

KAWANISHI HOLDINGS (2689)

Consolidated Fiscal Year (Million Yen)		Sales	OP	RP	NP	EPS (Yen)	DPS (Yen)	BPS (Yen)
FY06/2013		96,223	1,556	1,534	943	168.1	20.0	578.4
FY06/2014		97,137	1,440	1,519	816	145.5	25.0	699.8
FY06/2015CoE		95,307	671	663	343	61.2	30.0	-
FY06/2014		YoY	1.0%	(7.4%)	(1.0%)	(13.4%)	-	-
FY06/2015CoE		YoY	(1.9%)	(53.4%)	(56.3%)	(58.0%)	-	-
Consolidated Q1 to Q3 (Million Yen)		Sales	OP	RP	NP	EPS (Yen)	DPS (Yen)	BPS (Yen)
Q1 to Q3 FY06/2014		77,035	1,525	1,586	866	-	-	-
Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015		70,987	486	486	262	-	-	-
Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015		YoY	(7.9%)	(68.1%)	(69.4%)	(69.7%)	-	-

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

1.0 Executive Summary (27 May 2015)

Adjustments to Recovery

KAWANISHI HOLDINGS, distributing medical consumables & equipment mainly for major base hospitals heavily involved with acute care, is on the verge of seeing changeover adjustments to recovery for its earnings. As far as consumables, which are the key drivers for the growth of the Company, i.e., surgical-related supplies, orthopedic consumables, circulatory-organ consumables, etc., are concerned, steady sales growth persists as a whole, in spite of some negative impacts from price erosions due to NHI price revision. At the same time, however, off-crop period of equipment, i.e., MRI, cineangiocardiology, CT, ultrasonography, operating room equipment such as ventilators, etc., also persists, currently being a negative factor to more than offset the positives on the consumables side. Nevertheless, it appears that the Company is likely seeing changeover adjustments to recovery in demand for equipment in FY06/2016. The Company is now in the process of coming up with new midterm management plan (FY06/2016 to FY06/2018) to be released after confirming the results of FY06/2015.

In Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015, sales came in at ¥70,987m (down 7.9% YoY and/or down ¥6,047m), operating profit ¥486m (down 68.1% and/or down ¥1,039m) and operating profit margin 0.68% (down 1.30% points). Basically being involved with trading of diverse medical merchandises, the Company saw almost stable gross profit margin, but SG&A expenses increased over the year due mainly to increasing personnel expenses, despite decreasing sales. Thus, operating profit margin adjusted a lot. By business segment, Medical Consumables & Equipment Business saw sales ¥57,924m (down 10.7% and/or down ¥6,973m) and segment profit ¥509m (down 65.6% and/or down ¥971m), implying that this business segment accounted for the bulk of adjustments as a whole for the Company in terms of sales and earnings. Sales of consumables rose 4.1% over the year, while sales of equipment halved, having ended up with sales decreasing over the year as a whole for this business segment. As far as we could gather, the current levels of capital


expenditures by major base hospitals, i.e., the Company's customers, are lower than those of lower end of regular cycle. The levels remained so high over the past two years in a row, i.e., in FY06/2013 and FY06/2014, while the most recent levels suffer from adjustments from the past irregularities. More importantly, however, cyclical recovery should start up in the foreseeable future.

FY06/2015 Company forecasts have remained unchanged, going for prospective sales ¥95,307m (down 1.9% YoY), operating profit ¥671m (down 53.4%) and operating profit margin 0.70% (down 0.78%). Meanwhile, prospective dividend per share has also remained unchanged. The Company calls for ¥30.0 per share (implying payout ratio 49.1%), up ¥5.0 from ¥25.0 (implying payout ratio 17.2%) in FY06/2014. In regards to Medical Consumables & Equipment Business, the key driver for overall earnings of the Company, prospective sales of consumables are to rise some 7% over the year, while down some 43% for equipment. The Company suggests trading in Q1 to Q3 was almost in line with all those assumptions. Nevertheless, an uncertainty in Q4 is also suggested for equipment in that the Company could see delayed sales booking of large-sized projects while it could see unexpected ones vice versa. In terms of longer-term view, however, capital expenditures are to recover, as discussed earlier. On top of this, the Company may implement new alliance strategy, in the near future, to acquire new sales territory region-wise by means of merging with competitors, preceded by that of Sansei Medical Materials Co., Ltd. (consolidated as a subsidiary since Q3 FY06/2012) to have expanded business for the Company.

IR representative: Director, Nobuharu Murata (+81 86 236 1115 murata2@kawanishi-md.co.jp)

2.0 Company Profile

Integrated Medical Trader, Implementing Alliance Strategy

Company Name	KAWANISHI HOLDINGS, INC. Website IR Information Share Price	
Established	2 October 1967 (Inaugurated: 1 May 1921)	
Listing	21 December 2000: Tokyo Stock Exchange 2nd Section (ticker: 2689)	
Capital	¥ 607 m (as of the end of March 2015)	
No. of Shares	6,250,000 shares, including 639,238 treasury shares (as of the end of March 2015)	
Main Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set up by mergers among three wholesale distributors of medical consumables and equipment, based in Chugoku and Shikoku regions ● Expectations for new alliances, preceded by Sansei Medical Materials Co., Ltd. ● Rental services of nursing care products to be a new earnings pillar 	
Business Segments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Medical Consumables & Equipment Business . SPD Business . Life Science Business . Nursing Care Products Business 	
Top Management	President: Taira Takai	
Shareholders	MASP Inc. 15.1%, Treasury Shares 10.2%, ESOP 5.7% (as of the end of Dec. 2014)	
Headquarters	Kita-ku, Okayama-city, Okayama-prefecture, JAPAN	
No. of Employees	Consolidated 1,102, Unconsolidated: 32 (as of the end of March 2015)	

