

# 2022/23 INTERIM RESULTS

# HONMA GOLF LIMITED 本間高爾夫有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with Limited Liability) **STOCK CODE:6858** 



# Contents

Page

CORPORATE INFORMATION	2
MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	4
OTHER INFORMATION	35
REPORT ON REVIEW OF INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	46
INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS	48
INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	49
INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	51
INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY	53
INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS	55
NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION	57

# **Corporate Information**

# **Board of Directors**

#### **Executive Directors**

Mr. Liu Jianguo (劉建國) *(Chairman and President)* Mr. Ito Yasuki (伊藤康樹) Mr. Murai Yuji (邨井勇二) Mr. Zuo Jun (左軍)

#### **Non-executive Directors**

Mr. Yang Xiaoping (楊小平) Mr. Ho Ping-hsien Robert (何平僊)

#### Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Lu Pochin Christopher (盧伯卿) Mr. Wang Jianguo (汪建國) Mr. Xu Hui (徐輝)

# **Audit Committee**

Mr. Lu Pochin Christopher (盧伯卿) *(Chairman)* Mr. Wang Jianguo (汪建國) Mr. Xu Hui (徐輝)

# **Remuneration Committee**

Mr. Wang Jianguo (汪建國) *(Chairman)* Mr. Xu Hui (徐輝) Mr. Zuo Jun (左軍)

# **Nomination Committee**

Mr. Liu Jianguo (劉建國) *(Chairman)* Mr. Wang Jianguo (汪建國) Mr. Lu Pochin Christopher (盧伯卿)

# **Company Secretary**

Ms. Sham Ying Man (岑影文)

# **Authorized Representatives**

Mr. Zuo Jun (左軍) Ms. Sham Ying Man (岑影文)

# **Auditor**

Ernst & Young Certified Public Accountants Registered Public Interest Entity Auditor

# Company's Website

www.honmagolf.com

# **Stock Code**

6858

# **Registered Office in Cayman Islands**

The offices of Maples Corporate Services Limited PO Box 309 Ugland House Grand Cayman KY1-1104 Cayman Islands

# Headquarters in Japan

35F Roppongi Hills Mori Tower P.O. Box#62, 6-10-1 Roppongi Minatoku Tokyo, Japan

# **Corporate Information**

### **Shanghai Office**

31 Floor No.100, Century Ave. Pudong New Area Shanghai, PRC

### Principal Place of Business in Hong Kong

5/F, Manulife Place 348 Kwun Tong Road Kowloon, Hong Kong

# The Cayman Islands Principal Share Registrar and Transfer Agent

Maples Fund Services (Cayman) Limited PO Box 1093, Boundary Hall, Cricket Square Grand Cayman, KY1-1102 Cayman Islands

### Hong Kong Share Registrar

Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited Shops 1712-1716, 17/F, Hopewell Centre 183 Queen's Road East Wanchai Hong Kong

### **Principal Bankers**

Mizuho Bank, Ltd., Aoyama Branch The Tokyo Tomin Bank, Limited, Setagaya Branch Bank of China Limited, Shanghai Branch, Songjiang Sub-Branch The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

#### **Company Profile and Overview**

HONMA is one of the most prestigious and iconic brands in the golf industry. Founded in 1959, the Company combines latest innovative technologies with traditional Japanese craftsmanship to provide golfers across the globe with premium, high-tech and high performance golf clubs, balls, apparels and accessories.

As the only vertically integrated golf company with rich in-house design, development and manufacturing capabilities, extensive retail footprint in Asia and a diverse range of golf clubs and golf-related products, HONMA is perfectly positioned to continually grow its business in Asia and beyond, benefitting from the return of golfers in mature golf markets such as the U.S. and Japan and from increased participation in new and under-penetrated markets such as Korea and China.

The Company will be celebrating its 65th anniversary of HONMA in 2023. In January 2021, HONMA stepped up its tour presence in Asia by announcing a brand new HONMA team consisting of six additional female players whom are considered rising stars by the golf industry. The announcement came right before Asian markets started its new season and attracted wide attention from younger golfers in super-premium and premium-performance segments.

#### **Key Operating Results**

Across different markets, the global golf industry has seen continued increases in the purchase interest and participation of avid golfers. With this, the management of HONMA decided to strengthen and streamline its product offering around two consumer segments, namely super-premium and premium-performance consumer segments. The super-premium segment is a segment that HONMA has maintained a strong and high penetration over the years. The premium-performance segment is dominated by avid golfers enjoying the strongest growth momentum for years. This product positioning strategy has led to a conscious decision by the Group to enrich its TOUR WORLD club family to include a performance enhancement series and to upgrade its legacy BERES club family with a modern and sophisticated design and development approach to appeal to today's golfers.

The continued presence of COVID-19 has led governments to implement various social distancing and shelter-in-place measures at different times throughout the year, which created significant business operation challenges and slowed retail sales. Since early 2021, the golf industry however witnessed encouraging recoveries, with a good majority of the golf courses in Asia, the U.S. and Europe re-opened for play and golfers increased participation. Since then, there have been steady and visible increase in the returned and new golf participation, and rounds played rose in most of the Group's major markets.

#### Key Operating Results (continued)

As a result and despite the fact that the Group's sales and supply chain operations in China have experienced extended interruptions during the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group's revenue increased by 25.7% as compared to the six months ended 30 September 2021.

Market wise, most markets demonstrated strong if not robust growth. Revenue from Japan grew by 3.4%, on the back of a complete sales recovery in all channels and product categories. Korea led the way in terms of growth, delivering a year-on-year revenue growth of 97.1% thanks to continued uptake in golf participation and successful launch of new products since early 2022. Revenue from China, North America, and other regions rose robustly, recording a year-on-year growth of 11.1%, 31.6%, and 41.2%, respectively. Japan, Korea and China contributed 81.9% of the Group's total revenue.

#### **Highlights of Major Achievements**

For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Company steadfastly followed its growth strategies while carefully protecting the health of its employees and financial status. Among others, the Company delivered the following major achievements which the Company believes will continue to bring satisfactory business advancements and results in the future.

• **Re-defining the HONMA brand.** The Company took several steps to improve its global brand positioning and communication. To re-define the HONMA brand as a dynamic, relevant and global brand among internet-savvy younger golfers, the Company completely revamped its global website and social media platforms in January 2019 and made, since then, regular and frequent visual and content updates in all its digital platforms to continuously promote HONMA's brand and product awareness and to appeal to younger golfers. The rapid increase in HONMA's digital communications has generated continued improvement in the organic traffic, conversion and other digital engagement matrixes such as bounce rate, time on site, etc.

To create an end-to-end digital ecosystem around the re-defined brand and golfers in the super-premium and premiumperformance segments, the Company revamped and/or launched customer relationship management ("**CRM**") systems in multiple markets and added various e-commerce capabilities and consumer-centric custom tools thereon, with a view to provide consumers with the ultimate 360-degree brand experience, to strengthen HONMA's direct-to-consumer communication and to eventually increase sales both online and offline.

#### Highlights of Major Achievements (continued)

- Focusing on club products that best represent Japanese traditional craftsmanship and innovative technology in pursuit of players in super-premium and premium-performance segments. HONMA remains committed to applying cutting-edge technologies and artisan-style Japanese craftsmanship to the design, development and manufacturing of a comprehensive range of exquisitely crafted and performance-driven golf clubs. HONMA applied several of its revolutionary proprietary technologies to the design and development of its latest BERES and TOUR WORLD products, designed for affluent and avid golfers. Following the launch of Beres Aizu and TW757 as well as continued penetration into the super-premium and premium performance consumer segments, golf club sales grew by 31.2% during the six months ended 30 September 2022, reconfirming HONMA's strong brand equity and its ability to withstand economic challenges since HONMA went into the golf business in 1959. In particular, revenue from the BERES and TOUR WORLD family grew by 37.1% and 17.1% as compared to the six months ended 30 September 2021, respectively.
- Accelerating growth in golf balls business and relaunching apparel business to create a comprehensive range of golf products for golfers in the super-premium and premium-performance segments. Unlike its peers, HONMA continues to derive most of its revenue from the sales and distribution of golf clubs. For the six months ended 30 September 2022, golf clubs generated 76.6% of the Group's total revenue. Meanwhile, the Company further prioritized its product development resources and launched golf balls with its own patent in order to meet the HONMA brand positioning and play preferences of its consumers. As a result, being the largest golf balls market within the Group, Japan recorded a rock solid growth of 20.3% as compared to the same period last year.

In January 2019, HONMA re-launched its apparel collection in Japan and China. The apparel collection comprises of a professional and a fashion athletic line, catering to the distinctive requirements of golfers in Japan, China and Korea, both on-course and off-course. The six months period ended 30 September 2022 featured mostly HONMA's 2022 Spring/ Summer collections.

#### Highlights of Major Achievements (continued)

• Anchoring HONMA's growth strategies in North America and Europe while improving both markets' financial standing. North America and Europe continued to enjoy the largest golfer demographics but with varied market conditions. For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group began to change its distribution model in North America and Europe by focusing on a smaller but premier group of accounts that are most capable to represent HONMA's tradition and pursue in the super-premium and premium-performance consumer segments. At the same time, the Group continued optimising its organisational set up and cost base in both markets to properly anchor their near to mid-term growth amidst social, economic and financial uncertainties.

Following such strategic adjustment, in Europe, the Group closed 378 points of sales ("**POS**") in the six months ended 30 September 2022, hence decreasing its total POSs there to 237 by 30 September 2022. During the same period, in North America, the Group opened eight new POSs, leading to a modest POS network of 345 locations, ranging from A-level (500+ square feet with golf simulator), B-level (250+ square feet and feature wall), C-level (100+ square feet) and to D-level (1-2 display only) shop-in-shops retail locations.

Despite the shift, the Company continued to make investments into its e-commerce activities to create an important brand touchpoint for consumers researching and searching for HONMA products, local retailers or fitting experience. Various digital marketing efforts have been implemented to drive website traffic and target potential shoppers through re-targeting efforts in social media and search engine marketing. For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Company had seen continued increase in site visits while average order value climbed to more than one thousand U.S. dollar. The strong performance is a good evidence of HONMA's brand equity and consumer interest in the North American market. Accordingly, during the six months ended 30 September 2022, revenue from North America grew by 31.6% as compared to the same period last year.

**360-degree brand experience built into new retail space and environments.** The Company retained leading design and marketing agencies to renovate its retail space in order to provide ultimate brand experience and customizable consumer journey in major markets. In the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Company opened 11 new stores in China and three in other areas of Asia, consistently applying the new retail visual identity, design concept and consumer experience elements using advanced technology. The Company also converted multiple shop-in-shops in the U.S., Japan and China using the same design concept in order to ultimately own its consumer space and experience in all of its major markets.

#### Highlights of Major Achievements (continued)

- **Customer events.** Customer events have always been key to the continued enhancement of HONMA's brand, product awareness and consumer mind share. During the six months ended 30 September 2022, HONMA hosted 1,912 customer days across its main markets, most of which were held on golf courses with dedicated fitters.
- Sponsoring TEAM HONMA players. As at 30 September 2022, TEAM HONMA consisted of 11 professional golf players. TEAM HONMA player Hideto Tanihara claimed the title of Mitsui Sumitomo VISA Taiheiyo Masters and Golf Nippon Series JT Cup in November 2021 and December 2021, respectively. The Company believes his image, endorsement and continued success on professional golf tournaments will continue to help drive its sales growth, especially in Japan. The Company will continue to scout and solicit additional and younger players in Asia with visible social media following to anchor brand redefinition and to better appeal to younger and avid golfers.

#### **Product Design and Development**

HONMA utilizes the latest innovative technologies and traditional Japanese craftsmanship to provide golfers across the globe with aesthetically beautiful, technology-based and performance-driven golf clubs. The Group uses cutting-edge proprietary technology to design and manufacture golf clubs primarily for consumers in the super-premium and premium-performance segments who want to hit effortless shots and drive the golf balls further.

HONMA currently offers golf clubs under two major product families: BERES and TOUR WORLD, each targeting specific consumer segments. The Group leverages its innovative research methods and development capabilities to manage the product life cycle, continually generate customer interest, ensure product offerings remain up to date with the latest market trends and meet the preferences of target customers.

Based on extensive market research, HONMA categorises the market into nine key segments according to the importance golfers place on price, design and performance, which are correlated with their respective levels of affluence and enthusiasm towards golf, as illustrated in the chart below:

1 High Price	Design &	2 High Price	Primarily	3 High Price	Design &
Low Enthusiasm	Price	Middle Enthusiasm	Design	High Enthusiasm	Performance
4 Middle Price	Performance &	5 Middle Price	Performance &	6 Middle Price	Primarily
Low Enthusiasm	Price	Middle Enthusiasm	Design	High Enthusiasm	Performance
7 Low Price	Primarily	8 Low Price	Price &	9 Low Price	Price &
Low Enthusiasm	Price	Middle Enthusiasm	Design	High Enthusiasm	Performance

#### Product Design and Development (continued)

BERES golf clubs target consumers in Segment 2 or the so-called super-premium segment, which is the Company's traditional customer base and comprises affluent consumers willing to pay a premium price for golf clubs that offer excellent performance yet distinctively different from other golf clubs. TOUR WORLD golf clubs was first launched in 2011, target consumers in Segment 6 or the so-called premium-performance segment, which comprises golf enthusiasts who place a higher emphasis on performance. In the 2019 financial year, HONMA made the decision to enrich its TOUR WORLD club family to include a performance enhancement series hence creating stronger focus on the younger and avid golfers.

