of geopolitical risks due to trade problem intensification Temporary personnel shortages due to accelerating business investment Changes to the business environment due to tightening environmental regulations or other factors arising from the international shift toward lower carbon emissions CO<sub>2</sub> reduction

#### Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

Benoit's key focus is innovative technology and effective manufacturing that allows our customers to progress from market challengers to market leaders. All companies need a vision to achieve success.

Eleven years ago, Kanematsu acquired part ownership in Benoit to establish a complete supply chain for the manufacture and distribution of next generation proprietary thread technology. Kanematsu's provided a vision for Benoit. That vision continues today, with both financial investment and strategic guidance supporting the plan to invest in people, technologies, and manufacturing facilities that cater to the products needed for

both the traditional oil and gas sector and the growing Clean Energy market.

Within the past five years, Benoit's strategic product development plan has added newer, higher performing products designed to meet the needs of emerging drilling activities, a new Research and Development Center. and a new modern manufacturing facility. All these additions have resulted in these new technologies growing to 40% of thread technology sales. Benoit looks forward to expanding on Kanematsu's vision and consolidating our customers' place as market leaders in an continually evolving global market.

#### Action Plan

• Accelerate initiatives in renewable energy businesses

Expand business involving more environmentally friendly high-value-added prod-

Advance DX to both strengthen customer relationships and respond to new business environments by raising customer satisfaction

#### Countermeasures

• Mitigate the risk of trading right advantages being weakened by cultivating new markets, products, and trading partners

• Expand business in high-performance products and products made to proprietary standards to reduce risk related to trade problems

Provide education and opportunities for employees to gain experience, mainly through personnel exchanges with affiliated companies in and outside Japan Create new businesses that contribute to environmental preservation, including



Paul Fullerton President Benoit Premium Threading, LLC.

# Motor Vehicles & Aerospace



Ryoichi Kidokoro Senior Executive Officer, COO Motor Vehicles & Aerospace

#### Motor Vehicles and Parts, Aerospace

The motor vehicles and parts business handles motorcycle and automobile parts as well as complete built up vehicles, while the aerospace business handles aircraft and parts as well as space-related products. These businesses operate on a global scale, leveraging the Group's superb expertise and extensive information resources.

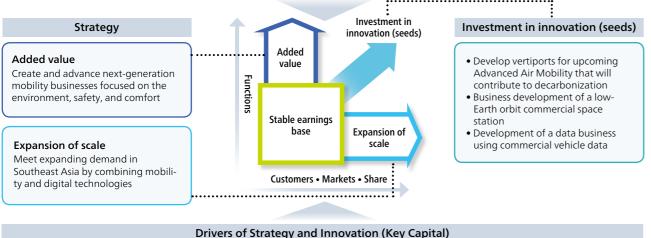
#### **Key SDGs**

The Motor Vehicles & Aerospace segment aims to contribute to society by providing safe and pleasant mobility. We aim to build living environments that are environmentally friendly, sustainable, and free of traffic accidents through next-generation mobility.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	9 NO. ETT. MONTEN	11 SICINALI CHE
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#### Medium- to Long-Term Market Outlook

The next-generation mobility and space markets are expected to expand. Market expansion will inevitably entail increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, but decarbonization efforts applying technological innovations in such areas as weight reduction and electric vehicles will accelerate, as well. The key to success will be creating mobility businesses focused on the environment, safety, and comfort.



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Intellectual capital	<ul> <li>Expertise in combining mobility and digital technologies</li> <li>Supply chain management expertise leveraging global networks through overseas business locations and Group companies</li> </ul>
Human capital	Human resources with a wealth of expertise
Social and relationship capital	<ul> <li>Longstanding relationships of trust with industry-leading business partners around the world</li> <li>Global network for discovering new technologies and business models</li> </ul>

