

# Asahi Holdings, Inc. Financial Results for FY2023.3

April 27, 2023

These forecast performance figures are based on information currently available to the company's management and certain assumptions judged rationally. Accordingly, there might be cases in which actual results materially differ from forecasts of this report.



I. Financial Results for FY2023.3

(April 1, 2022 ~ March 31, 2023)

II. Appendix



Business Perform	nance	
FY2023.3 Financial results	Revenue: ¥292.4 bn (YoY increase of ¥100 bn) Operating profit: ¥19.2 bn (YoY decrease of ¥7.2 bn)	
Change in metals collection	Revenue rose due to the larger collection from jewelry sector and rising Larger revenue in jewelry sector made limited contribution to profit beclower profit margin than other sectors.  Collections from catalyst and dentistry sectors fell.	gold prices. ause of the
Fall in rhodium price	The price of rhodium contained in the automotive catalyst fell sharply, vin price fluctuations that were difficult to hedge.	vhich resulted
Solid North American refining business	North American refining business was overall steady, excluding the imp "Stock-Take".	act of the
Strong Environmental Preservation business	Strong results thanks to the recovery in industrial production activities. Operation profit increased despite the impact of impairment loss and de	econsolidation.
	<ul> <li>(Affecting operating profit)</li> <li>Impairment loss and related loss on existing facilities due to building new incinerator</li> </ul>	of Yokohama
One-time losses	<ul> <li>Withdrawal from North American carbon business</li> <li>Loss on equity-method investments</li> </ul>	¥0.9 bn ¥0.4 bn ¥0.6 bn
	<ul> <li>(Posted in other expenses)</li> <li>Payment for compensation for damage related to intellectual property equity-method affiliate</li> <li>Loss on transfer of shares of equity-method affiliate</li> </ul>	rights at an ¥1.5 bn ¥1.8 bn



### Topics

Bando Plant started operation	Bando Plant began operating in April 2022.  Making a large contribution in increasing the volume of metals collected from jewelry sector. Leveraging the high production capacity of the state-of-the-art facilities.
Launch of DXE business	DXE Inc., a subsidiary, launched a service to raise efficiency of industrial waste management using digital technologies in June 2022.
PoC for CO2 emissions reduction	The CO2 emissions reduction PoC project, which is supported by the Ministry of the Environment, duly completed a technological PoC installing hydrogen manufacturing equipment and moved to the next stage of building a hydrogen supply chain.
Company split of Asahi Pretec Corp.	Split the company into precious metals recycling, precious metals refining and manufacturing/trading, and environmental preservation to achieve agile management of each subsidiary.
Launch precious metals warehouse business	Launch precious metals warehousing business in the State of New York in May 2023 with certification from COMEX.
ESG initiatives	Disclosed Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions for FY2022.3. Score "B" by CDP climate change. Recognized as a Certified Health & Productivity Management Outstanding Organization for the fourth consecutive year. Introduced three-day weekends option from October 2022. Introducing a stock compensation plan for managements that uses TSR as an indicator in FY2024.3



Unit: billion yen

	FY2022.3	FY2023.3		FY2024.3	
	Results	Results	YoY Change	Forecast	YoY Change
Revenue	192.4	292.4	100.0	250.0	(42.4)
Operating profit	26.4	19.3	(7.2)	19.0	(0.3)
Ratio	13.7%	6.6%	(7.1%)	7.6%	1.0%
Profit before tax	26.4	16.1	(10.3)	18.5	2.4
Profit*1	18.7	10.9	(7.8)	13.2	2.3
Capex	8.3	4.9	(3.4)	12.4	7.5
Depreciation	2.7	3.3	0.6	3.1	(0.2)

%1%Profit attributable to owners of parent

## Business Environment in Each Segment (4Q)



### **Precious Metals Business**

Volume of collection in the precious metals recycling sector fell from 3Q. This was mainly due to a fall in collection from major customers in jewelry sector, a fall in collection from catalyst sector due to the weak PGM prices, and a fall in collection in electronics sector due to inventory adjustments. On the other hand, collection from dentistry sector increased.