#### **Sales and Distribution Network**

The Company's sales and distribution network consists of HONMA-branded self-operated stores as well as third-party distributors which included retailers and wholesalers. The following diagram illustrates the structure of the Group's sales and distribution network:



third-party retailers and wholesalers<sup>(1)</sup>

#### Note:

(1) The Group's distributors consist of (a) third-party retailers and (b) wholesale distributors that on-sell the Group's products to other third parties.

#### Sales and Distribution Network (continued)

HONMA operates the largest number of self-operated stores among major golf companies. Self-operated stores provide consumers with a 360-degree experience with the HONMA brand and its products. As at 30 September 2022, the Group had 83 HONMA-branded self-operated stores, all of which were located in Asia. The Group aims to continuously upgrade the design, visual display and consumer experience of its self-operated stores to project one consistent brand image and consumer experience. The table below sets forth the number of self-operated stores opened and closed during the six months ended 30 September 2022:

	For the six months ended 30 September 2022				
	Period start	Opened	Closed	Period end	
Japan	29	_	-	29	
China (including Hong Kong and Macau)	33	11	9	35	
U.S.	-	_	-	-	
Rest of Asia	18	3	2	19	
Total	80	14	11	83	

To better serve avid golf enthusiasts, certain HONMA-branded self-operated stores offer fitting centers equipped with high-speed cameras and launch monitors to capture players' swing data. As at 30 September 2022, the Group had five fitting centers, including two in Japan, two in China and one in Korea.

As at 30 September 2022, the Group had approximately 3,831 POSs. The Group's POSs consist of (a) POS of third-party retailers ("**Retailers**") and (b) POS of wholesale distributors ("**Wholesale Distributors**") that on-sell the Group's products to other third parties and consumers. Retailers include, among others, sports megastores, which are large retailers of sports goods. As at 30 September 2022, the Group's products were sold at 1,221 POSs of sports megastores.

In Japan, the Group mainly sells products to Retailers, including nation-wide sports chain stores such as Golf 5 and Xebio. Outside Japan, the Group sells products to both Retailers and Wholesale Distributors.

#### Sales and Distribution Network (continued)

The Group manages its sales and distribution network on a country-by-country basis to cater for each country's specific retail landscape and consumer demographics. The makeup of its sales and distribution network varies across regions depending on local retail landscape and its go-to-market strategy in that particular region, reflecting on the purchase behaviour of target consumers. To optimise its sales and distribution network, the Group is constantly evaluating its existing channels and exploring new channels.

#### Updating E-commerce Capabilities and Creating One Digital Ecosystem

The Group completely rebuilt its website and relaunched its social media platforms in various countries in January 2019. These efforts aimed to create one consistent and vibrant communication platform and brand image across all markets. The rapid expansion of digital communications generated a month-on-month double-digit growth in the organic traffic, conversion and other digital brand engagement matrixes such as bounce rate, time on site, etc.

The Company also revamped its CRM systems in key markets such as Japan, China and the U.S., and upgraded its e-commerce capabilities to provide consumers with the ultimate 360-degree brand experience and to eventually increase online sales.

#### **Manufacturing Processes**

HONMA utilizes the latest innovative technologies and traditional Japanese craftsmanship to provide golfers across the globe with aesthetically beautiful and high-tech performance-driven golf clubs. The Company is the only major golf products company that utilizes professional handcrafted techniques together with significant in-house manufacturing capabilities. The Group conducts all key manufacturing processes for golf clubs at its campus located in Sakata, Yamagata prefecture of Japan (the "Sakata Campus"), while outsourcing non-core processes to its well-respected suppliers. This combination of in-house and outsourced manufacturing processes enables the Group to control core technical know-how and intellectual property and ensure the quality of products while controlling production costs.

Located on an approximately 163,000 square metre parcel of land, the Sakata Campus is staffed with 218 craftsmen, 33 of whom are master craftsmen with approximately 32 years of experience on average. The craftsmen's dedication to product quality enables the Group to maintain the iconic and premium status of the HONMA brand. The Group continually invests in its Sakata Campus to optimise manufacturing processes and to expand its manufacturing capacity in line with sales growth.

# **Management Discussion and Analysis**

# OVERVIEW OF THE COMPANY, ITS KEY BUSINESS RESULTS AND BUSINESS OUTLOOK (continued)

#### **Employees**

As at 30 September 2022, the Group had 769 employees worldwide, a majority of whom were based in Japan.

To ensure the long-term future of HONMA, the Group hires people who identify with its core values and the Group helps its employees grow by offering on job training and career progressions within HONMA. For sales personnel in self-operated stores, the Group offers a number of training programs, including an internal golf club fitter certification program. Moreover, the Group has implemented a rigorous apprenticeship program at the Sakata Campus which was instrumental to the retention and continued nurturing of craftsmen in Sakata.

The Group offers competitive remuneration packages, including, among others, salaries, performance-based cash bonus and share-based compensation. The Group reviews its remuneration scheme regularly to ensure its consistency with market practice. Employee benefit expenses amounted to JPY2,395.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

The Group adopted its restricted share unit ("**RSU**") scheme in October 2015 to incentivize its directors, management and eligible employees.

#### **Brand Marketing**

Since 1959, HONMA has committed to maintaining the traditional methods and arts used by Japanese craftsmen to make the finest golf clubs in the world. To fully capture HONMA's unique opportunities in super-premium and premium-performance consumer segments, the Group brought a series of actions that helped re-define and transform the HONMA brand in an age of explosive technological innovation.

HONMA has been perceived as the symbol for luxury and was closely associated with super-rich Asians in consumer segments. Extensive marketing efforts have been launched to transform this perception into a modern, premium performance focus, rooted in HONMA's unique craftsmanship and superior technology. The launch of GS series and TW757 series, both of which under the TOUR WORLD club family, have generated great media buzz and consumer purchase intent for HONMA among the younger and more avid golfers.

#### Outlook

#### **Business Outlook**

The current financial year continued presenting operating challenges and uncertainties for HONMA. As COVID-19 related regulatory restrictions began to ease from most areas of Asia to Europe and North America, the Company expects pent-up demand to continuously and visibly expand golf participation as well as an uptick in new orders from both golfers and HONMA's retail partners.

For the years ahead, the Group will continue executing its long-term growth strategy to build a world-leading golf lifestyle company leveraging HONMA's brand legacy, its expanding distribution network and innovative technologies and traditional Japanese craftsmanship. In the face of uncertainties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company will also pursue active actions to reduce cost, maximize liquidity and protect its employees' health.

The Group intends to continue pursuing the following:

- Improve and transform HONMA brand value into customer loyalty. Multiple branding and marketing strategies have been executed to reinforce HONMA's brand heritage and its core brand values of premium craftsmanship and performance, allowing HONMA to fully capture its unique opportunities to lead in both super-premium and premium-performance segments. Since a key part of the Group's future growth strategy lies with continuous enhancement of brand awareness and loyalty, HONMA will continue upgrading its offline and online retail experiences based on the updated HONMA brand image, retail and visual guidelines. In Asia, HONMA opened a number of brand experience stores since July 2019 to present HONMA's new brand experience and customizable consumer journey to consumers in HONMA's home markets, followed by similar store openings in China, Korea, Taiwan, the U.S. and Europe. All these stores will form the centrepiece of HONMA's new consumer touchpoints and will act as the hub to generate traffic to HONMA's extensive shop-in-shop at third-party retailers, golf courses and its online e-commerce platforms.
- Further increase the Group's market share in home markets by maintaining its leading position in the super-premium segment while making solid inroads into the fast-growing premium-performance segment. Increasing market share in HONMA's home markets, namely Japan, Korea and China, which will be an increasingly important part of the Group's future growth strategy. While the Group already has a strong presence in its home markets, it believes that there is still significant room to increase its market shares in these markets, especially in the premium-performance segments. The Group intends to achieve this by continuously enriching its TOUR WORLD family, leveraging HONMA's improved international tour presence. At the same time, the Group will continuously nurture and foster stronger partnerships with its retail partners while intensifying investments in sales point product promotions that are relevant to these consumer segments.

# **Management Discussion and Analysis**

# OVERVIEW OF THE COMPANY, ITS KEY BUSINESS RESULTS AND BUSINESS OUTLOOK (continued)

#### **Outlook** (continued)

#### Business Outlook (continued)

• Anchoring sustainable growth in North America and Europe based on the updated product and distribution strategy. North America and Europe accounts for nearly 70.0% of the global golf market. During the six months ended 30 September 2022, HONMA began a journey to focus on a smaller but premier group of accounts in both markets while continuously implementing its unique direct-to-consumer communication and sales strategy. The said direct-to-consumer communication and distribution approach overlays with HONMA's existing wholesales points of sale and various digital platforms, hence allowing HONMA to effectively increase its brand and product awareness while owning the entire consumer experience and purchase journey.

Furthermore, the decision to differentiate the TOUR WORLD product offering between tour inspired better players and golfers who look for performance enhancements will provide great support to HONMA's growth strategy in North America, which market has continued to rebound with the number of golfers increasingly skewed towards premium-performance products.

- Nurturing complementary non-club product lines to provide customers with a complete golf lifestyle experience. In January 2018, HONMA announced the formation of a strategic partnership with Itochu Corporation, a leading Japanese textile and trading company. Since then, HONMA has actively expanded its apparel business, leveraging Itochu's rich industry networks and know-how while promoting HONMA as a "golf lifestyle brand". To support HONMA's apparel growth ambition, the Group has assembled dedicated apparel design and sales teams in Japan, China and Korea and created a network of quality retail footprints.
- Continue product innovation and development to cater for latest market trends. The Group devotes significant resources to new product development to ensure that its product offerings remain up to date with the latest market trends, all with close link with its manufacturing facilities in Sakata, Japan. The Group's research and development expenses amounted to JPY96.7 million and JPY102.2 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 and 2022, respectively. The research and development team of HONMA thrives to incorporate innovations in ergonomics and material sciences in its designs and collaborates closely with professional golf players to optimize product performance.

#### **Outlook** (continued)

#### **Industry Outlook**

The golf industry will continue to face multiple challenges in the six months ending 31 March 2023 as the Group witnessed since the outbreak of the global health pandemic. These challenges include uncertain global public health situations, increased supply chain challenges, global economic and political incidents and pace at which the global golf industry will continue to recover.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022, the golf industry has however experienced encouraging recoveries, while a good majority of the golf courses in Asia, the U.S. and Europe re-opened for play and golfers increased participation.

These positive developments have in part contributed to the Group's revenue increase for the six months ended 30 September 2022 across its major markets. The Company does expect the overall golf industry to gradually adapt itself to the new norm and to continue showing positive rebound in participation and purchase interest.

The Group also believes that the six months ending 31 March 2023 will be a crucial period for it to execute its growth strategies amidst global health challenge. The Group is confident in its ability to mitigate the adverse impacts of the global health pandemic and will seize every possible opportunity to preserve cash, to optimize its operational efficiencies in order to foster a solid foundation for the mid- and long-term development with respect to its brand, products, distribution channel, employees and supply chain. The Group endeavours to promote sustainable business development and strives to create long-term value for all of its shareholders.

The Group will stay alert to the developments of all external challenges including those posed by COVID-19. The Group will also continue reviewing its existing business strategies from time to time and take necessary actions to mitigate business risks while safeguarding the health and safety of its employees and teams.

# **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The following table is a summary of the Group's consolidated statement of profit or loss with line items in absolute amounts and as percentages of the Group's total revenue for the periods indicated, together with the change (expressed in percentages) from the six months ended 30 September 2021 to the six months ended 30 September 2022:

	Six	months endeo	d 30 September		
					Period-to-
	2022				riod change
	JPY		JPY		%
	(In thousands, e	except for perce	entages and per share	e data)	
Consolidated statement of					
profit or loss (unaudited)					
Revenue	14,927,415	100.0	11,871,947	100.0	25.7
Cost of sales	(7,061,101)	(47.3)	(5,310,098)	(44.7)	33.0
Gross profit	7,866,314	52.7	6,561,849	55.3	19.9
Other income and gains	1,696,655	11.4	203,763	1.7	732.7
Selling and distribution expenses	(4,874,327)	(32.7)	(4,301,589)	(36.2)	13.3
Administrative expenses	(685,478)	(4.6)	(688,353)	(5.8)	(O.4)
(Provision for)/reversal of impairment					
losses on financial assets	(74,003)	(0.5)	57,749	0.5	(228.1)
Other expenses, net	(155,530)	(1.0)	(47,588)	(O.4)	226.8
Finance costs	(52,506)	(0.4)	(45,365)	(O.4)	15.7
Finance income	7,475	0.1	6,029	0.1	24.0
Profit before tax	3,728,600	25.0	1,746,495	14.7	113.5
Income tax expense	(641,218)	(4.3)	(398,144)	(3.4)	61.1
		/			
Net profit	3,087,382	20.7	1,348,351	11.4	129.0
Net pront			1,040,001		120.0
Earnings per share attributable to ordinary					
equity holders of the parent:					
Basic and diluted					
– For profit for the period (JPY)	5.10		2.23		128.7
Non-IFRS financial measure					
Operating profit <sup>(1)</sup>	2,187,475	14.7	1,590,320	13.4	37.5
Net operating profit <sup>(2)</sup>	1,588,856	10.6	1,194,550	10.1	33.0
	,,000,000	1010	1,101,000	1011	00.0

Notes:

- (1) Operating profit is derived from profit before tax by (i) subtracting other income and gains, (ii) adding other expenses and (iii) adding RSU expenses. For a reconciliation of operating profit to profit before tax, see "Management Discussion and Analysis Financial Review Non-IFRS Financial Measures Operating Profit".
- (2) Net operating profit is derived from net profit by (i) subtracting other income and gains, (ii) adding other expenses, (iii) adding RSU expenses and (iv) adding impact on tax related to items (i) and (ii) above. For a reconciliation of net operating profit to net profit, see "Management Discussion and Analysis Financial Review Non-IFRS Financial Measures Net Operating Profit".