#### Progress toward the Medium-Term Vision: Main Initiatives in Fiscal 2023

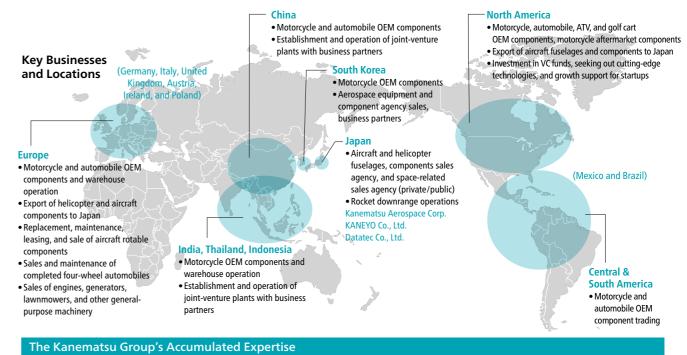
In the aircraft and defense business, transactions increased, reflecting rising geopolitical risks. In the commercial aircraft business, aiming for the social implementation of services using Advanced Air Mobility, we are advancing pilot testing in partnership with the U.K.-based Skyports Limited and with the cooperation of local governments. In the space business, we have partnered with U.S.-based Sierra Space and are working to expand our network toward the use of a commercial space station in low-Earth orbit.

The motorcycle and automobile business was affected by

rising shipping and materials costs, but markets showed steady signs of recovery. We are also taking on new businesses with an eye toward contributing to reducing carbon emissions

We also accelerated business development though Kanematsu Ventures Inc. and WERU INVESTMENT Co., Ltd., and invested in an emerging carbon nanotube manufacturer.

Focusing on the environment, safety, and comfort, we will create and advance cross-divisional next-generation mobility businesses.



We cover the wide-ranging value chains of the motor vehicles and aerospace industries, leveraging a multilateral, multifaceted business creation perspective.



## Opportunities Growing awareness of the environment and safety Diversification of mobility alongside accelerating technological innovation and DX Changing ways of thinking about modes of transport in developed countries Expectations for space development, which is increasingly important in both the defense and commercial spheres Risks Logistics disruptions due to international conditions, geopolitical risks, or changes in demand arising from distribution networks environmental regulations or trade friction Rapid changes in consumer awareness or industry structure that surpass the frameworks of existing value

#### Longstanding Relationships A Word from Our Business Partner

Our relationship with Kanematsu started in 1983, when we began doing business with major overseas motorcycle manufacturers. Over the four decades since, we have worked together to expand our sales channels, cultivating new customers and making new product proposals. We have also established joint-venture plants in Europe and Asia, with Kanematsu involved in management. Sharing good times and bad, and weathering many changes in the external

chains and business models

this new endeavor

#### Action Plan

- Leverage data to create new businesses that reduce environmental impact and accidents Advance partnerships with startups, mainly through our investment base in Silicon Valley, to create new businesses
- Work to increase social acceptance and reinforce infrastructure business initiatives in order to realize the widespread use of Advanced Air Mobility
- Reinforce the space safety assurance field and create businesses in the low-Earth orbit sector

### Countermeasures

- Build next-generation business models centered on value creation and reinforce
- Bring in new technologies and business models through innovation investment and develop businesses in both product and service areas

environment, from economic downturns to shifts in competitors, we have built a strong partnership. This year, we have decided to jointly invest in a new carbon nanotube manufacturer. We are very pleased to be taking on this new business area together, and we look forward to seeing the Kanematsu Group utilize its wide-ranging sales channels and expertise in support of



Managing Officer F.C.C. Co., Ltd.

### Kanematsu's Foundations

# **Financial and ESG Highlights**

(As of March 31)