Business field	Business environment
Dentistry	Collection continued falling partly due to the spread of alternative products, although the number of
Dentistry	patients increased as restrictions on dental treatment were relaxed.
Jewelry	Although there was a temporary drop in purchase demand due to market uncertainty, it has been
Jewelly	recovering. Collection from manufactures is on a rise because of resumption of events, etc.
Catalyst	Collection fell in Japan due to falling PGM prices; overseas, collection from Korean catalyst
Catalyst	manufacture shrank.
Electronics	Collection rapidly slowed due to the impact of inventory adjustments in the supply chain in response
Liectionics	to high inflations and a decline of the Chinese market.
North American refinin	Product processing, selling and other transactions were steady.

### **Environmental Preservation Business**

Volume collected related to medical care is on a downward trend due to the end of the COVID-19 pandemic. Volume collected related to automobiles remained weak.

Industry	Business environment
Educational/research institutions	Volume collected from educational institutions slightly fell year on year.
Construction	Private-sector residential construction fell due to the skyrocketing materials prices, while private-sector non-residential construction increased.
Automobile	Volume of waste collected from related parts factories stagnated due to the reduced operation of factories caused by semiconductor and parts shortages.
Electronics	Inventory adjustment moves by electronics manufacture affected production of components suppliers. Related waste generation is on a downward trend.
Medical	Volume of medical waste collected decreased following a drop in COVID-19 infections.
Chemical	Production index of chemical industry slightly decreased year on year.

## Precious Metals Business Segment



### **Precious Metals Recycling Business (Japan and Asia)**

### FY2023.3 Results

Revenue rose due to the larger collection and sales mainly from jewelry sector. This made limited contribution to profit because of the lower profit margin than other sectors.

Meanwhile, catalyst and dentistry sectors that have relatively high profit margins fell.

Price of rhodium contained in the automotive catalyst fell sharply, which resulted in price fluctuations that were difficult to hedge.

→Increase in revenue and decrease in profit

### FY2024.3 Forecast

Both revenue and profit are projected to drop due to factors such as the current precious metals price and change in accounting treatment. The forecast also reflects the impact of relevant costs which shall be allocated to the segment, organization reinforcement and personnel following the company split.

→ Decrease in revenue and profit

### **North American Refining Business**

#### FY2023.3 Results

Various value-added transactions based on refining progressed solidly.

Performed normal annual "Stock-Take" as opposed to two-year "Stock-Take" in the previous fiscal year that was affected by COVID-19.

Excluding the impact of "Stock-Take", profit was higher.

→Increase in revenue and decrease in profit

### FY2024.3 Forecast

Revenue and profit are expected to increase through enhancement to various value-added transactions based on refining.

→ Increase in revenue and profit

Precious Metals	FY2022.3
Revenue	Results 173.9
Operating Profit	26.6
Ratio	15.3%

FY2023.3		
Results	YoY Change	
274.2	100.3	
19.8	(6.8)	
7.2%	(8.1%)	

FY2024.3		
Forecast	YoY Change	
232.0	(42.2)	
16.7	(3.1)	
7.2%	(0.0%)	

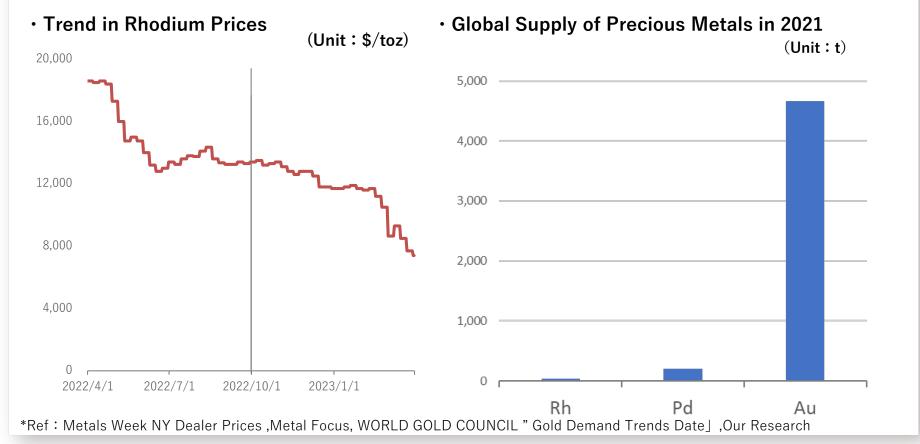
[Unit: billion ven]