#### Revenue

The Group's total revenue increased by 25.7% from JPY11,871.9 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY14,927.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

#### **Constant Currency Revenue**

On a constant currency basis, the Group's total revenue increased by 17.3% from the six months ended 30 September 2021 to the six months ended 30 September 2022. For the purpose of calculating constant currency revenue, the Group has used the average exchange rate of the six months ended 30 September 2021 to translate sales recorded during the six months ended 30 September 2022, to the extent that the original currency for such sales is not in Japanese yen.

Constant currency revenue is used to supplement measures that were prepared in accordance with IFRS. It is however not a measure of financial performance under IFRS and should not be considered as an alternative to measures presented in accordance with IFRS.

#### **Revenue** (continued)

#### **Revenue by Product Groups**

The Group offers golfers a complete golf lifestyle experience through an extensive portfolio of HONMA-branded golf clubs, golf balls, bags, apparels and other accessories. The following table shows revenue by product groups in absolute amounts and as percentages of the Group's total revenue for the periods indicated:

	For the	For the six months ended 30 September				period e on constant
					on as reported	currency
	2022				basis	basis <sup>(1)</sup>
	JPY		JPY			%
		(I.	n thousands, except fo	r percentages)		
Golf clubs	11,441,690	76.6	8,719,383	73.4	31.2	22.4
Golf balls	1,122,606	7.5	1,153,704	9.7	(2.7)	(4.3)
Apparels	1,237,367	8.3	1,259,273	10.6	(1.7)	(12.4)
Accessories and other related <sup>(2)</sup>	1,125,752	7.5	739,587	6.2	52.2	42.2
Total	14,927,415	100.0	11,871,947	100.0	25.7	17.3

Notes:

(1) For further information, see "- Constant Currency Revenue".

(2) Include golf bags, golf club head covers, footwear, gloves, headwear and other golf-related accessories.

#### **Revenue** (continued)

#### Revenue by Product Groups (continued)

Revenue from golf clubs increased by 31.2% from JPY8,719.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to reach JPY11,441.7 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from golf clubs increased by 22.4% as compared to the same period last year.

Revenue from accessories and other related products increased by 52.2% from JPY739.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY1,125.8 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from accessories and other related products increased by 42.2% as compared to the same period last year.

The steady revenue increases in golf clubs as well as accessories and other related products were primarily driven by continued improvement in HONMA's product development, merchandise planning and retail operations.

Revenue from golf balls decreased by 2.7% from JPY1,153.7 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY1,122.6 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from golf balls decreased by 4.3% as compared to the same period last year.

Revenue from apparels decreased by 1.7% from JPY1,259.3 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY1,237.4 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from apparels decreased by 12.4% as compared to the same period last year.

Such declines in golf balls and apparels were primarily caused by the continued lockdown happening in various parts of China as well as continued supply chain constraints in the sourcing of raw materials critical to the manufacturing of golf balls.

#### **Revenue** (continued)

#### Revenue by Geography

The Group's products are sold in approximately 50 countries worldwide, primarily in Asia and also across North America, Europe and other regions. The following table sets forth revenue from regions by absolute amounts and as percentages of total revenue for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September				Period-to-  chang	
					on as reported	constant currency
	2022				basis	basis <sup>(1)</sup>
	JPY		JPY			%
		(,	In thousands, except fo	or percentages)		
Japan	3,951,625	26.5	3,821,601	32.2	3.4	3.4
Korea	4,237,634	28.4	2,149,780	18.1	97.1	94.8
China (including Hong Kong and Macau)	4,028,409	27.0	3,624,678	30.5	11.1	(4.3)
North America	565,128	3.8	429,508	3.6	31.6	9.9
Europe	285,766	1.9	529,565	4.5	(46.0)	(54.4)
Other Regions	1,858,853	12.5	1,316,815	11.1	41.2	22.0
Total	14,927,415	100.0	11,871,947	100.0	25.7	17.3

Note:

(1) For further information, see "- Constant Currency Revenue".

#### **Revenue** (continued)

#### Revenue by Geography (continued)

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, most of the Group's markets reported record sales growth versus same period last year. Revenue from Japan, Korea, China, North America and other regions rose robustly by 3.4%, 97.1%, 11.1%, 31.6% and 41.2%, respectively, on the back of a strong rebound of consumer demand, continued marketing activities to drive HONMA brand and product awareness, and successful activation of various HONMA products.

Revenue from Japan recorded a growth of 3.4% from JPY3,821.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY3,951.6 million for the same period in 2022, on the back of a complete sales recovery in all channels and product categories.

Revenue from Korea grew robustly by 97.1% from JPY2,149.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY4,237.6 million for the same period in 2022, thanks to continued uptake in golf participation and successful launch of new products since early 2022.

Revenue from China (including Hong Kong and Macau) rose by 11.1% from JPY3,624.7 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY4,028.4 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from China (including Hong Kong and Macau) dropped by 4.3% during the same period, primarily due to negative impact from government imposed lockdown and social distancing measures.

Revenue from North America increased by 31.6% from JPY429.5 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY565.1 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from North America increased by 9.9% during the same period.

Revenue from Europe decreased by 46.0% from JPY529.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY285.8 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from Europe decreased by 54.4% during the same period. Such decline reflected the Group's decision to change its distribution model in Europe to an indirect one.

Revenue from other regions rose strongly by 41.2% from JPY1,316.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY1,858.9 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from other regions increased by 22.0% during the same period.

Revenue from the Group's home markets, namely Japan, Korea and China (including Hong Kong and Macau) accounted for 81.9% of the Group's total revenue for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

#### **Revenue** (continued)

#### **Revenue by Sales and Distribution Channels**

The Group has an extensive sales and distribution network that allows the Group to address a broad customer base in its target markets. The Group's sales and distribution network consists of HONMA-branded self-operated stores as well as POSs owned and managed by third-party retailers and wholesalers. The Group's third-party retailer and wholesaler partners include (a) Retailers, including various national and regional sports megastores, and (b) Wholesale Distributors that on-sell the Group's products to other third-party retailers and consumers. The following table sets forth revenue from self-operated stores and POSs in absolute amounts and as percentages of total revenue for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September				Period-to-period change	
						on
						constant
					reported	currency
	2022				basis	basis <sup>(1)</sup>
	JPY		JPY			%
				for percentages)		
Self-operated stores	4,566,903	30.6	3,516,080	29.6	29.9	20.2
Third-party retailers and wholesalers	10,360,512	69.4	8,355,867	70.4	24.0	16.1
Total	14,927,415	100.0	11,871,947	100.0	25.7	17.3

Note:

(1) For further information, see "- Constant Currency Revenue".

Revenue from self-operated stores increased by 29.9% from JPY3,516.1 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY4,566.9 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from self-operated stores increased by 20.2% during the same period. Such increase was primarily due to continued optimisation in retail operations.

Revenue from sales to third-party retailers and wholesalers increased by 24.0% from JPY8,355.9 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY10,360.5 million for the same period in 2022. On a constant currency basis, revenue from third-party retailers and wholesalers increased by 16.1% during the same period thanks to pent-up demand. Sales to the Group's retail partners in Japan grew by 24.0% as most retailers recovered from extended and lingered business closure during COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Cost of Sales**

Cost of sales increased by 33.0% from JPY5,310.1 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY7,061.1 million for the same period in 2022. The table below sets forth a breakdown of the key components of cost of sales, each expressed in absolute amounts and as percentages of the total cost of sales during the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September					
	2022	2				
	JPY	%	JPY	%		
	(In thousands, except for percentages)					
Raw materials	3,699,092	52.4	2,842,287	53.5		
Employee benefits	541,474	7.7	472,109	8.9		
Manufacturing overhead <sup>(1)</sup>	299,101	4.2	176,903	3.3		
Finished goods purchased from suppliers	2,521,434	35.7	1,818,799	34.3		
Total	7,061,101	100.0	5,310,098	100.0		

Note:

(1) Includes depreciation and amortisation of property, plant and equipment, other manufacturing overhead and cost of services rendered.

#### **Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin**

Gross profit increased by 19.9% from JPY6,561.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY7,866.3 million for the same period in 2022. Gross profit margin decreased from 55.3% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 52.7% for the same period in 2022.

#### Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin (continued)

#### Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin by Product Groups

The following table sets forth a breakdown of gross profit and gross profit margin by product groups for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September					
	<b>2022</b> 202 <sup>-</sup>			21		
	JPY	%	JPY	%		
	(In thousands, except for percentages)					
Golf clubs	6,845,942	59.8	5,075,659	58.2		
Golf balls	358,323	31.9	508,083	44.0		
Apparels	373,624	30.2	675,735	53.7		
Accessories and other related <sup>(1)</sup>	288,425	25.6	302,372	40.9		
Total	7,866,314	52.7	6,561,849	55.3		

Note:

(1) Include golf bags, golf club head covers, footwear, gloves, headwear and other golf-related accessories.

Gross profit for golf clubs increased by 34.9% from JPY5,075.7 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY6,845.9 million for the same period in 2022. Gross profit margin for golf clubs increased from 58.2% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 59.8% for the same period in 2022, primarily due to continued price management and manufacturing cost optimization.

Gross profit for golf balls decreased by 29.5% from JPY508.1 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY358.3 million for the same period in 2022. Gross profit margin for golf balls decreased from 44.0% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 31.9% for the same period in 2022, primarily due to raw material price increase and unfavourable exchange rate against U.S. dollar as the main market of the Company is located in Japan.

#### Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin (continued)

#### Gross Profit and Gross Profit Margin by Product Groups (continued)

Gross profit for apparels decreased by 44.7% from JPY675.7 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY373.6 million for the same period in 2022. Gross profit margin for apparels decreased from 53.7% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 30.2% for the same period in 2022, primarily due to slow moving provision impact especially in Japan and Korea.

Gross profit for accessories and other related products decreased by 4.6% from JPY302.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY288.4 million for the same period in 2022. Gross profit margin for accessories and other related products decreased from 40.9% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 25.6% for the same period in 2022, primarily due to unfavourable exchange rate against U.S. dollar as the main market of the Company is located in Japan.

#### **Other Income and Gains**

Other income and gains increased from JPY203.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY1,696.7 million for the same period in 2022, primarily due to an increase in foreign exchange gain of JPY1,624.5 million.

#### Selling and Distribution Expenses

Selling and distribution expenses increased from JPY4,301.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY4,874.3 million for the same period in 2022. Selling and distribution expenses as a percentage of revenue decreased from 36.2% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 32.7% for the same period in 2022, primarily due to economies of scale from the Group's robust sales expansion. The following table sets forth a breakdown of selling and distribution expenses by absolute amounts and percentages of total selling and distribution expenses for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September				
	2022				
	JPY	%	JPY	%	
	(In thousands, except for percentages)				
Employee benefits	1,686,798	34.6	1,578,327	36.7	
Advertising and promotion expenses	1,146,855	23.5	953,954	22.2	
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	490,714	10.1	471,905	10.9	
Rental and other related fees	266,723	5.5	183,972	4.3	
Others <sup>(1)</sup>	1,283,237	26.3	1,113,431	25.9	
Total	4,874,327	100.0	4,301,589	100.0	

Note:

(1) Include distribution costs, depreciation and amortisation of certain tangible and intangible assets, travel expenses, consumables and other expenses.

#### **Administrative Expenses**

Administrative expenses remained relatively stable at JPY688.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 and JPY685.5 million for the same period in 2022.

#### (Provision for)/Reversal of Impairment Losses on Financial Assets

We had reversal of impairment losses on financial assets of JPY57.7 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 and provision for impairment losses on financial assets of JPY74.0 million for the same period in 2022, primarily due to an increase in bad debt provision following the IFRS 9 requirement.

#### **Other Expenses, Net**

Other expenses increased by 226.8% from JPY47.6 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY155.5 million for the same period in 2022, primarily due to fixed assets disposal related to inefficient stores closure.

#### **Finance Costs**

Finance costs increased by 15.7% from JPY45.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY52.5 million for the same period in 2022, primarily due to increased interest rate.

#### **Finance Income**

Finance income increased by 24.0% from JPY6.0 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY7.5 million for the same period in 2022, primarily due to higher average cash balance.

#### **Profit Before Tax**

As a result of the foregoing, profit before tax for the six months ended 30 September 2022 was JPY3,728.6 million.