	JGA	AAP		IFRS					IFRS			
			[								Millions of yen <sup>1</sup>	Thousands of U.S. dollars <sup>2</sup>
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023
or the year:												
Net sales	¥1,019,232	¥1,114,539	—	—	—	—	—	—	-	—	-	-
Revenue	-	-	¥704,211	¥668,374	¥675,579	¥714,790	¥723,849	¥721,802	¥649,142	¥767,963	¥911,408	\$6,825,495
Gross profit	80,021	86,402	87,880	86,238	100,139	106,371	110,014	110,904	101,515	111,801	130,894	980,264
Operating income/Operating profit	18,262	19,776	23,547	18,772	22,633	26,160	30,349	28,352	23,635	29,347	38,896	291,293
ncome (loss) before income taxes and ninority interests/Profit before tax	16,781	19,075	22,373	18,122	17,875	26,043	29,177	26,944	23,580	28,765	35,696	267,331
Net income (loss)/Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent <sup>3</sup>	9,564	11,799	10,546	8,959	8,049	16,317	16,605	14,399	13,315	15,986	18,575	139,114
Cash flows from operating activities	1,355	22,384	6,758	33,024	11,852	434	24,698	24,259	36,984	15,382	(296)	(2,221)
Eash flows from investing activities	1,466	(1,111)	(6,649)	(4,214)	(14,691)	1,103	(6,575)	(10,215)	(9,927)	(10,547)	(16,684)	(124,948)
ree cash flow	2,821	21,273	109	28,810	(2,839)	1,537	18,123	14,044	27,057	4,835	(16,980)	(127,169)
At year-end:												
otal assets	399,186	428,459	466,314	443,592	479,717	519,889	549,459	551,671	557,495	634,456	677,588	5,074,431
Net assets/Total equity	75,912	96,204	119,015	120,706	129,863	147,050	158,698	166,174	180,492	199,282	143,423	1,074,095
Shareholders' equity/Total equity attributable to owners of the Parent	54,519	71,657	90,244	91,599	100,357	116,012	125,246	130,829	143,926	159,484	128,525	962,523
Net interest-bearing debt	86,439	68,038	72,155	48,813	55,429	59,045	49,969	51,807	40,520	51,242	147,948	1,107,981
Per share (yen):												
Net income/Basic earnings per share attributable to owners of the Parent <sup>3</sup>	¥ 22.80	¥ 28.09	¥ 125.494	¥ 106.464	¥ 95.644	¥ 193.79 <sup>4</sup>	¥ 198.22	¥ 172.43	¥ 159.44	¥ 191.42	¥ 222.38	\$ 1.67
Net assets/Total equity attributable to owners of the Parent	129.82	170.54	1,072.204	1,088.454	1,192.214	1,377.664	1,499.86	1,566.60	1,723.42	1,909.64	1,538.42	11.52
Dividends	_	3.00	4.00	5.00	6.00	48.005	60.00	60.00	60.00	65.00	75.00	0.56
inancial indicators:												
Return on equity (ROE) (%)	20.5	18.7	13.0	9.9	8.4	15.1	13.8	11.3	9.7	10.5	12.9	
equity ratio (%)	13.7	16.7	19.4	20.6	20.9	22.3	22.8	23.7	25.8	25.1	19.0	
Net D/E ratio (times)	1.6	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	1.15	
SG* (Non-Financial) Data: *ESG: Short for o	environmental ( <b>_</b> ), soci	al ( <b>=</b> ), and corporate g	overnance ( <b>=</b> ).									
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (t-CO <sub>2</sub> ) <sup>6, 7, 8</sup>	471.42	456.44	377.54	392.58	398.68	400.74	358.31	304.05	265.44	274.43	313.05	
Total paper use (sheets) <sup>7</sup>	6,874,521	6,648,353	6,645,797	6,087,765	6,256,363	5,920,960	5,510,121	4,919,786	3,099,900	2,503,625°	1,809,950°	
External disposal of waste (t) <sup>7, 10</sup>	48.95	37.60	33.40	31.90	32.70	29.50	35.00	34.43	42.20	36.18	29.46	
Recycled waste (t) <sup>7</sup>	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	21.93	36.56	30.89	24.28	
Non-recycled waste (t) <sup>7</sup>	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	12.50	5.64	5.29	5.18	
Hazardous waste disposal (t) <sup>7</sup>	_	_	_	—	_	_	_	0	0	0	0	
Environment-related fines and penalties paid (yen) <sup>7</sup>	_	_	_	_	_	-	_	0	0	0	0	
Violations related to water quality/volume	e <sup>7</sup> —	_	_	—	_	—	_	0	0	0	0	
Total electricity consumption (kWh) <sup>7</sup>	828,514	805,015	682,717	735,174	768,166	772,137	690,378	659,534	597,845	625,132	719,657	
Employees—consolidated	5,522	5,747	6,002	5,832	6,727	6,666	6,915	7,182	7,296	7,446	7,866	
Employees—non-consolidated (womer	) 782 (242)	800 (246)	813 (253)	816 (259)	835 (273)	842 (282)	765 (263)	775 (266)	795 (284)	788 (293)	798(299)	
Percentage of women among employees—non-consolidated (%)	31	31	31	32	33	33	34	34	36	37	37	
Average length of service (years)	16.0	15.7	15.5	13.8	15.4	15.5	15.0	14.0	13.8	15.0	13.7	
Three-year job separation rate (%) <sup>11</sup>	0	2.6	3.5	4.8	5.2	9.4	10.5	17.1	_	_	_	
Average overtime worked (hours/month)	8.3	8.0	8.8	8.1	11.6	12.1	12.5	17.5	18.1	19.6	19.2	
Directors (outside directors) <sup>12</sup>	10 (0)	6 (1)	7 (2)	7 (2)	8 (3)	8 (3)	6 (2)	6 (2)	6 (2)	7 (3)	7(3)	
Audit & Supervisory Board members <sup>12</sup> (outside Audit & Supervisory Board member	4 (2)	4 (2)	4 (3)	4 (3)	4 (3)	4 (3)	4 (3)	4 (2)	4 (2)	4 (2)	4(2)	