## 06

## Fall in rhodium price



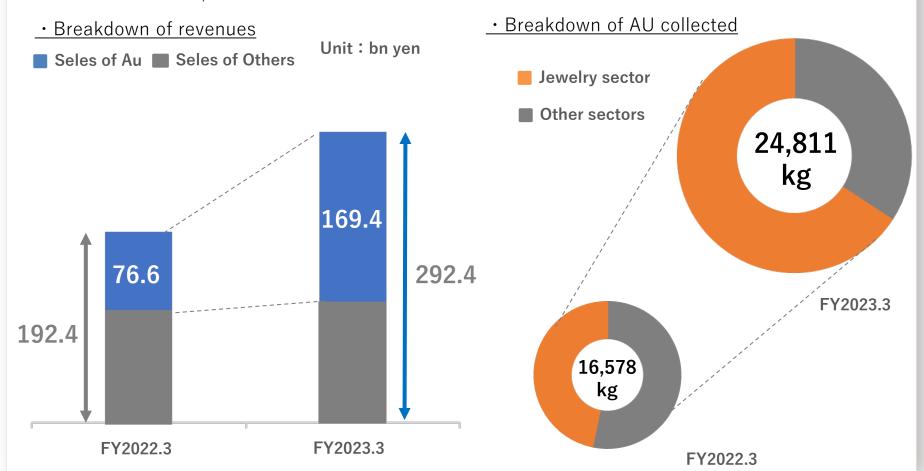
- To avoid the impact of fluctuation of precious metals prices, precious metals hedging is carried out in principle.
- Rhodium contained in the automotive catalyst has a small market and hedging capacity has been limited.
- The recent rapid fall in its prices made hedging difficult. In addition, the adoption of the lower-of-cost-or-market method became a significant factor of profit reduction.
- We currently try to expand the counterparties for hedge transactions and the means of hedging.



## Details of Change in Collection



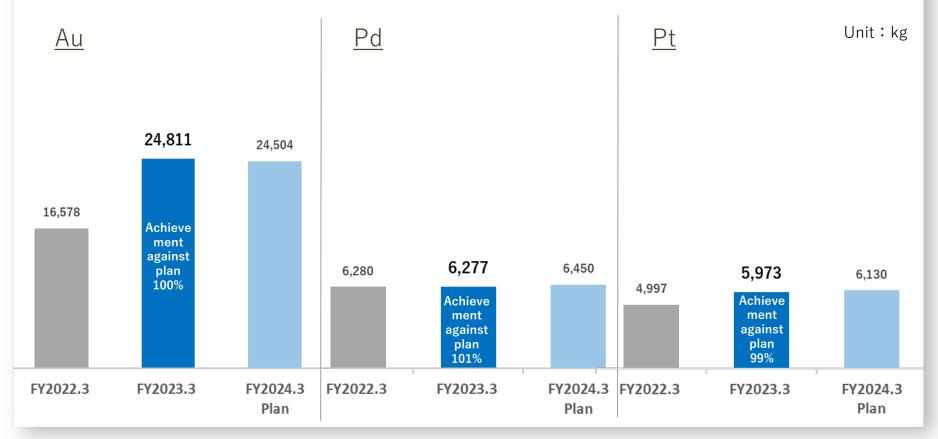
- Revenue rose due to the increase in sales of gold. Larger collection from jewelry sector significantly contributed.
- Larger revenue in jewelry sector made limited contribution to profit because of the lower profit margin than other sectors.
- This trend is expected to continue in FY2024.3



## Ref: Volume of Precious Metals Collected



- The volume of gold collected rose mainly in jewelry sector, increasing approx. 8 tons YoY overall.
- The volume of palladium collected was almost at par with FY2022.3, with an increase in collection from jewelry sector, making up for a drop in the volume collected from dentistry and catalyst sectors.
- The volume of platinum collected rose 1 ton YoY, with an increase in the volume collected from jewelry sector exceeding a fall in collection from catalyst sector.