Source: Company Data

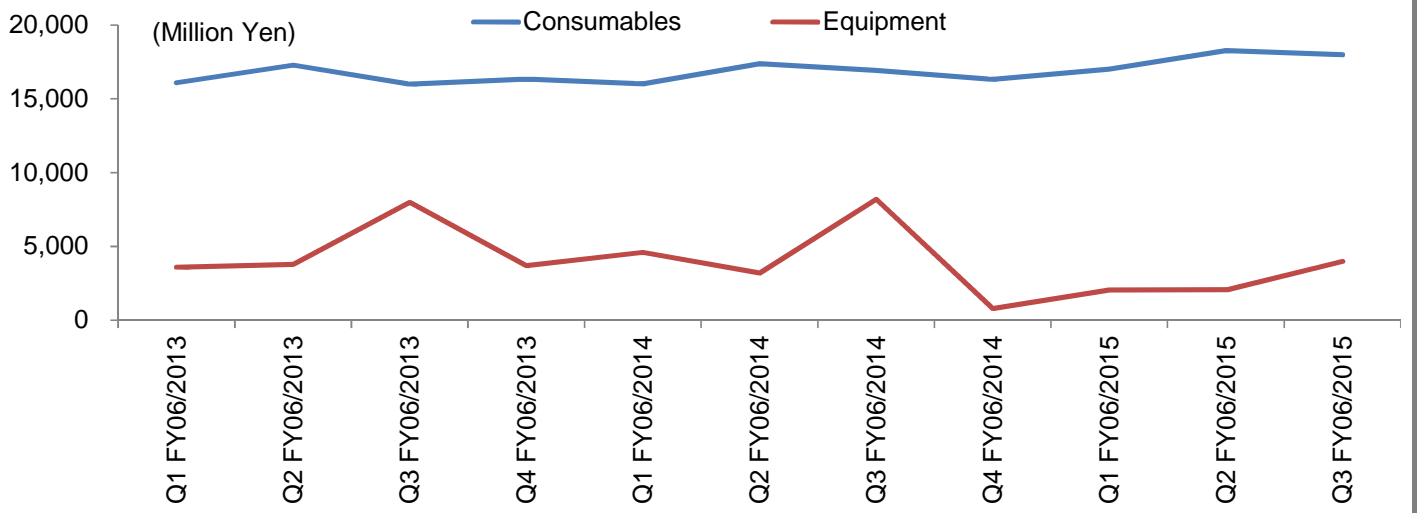
3.0 Recent Trading & Prospects

Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015 Results

In Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015, sales came in at ¥70,987m (down 7.9% YoY and/or down ¥6,047m), operating profit ¥486m (down 68.1% and/or down ¥1,039m), recurring profit ¥486m (down 69.4%) and net profit ¥262m (down 69.7%). Out of full-year prospective sales, the Company has achieved 74.5%, while operating profit 72.5%, suggesting marginal weakness on the earnings side.

Meanwhile, operating profit margin came in at 0.68% (down 1.30% points). In spite of sales coming down, gross profit margin came in at 10.35% (down 0.01% point), remaining almost flat, but SG&A expenses ¥6,864m (up 6.2%), having resulted in major adjustments of operating profit margin. The Company, aiming at future sales enhancement, is currently increasing sales headcounts and thus SG&A expenses are on the rise due mainly to this, according to the Company.

Sales of Medical Consumables & Equipment Business: Consumables and Equipment



Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

By business segment, Medical Consumables & Equipment Business saw sales ¥57,924m (down 10.7% and/or down ¥6,973m) and segment profit ¥509m (down 65.6% and/or down ¥971m), implying that this business segment accounted for the bulk of adjustments as a whole for the Company in terms of sales and earnings. Sales of consumables rose 4.1% over the year while sales of equipment halved.

As the bulk of major base hospitals, for which the Company mainly distributes merchandises, ends their fiscal year as of the end of March, execution of budget concentrates in March as far as equipment often very expensive are concerned. Thus, the Company sees concentration of sales in Q3 (January to March) every year for equipment. In fact, this was the case in Q3 FY06/2015, but it was unavoidable for the Company to substantially suffer from non-reappearance of exceptionally large-sized projects, etc. to have booked sales over the year.

Income Statement (Cumulative, Quarterly)