Notes For the above items with two titles, the first applies to figures under JGAAP and the second to figures under IFRS.
1. Figures are rounded down to the nearest million yen. Percentages have been rounded off.
2. The U.S. dollar amounts represent the arithmetical results of translating yen to dollars at the rate of ¥133.53 to U.S.\$1.00, the exchange rate prevailing on March 31, 2023.

3. JGAAP: Net income attributable to owners of the Parent / IFRS: Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent.

4. Kanematsu executed a share consolidation on October 1, 2017, at a ratio of five common shares to one. The calculation of the above figures assumes that said share

consolidation was implemented on April 1, 2014.
5. Kanematsu executed a share consolidation on October 1, 2017, at a ratio of five common shares to one. The calculation of the above figure assumes that said share consolidation was implemented on April 1, 2017.

6. The coefficients used to calculate the above figures are the most recent values published by the Japan Foreign Trade Council (originally published by the Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society via the Japan Business Federation).

7. The figures above are the totals for Kanematsu's domestic locations on a non-consolidated basis and are subject to change due to changes in office space due to the consolidation of branches or sales offices, etc.

8. For data on Kanematsu's Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions, please refer to p. 48.

9. For the years ended March 2021 and earlier, paper use was calculated based on sheets of paper (copy paper, envelopes, and business cards) purchased; from the year ended March 2022 it is calculated as sheets of copy paper (with all types converted to A4 equivalent) purchased. 10. Due to a change in aggregation standards, data for past years (the years ended March 2020 and 2021) has been revised. Data is for waste from office

activities at main locations.

11. The percentage of employees hired in the year in question who had left the Group as of three years later (for example, of the 42 employees hired in April 2015, 2 had left the Group as of April 2018, so the rate for the year ended March 31, 2016 is calculated as (2/42)×100). 12. As of the conclusion of the General Meeting of Shareholders following each fiscal year-end.

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# Management's Discussion and Analysis

#### **Business Results**

For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023, revenue increased ¥143,445 million (18.7%) from the previous fiscal year to ¥911,408 million. Gross profit increased ¥19,093 million (17.1%) from the previous fiscal year to ¥130,894 million. Operating profit rose ¥9,549 million (32.5%) year on year to ¥38,896 million, reflecting the increase in gross profit, despite a rise in selling, general and administrative expenses. Profit before tax increased ¥6,931 million (24.1%) year on year to ¥35,696 million, largely due to the rise in operating profit. Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent rose ¥2,589 million (16.2%) year on year to ¥18,575 million. As a result, return on equity (ROE) calculated on the basis of total equity attributable to owners of the Parent (shareholders' equity) came to 12.9%, and return on invested capital (ROIC)\* came to 5.6%.

\* ROIC = Profit for the year attributable to owners of the Parent / Invested capital (Interest bearing debt + Shareholders' equity)

#### Segment Information

Results for each business segment are described below.

#### **Electronics & Devices**

Revenue increased ¥27,050 million year on year to ¥282,513 million due to higher revenues in the ICT solutions business, the electronic components and materials businesses, and the semiconductor parts and manufacturing equipment business. Operating profit rose ¥1,267 million to ¥20,331 million due to higher profit in the ICT solutions business and the semiconductor parts and manufacturing equipment business. Profit attributable to owners of the Parent increased ¥832 million to ¥8,776 million.