## Environmental Preservation Business Segment



### **Environmental Preservation Business**

#### FY2023.3 Results

Thanks to the recovery of industrial production activities, the processing volume of industrial waste increased, The operation status of our plants remained at high levels. The processing volume of waste with high unit prices, such as COVID-related medical waste, was also steady.

The results reflected the impact of the transfer of JW Glass Recycling in May 2022 (FY2022.3 results: revenue ¥1.2bn; operating profit: ¥0.2bn) and impairment losses (¥0.9bn) and related loss on existing facilities following the construction of the Yokohama new incinerator which is scheduled to start operating in 2025.

→ Decrease in revenue and increase in profit

### FY2024.3 Forecast

Plan to make up mostly for a fall in COVID-related medical waste with other waste. The forecast reflects the impact of relevant costs which will be allocated to the segment, and costs for organization reinforcement following the company split,

### → Decrease in revenue and profit

Environmental	FY2022.3
Preservation	Results
Revenue	18.6
Operating Profit	3.7
Ratio	20.1%
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FY2023.3		
Results	YoY Change	
18.2	(0.3)	
3.8	0.1	
21.1%	0.9%	

[Unit: billion yen]		
FY2024.3		
Forecast	YoY Change	
18.0	(0.2)	
2.3	(1.5)	
12.8%	(8.3%)	



Assumptions	
FY2024.3 forecast	Revenue: ¥250.0bn(YoY decrease of ¥42.4 bn) Operating profit: ¥19.0bn (YoY decrease of ¥0.3 bn)
Volume collected	Volume of precious metals collected is projected almost at the same level as the previous fiscal year given the current business environment
Change in price assumptions	Forecast was projected based on the prices of precious metals at the time of the preparation of the forecast
Change in accounting treatment following the company split	Posting of one-time cost as we will not be able to post the personnel cost for collection sales staff in assets following the company split.  After the company split, expenses that have been posted outside segments (Adjustments) will be allocated to each segment.  No cash out for either of the above.
Strengthen systems following the company split	Improvement of each company's back-office and management systems following the company split (including developing organizations for the listing of a subsidiary)
Employees engagement	Wage raise including wages for new employees; increase of executive employees, holding general meeting of employees
Total CI strategy	Change of company name; branding; advertising and promotion
R&D for growth, etc.	Full-scale launch of environmental DX business; R&D to cultivate new areas and products in precious metals recycling

### **Cost increase**



Unit: billion yen Mar 31, Mar 31, Change Remarks 2022 2023 **Current Assets** (3.4)241.8 238.4 The greater part of the balance and changes are receivables that constitute borrowings to Trade receivables 151.4 154.0 match metal procurement in North American business. The majority of inventory balances and changes in inventories are linked to materials, works in process and products that contain precious metals in the precious metals recycling (22.5)Inventories 63.4 40.9 business. Risks associated with price fluctuations and quality deterioration are limited because precious metals prices are hedged at the time of purchase. **Others** 26.9 43.5 16.5 Non-current assets (7.5)56.6 49.1 Total Assets 298.4 287.4 (10.9)Liabilities 193.3 180.5 (12.8)Borrowings for Advance Trading in North American business constitute a large percentage. Risks associated with price fluctuations and bad debts are limited because bullion for **Bonds and loans** (6.6)150.9 144.4 Adovance Trading is procured through borrowing after receiving raw materials and precious metal prices are hedged according to the repayment date. (6.2)**Others** 42.3 36.1 **Capitals** 105.1 107.0 1.8 Total equity and liabilities 298.4 287.4 (10.9)



		[Unit: ¥ bn]			
	March 31, 2023	Excluding North America business			
Current Assets	238.4	102.1	Mar 31,2023		
Non-current assets	49.1	49.1		37.2%	
Total Assets	287.4	151.1			loan for "Advance Trading"
Liabilities	180.5	44.2			
Capitals	107.0	107.0	Excluding North America business		
Total equity and liabilities	287.4	151.1	_	70.8%	

- Enabling large-scale funding for the finance services with competitive interest rates.
- Advance trading is tied to refining contract.
- In general, rising interest will not affect the profitability of the North American business.