Income Statement	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	YoY
(Million Yen)	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4		Net Chg.
	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015		
Sales	23,906	47,957	77,035	97,137	22,468	45,645	70,987	-		(6,047)
Cost of Sales	21,395	42,923	69,047	87,016	20,144	40,863	63,636	-		(5,410)
Gross Profit	2,510	5,033	7,988	10,121	2,324	4,782	7,350	-		(637)
SG&A	2,133	4,268	6,462	8,680	2,274	4,547	6,864	-		+402
Operating Profit	376	764	1,525	1,440	49	234	486	-		(1,039)
Non Operating Balance	3	5	60	78	(2)	(3)	0	-		(60)
Recurring Profit	380	770	1,586	1,519	46	230	486	-		(1,100)
Extraordinary Balance	8	(44)	(50)	(52)	0	11	15	-		+66
Pretax Profit	388	726	1,535	1,466	47	241	501	-		(1,033)
Tax Charges, etc.	171	345	669	650	34	126	239	-		(429)
Net Profit	217	380	866	816	13	115	262	-		(604)
Sales YoY	+6.8%	+3.3%	+5.1%	+1.0%	(6.0%)	(4.8%)	(7.9%)	-		-
Operating Profit YoY	+72.0%	+7.5%	(0.3%)	(7.4%)	(86.9%)	(69.4%)	(68.1%)	-		-
Recurring Profit YoY	+81.1%	+9.2%	+4.5%	(1.0%)	(87.7%)	(70.1%)	(69.4%)	-		-
Net Profit YoY	+113.4%	(19.0%)	(6.4%)	(13.4%)	(94.0%)	(69.7%)	(69.7%)	-		-
Gross Profit Margin	10.50%	10.50%	10.37%	10.42%	10.35%	10.48%	10.35%	-		(0.01%)
(SG&A / Sales)	8.92%	8.90%	8.39%	8.94%	10.12%	9.96%	9.67%	-		+1.28%
Operating Profit Margin	1.58%	1.60%	1.98%	1.48%	0.22%	0.51%	0.68%	-		(1.30%)
Recurring Profit Margin	1.59%	1.61%	2.06%	1.56%	0.21%	0.51%	0.68%	-		(1.37%)
Net Profit Margin	0.91%	0.79%	1.12%	0.84%	0.06%	0.25%	0.37%	-		(0.76%)
Tax Charges, etc. / Pretax Profit	44.01%	47.57%	43.58%	44.33%	72.72%	52.29%	47.70%	-		+4.12%

Income Statement	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	YoY
(Million Yen)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Net Chg.
	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015		
Sales	23,906	24,051	29,077	20,102	22,468	23,177	25,341	-		(3,736)
Cost of Sales	21,395	21,527	26,123	17,969	20,144	20,719	22,773	-		(3,350)
Gross Profit	2,510	2,523	2,954	2,132	2,324	2,457	2,568	-		(385)
SG&A	2,133	2,135	2,193	2,217	2,274	2,273	2,316	-		+122
Operating Profit	376	388	760	(84)	49	184	251	-		(508)
Non Operating Balance	3	2	54	17	(2)	(1)	3	-		(51)
Recurring Profit	380	390	815	(67)	46	183	255	-		(560)
Extraordinary Balance	8	(53)	(6)	(1)	0	10	4	-		+10
Pretax Profit	388	337	809	(69)	47	193	260	-		(549)
Tax Charges, etc.	171	174	323	(19)	34	91	113	-		(210)
Net Profit	217	163	485	(49)	13	102	147	-		(338)
Sales YoY	+6.8%	+0.0%	+8.1%	(12.2%)	(6.0%)	(3.6%)	(12.8%)	-		-
Operating Profit YoY	+72.0%	(21.2%)	(7.1%)	-	(86.9%)	(52.4%)	(66.9%)	-		-
Recurring Profit YoY	+81.1%	(21.2%)	+0.3%	-	(87.7%)	(53.0%)	(68.7%)	-		-
Net Profit YoY	+113.4%	(55.7%)	+6.6%	-	(94.0%)	(37.3%)	(69.7%)	-		-
Gross Profit Margin	10.50%	10.49%	10.16%	10.61%	10.35%	10.60%	10.14%	-		(0.02%)
(SG&A / Sales)	8.92%	8.88%	7.54%	11.03%	10.12%	9.81%	9.14%	-		+1.60%
Operating Profit Margin	1.58%	1.61%	2.62%	(0.42%)	0.22%	0.80%	0.99%	-		(1.62%)
Recurring Profit Margin	1.59%	1.62%	2.81%	(0.33%)	0.21%	0.79%	1.01%	-		(1.80%)
Net Profit Margin	0.91%	0.68%	1.67%	(0.25%)	0.06%	0.44%	0.58%	-		(1.09%)
Tax Charges, etc. / Pretax Profit	44.01%	51.68%	39.99%	-	72.72%	47.24%	43.44%	-		+3.44%

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Segmented Information (Cumulative, Quarterly)

Segmented Information	Cons.Act		Cons.Act		Cons.Act		Cons.Act		YoY
	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4	
(Million Yen)	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	Net Chg.
Medical Consumables & Equipment	20,227	40,015	64,897	81,132	18,445	37,214	57,924	-	(6,973)
SPD	2,576	5,386	8,090	10,819	2,817	5,931	9,318	-	+1,227
Life Science	806	1,950	3,136	3,960	874	1,814	2,713	-	(423)
Nursing Care Products	295	605	910	1,225	331	685	1,032	-	+121
Sales	23,906	47,957	77,035	97,137	22,468	45,645	70,987	-	(6,047)
Medical Consumables & Equipment	404	776	1,480	1,410	71	256	509	-	(971)
SPD	18	42	87	94	19	34	50	-	(37)
Life Science	(19)	(12)	19	11	(6)	(5)	(8)	-	(28)
Nursing Care Products	10	28	39	41	6	23	40	-	+1
Segment Profit	414	833	1,627	1,557	91	310	591	-	(1,035)
Elimination	(37)	(68)	(101)	(116)	(41)	(75)	(105)	-	(3)
Operating Profit	376	764	1,525	1,440	49	234	486	-	(1,039)
Medical Consumables & Equipment	2.00%	1.94%	2.28%	1.74%	0.39%	0.69%	0.88%	-	(1.40%)
SPD	0.72%	0.78%	1.09%	0.87%	0.71%	0.59%	0.54%	-	(0.54%)
Life Science	(2.38%)	(0.64%)	0.62%	0.29%	(0.76%)	(0.29%)	(0.32%)	-	(0.94%)
Nursing Care Products	3.67%	4.64%	4.34%	3.37%	2.04%	3.49%	3.93%	-	(0.41%)
Operating Profit Margin	1.58%	1.60%	1.98%	1.48%	0.22%	0.51%	0.68%	-	(1.30%)