Performance in terms of operating profit was as follows. The ICT solutions business was strong, reflecting an increase in security- and network-related sales and improvement in delivery delays. The semiconductor parts and manufacturing equipment business was firm due to growth in shipments of semiconductor and LCD panel manufacturing equipment and supplies, reflecting booming demand. The mobile business remained lackluster, reflecting a sluggish device sales volume and a decrease in fee income due to revisions to fee conditions.

#### Foods, Meat & Grain

Revenue increased ¥55,164 million year on year to ¥340,448 million, reflecting a rise in revenues in the feedstuff business and the meat products business. Operating profit rose ¥522 million to ¥4,063 million, due to a higher profit in the feedstuff business, while profit attributable to owners of the Parent decreased ¥326 million to ¥2,192 million.

Performance in terms of operating profit was as follows. Performance in the feedstuff business was strong, reflecting improved profitability. In the food business, trading of products for the retail market was firm. Performance in the meat products business was weak, due to a downturn in the overall meat product market from the summer onward.

#### Steel, Materials & Plant

Revenue increased ¥45,400 million year on year to ¥193,393 million, due to a rise in revenue in the steel tubing business and energy business. Operating profit rose ¥8,287 million to ¥12,339 million, due to stronger profits in the steel tubing business and the energy business, and profit attributable to owners of the Parent increased ¥3,435 million to ¥6,694 million.

Performance in terms of operating profit was as follows. The steel tubing business was strong, reflecting growth in energy investment in the United States and rising steel tubing prices. The energy business was strong due mainly to rising market prices and sales of marine fuel for ocean-going vessels. The machine tools and industrial machinery business saw firm performance due to increased domestic capital investment demand.

#### Motor Vehicles & Aerospace

38 896 -

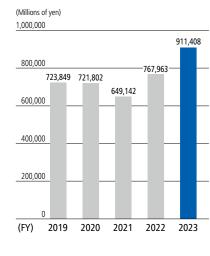
29.347\_

2022 2023

Revenue increased ¥15,517 million year on year to ¥81,344 million, due to a rise in revenue in the aerospace business. Operating profit decreased ¥178 million to ¥1,485 million, due to a fall profit in the motor vehicles and parts business, while profit attributable to owners of the Parent declined ¥653 million to ¥803 million

Performance in terms of operating profit was as follows. Performance in the aerospace business was firm due to the delivery of products for existing contracts and recovery in demand. Despite similar recovery in demand, the motor vehicles and parts business was weak as soaring transportation costs put pressure on profits.

#### Revenue



#### **Operating Profit**

28 352

(FY) 2019 2020 2021

23.635

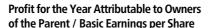
(Millions of yen)

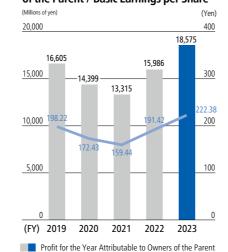
<u>30,000</u> **30,349** 

40,000

20,000

10,000





Basic Earnings per Share

#### Other

Revenue increased ¥312 million from a year earlier to ¥13,707 million. Operating profit fell ¥347 million to ¥662 million, and profit attributable to owners of the Parent decreased ¥246 million to ¥219 million.

# **Analysis of Financial Status**

#### Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets

Total assets at the end of the fiscal year under review increased ¥43,132 million from the end of the previous fiscal year to ¥677,588 million.

Interest-bearing debt increased ¥84,442 million from the end of the previous fiscal year to ¥227,894 million, mainly due to a rise in short-term borrowings used for making tender offers. Net interest-bearing debt after deducting cash and deposits rose ¥96,706 million from the end of the previous fiscal year to ¥147,948 million. Interest-bearing debt does not include lease liabilities.

In terms of equity, total equity attributable to owners of the Parent fell ¥30,959 million from the end of the previous fiscal year to ¥128,525 million, mainly due to a decrease in capital surplus following the acquisition of additional shares of Kanematsu Electronics Ltd.