#### **Income Tax Expense**

Income tax expense increased by 61.1% from JPY398.1 million for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to JPY641.2 million for the same period in 2022. The Group's effective tax rate decreased from 22.8% for the six months ended 30 September 2021 to 17.2% for the same period in 2022.

#### **Net Profit**

As a result of the foregoing, net profit for the six months ended 30 September 2022 was JPY3,087.4 million. Net profit margin for the six months ended 30 September 2022 was 20.7%.

#### **Non-IFRS Financial Measures**

In addition to the IFRS measures in its consolidated financial statements, the Group also uses the non-IFRS financial measures of operating profit and net operating profit to evaluate its operating performance. The Group believes that such non-IFRS measures provide useful information to investors in understanding and evaluating its consolidated results of operations in the same manner as its management and in comparing financial results across accounting periods on a like-for-like basis.

The use of operating profit and net operating profit has material limitations as analytical tools, as operating profit does not include all items that have impacted profit before tax, the nearest IFRS performance measure, and net operating profit does not include all items that have impacted net profit, the nearest IFRS performance measure.

#### **Operating Profit**

The Group derives operating profit from profit before tax by (i) subtracting other income and gains and (ii) adding other expenses. Operating profit eliminates the effect of other income and gains and other expenses, which are primarily related to non-recurring events. The following table reconciles operating profit to profit before tax for the periods indicated:

	For the six months ended 30 September		
	2022	2021	
	(In JPY th	ousands)	
Profit before tax	3,728,600	1,746,495	
Adjustment for:			
Other income and gains	(1,696,655)	(203,763)	
Other expenses	155,530	47,588	
Operating profit	2,187,475	1,590,320	

# **Management Discussion and Analysis**

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

#### Non-IFRS Financial Measures (continued)

#### **Net Operating Profit**

The Group derives net operating profit from net profit by (i) subtracting other income and gains, (ii) adding other expenses, and (iii) adding impact on tax related to items (i) and (ii) above. Net operating profit eliminates the effect of other income and gains and other expenses, which are primarily related to non-recurring events. The following table reconciles net operating profit to net profit for the periods indicated:

	For the six months e	ended 30 September
	2022	
	(In JPY th	ousands)
Net profit	3,087,382	1,348,351
Adjustment for:		
Other income and gains	(1,696,655)	(203,763)
Other expenses	155,530	47,588
Impact on tax	42,599	2,374
Net operating profit	1,588,856	1,194,550

#### Working Capital Management

	For the twelve me	For the twelve months ended		
	30 September 2022	31 March 2022		
Inventories turnover days <sup>(1)</sup>	292	293		
Trade and bills receivables turnover days <sup>(2)</sup>	44	68		
Trade and bills payables turnover days(3)	64	58		

Notes:

- (1) Inventories turnover days are calculated using the average of opening balance and closing balance of inventories for a twelve-month period divided by cost of sales for the relevant twelve-month period and multiplied by 365 days.
- (2) Trade and bills receivables turnover days are calculated using the average of opening balance and closing balance of trade and bills receivables for a twelve-month period divided by revenue for the relevant twelve-month period and multiplied by 365 days.
- (3) Trade and bills payables turnover days are calculated using the average of opening balance and closing balance of trade and bills payables for a twelve-month period divided by cost of sales for the relevant twelve-month period and multiplied by 365 days.

#### Working Capital Management (continued)

Inventories turnover days remained relatively stable at 293 days for the twelve months ended 31 March 2022 and 292 days for the twelve months ended 30 September 2022.

Trade and bills receivables turnovers days decreased by 24 days from 68 days for the twelve months ended 31 March 2022 to 44 days for the twelve months ended 30 September 2022, primarily due to strengthened collection in various markets.

On the other hand, trade and bills payables turnover days increased by six days from 58 days for the twelve months ended 31 March 2022 to 64 days for the twelve months ended 30 September 2022, primarily due to strong supplier management.

#### Inventories

The following table sets forth the balance of the Group's inventories as at the dates indicated:

	As at 30 September 2022 (In JPY the	As at 31 March 2022 Susands)
Raw materials	3,236,324	2,930,047
Work in progress	1,521,784	1,548,424
Finished goods	10,510,051	8,552,042
Less: provision	(2,306,239)	(1,535,677)
Total	12,961,920	11,494,836

The following table sets forth aging analysis of the Group's inventories as at the dates indicated:

	As at 30 September 2022 (In JPY the	As at 31 March 2022 <i>busands)</i>
Within 1 year	4,652,904	5,763,355
1 year to 2 years	3,667,353	2,249,881
2 to 3 years	2,460,096	2,545,454
3 to 4 years	1,493,279	442,649
Over 4 years	688,288	493,496
Total	12,961,920	11,494,836

#### **Inventories** (continued)

The Group prepares its inventory aging analysis with reference to product launch date, instead of capitalisation date. For example, inventories reported as aged between two to three years in the table above represent inventories relating to products that were launched two to three years before the relevant balance sheet date. Such inventories may have been produced and/or procured and hence capitalised more recently than as shown in the said aging analysis.

The Group adopted this approach of inventory aging analysis because it allows the Group to implement a more effective inventory management process relative to each product's life cycle. The Group typically launches new club, ball and accessory products every 24 months and carries its previous older generation for another 12 months.

#### Liquidity and Capital Resources

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group financed its operations primarily through cash from operations, net proceeds received from the global offering and proceeds from bank loans. The Group intends to finance its expansion and business operations by internal resources and through organic and sustainable growth, bank borrowings, as well as the net proceeds received from the global offering.

As at 30 September 2022, the Group had JPY17,038.1 million in cash and cash equivalents, which were primarily held in U.S. dollar, Japanese yen and Renminbi. The Group's cash and cash equivalents primarily consist of cash on hand and demand deposits.

A substantial portion of the Group's operation is based in Japan, and a substantial portion of the Group's revenue and expenditures are denominated and settled in Japanese yen. As a result, the Group's currency risk is limited, and the Group did not use any derivative contracts to hedge against such risk as at 30 September 2022.

#### Indebtedness

As at 30 September 2022, the Group's interest-bearing bank borrowings amounted to JPY6,990.0 million, mainly of which were denominated in Japanese yen and carry interest at variable rates. All of such borrowings were unsecured. In particular, JPY6,390.0 million are payable within one year and JPY600.0 million are payable within ten years. The effective interest rate for the balance of the Group's interest-bearing bank borrowings as at 30 September 2022 ranged from 0.17% to 3.08%.

#### **Gearing Ratio**

The Group's gearing ratio is calculated by dividing (i) the sum of interest-bearing bank borrowings and lease liabilities by (ii) total equity. As at 30 September 2022, the Group's gearing ratio was 35.0% (As at 31 March 2022, the Group's gearing ratio was 38.1%).

#### **Capital Expenditures**

The Group's capital expenditures for the six months ended 30 September 2022 amounted to JPY277.7 million, which was used primarily to purchase plant machinery and equipment, office equipment and leasehold improvement. In the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group financed its capital expenditures primarily with cash generated from operations.

#### **Contingent Liabilities**

As at 30 September 2022, the Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities.

#### **Funding and Treasury Policy**

The Group adopts a stable, conservative approach on its funding and treasury policy, aiming to maintain an optimal financial position, the most economical finance costs, and minimal financial risks. The Group regularly reviews its funding requirements to maintain adequate financial resources in order to support its current business operations as well as its future investments and expansion plans.

#### **Charge on Assets**

There was no charge on the Group's assets as at 30 September 2022.

#### Material Acquisitions and Future Plans for Major Investment

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group did not conduct any material investments, acquisitions or disposals. In addition, save for the expansion plans as disclosed in the sections headed "Business" and "Future Plans and Use of Proceeds" in the prospectus (the "**Prospectus**") of the Company dated 23 September 2016, the Group has no specific plan for major investment or acquisition for major capital assets or other businesses. However, the Group will continue to identify new opportunities for business development.

#### Use of Proceeds from the Global Offering

The Company was listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**") on 6 October 2016. The net proceeds from the Company's global offering amounted to JPY16,798.0 million, which are intended to be applied in compliance with the intended use of proceeds as set out in the section headed "Net Proceeds from the Global Offering" in the Company's Announcement of Offer Price and Allotment Results dated 5 October 2016.

#### Use of Proceeds from the Global Offering (continued)

The following table sets forth the status of the use of proceeds from the global offering<sup>(1)</sup>:

Intended use of proceeds	Percentage of intended use of proceeds (%)	Intended use of proceeds from the global offering (In JPY millions)	Percentage of used amount as at 30 September 2022 (%)	Percentage of unused balance as at 30 September 2022 (%)	Expected timeframe for utilizing the remaining unused net proceeds <sup>(2)</sup>
Potential strategic acquisitions	29.4	4,939	-	29.4	_(3)
Sales and marketing activities in					
North America and Europe	15.1	2,536	15.1	-	N/A
Sales and marketing activities in home markets of Japan,					
Korea and China (including Hong Kong and Macau)	15.1	2,536	15.1	-	N/A
Capital expenditures	13.0	2,184	13.0	-	N/A
Repayment of interest-bearing bank borrowings	17.3	2,906	17.1	0.2(4)	N/A <sup>(4)</sup>
Providing funding for working capital and other general corporate purposes	10.1	1,697	10.1		N/A
Total =	100.0	16,798	70.4	29.6	

#### Notes:

(1) The figures in the table are approximate figures.

- (2) The expected timeline for utilizing the remaining proceeds is based on the best estimation of the future market conditions made by the Group. It will be subject to change based on the current and future development of market conditions.
- (3) As at the date of this interim report, the Group had not identified, committed to or entered into negotiations with any acquisition targets for its use of net proceeds from the global offering; hence it has no specific expected timeframe for fully utilizing such proceeds. The Group will continue to prudently evaluate potential acquisition targets within the golf products industry based on, among other factors, their brand recognition, geographic footprint, distribution network, product offerings and financial condition, with a goal of identifying potential acquisition targets that best fit its growth strategies.
- (4) As at the date of this interim report, the Group has repaid the interest-bearing bank borrowings intended to be repaid through the proceeds from the global offering in full. The difference between the intended use of proceeds from the global offering and the actual repayment was due to the changes in foreign exchange rates. For the remaining unused net proceeds, the Group plans to use for general corporate purpose. As at the date of this interim report, the Group has not used the remaining 0.2% of the unused balance and will evaluate suitable usage based on its business needs.

As at 30 September 2022, the unused balance of the proceeds from the global offering of approximately JPY4,972.2 million are currently deposited with creditworthy banks with no recent history of default.

#### **Events after the Reporting Period**

The Board has declared the payment of an interim dividend of JPY1.5 per share, amounting to approximately a total of JPY908.5 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (the "**2022/2023 Interim Dividend**"), representing approximately 29.4% of the Group's distributable profits for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

#### Exchange Rate Conversion

Unless otherwise specified, amounts denominated in USD have been translated, for the purpose of illustration only, into JPY at the exchange rate of USD1.00: JPY133.12. No representation is made that any amount in USD and JPY could have been or could be converted at the above rates or at any other rates or at all.

# **Other Information**

# Directors' and Chief Executive's Interests and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures

As at 30 September 2022, the interests and short positions of the directors (the "**Directors**") and the chief executive of the Company in the shares of the Company (the "**Shares**"), underlying Shares or debentures of the Company and its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "**SFO**")) as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "**Model Code**") contained in Appendix 10 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Listing Rules**") or as the Company is aware were as follows:

#### Interests in the Company

Name of Director/		Number of Shares or underlying	Approximate percentage of
Chief Executive	Capacity/Nature of interest	Shares interested <sup>(1)</sup>	interest <sup>(6)</sup>
Mr. Liu Jianguo <sup>(2)</sup>	Founder and the sole beneficiary of a		
	trust/Interest of controlled corporation	233,560,525 (L)	
	Beneficial owner	952,250 (L)	
		234,512,775 (L)	38.72%
Mr. Ito Yasuki <sup>(3)</sup>	Beneficial owner	337,552 (L)	0.06%
Mr. Murai Yuji <sup>(4)</sup>	Beneficial owner	366,456 (L)	0.06%
Mr. Zuo Jun <sup>(5)</sup>	Beneficial owner	254,020 (L)	0.04%

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" denotes the person's long position in such Shares or underlying Shares.
- (2) Vistra Trust (Hong Kong) Limited ("Vistra Trust") is the trustee of the trust established by Mr. Liu Jianguo who is also the sole beneficiary of the trust. Vistra Trust holds the entire issued share capital of Dazzling Coast Limited ("Dazzling"), which in turn holds the entire share capital of Prize Ray Limited ("Prize Ray"), which holds the entire share capital of Kouunn Holdings Limited, which beneficially owned 233,560,525 Shares. As Mr. Liu Jianguo is the founder and the sole beneficiary of the trust as well as the sole director of Kouunn Holdings Limited, by virtue of the SFO, Mr. Liu is deemed to be interested in the Shares held by Kouunn Holdings Limited. Mr. Liu also directly held 666,575 Shares and was interested in 285,675 RSUs granted to him under the RSU Scheme (as defined below) entitling him to receive 285,675 Shares upon vesting.
- (3) Mr. Ito Yasuki directly held 108,856 Shares and was interested in 228,696 RSUs granted to him under the RSU Scheme entitling him to receive 228,696 Shares upon vesting.
- (4) Mr. Murai Yuji directly held 183,468 Shares and was interested in 182,988 RSUs granted to him under the RSU Scheme entitling him to receive 182,988 Shares upon vesting.
- (5) Mr. Zuo Jun directly held 254,020 Shares.
- (6) The calculation is based on the total number of 605,642,500 Shares in issue as at 30 September 2022.
# Directors' and Chief Executive's Interests and Short Positions in Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures (continued)