Segmented Information	Cons.Act		Cons.Act		Cons.Act		Cons.Act		YoY
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
(Million Yen)	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	Net Chg.
Medical Consumables & Equipment	20,227	19,787	24,882	16,235	18,445	18,768	20,710	-	(4,172)
SPD	2,576	2,809	2,704	2,728	2,817	3,114	3,386	-	+681
Life Science	806	1,144	1,185	823	874	940	898	-	(287)
Nursing Care Products	295	309	305	315	331	354	346	-	+41
Sales	23,906	24,051	29,077	20,102	22,468	23,177	25,341	-	(3,736)
Medical Consumables & Equipment	404	371	704	(70)	71	185	252	-	(452)
SPD	18	23	45	6	19	14	16	-	(29)
Life Science	(19)	6	31	(7)	(6)	1	(3)	-	(35)
Nursing Care Products	10	17	11	1	6	17	16	-	+5
Segment Profit	414	419	793	(70)	91	218	281	-	(512)
Elimination	(37)	(30)	(33)	(14)	(41)	(34)	(29)	-	+3
Operating Profit	376	388	760	(84)	49	184	251	-	(508)
Medical Consumables & Equipment	2.00%	1.88%	2.83%	(0.43%)	0.39%	0.99%	1.22%	-	(1.61%)
SPD	0.72%	0.84%	1.69%	0.22%	0.71%	0.47%	0.47%	-	(1.21%)
Life Science	(2.38%)	0.58%	2.69%	(0.97%)	(0.76%)	0.14%	(0.38%)	-	(3.07%)
Nursing Care Products	3.67%	5.56%	3.73%	0.58%	2.04%	4.84%	4.81%	-	+1.07%
Operating Profit Margin	1.58%	1.61%	2.62%	(0.42%)	0.22%	0.80%	0.99%	-	(1.62%)

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Balance Sheet (Quarterly)

Balance Sheet	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YoY	
(Million Yen)	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	Net Chg.	
Cash & Deposit	6,484	3,707	5,396	4,323	2,908	2,831	2,835	-	(2,560)	
Accounts Receivables	15,780	17,485	22,450	15,483	16,755	17,838	19,420	-	(3,030)	
Inventory	3,660	3,779	3,730	3,608	3,926	4,435	4,137	-	+407	
Other	762	728	882	918	948	796	774	-	(107)	
Current Assets	26,688	25,700	32,459	24,334	24,539	25,901	27,168	-	(5,290)	
Tangible Assets	2,863	3,054	3,194	3,133	3,265	3,434	3,454	-	+259	
Intangible Assets	551	530	538	491	463	421	391	-	(146)	
Investments & Other Assets	1,144	1,099	1,013	999	1,576	1,571	1,627	-	+613	
Fixed Assets	4,559	4,684	4,746	4,624	5,305	5,426	5,473	-	+726	
Total Assets	31,247	30,384	37,206	28,958	29,844	31,328	32,641	-	(4,564)	
Accounts Payables	20,396	21,031	25,462	20,528	18,843	20,764	21,634	-	(3,828)	
Short Term Debt	4,251	2,830	4,251	1,087	3,765	3,346	3,429	-	(821)	
Other	1,155	992	1,567	1,584	1,085	1,008	1,253	-	(314)	
Current Liabilities	25,804	24,854	31,281	23,199	23,693	25,119	26,317	-	(4,964)	
Corporate Bond	30	20	20	10	10	-	-	-	(20)	
Long Term Debt	1,088	986	892	791	704	624	550	-	(342)	
Other	967	996	1,008	1,031	1,262	1,295	1,308	-	+300	
Fixed Liabilities	2,086	2,002	1,921	1,832	1,977	1,919	1,859	-	(61)	
Total Liabilities	27,891	26,857	33,202	25,032	25,671	27,038	28,176	-	(5,026)	
Shareholders' Equity	3,268	3,431	3,917	3,867	4,088	4,190	4,337	-	+420	
Other	88	96	85	58	84	98	127	-	+41	
Net Assets	3,356	3,527	4,003	3,926	4,173	4,289	4,465	-	+461	
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	31,247	30,384	37,206	28,958	29,844	31,328	32,641	-	(4,564)	
Equity Capital	3,356	3,527	4,003	3,926	4,173	4,289	4,465	-	+462	
Interest Bearing Debt	5,370	3,836	5,163	1,888	4,479	3,970	3,979	-	(1,183)	
Net Debt	(1,113)	129	(232)	(2,435)	1,571	1,138	1,144	-	+1,377	
Equity Capital Ratio	10.7%	11.6%	10.8%	13.6%	14.0%	13.7%	13.7%	-	+2.9%	
Net Debt Equity Ratio	(33.2%)	3.7%	(5.8%)	(62.0%)	37.6%	26.5%	25.6%	-	+31.4%	
ROE (12 months)	37.2%	27.4%	24.6%	22.8%	16.3%	14.1%	5.0%	-	(19.5%)	
ROA (12 months)	5.6%	5.0%	4.3%	5.0%	3.9%	3.2%	1.2%	-	(3.1%)	
Days for Inventory Turnover	16	16	13	18	18	20	17	-	-	
Quick Ratio	86%	85%	89%	85%	83%	82%	85%	-	-	
Current Ratio	103%	103%	104%	105%	104%	103%	103%	-	-	