As a result, the equity ratio at the end of the fiscal year under review was 19.0%. The net D/E ratio stood at 1.15 times.

#### **Cash Flows**

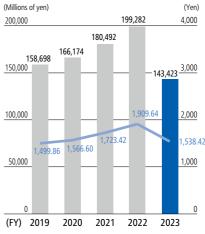
In the year under review, net cash used in operating activities totaled ¥296 million. Net cash used in investing activities amounted to ¥16,684 million. Net cash provided by financing activities amounted to ¥4,751 million. As a result, after the effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents, cash and cash equivalents at the end of the fiscal year under review stood at ¥79,462 million, down ¥11,958 million from the end of the previous fiscal year.

#### Fundraising

The Kanematsu Group carries out fundraising in line with a basic policy of stably procuring funds at low cost as needed to realize sustainable growth in line with its six-year mediumterm vision, future 135.

#### Net Interest-Bearing Debt\*1/ Net D/E Ratio\*<sup>2</sup> (Millions of ven) (Times) 150,000 147,948 2.5 120,000







\*1 Net interest-bearing debt = Interest-bearing debt

-Cash and cash equivalents
\*2 Net D/E ratio = Net interest-bearing debt / Total

equity attributable to owners of the Parent

The Group raises funds primarily through indirect financing based on good relations with banks, life and non-life insurers, and other financial institutions. Kanematsu also raises funds from capital markets by issuing straight corporate bonds as a means of long-term capital procurement. During the year under review, the Company borrowed ¥58.4 billion to finance the acquisition of common stock of Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. through a tender offer. In addition, the Company redeemed ¥5.0 billion in straight bonds that had matured. As a result, at the end of the fiscal year, debt procurement through direct financing accounted for 7% of consolidated interest-bearing debt.

To facilitate capital procurement, Kanematsu receives ratings from Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) and Rating and Investment Information, Inc. (R&I). The Group's longterm ratings as of the end of the fiscal year under review are A-(stable) from JCR, and A- (stable) from R&I, one rank higher than a year earlier

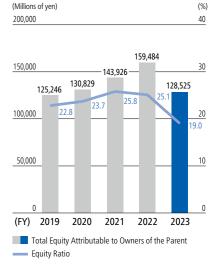
To secure liquidity on hand, the Group maintains an ample balance of cash and cash equivalents and has established commitment lines with major financial institutions.

To efficiently procure capital on a consolidated basis, the Group has adopted a cash management system under which fundraising for major domestic subsidiaries and affiliates is concentrated at the Parent Company and proceeds are then allocated in response to capital requirements. At the end of the fiscal period under review, the Company's interestbearing debt accounted for 74% of the consolidated Group's interest-bearing debt, a reflection of the concentration of fund procurement at the Parent Company.

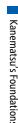
As a result of the above fundraising activities, at the end of the fiscal year under review, gross interest-bearing debt stood at ¥227,894 million, an increase of ¥84,442 million from the end of the previous fiscal year. Net interest-bearing debt stood at ¥147,948 million, up ¥96,706 million from the end of the previous fiscal year. As a result, the net D/E ratio stood at 1.15.

Corporate bonds and long-term borrowings (including the current portion of corporate bonds and long-term borrowings) accounted for 38% of the balance of interest-bearing debt at the end of the fiscal year under review (or 48% on a non-consolidated basis).

#### Total Equity / Total Equity Attributable to Owners of the Parent per Share



Total Equity Attributable to Owners of the Parent / Equity Ratio (Millions of ven)



Total Equity Attributable to Owners of the Parent per Share

#### Kanematsu's Foundations

# Major Group Companies

(As of June 1, 2023)