#### Interests in Associated Corporation of the Company

Name of Director	Name of associated corporation	Capacity/Nature of interest	Number of shares held	Percentage of the issued share capital
Mr. Liu Jianguo	Kouunn Holdings Limited	Founder and the sole	1,000	100%
		beneficiary of a trust		

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2022, none of the Directors or the chief executive of the Company had any interests or short positions in any of the Shares, underlying Shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

# Substantial Shareholders' and Other Persons' Interests and Short Positions in Shares and Underlying Shares

As at 30 September 2022, the following persons (other than the Directors and the chief executive of the Company) had interests or short positions in the Shares or underlying Shares of the Company as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under section 336 of the SFO or as the Company is aware:

Name	Nature of interest	Number of Shares or underlying Shares Interested <sup>(1)</sup>	Approximate percentage of interest <sup>(8)</sup>
Kouunn Holdings Limited <sup>(2)(4)(6)</sup>	Beneficial owner	233,560,525 (L)	38.56%
Dazzling Coast Limited <sup>(4)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	233,560,525 (L)	38.56%
Prize Ray Limited <sup>(4)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	233,560,525 (L)	38.56%
Vistra Trust (Hong Kong) Limited(4)	Trustee	233,560,525 (L)	38.56%
Ms. Huang Wenhuan (黃文歡) <sup>(3)</sup>	Interest of spouse	234,512,775 (L)	38.72%
Fosun Industrial Holdings Limited (復星產業控股有限公司) <sup>6)</sup>	Beneficial owner	35,629,425 (L)	5.88%
Fosun International Limited <sup>(5)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	35,629,425 (L)	5.88%
Fosun Holdings Limited <sup>(5)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	35,629,425 (L)	5.88%
Fosun International Holdings Ltd. <sup>(5)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	35,629,425 (L)	5.88%
Mr. Guo Guangchang (郭廣昌) <sup>(5)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	35,629,425 (L)	5.88%
Gold Genius Development Limited <sup>(2)(6)</sup>	Person having a security interest in Shares	47,000,000 (L)	7.76%
Splendid Steed Investments Limited <sup>(6)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	47,000,000 (L)	7.76%
Mr. Ma Jianrong <sup>(6)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	47,000,000 (L)	7.76%
Charoen Pokphand Group Company Limited <sup>(7)</sup>	Interest of controlled corporation	181,296,500 (L)	29.93%
ITOCHU Corporation	Beneficial owner	38,284,000 (L)	6.32%

# Substantial Shareholders' and Other Persons' Interests and Short Positions in Shares and Underlying Shares (continued)

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" denotes the person's long position in such Shares or underlying Shares.
- (2) 47,000,000 Shares held by Kouunn Holdings Limited were pledged in favour of Gold Genius Development Limited.
- (3) Ms. Huang Wenhuan (黃文歡) is the wife of Mr. Liu Jianguo and, by virtue of the SFO, is deemed to be interested in the Shares and the underlying Shares in which Mr. Liu was interested.
- (4) Vistra Trust is the trustee of the trust established by Mr. Liu Jianguo who is also the sole beneficiary of the trust. Vistra Trust holds the entire issued share capital of Dazzling which in turn holds the entire share capital of Prize Ray which holds the entire share capital of Kouunn Holdings Limited, which beneficially owned 233,560,525 Shares. By virtue of the SFO, Mr. Liu, Vistra Trust, Dazzling and Prize Ray are deemed to be interested in the same parcel of Shares held by Kouunn Holdings Limited.
- (5) Fosun Industrial Holdings Limited (復星產業控股有限公司) was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fosun International Limited ("FIL"). FIL was 72.45% held by Fosun Holdings Limited ("FHL"). Fosun International Holdings Ltd. ("FIHL") was the beneficial owner of all issued shares in FHL and was in turn owned as to 85.29% by Mr. Guo Guangchang (郭廣昌). By virtue of the SFO, FIL, FHL, FIHL and Mr. Guo Guangchang (郭廣昌) were deemed to be interested in the same parcel of Shares held by Fosun Industrial Holdings Limited (復星產業 控股有限公司).
- (6) Mr. Ma Jianrong holds the entire issued share capital of Splendid Steed Investments Limited, which in turn holds the entire share capital of Gold Genius Development Limited, which had a security interest in 47,000,000 Shares pledged by Kouunn Holdings Limited in its favour. By virtue of the SFO, Mr. Ma Jianrong and Splendid Steed Investments Limited are deemed to be interested in the same parcel of Shares in which Gold Genius Development Limited had a security interest.
- (7) These Shares were held by Chia Tai Primrose Holdings Limited (正大平樂控股有限公司) which was 100% controlled by Chia Tai Giant Far Limited (正大鉅發有限公司) ("CTGF"). CTGF was 100% controlled by CT Bright Group Company Limited (正大光明集團有限公司) ("CTBG"). CTBG was 100% controlled by CPG Overseas Company Limited which was in turn 100% controlled by Charoen Pokphand Group Company Limited.
- (8) The calculation is based on the total number of 605,642,500 Shares in issue as at 30 September 2022.

### **Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme**

#### **Restricted Share Unit Scheme**

On 20 October 2015, the Restricted Share Unit Scheme (the "**RSU Scheme**") was approved and adopted by the then shareholders of the Company. The purpose of the RSU Scheme is to incentivize Directors, senior management and employees of the Group (the "**RSU Eligible Persons**") for their contribution to the Group, to attract, motivate and retain skilled and experienced personnel to strive for the future development and expansion of the Group by providing them with the opportunity to own equity interests in the Company. The Board selects the RSU Eligible Persons to receive RSUs under the RSU Scheme at its discretion. The RSU Scheme will be valid and effective for a period of ten years from the date of the first grant of the RSUs, being 20 October 2015. As at 30 September 2022, the remaining life of the RSU Scheme is approximately three years and one month. The maximum number of RSUs that may be granted under the RSU Scheme in aggregate (excluding RSUs that have lapsed or been cancelled in accordance with the rules of the RSU Scheme) shall be such number of Shares held or to be held by the trustee for the RSU Scheme for the purpose of the RSU Scheme. Further details of the principal terms of the RSU Scheme are set out in the Prospectus.

The Company has appointed The Core Trust Company Limited (the "**RSU Trustee**") as the trustee to assist in the administration of the RSU Scheme. All the Shares underlying the RSUs granted and to be granted under the RSU Scheme will be transferred, allotted or issued to the RSU Trustee and/or Taisai Holdings Ltd. (the "**RSU Nominee**"), a company indirectly wholly-owned by the RSU Trustee, which, as at 30 September 2022, held (as the RSU Nominee) 3,101,888 Shares underlying the RSUs granted under the RSU Scheme for the benefit of RSU Eligible Persons pursuant to the RSU Scheme.

As at 30 September 2022, RSUs in respect of 3,101,888 underlying Shares (representing approximately 0.51% of the total issued Shares as at the date of this interim report) granted by the Company pursuant to the RSU Scheme remained outstanding. Three of the participants in the RSU Scheme are Directors, one of the participants in the RSU Scheme is a senior management member of the Company and two are executive managers of the subsidiaries of the Company.

# Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

#### Restricted Share Unit Scheme (continued)

Details of the RSUs granted under the RSU Scheme at the beginning and end of, and movements in the RSUs during, the six months ended 30 September 2022 are set out below:

Category of gra	intee	Number of represented at 1 Apri	l by RSUs	Granted during the period	Exercised during the period	Cancelled during the period	Lapsed during the period	Number of Shares represented by RSUs at 30 September 2022
Directors of the	Company							
Name of grantee of RSU	Position held with the Group							
Liu Jianguo	Chairman of the Board, President and Executive Director	285,675	3 November 2015	_	_	_	_	285,675
lto Yasuki	Executive Director, Chief Marketing Officer and President of Japan Operations	133,341 95,355	20 October 2015 31 May 2016	_	_	_	_	133,341 95,355
Murai Yuji	Executive Director and Chief Sales Officer	144,768	20 October 2015	_	_	_	_	144,768
		38,220	31 May 2016					38,220
Sub-total		697,359						697,359

# Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

Restricted Share Unit Scheme (continued)

Category of grantee Employees in aggregate	Number of Shares represented by RSUs at 1 April 2022 date of grant		Granted during the period	Exercised during the period	Cancelled during the period	Lapsed during the period	Number of Shares represented by RSUs at 30 September 2022
Senior management of the Company, and directors and other executive managers of the subsidiaries of the Company (excluding those who are also Directors of the Company)							
One senior management of	90,776	20 October	_	_	_	_	90,776
the Company and two other executive managers of the	381,030	2015 3 November	_	_	_	_	381,030
subsidiaries of the Company	001,000	2015					001,000
	113,880	31 May 2016	_	_	_	_	113,880
Other employees of the Group							
72 other employees of the Group	1,291,758	20 October 2015	—	_	—	61,893	1,229,865
	457,275	3 November 2015	_	_	_	_	457,275
	38,220	31 May 2016	_	_	_	_	38,220
	136,188	6 October 2017		_		42,705	93,483
Sub-total	2,509,127					104,598	2,404,529
Total	3,206,486					104,598	3,101,888

### Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

#### Restricted Share Unit Scheme (continued)

No exercise price is required for the exercise of the RSUs granted to the participants under the RSU Scheme as referred to in the above. The participants shall serve the exercise notice within three (3) months after receiving the vesting notice. Subject to the vesting conditions, the RSUs granted to the participants during the years ended 31 March 2016 and 2017 under the RSU Scheme shall be vested in accordance with the vesting schedule as follows:

- (i) as to 40% on the date on which the shares of the Company are listed on the Stock Exchange;
- (ii) as to 30% on 30 April 2018 or the date on which the Company publishes its annual results for the year ended 31 March 2018 (whichever is earlier); and
- (iii) as to 30% on 19 October 2025.

Subject to the vesting conditions, the RSUs granted to the participants during the year ended 31 March 2018 under the RSU Scheme shall be vested in accordance with the vesting schedule as follows:

- (i) as to 50% on 30 April 2018 or the date on which the Company publishes its annual results for the year ended 31 March 2018 (whichever is earlier); and
- (ii) as to 50% on 19 October 2025.

#### **Post-IPO Share Option Scheme**

On 18 September 2016, the post-IPO share option scheme (the "**Post-IPO Share Option Scheme**") was approved and adopted by the then shareholders of the Company. The purpose of the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme is to provide incentives and/or rewards to Directors or employees of the Group who in the sole discretion of the Board have contributed or will contribute to the Group (the "**Eligible Persons**") for their contribution to, and continuing efforts to promote the interests of, the Group.

Subject to the terms of the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme, the Board shall be entitled at any time within the period of ten years after the adoption date, being 18 September 2016 to 17 September 2026, to grant options to any Eligible Person as the Board in its absolute discretion selects. No offer shall be made and no option shall be granted to any participant in the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (the "**Participant**") in circumstances prohibited by the Listing Rules at a time when the Participant would or might be prohibited from dealing in the Shares by the Listing Rules or by any applicable rules, regulations or laws. In particular, no options may be granted during the period commencing one month immediately preceding the earlier of (i) the date of the Board meeting (as such date is first notified to the Stock Exchange in accordance with the Listing Rules) for the approval of the Company's results for any year, half-year, quarterly or other interim period; and (ii) the date of actual publication of such results announcement.

### Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

#### Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

The maximum number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme and all other share option schemes existing at such time of the Company shall not in aggregate exceed 60,905,000 Shares (representing 10% of the total number of Shares in issue as at the Listing Date, the "Scheme Mandate Limit"), which represents approximately 10.06% of the total number of Shares in issue as at the date of this interim report. The Company may renew the Scheme Mandate Limit at any time subject to prior shareholders' approval but in any event, the total number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company under the limit as refreshed must not exceed 10% of the Shares in issue as at the date of approval of the renewal of the Scheme Mandate Limit.

The maximum number of Shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of the options granted and to be granted to any Eligible Person under the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company (including exercised, cancelled and outstanding options) in any 12-month period shall not at the time of grant exceed 1% of the Shares in issue, unless otherwise separately approved by shareholders in general meeting with such Eligible Person and his associates abstaining from voting.

An offer made to the Participant is open for acceptance by the Participant for a period of 28 days from the date of the offer made. Participants shall accept the offer by returning the duly signed duplicate letter clearly stating the number of Shares in respect of which the offer is accepted, with payment of HK\$1.00 as consideration for the acceptance of an option granted to them.

Subject to the terms of grant of any option, an option may be exercised by the grantee of the option at any time during the option period and in accordance with the vesting schedule and other terms specified in the offer. No option may be vested more than ten years after the date of grant. Subject to earlier terminations by the Company in general meetings or by the Board, the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme shall be valid and effective for a period of ten years commencing from the adoption date.

The exercise price shall be a price determined by the Board and notified to an Eligible Person but in any event shall be at least the higher of:

- the closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheets on the date of grant of the option, which must be a business day;
- the average of the closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the offer date; and
- the nominal value of a Share on the date of grant.