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

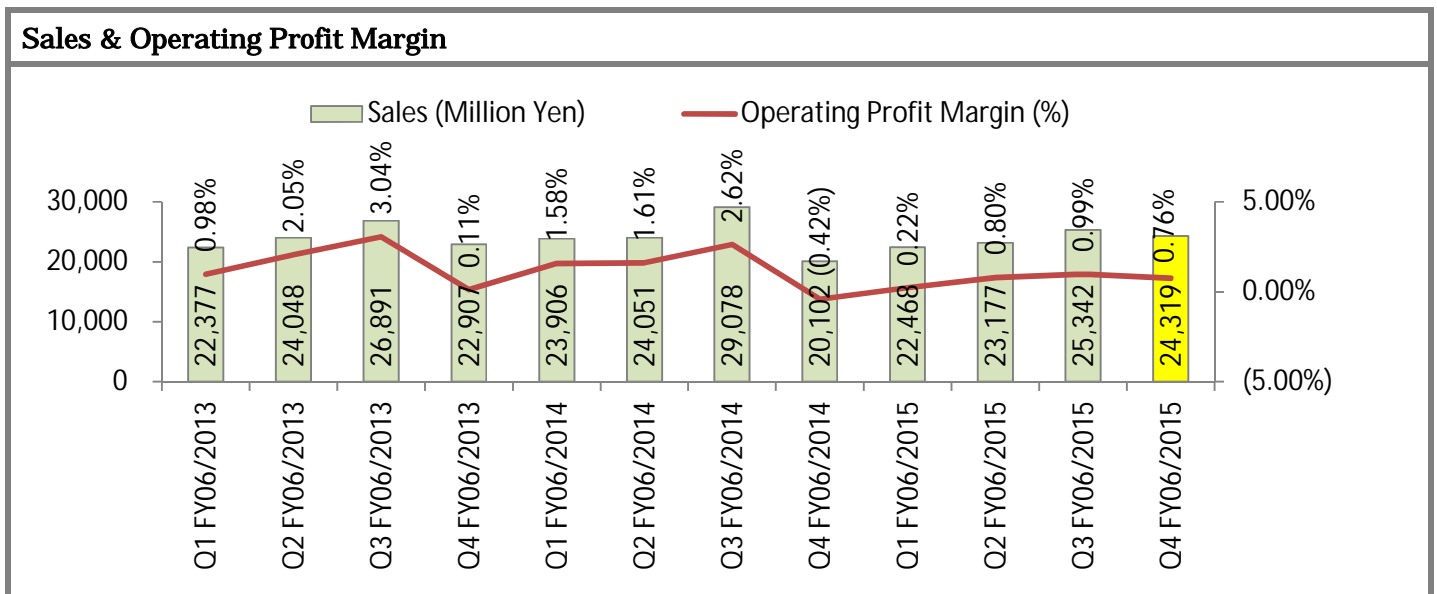
Cash Flow Statement (Cumulative)

Cash Flow Statement	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	Cons.Act	
	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4	Q1	Q1 to Q2	Q1 to Q3	Q1 to Q4	YoY	
(Million Yen)	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2014	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	06/2015	Net Chg.	
Operating Cash Flow	-	(1,937)	-	926	-	(3,069)	-	-	-	
Investing Cash Flow	-	(201)	-	(401)	-	(251)	-	-	-	
Operating CF & Investing CF	-	(2,138)	-	524	-	(3,320)	-	-	-	
Financing Cash Flow	-	(916)	-	(2,885)	-	1,920	-	-	-	

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

FY06/2015 Company Forecasts

FY06/2015 Company forecasts are going for prospective sales ¥95,307m (down 1.9% YoY), operating profit ¥671m (down 53.4%), recurring profit ¥663m (down 56.3%) and net profit ¥343m (down 58.0%), while operating profit margin 0.70% (down 0.78% points).



Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

All those numbers are after revision made at the release of Q2 results. Compared with initial Company forecasts, prospective sales have been downgraded ¥5,784m (5.7%) and operating profit ¥865m (56.3%). However, prospective dividend per share has remained unchanged at ¥30.0 (implying payout ratio 49.1%), up ¥5.0 from ¥25.0 in FY06/2014 (implying payout ratio 17.2%).

Prospective operating profit has been downgraded, given sales worse than initially expected. This is almost exclusively in line with those on the Medical Consumables & Equipment side. In here, the Company is involved with sales of medical consumables and equipment mainly for major base hospitals heavily involved with acute care. In Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015, the former accounted for 87% of sales in this business segment and the latter for the remaining 13%.

The current Company forecasts are going for prospective sales of Medical Consumables & Equipment Business down some 5% over the year, up some 7% on the consumables side and down some 43% on the equipment side.

Results in Q1 to Q3 were up 4.1% and down 47.9%, respectively. Thus, sales of consumables are supposed to chronologically accelerate in Q4, while collapsing sales of equipment to persist.