\* Companies with shares listed on a stock exchange Electronics Japan Kanematsu Electronics Ltd. System integration of ICT and communications equipment & Devices Development, sales, and maintenance of software for computers and computer peripherals, etc. Nippon Office Systems Ltd. Manufacture and sales of home-construction materials; Ground inspection services and improvement work; Kanematsu Sustech Corporation Installation and sales of security cameras Kanematsu Communications Ltd. Sales of mobile communications devices; Mobile internet systems and services NSC Company Limited Sales of mobile communications devices: ICT solution services Kinkitelecom CO., LTD. Sales of mobile communications devices; Internet connection services GCC Corporation Sales of mobile communications devices Kanematsu Granks, Corp Website planning, building, and operation; Content planning, production, and sales Import, export, processing, development, design, manufacture, sales of semiconductors, Kanematsu Futuretech Solutions Corporation electronic components, and module products; EMS business Import, export, storage, sales, and processing of materials and components for vehicle equipment, industrial electronics, Kanematsu Advanced Materials Corp and communication devices Kanematsu Kangawa Co., Ltd. Sales of industrial materials and raw materials, and electronic components and materials Kanematsu K.U. Co., Ltd. Sales of industrial materials and chemicals Design, development, and sales of semiconductor production equipment, testing equipment, and wafer marking Kanematsu PWS LTD. equipment; Technical services NS Technologies Inc. Design, development, and manufacture of IC test handlers Design, development, manufacture, sales, and maintenance services (OEM) for card printers and related equipment G-Printec, Inc. Japan Data Exchange Inc Data utilization consulting and data exchange support Kanekoh Electronics (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. China Design, development, manufacture, and sales of control modules for lithium ion batteries Singapore Getech Automation Pte Ltd Manufacture, sales and maintenance services for depanelers and system integrator services for automated machinery Germany KIS Global GmbH Sales of card printers www.CanadianPassportPhotos.ca Inc Sales and maintenance services for passport photo printing systems Canada Foods, Japan Kanematsu Foods Corp. Food wholesaling and cold storage Meat & Kanematsu Agritec Co., Ltd. Manufacture and sales of feed and fertilizer Grain Sales of soybeans, pulses & peas, and grain; Development and marketing of tofu and other ingredients for Kanematsu Soytech Corp. processed foods GPC Holdings Co., Ltd. Sales of pet food and other products Ks' Meat Solution Co., Ltd. Primary processing of meat Manufacture of dim sum and delicatessens Dalian Tiantianli Food Co. Ltd China Shangdong Lufeng Foods Co., Ltd. Production of processed vegetables and fruits Iwase-Esta Kanematsu Co., Ltd. Wholesale of confectionery and baking ingredients Dalian Matsutomo Foods Co., Ltd. Primary processing of beef Dalian Runsong Biological Feed Co., Ltd. Manufacture and sales of feedstuff (puffed soybeans, soybean meal) Thailand Siam Aloe Vera (2005) Co., Ltd. Processing and sales of aloe vera PT. Kanemory Food Service Manufacture of processed foods; Management of central kitchen Indonesia U.S.A. KAI Enterprises, Inc. Sales of hay and roughage Sage Hill Northwest. Inc. Production of hav KG Agri Products, Inc. Seed development; Contract farming; Sorting, processing, and sales of food soybeans Steel, Japan Kanematsu Trading Corp. Sales of steel and construction materials Materials Kyowa Steel Co., Ltd. Cutting and processing of steel sheet; Sales of construction materials & Plant Eiwa Metal Co., Ltd. Processing and sales of stainless steel, titanium, and high-allov steels Kenkosya Co., Ltd. Construction, design, manufacture, installation, and sales of steel joinery Kanematsu Petroleum Corp Sales of petroleum products and LPG Kanematsu Yuso Co., Ltd. Delivery and storage of petroleum products Domestic sales, import, and export of chemical products, pharmaceuticals, pharmaceutical ingredients, and Kanematsu Chemicals Corp functional food materials Kanematsu Wellness Corp. Sales of health foods and provision of medical information Kanematsu KGK Corp. Sales of machine tools and industrial machinery KGK Engineering Corp. Machinery installation and maintenance; Automation technical support and sales of related equipment Wholesale of cutting tools and peripheral and auxiliary tools Watachukikai Corp. Aioi Sekkei Co., Ltd. Design, manufacture, and installation of plant equipment South Korea AJUSTEEL Co., Ltd.\* Steel processing and fabrication Kanematsu KGK Trade & Sales (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. Sales of machine tools and industrial machinery China Thailand KGK Engineering (Thai) Co., Ltd. Sales of machine tools and industrial machinery ATAD Steel Structure Corp Vietnam Design, manufacture, transportation, and installation of various steel structures U.S.A. Steel Service Oilfield Tubular, Inc. Sales of steel materials for natural resource excavation Benoit Premium Threading, LLC Steel tubing fabrication; Manufacture and sales of steel tubing-related parts KGK International Corp. Sales of machine tools and industrial machinery Japan Sales of aircraft, defense, and aerospace-related products as well as 3D laser scanners and XR solution equipment Kanematsu Aerospace Corp. Motor Vehicles & KANEYO Co., Ltd. Sales of bedding, fiber raw materials for industrial materials, and synthetic fiber raw materials Aerospace Development and sales of network services for vehicle operation management, driving safety analysis, etc.; Datatec Co., Ltd. Development and sales of vehicle measuring instruments KG Aircraft Rotables Co., Ltd. Replacement and maintenance of aircraft rotable components; Leasing; Sales Ireland Aries Motor Ltd. Sales and maintenance of automobiles Poland Aries Power Equipment Ltd. Sales of engines, generators, lawnmowers, and other general-purpose machinery U.S.A. Investment in VC funds; Seeking out advanced technologies; Growth support for startups Kanematsu Ventures Inc Other Hokushin Co., Ltd.\* Manufacture and sales of medium-density fiberboard Japan Import, export, and sales of pet supplies, soft drinks for vending machines, aero-engines, feed materials, and Shintoa Corp. metal products Kanematsu Logistics & Insurance Ltd. Insurance agency and forwarding business; Consigned freight forwarding business Japan Logistics Co., Ltd. Warehouse and self-storage operation