### Restricted Share Unit Scheme and Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

#### Post-IPO Share Option Scheme (continued)

Further details of the principal terms of the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme are set out in the Prospectus.

During the period from 18 September 2016 to 30 September 2022, no option had been granted or agreed to be granted by the Company pursuant to the Post-IPO Share Option Scheme.

### Purchase, Sale or Redemption of Listed Securities

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the listed securities of the Company.

#### **Interim Dividend**

The Board has declared the payment of an interim dividend of JPY1.5 per share for the six months ended 30 September 2022, amounting to approximately a total of JPY908.5 million, representing approximately 29.4% of the Group's distributable profits for the six months ended 30 September 2022, to the shareholders of the Company whose names appear on the register of members of the Company on Wednesday, 14 December 2022. The interim dividend will be paid on Wednesday, 28 December 2022. The interim dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2021 amounted to JPY908.5 million (JPY1.5 per share).

The interim dividend has been declared in Japanese Yen and will be paid in Hong Kong dollars, the exchange rate of which will be calculated based on the rate of exchange as quoted to the Company by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited at its middle rate of exchange as at the record date for determining such dividend entitlement.

Pursuant to the dividend policy adopted by the Company with effect from 27 May 2019, distributions of dividends are determined at the discretion of the Board. In determining whether any distribution shall be made and the amount of dividends, the Board shall take into account the Company's results of operations, cash flows, financial conditions, statutory and regulatory restrictions, capital, future business plans and prospects, and any other conditions which the Board deems relevant. Any declaration and payment as well as the amount of dividends will be subject to compliance with the Company's constitutional documents and the Companies Act of the Cayman Islands.

The Company will evaluate its dividend policy and distributions made from time to time.

## Compliance with the Corporate Governance Code

The Company's corporate governance practices are based on the principles and code provisions as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the "**CG Code**") as contained in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules. During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Company has complied with all applicable code provisions as set out in the CG Code save for the deviation from code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code.

Code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code stipulates that the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The positions of the chairman and president of the Company are both held by Mr. Liu Jianguo. With the assistance of Mr. Ito Yasuki and Mr. Zuo Jun, the respective presidents of Japan operations and China operations overseeing the Group's business in Japan and China, the Board believes that this arrangement would allow for effective and efficient planning and implementation of business decisions and strategies under the strong and consistent leadership and should be beneficial to the management and development of the Group's business.

The Board will continue to review and monitor the practices of the Company for the purpose of complying with the CG Code and maintaining a high standard of corporate governance practices of the Company.

## Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors

The Company has adopted the Model Code as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules as its own code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions.

Having made specific enquiry of all Directors, all of them have confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code and the Company's own code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions throughout the six months ended 30 September 2022.

### Audit Committee

The Company established the audit committee (the "Audit Committee") with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code. As at the date of this interim report, the Audit Committee comprises three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Lu Pochin Christopher, Mr. Wang Jianguo and Mr. Xu Hui. Mr. Lu Pochin Christopher is the chairman of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the unaudited interim results for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and this interim report.

## Changes in Directors' Biographical Details Under Rule 13.51B(1) of the Listing Rules

Changes in Directors' biographical details which are required to be disclosed pursuant to rule 13.51B(1) of the Listing Rules are as follows:

- 1. The salary for Mr. Liu Jianguo (劉建國), an executive director of the Company, was changed to HK\$2,601,291 per annum.
- 2. The salary for Mr. Ito Yasuki (伊藤康樹), an executive director of the Company, was changed to JPY11,999,952 per annum and there was no contractual annual performance bonus for Mr. Ito.
- 3. The salary for Mr. Murai Yuji (邨井勇二), an executive director of the Company, was changed to JPY10,999,992 per annum and there was no contractual annual performance bonus for Mr. Murai.
- 4. The salary for Mr. Zuo Jun (左軍), an executive director of the Company, was changed to RMB500,000 per annum.
- 5. Mr. Yang Xiaoping (楊小平), a non-executive director of the Company, was redesignated as deputy director of the management committee of the Institute of Global Development of Tsinghua University (清華大學全球共同發展研究院).
- 6. Mr. Wang Jianguo (汪建國), an independent non-executive director of the Company, has ceased to be the vice chairman of Jiangsu General Chamber of Commerce since July 2022.

### Use of Proceeds from the Global Offering

The Company was listed on the Stock Exchange on 6 October 2016. The net proceeds from the Company's global offering amounted to JPY16,798.0 million, which are intended to be applied in compliance with the intended use of proceeds as set out in the section headed "Net Proceeds from the Global Offering" in the Company's Announcement of Offer Price and Allotment Results dated 5 October 2016. Up to 30 September 2022, the Company utilised approximately 70.4%, or JPY11,825.8 million, of the net proceeds from the global offering. For details on the percentage of used amount and unused balance of each intended use of proceeds as at 30 September 2022, see the section headed "Management Discussion and Analysis — Financial Review — Use of Proceeds from the Global Offering" in this interim report.

As at 30 September 2022, the unused balance of the proceeds from the global offering of approximately JPY4,972.2 million are currently deposited with creditworthy banks with no recent history of default. In the rest of 2022 and the upcoming years, the Group will continue to utilise the net proceeds from the global offering for purposes consistent with those set out in the section headed "Net Proceeds from the Global Offering" in the Company's Announcement of Offer Price and Allotment Results dated 5 October 2016.

# Report on Review of Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements



Ernst & Young 27/F, One Taikoo Place 979 King's Road Quarry Bay, Hong Kong 安永會計師事務所 香港鰂魚涌英皇道 979 號 太古坊一座 27 樓 Tel 電話: +852 2846 9888 Fax 傳真: +852 2868 4432 ey.com

#### To the board of directors of Honma Golf Limited

(Incorporated in Cayman Islands with limited liability)

### Introduction

We have reviewed the interim financial information set out on pages 48 to 80, which comprises the condensed consolidated statement of financial position of Honma Golf Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") as at 30 September 2022 and the related condensed consolidated statements of profit or loss, comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the six-month period then ended, and explanatory notes. The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited require the preparation of a report on interim financial information to be in compliance with the relevant provisions thereof and International Accounting Standard 34 *"Interim Financial Reporting"* ("IAS 34") issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of this interim financial information in accordance with IAS 34. Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on this interim financial information based on our review. Our report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

### **Scope of Review**

We conducted our review in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410 *Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity* issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A review of interim financial information consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

# Report on Review of Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

# Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying interim condensed consolidated financial information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with IAS 34.

*Ernst & Young* Certified Public Accountants Hong Kong 29 November 2022

# **Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of**

# **Profit or Loss**

	Notes	FOR THE SIX MO 30 SEPTE	
		2022	2021
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
		(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Revenue	4	14,927,415	11,871,947
Cost of sales		(7,061,101)	(5,310,098)
Gross profit		7,866,314	6,561,849
Other income and gains	4	1,696,655	203,763
Selling and distribution expenses		(4,874,327)	(4,301,589)
Administrative expenses		(685,478)	(688,353)
(Provision for)/reversal of impairment losses on financial assets		(74,003)	57,749
Other expenses, net		(155,530)	(47,588)
Finance costs	5	(52,506)	(45,365)
Finance income		7,475	6,029
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	6	3,728,600	1,746,495
Income tax expense	7	(641,218)	(398,144)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		3,087,382	1,348,351
Attributable to:			
Owners of the parent	8	3,087,342	1,348,421
Non-controlling interests		40	(70)
		2 007 200	1 040 051
		3,087,382	1,348,351
PROFIT PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY			
EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT:			
Basic and diluted			
– For profit for the period (JPY)		5.10	2.23

# Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Note	FOR THE SIX M 30 SEPT	
		2022 (Unaudited)	2021 (Unaudited)
		(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		3,087,382	1,348,351
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/INCOME			
Other comprehensive loss that may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:			
Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations		(893,032)	(30,376)
Net other comprehensive loss that may be reclassified to profit or loss		(000,000)	(00.070)
in subsequent periods		(893,032)	(30,376)
Other comprehensive (loss)/income that will not be reclassified to profit			
in subsequent periods:			
Defined benefit plans: Remeasurement (losses)/gains	17	(53,419)	67,526
Income tax effect		17,498	(20,641)
		(35,921)	46,885
Equity investments designated at fair value through			
other comprehensive income:			
Changes in fair value		827	(385)
Income tax effect		(253)	60
		574	(325)
Net other comprehensive (loss)/income that will not be reclassified to			
profit or loss in subsequent periods		(35,347)	46,560

Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Note		IONTHS ENDED TEMBER
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS)/INCOME FOR THE PERIOD,		
NET OF TAX	(928,379)	16,184
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	2,159,003	1,364,535
Attributable to:		
Owners of the parent	2,158,963	1,364,605
Non-controlling interests	40	(70)
	2,159,003	1,364,535

# Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

30 September 2022

Notes	30 September 2022 (Unaudited) (JPY'000)	31 March 2022 (Audited) (JPY'000)
NON-CURRENT ASSETSProperty, plant and equipment10	1,856,665	2,007,915
Right-of-use assets	1,830,605	1,599,034
Freehold land 11	1,940,789	1,940,789
Intangible assets	116,393	119,608
Finance lease receivables	315,210	308,503
Other non-current assets	944,096	863,366
Deferred tax assets	1,504,719	1,293,502
Total non-current assets	8,508,477	8,132,717
CURRENT ASSETS		
Inventories 12	12,961,920	11,494,836
Trade and bills receivables 13	3,609,147	5,248,073
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables	1,950,357	1,951,412
Due from a related party 20(c)	43,231	58,934
Finance lease receivables	98,438	82,199
Pledged deposits 14	5,599	4,747
Cash and cash equivalents 14	17,038,061	14,454,554
Total current assets	35,706,753	33,294,755
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and bills payables 15	2,694,201	2,395,067
Other payables and accruals	3,861,646	2,457,039
Interest-bearing bank borrowings 16	6,390,000	7,100,000
Lease liabilities	987,754	817,134
Income tax payable	1,364,695	762,294
Total current liabilities	15,298,296	13,531,534
NET CURRENT ASSETS	20,408,457	19,763,221
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	28,916,934	27,895,938

# Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

30 September 2022

		30 September	31 March
	Notes	2022	2022
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)
		(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Interest-bearing bank borrowings	16	600,000	600,000
Net employee defined benefit liabilities	17	493,406	465,019
Lease liabilities		1,216,827	1,146,783
Deferred tax liabilities		205,623	223,220
Other non-current liabilities		100,758	108,314
Total non-current liabilities		2,616,614	2,543,336
Net assets		26,300,320	25,352,602
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to owners of the parent			
Share capital	18	153	153
Reserves		26,345,770	25,398,092
		26,345,923	25,398,245
Non-controlling interests		(45,603)	(45,643)
Total equity		26,300,320	25,352,602

# Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

				Attribute to own	ers of the pare	nt				
				Equity-						
				settled						
			Exchange	share-based					Non-	
	Share	Surplus	translation	payment	Fair value	Share	Retained		controlling	Total
	capital	reserve	reserve	reserve	reserve	Premium	profits	Total	interests	equity
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
	Note 18	*	*	Note 19*	*	*	*			
At 1 April 2022	153	1,060,017	(191,528)	466,546	2,441	16,584,008	7,476,608	25,398,245	(45,643)	25,352,602
Profit for the period	-	-	(131,520)	-00,00	2,771		3,087,342	3,087,342	(+3,0+3)	3,087,382
Other comprehensive loss							0,001,042	0,007,042	40	0,001,002
for the period:	_	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	-
Exchange differences on										
translation of foreign										
operations	-	_	(893,032)	-	_	_	_	(893,032)	_	(893,032)
Remeasurement gains on			(,,					(***)*** )		(***)*** )
defined benefit plans	-	-	-	-	-	-	(35,921)	(35,921)	-	(35,921)
Gain on equity instruments at							( ) )	( , ,		. , ,
fair value through other										
comprehensive income,										
net of tax	-	-	-	-	574	-	-	574	-	574
Total comprehensive income										
for the period	-	-	(893,032)	-	574	-	3,051,421	2,158,963	40	2,159,003
Dividends declared	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,211,285)	(1,211,285)	-	(1,211,285)
At 30 September 2022 (unaudited)	153	1,060,017	(1,084,560)	466,546	3,015	16,584,008	9,316,744	26,345,923	(45,603)	26,300,320

Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

				Attribute to owne	ers of the parent					
				Equity-						
				settled						
			Exchange	share-based					Non-	
	Share	Surplus	translation	payment	Fair value	Share	Retained		controlling	Total
	capital	reserve	reserve	reserve	reserve	Premium	profits	Total	interests	equity
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
	Note 18	*	*	Note 19*	*	*	*			
At 1 April 2021	153	1,038,848	113,121	466,546	2,478	16,584,008	3,161,616	21,366,770	(45,634)	21,321,136
Profit/(loss) for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,348,421	1,348,421	(70)	1,348,351
Other comprehensive income										
for the period:										
Exchange differences on										
translation of foreign										
operations	_	-	(30,376)	-	_	_	-	(30,376)	-	(30,376)
Remeasurement gains on										
defined benefit plans	_	-	-	-	_	_	46,885	46,885	-	46,885
Loss on equity instruments at										
fair value through other										
comprehensive income,										
net of tax					(325)			(325)		(325)
Total comprehensive income										
for the period	-	_	(30,376)	-	(325)	-	1,395,306	1,364,605	(70)	1,364,535
Dividends declared							(1,029,592)	(1,029,592)		(1,029,592)
At 30 September 2021 (unaudited)	153	1,038,848	82,745	466,546	2,153	16,584,008	3,527,330	21.701.783	(45,704)	21,656,079

\* These reserve accounts comprise the consolidated reserves of JPY26,345,770,000 as at 30 September 2022 (30 September 2021: JPY21,701,630,000) in the interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position.

# Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of

# **Cash Flows**

	Notes	FOR THE SIX M 30 SEPT	
		2022 (Unaudited) (JPY'000)	2021 (Unaudited) (JPY'000)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Profit before tax		3,728,600	1,746,495
Adjustments for: Provision for impairment of property, plant and equipment Write-down of inventories to net realizable value Provision for/(reversal of) impairment of trade receivables Net losses on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment Net loss/(gain) on disposal of right-of-use assets Covid-19-related rent concessions from lessors Depreciation of property, plant and equipment Depreciation of right-of-use assets Amortisation of intangible assets Defined benefit plan expenses Foreign exchange gains Finance costs Finance income	6 6 6 6 6 6 17 5	20,772 770,562 74,003 97,888 4,237 (8,360) 320,376 499,074 43,143 32,933 (1,731,020) 52,506 (7,475)	- 364,669 (57,749) 14,299 (29,114) (33,065) 282,688 504,970 55,352 29,707 (227,655) 45,365 (6,029)
		3,897,239	2,689,933
Increase in inventories Decrease in trade and bills receivables Decrease in prepayments, deposits and other receivables (Increase)/decrease in pledged deposits Decrease in an amount due from a related party Increase/(decrease) in other non-current assets Increase in trade and bills payables Increase in other payables and accruals Increase in an amount due to a related party (Decrease)/increase in other non-current liabilities Payment of the defined benefit obligation	17	(2,237,646) 1,564,923 1,055 (852) 15,703 (81,393) 299,134 177,258 - (7,556) (57,965)	(1,646,953) 1,545,813 281,389 31,117 - 47,672 783,268 207,914 628 5,024 (48,349)
Cash generated from operations		3,569,900 7,475	3,897,456 6,029
Interest paid Income tax paid		(52,506) (247,650)	(45,365) (155,740)
Net cash flows generated from operating activities		3,277,219	3,702,380

Interim Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Note	FOR	FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER	
Note			
	(Ltr	2022 naudited)	2021 (Unaudited)
		JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
	·	, i i	· · · ·
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchases of items of property, plant and equipment			
and intangible assets		(277,688)	(100,199)
Proceeds from disposal of items of property, plant			
and equipment and intangible assets		-	12,589
Decrease in finance lease receivables		48,769	36,756
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(228,919)	(50,854)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from bank borrowings		,920,000	30,950,000
Repayment of bank borrowings		,630,000)	(32,075,570)
Principal portion of lease payments		(557,049)	(518,204)
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(1	,267,049)	(1,643,774)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	1	,781,251	2,007,752
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		,454,554	10,771,897
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net		802,256	187,381
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD 14	17	7,038,061	12,967,030
ANALYSIS OF BALANCES OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash and cash equivalents as stated in the interim condensed			
consolidated statement of financial position 14	17	7,038,061	12,967,030

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# **1. CORPORATE INFORMATION**

The Company is an exempted company with limited liability incorporated in the Cayman Islands on 7 October 2013. The registered office address of the Company is at the offices of Maples Corporate Services Limited, PO Box 309, Ugland House, Grand Cayman KY1-1104, Cayman Islands. Shares of the Company were listed (the "Listing") on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") on 6 October 2016 (the "Listing Date").

The Company is an investment holding company. The Company's subsidiaries were principally engaged in the manufacture and sales of golf related products.

## 2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The interim condensed financial information for the six months ended 30 September 2022 has been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting. The interim condensed consolidated financial information does not include all the information and disclosures required in the annual financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

## 2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the interim condensed consolidated financial information are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, except for the adoption of the following revised International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") for the first time for the current period's financial information.

Amendments to IFRS 3	Reference to the Conceptual Framework
Amendments to IAS 16	Property, Plant and Equipment: Proceeds before Intended Use
Amendments to IAS 37	Onerous Contracts – Cost of Fulfilling a Contract
Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2018-2020	Amendments to IFRS 1, IFRS 9, Illustrative Examples accompanying
	IFRS 16 and IAS 41

While the adoption of some of the revised IFRSs may result in changes in accounting policies, none of these IFRSs is expected to have a significant impact on the Group's results of operations and financial position.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

### **3. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION**

For management purposes, the Group is organised into business units based on their products and has only one reportable operating segment: the manufacture and sales of golf related products and rendering of services relating to such products. Management monitors the operating results of its business units as a whole for the purpose of making decisions about resources allocation and performance assessment. Accordingly, no operating segment information is presented.

Revenues are attributed to geographic areas based on the location of customers as follows:

	For the six months ended	
	30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Korea	4,237,634	2,149,780
China (including Hong Kong and Macau)	4,028,409	3,624,678
Japan	3,951,625	3,821,601
Rest of the world	1,858,853	1,316,815
North America	565,128	429,508
Europe	285,766	529,565
	14,927,415	11,871,947

#### Information about major customers

For the six months ended 30 September 2022, revenue of approximately JPY3,100,164,000 was derived from sales to a single customer (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY1,271,904,000).

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 4. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS

An analysis of revenue, other income and gains is as follows:

	For the six months ended	
	30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Revenue		
Sale of goods	14,848,912	11,803,343
Rendering of services	78,503	68,604
	14,927,415	11,871,947
Other income and gains		
Foreign exchange gains, net	1,624,510	121,654
Government grants	29,323	25,757
Rental income	1,024	1,065
Gain on disposal of right-of-use assets, net	-	29,114
Others	41,798	26,173
	1,696,655	203,763

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 4. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS (continued)

The disaggregation of the Group's revenue from contracts with customers, including the sale of goods and rendering of services above, for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021, respectively are as follows:

	For the six months ended	
	30 Sep	tember
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Types of goods or services		
Sale of golf related products	14,848,912	11,803,343
Rendering of services relating to golf related products	78,503	68,604
Total revenue from contracts with customers	14,927,415	11,871,947
Timing of revenue recognition		
Goods transferred at a point in time	14,848,912	11,803,343
Services transferred over time	78,503	68,604
Total revenue from contracts with customers	14,927,415	11,871,947

The disaggregation of the Group's revenue based on the geographical region for the six months ended 30 September 2022 is included in note 3.

## **5. FINANCE COSTS**

	For the six months ended	
	30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Interest on bank borrowings	40,055	26,147
Interest on lease liabilities	12,451	19,218
	52,506	45,365

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 6. PROFIT BEFORE TAX

The Group's profit before tax is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

	Notes	For the six months ended 30 September	
	1.0100	2022	2021
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
		(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
		(01 1 000)	
Cost of inventories sold		7,017,994	5,268,986
Cost of service provided		43,107	41,112
Covid-19-related rent concessions from lessors		(8,360)	(33,065)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	10	320,376	282,688
Depreciation of right-of-use assets		499,074	504,970
Amortisation of intangible assets		43,143	55,352
Research and development costs		102,184	96,723
Provision for impairment of property, plant and equipment		20,772	_
Provision for/(reversal of) impairment of trade receivables		74,003	(57,749)
Lease payments not included in the measurement of lease liabilities		113,392	89,388
Employee benefit expense:			
Wages and salaries		1,818,706	1,806,137
Pension and social security costs		167,178	165,193
Defined benefit plan expenses	17	32,933	29,707
Employee benefits		199,728	179,935
Other benefits		177,055	131,421
		2,395,600	2,312,393
Foreign exchange gains, net		(1,624,510)	(121,654)
Write-down of inventories to net realisable value		770,562	364,669
Net losses on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment		97,888	14,299
Net loss/(gain) on disposal of right-of-use assets		4,237	(29,114)

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## 7. INCOME TAX

The Group is subject to income tax on an entity basis on profit arising in or derived from the jurisdictions in which members of the Group are domiciled and operate.

Pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands ("BVI"), the Group is not subject to any income tax in the Cayman Islands and BVI.

The subsidiaries incorporated in Hong Kong are subject to income tax at the rate of 16.5% on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: 16.5%).

Pursuant to the rules and regulations of Japan, the subsidiary incorporated in Japan is subject mainly to corporate tax, inhabitant tax and enterprise tax, and the aggregate effective statutory tax rates for these taxes were 30.62% for the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: 30.62%).

The provision for the PRC corporate income tax is based on the statutory rate of 25% for the assessable profits of the Group's PRC subsidiary as determined in accordance with the PRC Corporate Income Tax Law which was approved and became effective on 1 January 2008.

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Company's subsidiary incorporated and operating in the United States is subject to a federal corporation income tax rate of 21% (six months ended 30 September 2021: 21%), as well as state tax at 8.84% (six months ended 30 September 2021: 8.84%).

The subsidiaries incorporated in Taiwan and Thailand are subject to income tax at the rates of 20% and 20% on the assessable profits (six months ended 30 September 2021: 20% and 20%), respectively.

The Company's subsidiary incorporated and operating in Switzerland was subject to federal corporation income tax at a rate of 8.5% during the year (six months ended 30 September 2021: 8.5%), as well as cantonal and communal taxes at rates ranging 2% to 5% (six months ended 30 September 2021: 2% to 5%).

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## 7. INCOME TAX (continued)

The major components of income tax expense of the Group are as follows:

	For the six months ended 30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Current income tax – Hong Kong	662,556	293,614
Current income tax – Mainland China	187,495	59,184
Deferred tax	(208,833)	45,346
	641,218	398,144

# 8. PROFIT PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The calculations of basic and diluted earnings per share are based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent and weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period.

No adjustment has been made to the basic earnings per share amounts presented for the six months ended 30 September 2022 and 2021 in respect of a dilution as the Group had no potentially ordinary shares in issue during those periods.

The following reflects the income and the share data used in the basic earnings per share computation:

	For the six months ended 30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Profit		
Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, used in		
the basic earnings per share calculation	3,087,342	1,348,421

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 8. PROFIT PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT (continued)

	Number	Number of shares	
	For the six m	For the six months ended	
	30 Sep	30 September	
	2022	2021	
	('000)	('000')	
Shares			
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period			
used in the basic earnings per share calculation	605,643	605,643	

# 9. DIVIDENDS

	For the six months ended	
	30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Final declared – JPY2.00 per ordinary share (2021: JPY1.70)	1,211,285	1,029,592

On 15 September 2022, the Company's shareholders approved the 2022 proposed final dividend with a total amount of JPY1,211,285,000.

On 29 November 2022, the board of directors declared the payment of an interim dividend of JPY1.50 (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY1.50) per ordinary share totaling approximately JPY908,500,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY908,500,000) for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## **10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

During the six months ended on 30 September 2022, the Group acquired items of property, plant and equipment with a cost of JPY254,343,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY120,381,000). Depreciation for items of property, plant and equipment was JPY320,376,000 during the period (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY282,688,000). Assets with a net book value of JPY97,888,000 were disposed of by the Group during the six months ended 30 September 2022 (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY26,887,000), resulting in a net loss on disposal of JPY97,888,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: JPY14,299,000)

An impairment of JPY20,772,000 (six months ended 30 September 2021: Nil) has been provided for certain cash-generating units ("CGUs") of self-operated stores during the six months ended 30 September 2022 with recoverable amount of nil. The recoverable amounts of these self-operated stores have been determined based on a value in use calculation using cash flow projections based on financial budgets covering a period over the remaining useful lives of the relevant assets.

### **11. FREEHOLD LAND**

The carrying amounts of the Group's freehold land is JPY1,940,789,000 as at 30 September 2022 and 31 March 2022. The freehold land, which is located in Japan, is owned by Honma Golf Co., Ltd., a limited liability company incorporated under the laws of Japan.

### **12. INVENTORIES**

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Raw materials	3,236,324	2,930,047
Work in progress	1,521,784	1,548,424
Finished goods	10,510,051	8,552,042
	15,268,159	13,030,513
Provision for inventories	(2,306,239)	(1,535,677)
	12.961.920	11,494,836

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

#### **13. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES**

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Trade receivables	3,591,812	5,295,751
Bills receivable	323,172	184,156
	3,914,984	5,479,907
Impairment of trade receivables	(305,837)	(231,834)
	3,609,147	5,248,073

The Group's trading terms with its customers are mainly on credit. The credit period is ranging from 30 to 140 days. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables and overdue balances are reviewed regularly by management. In view of the aforementioned and the fact that the Group's trade receivables relate to a large number of diversified customers, there is no significant concentration of credit risk. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

An ageing analysis of the trade receivables at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date and net of provisions, is as follows:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Within 1 month	1,869,483	3,934,777
Over 1 and within 3 months	546,616	460,544
Over 3 and within 12 months	762,495	578,073
Over 1 year	107,381	90,523
	3,285,975	5,063,917

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 14. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Cash and bank balances	17,038,061	14,454,554
Time deposits	5,599	4,747
	17,043,660	14,459,301
Less: pledged deposits for letters of guarantee	(5,599)	(4,747)
Cash and cash equivalents	17,038,061	14,454,554

# **15. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES**

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Trade payables	2,678,761	2,393,326
Bills payable	15,440	1,741
	2,694,201	2,395,067

An ageing analysis of the trade and bills payables of the Group as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Within 3 months	2,656,693	2,324,078
Over 3 months	37,508	70,989
	2,694,201	2,395,067

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## 16. INTEREST-BEARING BANK BORROWINGS

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Current		
Bank loans – unsecured	6,390,000	7,100,000
Non-Current		
Bank loans – unsecured	600,000	600,000
	6,990,000	7,700,000
Analysed into:		
Bank loans repayable:		
Within one year	6,390,000	7,100,000
In the third to fifth years, inclusive	232,980	190,620
Beyond five years	367,020	409,380
	6,990,000	7,700,000

The Group's bank borrowings bore effective interest rates as follows:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Effective interest rates	0.17%-3.08%	0.33%-1.07%

As at 30 September 2022 and 31 March 2022, there were no properties pledged to secure bank borrowings granted to the Group.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## **17. EMPLOYEE DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS**

Net employee defined benefit liability:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Retirement benefit plans	493,406	465,019

The Group operates a funded defined benefit plan for all its qualifying employees in Japan. Under the plan, the employees are entitled to retirement benefits on attainment of a retirement age of 60.