## Investment purposes: Business expansion, margin improvement Total amount of investment in Mid-term business plan: ¥22.7 bn



Bando Plant

✓ Largest state-of-the-art precious metals recycling plant in Asia



**North American Refining Business** 

✓ Launching warehouse business & strengthening existing equipment



New incinerator in Yokohama

✓ Large incinerator in eastern Japan

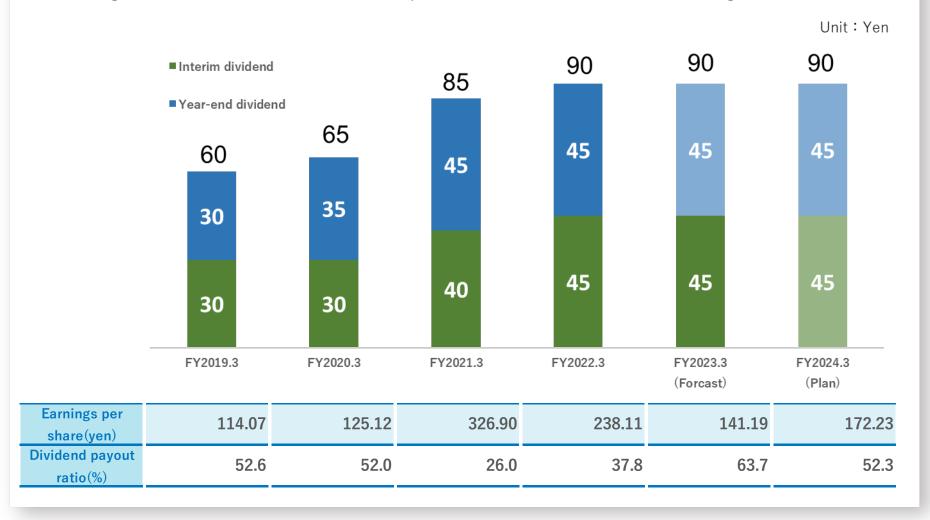
Unit: ¥bn

	FY2022.3	FY2023.3	FY2024.3	
	Results	Results	Plan	
Precious Metals	7.7	4.5	10.4	
Domestic	4.0	2.5	5.7	
Overseas	3.6	2.0	4.6	
Environmental Preservation	0.7	0.5	2.1	

## Shareholder Return Policy



Basic Policy: We will strive to consistently pay dividends without decreasing the annual dividend level from the current level. Moreover, we aim to maintain a dividend payout ratio of 40%, while retaining sufficient internal reserves for capital investment and M&A for future growth.



# 15 Introduction of TSR-linked stock compensation plan



• Plan to Introduce a stock compensation plan for managements that uses total shareholder return (TSR) as an indicator in FY2024.3. to incentivize more about shareholder returns.

Monetary Stock-based compensation compensation After Revision Current system Fixed Fixed Basic remuneration according to job responsibilities compensation compensation Performance-linked Consolidated operating profit is multiplied by a compensation certain ratio to calculate the total amount, and Performance-linked money is paid according to position points and compensation contribution to business performance. TSR linked Consolidated operating profit is multiplied by a stock-based certain ratio to calculate the total amount, and compensation Stock-based shares are paid according to position points and TSR. compensation

Note: Subject to a resolution at the General Meeting of Shareholders in June, 2023

## Group Organizational Restructuring



- Restructure our business model as a measure to "Reinforce the foundation for global growth",
   which is a basic policy of the 9th Medium-Term Business Plan
- Aim to enhance the corporate value of the entire group through optimal and speedy decision making by each company.