In regards to consumables, initial Company forecasts were going for sales even better, but “intensification of pricing pressure from medical institutions” turned out to be more drastic than expected, having resulted in shortfall in sales some ¥1,000m in Q1 to Q2 and prospective sales in H2 downgraded some ¥1,000m.

Meanwhile, in regards to equipment, sales fell short some ¥1,300m in Q1 to Q2, because the initial prospects were consequently too optimistic, while prospective sales in H2 have been downgraded some ¥2,300m.

Sales: FY06/2015 Company Forecasts							
(Million Yen)	Initial CoE	Results	Current CoE	Gap	Consumables	Equipment	Residuals
H1 (Q1 to Q2)	48,189	45,645	-	(2,544)	(1,000)	(1,300)	(244)
H2 (Q3 to Q4)	52,902	-	49,661	(3,241)	(1,000)	(2,300)	59
Fiscal year	101,091	-	95,307	(5,784)	(2,000)	(3,600)	(184)

Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

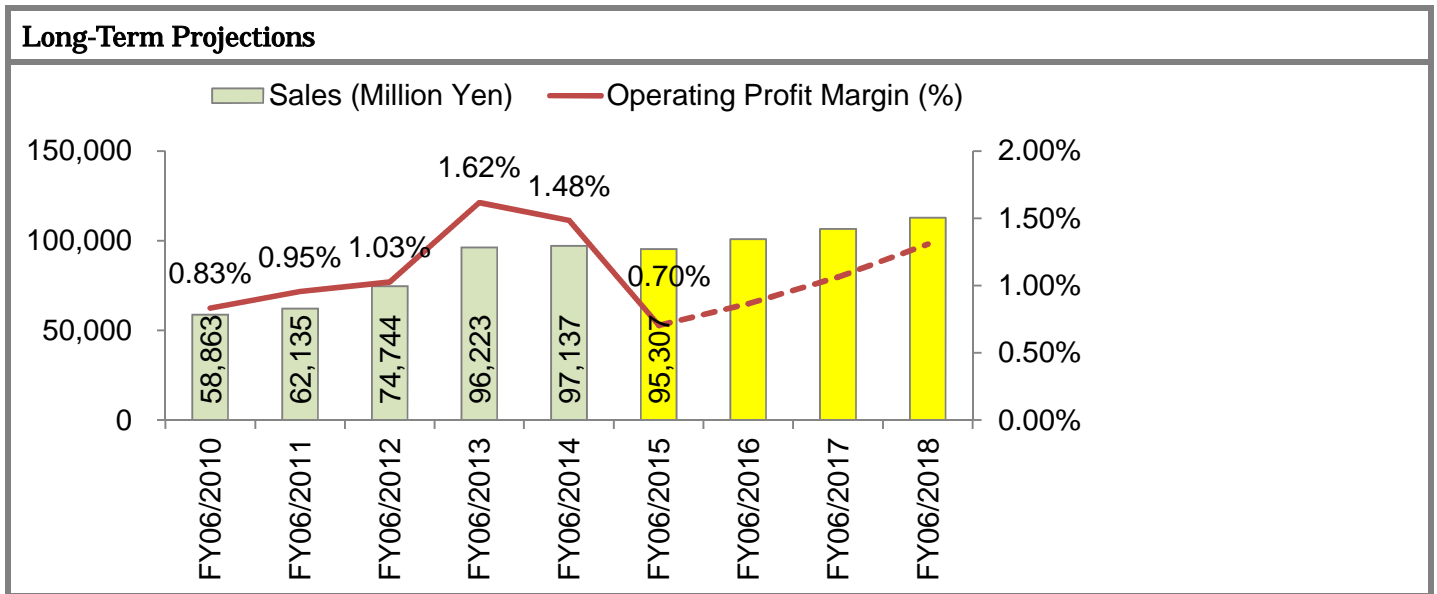
As discussed, FY06/2015 Company forecasts have been downgraded, effectively all attributable to disappointments on sales of medical consumables and equipment.

The Company suggests the market for all those consumables and equipment to which the Company is exposed is to grow some 3% in terms of CAGR (Compounded Annual Growth Rate), going forward, after price erosions stemming from NHI price revision to take place every two years. When compared with this market growth potential, it should be noted that sales of consumables are doing relatively better, even after the downgrade. As far as we could gather, the Company is steadily increasing own market shares on this side, as one of the largest players (ranked No. 4) in this business domain.

Meanwhile, in regards to equipment, we have an impression that some abnormal changes have come out for the cycle of capital expenditures (and/or replacement) in medical equipment, etc. among customers. It appears to be the case that they have had frontloaded their capital expenditures to a large extent, most recently resulting in demand lower than the levels of lower end on a regular basis. Given this, the Company is currently in the process of revising its midterm management plan.

Long-Term Prospects

On 20 February 2015, the Company held its Q1 to Q2 FY06/2015 results meeting for institutional investors and disclosed that the Company was currently in the process of setting up new midterm management plan to call for prospective earnings in FY06/2018. The Company suggested that capital expenditures by customers were to bottom out in FY06/2015, while starting to pick up in FY06/2016 and after. Thus, it was suggested that sales of equipment were to increase as a trend in a midterm view and thus sales and earnings for the Company at the same time.



Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

Prior to above-mentioned results meeting, the Company used to suggest prospective sales ¥120,000m, operating profit ¥2,000m and operating profit margin 1.67% in FY06/2017, assuming no positive effects from new alliance strategy. Meanwhile, as far as we could see, the Company now has to reconsider the targets, given major adjustments of equipment in recent trading.

As a long-term management policy, meanwhile, the Company mentions that it makes corporate efforts to further improve its safe and secured services, based on the key strengths of the Company, i.e., specialty knowhow associated with medical consumables and equipment as well as surgical procedures, while improving capability to cope with customer needs to lower purchasing prices by means of beefing up procurement functions.

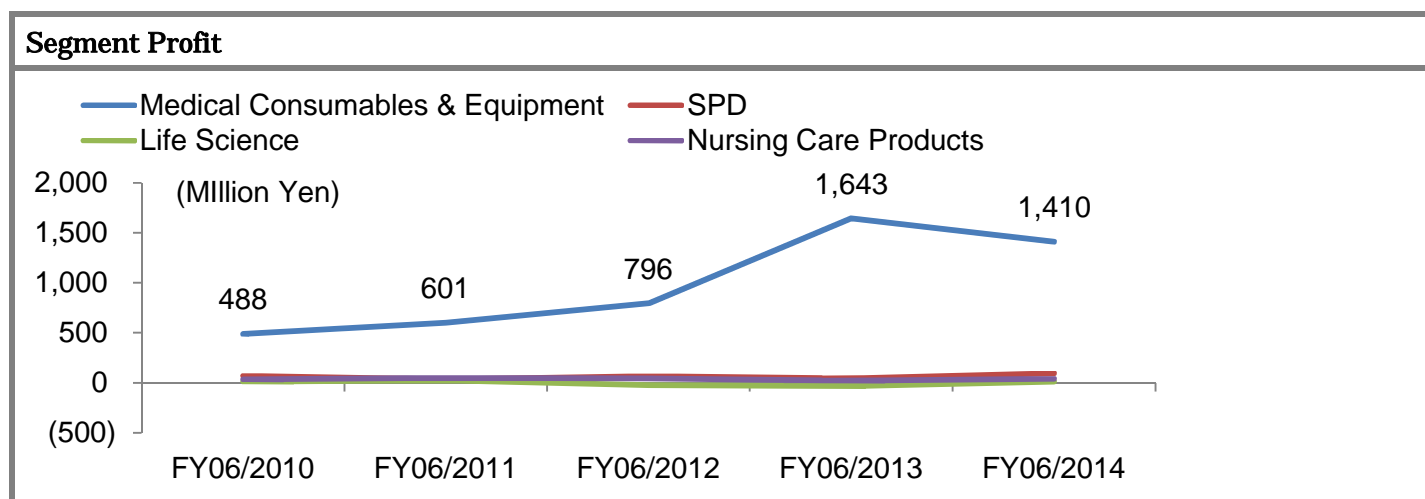
In regards to diverse consumables and equipment to be distributed through the Company to the Company's mainstay customers, i.e., major base hospitals, etc., safe and secured services are essential, including those of logistics. All those merchandises for the Company to deal in incorporate high specialty, while it is not always the case that each end user has sufficient knowledge and/or knowhow to cope with such specialty. Thus, customers seek for supports from the Company very often. For example, the Company has introduced "digital catalog" and "original instructions" to propel the supports. In regards to enhancement of procurement functions, meanwhile, the Company refers to the pursuit of lower prices for merchandises through volume discounts by means of increasing purchasing volume for each.

The Company believes successful progresses in all those issues should be favorable drivers to persistently improve reliability on the Company from customers and thus to persistently improve market shares for the Company at the end of the day. Meanwhile, the Company adopts alliance strategy (acquisition of new sales territory region-wise by means of merging with competitors) to implement such issues in regions where the Company has not covered by its own sales network yet. In the processes of propelling the alliance strategy, the Company is eager to pursue synergy, together with efforts to develop new services and to make progresses with joint procurements.

4.0 Business Model

Medical Consumables & Equipment Business

Medical Consumables & Equipment Business is almost everything for the Company. In FY06/2014, sales of the Company came in at ¥97,137m (up 1.0% YoY) and segment profit ¥1,557m (down 7.3%), while sales in this business segment ¥81,132m (down 0.4%) and segment profit ¥1,410m (down 14.2%), having accounted for 83.5% of sales of the Company and 90.6% of segment profit.