The Group's defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan, which requires contributions to be made to a separately administered fund. The plan has the legal form of a foundation and it is administrated by independent trustees with the assets held separately from those of the Group. The trustees are responsible for the determination of the investment strategy of the plan.

The trustees review the level of funding in the plan by the end of each reporting period. Such a review includes the asset-liability matching strategy and investment risk management policy. This includes employing the use of annuities and longevity swaps to manage the risks. The trustees decide the contribution based on the results of the annual review.

The plan is exposed to interest rate risk, the risk of changes in the life expectancy for pensioners and equity market risk.

The most recent actuarial valuations of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligation were carried out by Mizuho Trust & Banking Co., Ltd. and by Professional Actuary Management Consulting Co., which are members of the actuarial society of Japan and Taiwan, using the projected unit credit actuarial valuation method.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 17. EMPLOYEE DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS (continued)

The total expenses recognized in the interim condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss in respect of the plan are as follows:

	For the six months ended 30 September			
	<b>2022</b> 20			
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)		
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)		
Current service cost	31,199	28,741		
Interest cost	1,734	966		
Net benefit expenses	32,933	29,707		
Recognised in cost of sales	10,536	9,504		
Recognised in selling and distribution costs	11,066	9,982		
Recognised in administrative expenses	11,331	10,221		
	32,933	29,707		

17. EMPLOYEE DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS (continued)

The following tables summarize the components of net benefit expenses recognized in the interim condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and the funded status and amounts recognized in the interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position for the plan:

	ì	,
	( + (	1
	ç	1
	0	',
	č	í
	5	Ţ
	5	
	Ç	
ç	+	
	(	-
	C	1
	1	
		ī
	ŝ	2
	7	_
	ē	Ţ
	f	
	ζ	
	ς	Ţ
	ς	Ţ
	c	
	Ĉ	-
-	ŕ	Ţ
	ç	Į
	ζ	
Ē	(	
1	(	-
	Ì	
5	+++()()	
	Ċ	1
	2	
	ς	1
	(	
-	7	
	č	
	ġ	
č	į	1
_		
	ζ	-
	(	1
	0	
-	÷	-
	+	
-	2 2	
-		
(	+ 2 ~ ~	
(		
- 0000		
(		///////////////////////////////////////
(		///////////////////////////////////////
(		1
-		1
-		1
-		1
-		1
-		1
-		1
-		
-		
	$ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1$	

30 September 2022 (JPY'000)	2,339,778 (1,846,372)	493,406					30 September	2021	(JPY'000)	2,509,893	(1,965,448)
included in other comprehensive income (JPY'000)	(16,616) 70,035	53,419		Sub-total	included in	other	comprehensive	emooni	(JPY'000)	(3,370)	(64,156)
changes arising from changes in financial assumptions (JPY'000)	(16,616) -	(16,616)		Actuarial	changes arising	from changes	in financial	assumptions	(JPY'000)	(3,256)	
Experience adjustments (JPY'000)		"	olan assets:				Experience	adjustments	(JPY'000)	(114)	
Return on plan assets (JPY'000)	- 70,035	70,035	fair value of p				Return on	plan assets	(JPY'000)	I	(64,156)
Benefits paid (JPY'000)	(90,753) 32,788	(57,965)	obligation and					Benefits paid	(JPY'000)	(72,670)	24,321
Sub-total included in profit or loss (JPY'000)	36,486 (3,553)	32,933	sfined benefit (			Sub-total	included in	profit or loss	(JPY'000)	32,857	(3,150)
Net interest (JPY'000)	5,287 (3,553)	1,734	2021 in the de					Net interest	(JPY'000)	4,116	(3,150)
Service cost (JPY'000)	31,199	31,199	) September 2					Service cost	(JPY'000)	28,741	
1 April 2022 (JPY'000)	2,410,661 (1,945,642)	465,019	onths ended 3C					1 April 2021	(JPY'000)	2,553,076	(1,922,463)
	Defined benefit obligation Fair value of plan assets	Benefit liability	Changes for the six months ended 30 September 2021 in the defined benefit obligation and fair value of plan assets:							Defined benefit obligation	Fair value of plan assets

# Notes to Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Information

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 17. EMPLOYEE DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS (continued)

The major categories of the fair value of the total plan assets are as follows:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Stocks	887,023	1,001,638
Bonds	748,286	738,782
General account of life insurance companies	146,016	145,772
Others	65,047	59,450
	1,846,372	1,945,642

The principal actuaries assumptions used in determining the defined benefit obligation for the retirement benefit plan are shown below:

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Method of allocating projected retirement benefits	Projected Unit	Projected unit
	Credit Method	credit method
Discount rate	0.45%	0.37%
Salary increase rate (aged based, on average)	3.90%	3.90%
Turnover rate (aged based, on average)	6.60%	6.60%

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## 17. EMPLOYEE DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS (continued)

A quantitative sensitivity analysis for significant assumption is as shown below:

			Increase/(decrease) in defined benefit obligations	
		30 September	31 March	
Assumption	Change in assumption	2022	2022	
		(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
		(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	
Discount rate	Increase by 0.5%	(82,601)	(82,793)	
	Decrease by 0.5%	82,601	82,793	

The sensitivity analysis above has been determined based on a method that extrapolates the impact on defined benefit obligation as a result of reasonable changes in key assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period. The sensitivity analysis is based on a change in a significant assumption, keeping all other assumption constant. The sensitivity analysis may not be representative of an actual change in the defined benefit obligations as it is unlikely that changes in assumptions would occur in isolation of one another.

The average durations of the defined benefit plan obligation as at 30 September 2022 is 5.4 years (31 March 2022: 5.4 years).

The actuarial valuation showed that the market value of plan assets was JPY1,846,372,000 as at 30 September 2022 (31 March 2022: JPY1,945,642,000), and represented 79% (31 March 2022: 81%) of the defined benefit obligation that had accrued to qualifying employees. The deficiency of JPY493,406,000 as at 30 September 2022 (31 March 2022: JPY465,019,000) is expected to be cleared over the remaining service period.

## **18. SHARE CAPITAL**

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Issued capital (As of 30 September 2022 and as of 31 March 2022:		
20,000,000,000 authorised shares of USD0.0000025 each,		
605,642,500 ordinary shares in issue) USD	1,514	1,514
Equivalent to JPY	153,000	153,000

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## **19. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

At the end of the reporting period, the Group did not have any significant capital commitments (31 March 2022: Nil).

# 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

#### (a) Name and relationship

#### **Related parties**

Relationships

Shanghai POVOS Enterprise (Group) Co., Ltd.

Company controlled by the Shareholder

43,231

58,934

#### (b) Related party transactions

In addition to the transactions and balances disclosed elsewhere in the interim condensed consolidated financial information, the Group had the following material transactions with related parties during the period:

	For the six months ended		
	30 Sep <sup>-</sup>	30 September	
	2022	2021	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	
Rental expense charged by a related party			
Shanghai POVOS Enterprise (Group) Co., Ltd.	17,193	14,189	
(c) Balances with related parties			
	30 September	31 March	
	2022	2022	
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	
Due from a related party			

Due from a related party Shanghai POVOS Enterprise (Group) Co., Ltd.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 20. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (continued)

#### (d) Compensation of key management personnel of the Group

	For the six months ended	
	30 September	
	2022	2021
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Short-term employee benefits	93,711	85,085
Pension scheme contributions	6,769	7,396
Total compensation paid to key management personnel	100,480	92,481

### 21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY

The carrying amounts of each of the categories of financial instruments as at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

#### Financial assets – Debt instruments at amortised cost

	30 September 2022	31 March 2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	. ,	· · · · · ·
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Trade receivables	3,285,975	5,063,917
Pledged deposits	5,599	4,747
Cash and cash equivalents	17,038,061	14,454,554
Financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables	156,994	48,764
Due from a related party	43,231	58,934
Finance lease receivables	413,648	390,702
Other non-current assets	762,915	743,778
	21,706,423	20,765,396

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY (continued)

Financial assets - debt instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Bills receivables	323,172	184,156

Financial assets - equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income	13,083	13,746

#### Financial liabilities - at amortised cost

	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Trade and bills payables	2,694,201	2,395,067
Interest-bearing bank borrowings	6,990,000	7,700,000
Financial liabilities included in other payables and accruals	2,622,008	1,314,851
Financial liabilities included in other non-current liabilities	22,963	29,733
	12,329,172	11,439,651

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

# 22. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Group's financial instruments, other than those with carrying amounts that reasonably approximate to fair values, are as follows:

	Carrying amounts		Fair values	
	30 September	31 March	30 September	31 March
	2022	2022	2022	2022
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)	(JPY'000)
Interest-bearing bank borrowings	600,000	600,000	585,021	583,805

Financial assets and liabilities not presented at their fair value on the interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position mainly represent cash and cash equivalents, pledged deposits, trade receivables, financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables, the current portion of finance lease receivables, trade and bills payables, interestbearing bank borrowings, an amount due to a related party, financial liabilities included in other payables and accruals and the current portion of lease liabilities, their fair values are approximate to their carrying amounts largely due to the short term maturities of these instruments.

The non-current portion of finance lease receivables and the non-current portion of lease liabilities of the Group approximate to their fair values because their carrying amounts are present value and internal rates of return are close to rates currently available for instruments with similar terms, credit risk and remaining maturities.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

### 22. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

The fair values of rental deposits paid as lessee included in other non-current assets and rental deposits received as lessor included in other non-current liabilities have been calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows using rates currently available for instruments with similar terms, credit risk and remaining maturities. The fair values have been assessed to be approximate to their carrying amounts.

The fair values of listed equity investments are based on quoted market prices. The fair values of unlisted equity investments require the directors to make estimates about the expected future cash flows from future proceeds when the investments are realized and the fair values have been estimated to be the principal plus estimated interest income. The directors believe that the estimated fair values which are recorded in the interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position, and the related changes in fair values, which are recorded in other comprehensive income, are reasonable, and that they were the most appropriate values at the end of each of the reporting periods.

The Group's corporate finance team headed by the finance manager is responsible for determining the policies and procedures for the fair value measurement of financial instruments. The corporate finance team reports directly to the chief financial officer and the board of directors. At each reporting date, the corporate finance team analyzes the movements in the values of financial instruments and determines the major inputs applied in the valuation. The valuation is reviewed and approved by the vice president responsible for finance. The valuation process and results are discussed with the audit committee twice a year for interim and annual financial reporting.

The fair value of the non-current portion of interest-bearing bank borrowings has been calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows using rates currently available for instruments with similar terms, credit risk and remaining maturities. The differences between the carrying amounts and fair values of those financial liabilities are not significant.

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

## 22. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

#### Fair value hierarchy

The following tables illustrate the fair value measurement hierarchy of the Group's financial instruments

#### Assets measured at fair value:

#### As at 30 September 2022

	Level 1 (Unaudited) JPY'000	Level 2 (Unaudited) JPY'000	Level 3 (Unaudited) JPY'000	Total (Unaudited) JPY'000
Equity instruments at fair value through				
other comprehensive income	12,983	-	100	13,083
Bills receivable		323,172		323,172
	12,983	323,172	100	336,255
As at 31 March 2022				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Audited)	(Audited)
	JPY'000	JPY'000	JPY'000	JPY'000
Equity instruments at fair value through				
other comprehensive income	13,646	_	100	13,746
Bills receivable		184,156		184,156
	13,646	184,156	100	197,902

The Group did not have any financial liability measured at fair value as at 30 September 2022 (31 March 2022: Nil).

During the six months ended 30 September 2022, there were no transfers of fair value measurements between Level 1 and Level 2 and no transfers into or out of Level 3 (six months ended 30 September 2021: Nil).

For the six months ended 30 September 2022

### 23. EVENT AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 29 November 2022, the board of directors declared the payment of an interim dividend of JPY1.50 per ordinary share totaling approximately JPY908,500,000 for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

# 24. APPROVAL OF THE INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The interim condensed consolidated financial information was approved and authorized for issue by the board of directors on 29 November 2022.