Total logistics services, including trucking, warehousing, customs clearance, domestic and international

forwarding, and container depot operations

# **Corporate Profile**

(As of March 31, 2023)

Company Name

President & CEO

Established

Foundation

Head Office

	Corporate Profile	
KANEMATSU CORPORATION August 15, 1889 March 18, 1918 Yoshiya Miyabe	Paid-in Capital* Fiscal Year General Meeting of Shareholders	¥27,781 million April 1 to March 31 June
7-2 Marunouchi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-7017, Japan	Number of Offices* Number of Employees*	Domestic: Tokyo Head Office, Kobe Head Office and branches 5 Overseas: 35 798 (Consolidated: 7,866)

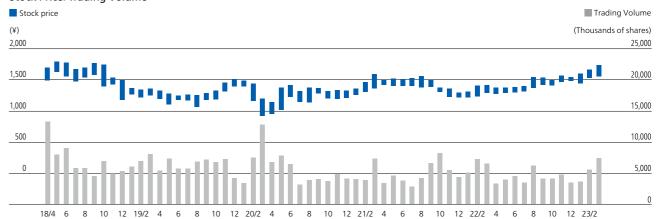
Investor Information				
Stock Exchange Listings	Tokyo	Composition of Shareholders		
Stock Code 8020 Transfer Agent	8020	Financial institutions 35.13%		
for Common Stock Shares Authorized	Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited 200,000,000 84,500,202 (including 263,928 treasury shares) 100	Foreign institutions and individuals 33.33%		
Shares Outstanding Minimum Trading Unit		Individuals and others (including treasury shares)21.58%		
Number of Shareholders	32,329	Other corporations 5.60%		
		Securities firms 4.36%		

#### Principal Shareholders

	Number of shares held (thousands)	Percentage of voting rights (%)
The Master Trust Bank of Japan, Ltd. (trust account)	13,107	15.56
Custody Bank of Japan, Ltd. (trust account)	5,072	6.02
Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	2,322	2.75
SSBTC CLIENT OMNIBUS ACCOUNT	2,142	2.54
MSIP CLIENT SECURITIES	1,894	2.24
The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation 140044	1,418	1.68
MUFG Bank, Ltd.	1,417	1.68
STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY 505103	1,287	1.52
BNYM AS AGT/CLTS NON TREATY JASDEC	1,273	1.51
BBHFOR UMB BANK, NATIONAL ASSO-PEAR TREE POLARIS VAL SM CAP FD	1,265	1.50
Note: Calculated after deduction of treasury shares (263,928 shares)		

#### Stock Price/Trading Volume





Indonesia PT. Dunia Express Transindo

Profile	
Canital*	



su's Foundation