#### (New) (Target) (Former) **Asahi Holdings Asahi Holdings** As a leading company in precious metals **Asahi Pretec Asahi Pretec** recycling, develop new business areas **Precious metals** including oversea expansion and products in **Precious** addition to further strengthen existing recycling business Environmental metals business. preservation recycling business business **ASAHI METALFINE** Aim to establish a global Asahi brand through refining, manufacturing/trading of precious Precious metals refining, metals products with consideration for and manufacturing/trading human rights, the environment, and other **business** new services Aim to become one of Japan's leading Japan Waste industrial waste specialists utilizing its **Environmental** networks and licensing covering the entire nation, technical skills, highly specialized preservation business salesforces, and unique DX service

- Plan to change the company name to "ARE Holdings, Inc." as of July 1, 2023
- Become a corporate group that embodies its purpose, "Totally committed to protecting the natural environment and preserving resources," both in name and in substance

## (New name) ARE Holdings, Inc.

Asahi Resources & Environment

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With resources and the environment as our core business, we are committed to resource recovery for environment and environmental preservation.





Note: Subject to a resolution at the General Meeting of Shareholders in June 2023

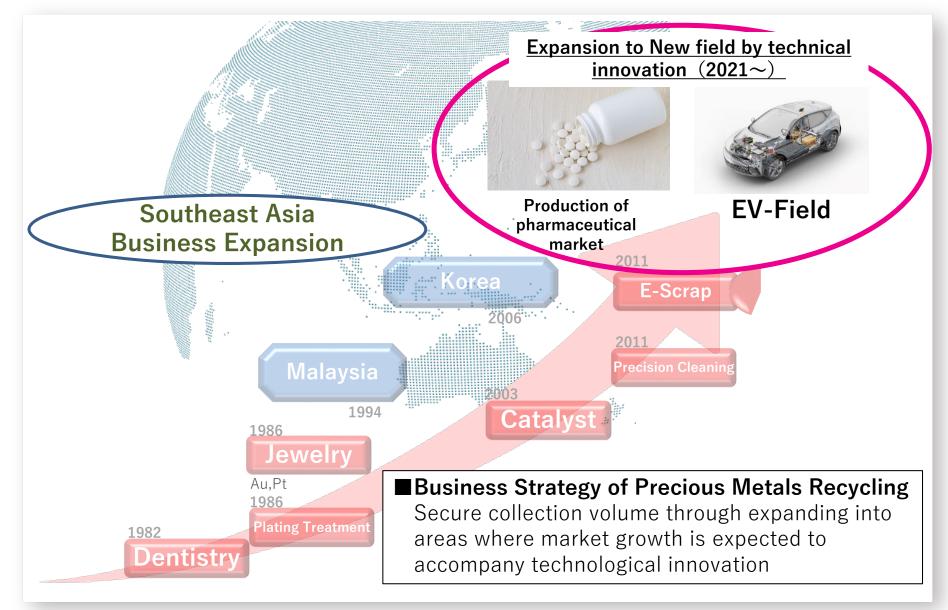


I. Financial Results for FY2023.3 (April 1, 2022 ~ March 31, 2023)

II. Appendix

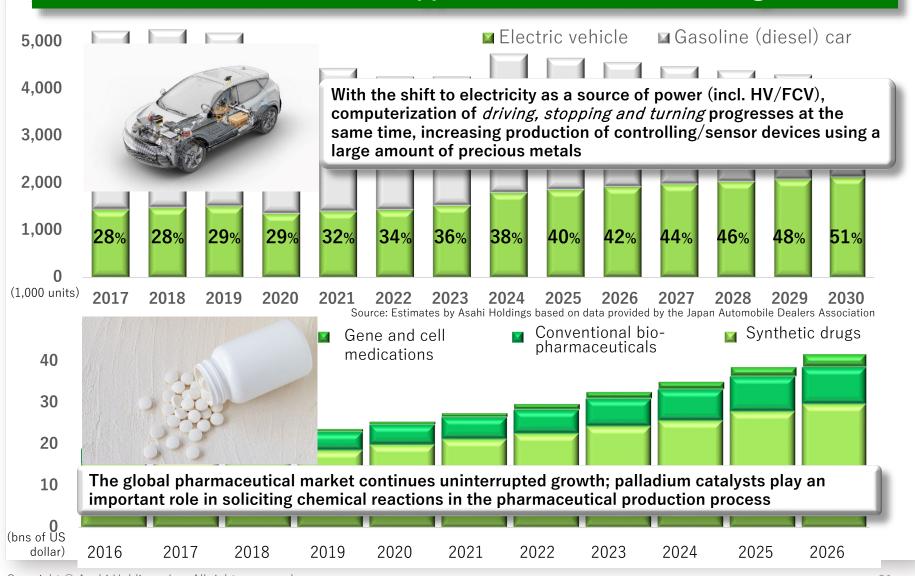
## Precious Metals Recycling Business: Growth Drive-New Field, Geographic Expansion