Source: Company Data, WRJ Calculation

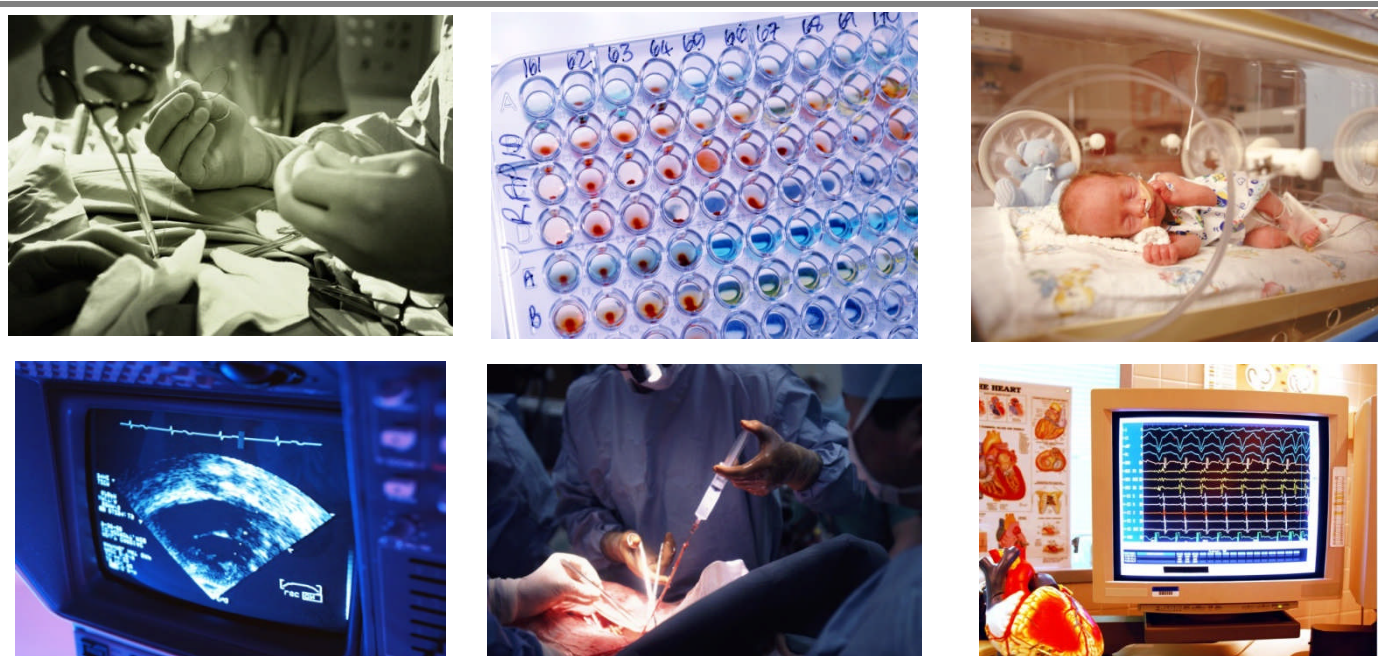
Medical Consumables & Equipment Business represents sales of medical consumables and equipment. The former includes surgical-related supplies, orthopedic consumables, circulatory-organ consumables, etc., while the latter MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging), cineangiocardiology, CT (Computed Tomography), ultrasonography, operating room equipment such as ventilators, etc. The Company procures all those merchandises from some 1,000 suppliers, comprising those based in Japan and overseas, while supplying them with some 2,000 customers. Imported merchandises account for some 80% of total in here. However, the Company is not directly involved with imports and thus it is the case that the Company's earnings are effectively immune to changes of forex rates.

The Company is also involved with SPD Business, Life Science Business and Nursing Care Products Business. Nevertheless, as Medical Consumables & Equipment Business accounts for almost all the collective segment profit, they have limited impacts to overall earnings of the Company even when they all are put together.

In Q1 to Q3 FY06/2015, the Company saw deteriorating earnings in SPD Business and Life Science Business. Meanwhile, sales and earnings increased in Nursing Care Products Business, although the impacts from here were limited to overall earnings of the Company.

SPD (Supply Processing and Distribution) Business is run by business model that could be almost the same as that of Medical Consumables & Equipment Business, while the key differences relate to a factor that the Company also collects commissions from medical institutions on top of seeing profit margin by distributing merchandises by being involved with merchandises & information management and with purchasing management. Involvements with SPD Business are positioned as important operations to beef up operations of the mainstay Medical Consumables & Equipment Business, providing the Company with opportunities to learn about customer needs. Life Science Business represents sales of reagents & test drugs, laboratory equipment and analyzers. Thus, business model in here is fundamentally the same as that of Medical Consumables & Equipment Business but for the domains of merchandises to deal in.

Examples of Merchandises to Deal in (Image Pictures)



Source: Company Data

Meanwhile, Nursing Care Products Business represents operations by Life Care Co., Ltd., a 100% consolidated subsidiary of the Company, which is in charge of sales & rental services for nursing-care-use beds and supplies. The mainstay operations are rental services of nursing-care-use beds, accounting for some 80% of sales in here, while carrying gross profit margin some 50%.

Apart from Nursing Care Products Business, the Company is exclusively exposed to medical institutions as own customers, while Nursing Care Products Business to local elderly people and their families, which is the distinguished feature in this business segment. Meanwhile, this business segment carries gross profit margin far higher than that of the Company as a whole (10.42% to 10.63% over the past 5 years), because the business model in here is totally different from the rest of the businesses. The bulk of gross profit of the Company comes from added value generated by operations as a distributor of merchandises, while the Company is basically involved with rental services in here, generating added value by rental services.

In Q1 to Q3 in FY06/2015, sales came in at ¥1,032m (up 13.3%) and segment profit ¥40m (up 2.8%). Operations of Nursing Care Products Business are carried out in collective 9 bases in Okayama (where Life Care Co., Ltd. is based) and its surrounding prefectures. In regards to existing bases, sales are increasing some 10% over the year, while earnings steadily improving. On top of this, sales from a new base in Koriyama are contributing as well. At the same time, however, setup costs from here are negatively affecting to short-term earnings in this business segment at the moment.

Disclaimer

Information here is a summary of “IR Information” of the Company, compiled by Walden Research Japan, from a neutral and professional standing point, in the form of a report. “IR Information” of the Company comprises a) contents of our interview with the Company, b) contents of presentations for institutional investors, c) contents of timely disclosed information and d) contents of the homepage etc.

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