## Solving social challenges leads to the creation of a new recycling market and business opportunities for Asahi Holdings



# Manufacturing and Selling of New Products That Contribute to CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction



- In the electronics industry, demand is growing for recycling-based gold potassium cyanide to realize a recycling-based society and for actions to achieve carbon neutrality, SDGs, and ESG initiatives.
- Based on these needs, we installed manufacturing lines for gold potassium cyanide and began manufacturing and selling it in April 2023.



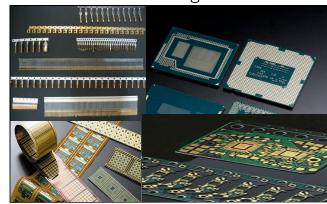
Gold potassium cyanide

### ◆External environment

A major global smartphone manufacturer with suppliers in Japan has declared that its supply chain will achieve 100% carbon neutrality by 2030.



Gold potassium cyanide manufacturing facilities





- Global Jewelry brands prefer precious metals that respect human rights, CO2, and the environment
- This "Green" preference extends to sectors other than jewelry, as well as precious metals other than gold
- We lead market in recycling, traceability, and international certifications









### Our Main Plant: Bando Plant



- Consolidating processes from raw material collection to finishing
- Improving production efficiency by introducing cutting-edge IoT technology.
- Excellent industrial production area from the viewpoint of BCM (Business Continuity Management).
- Certified as top tier and "ZEB Ready" by Building-Housing Energyefficiency Labeling System of Japan's Ministry of the Environment.

# North American Refining Business: Expanding Value Added Services



### **Strengthen finance business**

- Trading
- Precious metals warehousing
- Loan, structured finance

   (e.g., support for environmental measures in South American mines)

### **Downstream development**

Minting, products



"American Reserve"

Our mega hit product in US mining/refining

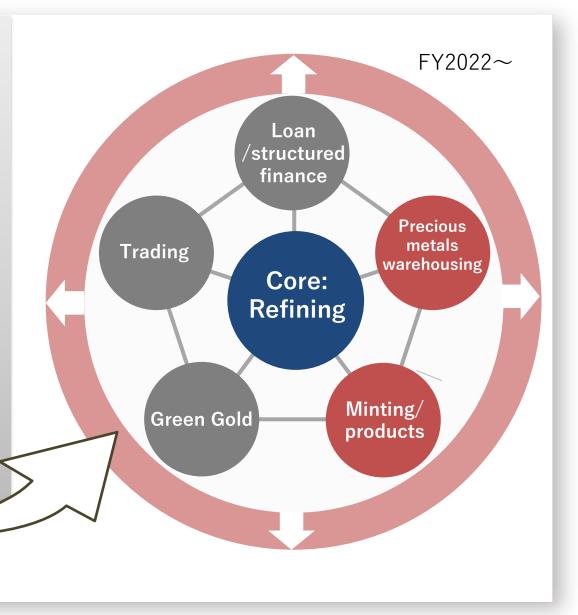
### Increase jewelry industry clients

(Procure materials with awareness of human rights and environment)

Green Gold

FY2015 (When acquired)

Refining





- Establishing a warehouse specializing in precious metals by purchasing land and building in state of NY.
- This warehouse will be a COMEX approved depository and start its operation in early May.

### ■Summary of the warehousing business

- Precious metal transactions through COMEX are conducted using dedicated warehouses designated by COMEX. The operators of the designated warehouses receive stipulated storage fees (certificate fee and warrant fee) and withdrawal fees at the time of the discharge of goods.
- As a COMEX-approved depository, we are able to gain stable income and reduce our transportation cost to deliver ingot.
- In addition, synergies between trading and warehousing business will be expected in the future.

■ Inside the warehouse under construction



# Environmental Preservation Business: Capital Investment



- Continuous capital investment is necessary for business expansion.
- Expand processing capacity through planned capital investment

[Unit: ¥ bn]

### **Hibiki Plant**



Completion: October 2021 Investment amount : approx. 1.7

Completion: October 2025 Investment amount: approx. 6.0

### Yokohama Plant

2025 Scheduled completion

### Kitakyushu Plant



Completion: October 2020 Investment amount: approx.4.0

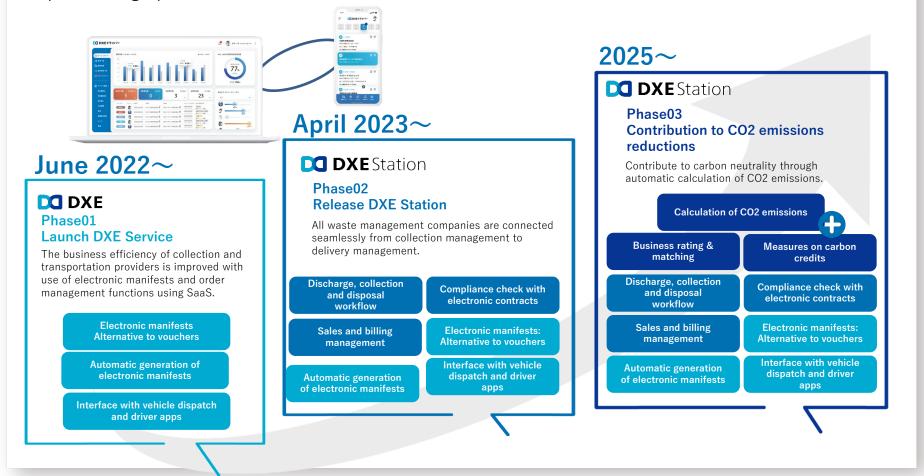
Completion: April 2018 Investment amount :approx.1.8

### Taniyama Rinkai Plant



# Environmental Preservation Business: Digital Transformation Business of Waste Treatment

- Contribute to the building of a low-carbon, sustainable society through digitalization of industrial waste from discharge to treatment and reduction of environmental impact
- A major version upgrade as "DXE Station" was conducted in April 2023. This upgrade includes a service for disposal companies and has dramatically streamlined a series of industrial waste processing operations from manifests to sales invoices.





### JPX-NIKKEI 400



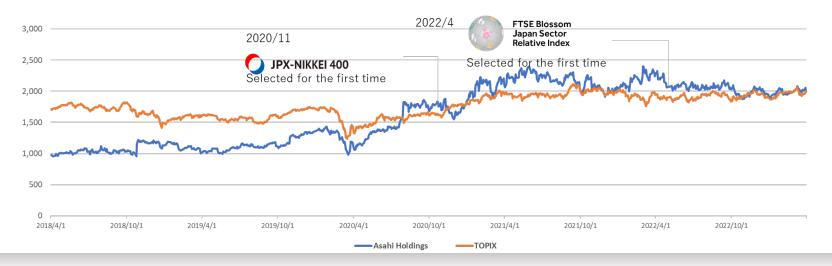
We have been included in the JPX Nikkei Index 400 for three consecutive years. The index consists of companies that are highly appealing to investors and that meet the requirements of global investment standards, such as efficient use of capital and management perspectives that are conscious of investors.

### FTSE Blossom Japan Sector Relative Index



FTSE Blossom Japan Sector Relative Index

We have been included in the FTSE Blossom Japan Sector Relative Index (one of the GPIF's benchmarks), which reflects the performance of Japanese companies that demonstrate strong environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices in their respective sectors, and is designed to be sector-neutral.





- Our business strategy is tied to carbon neutral strategy.
- TCFD compliant disclosures; got for Score "B" by CDP climate change.
- Disclosed Scope1, 2 & 3 CO2 emissions in FY2022.3 and start third-party verification from FY2023.3.
- Social and Governance also improved. See following pages.



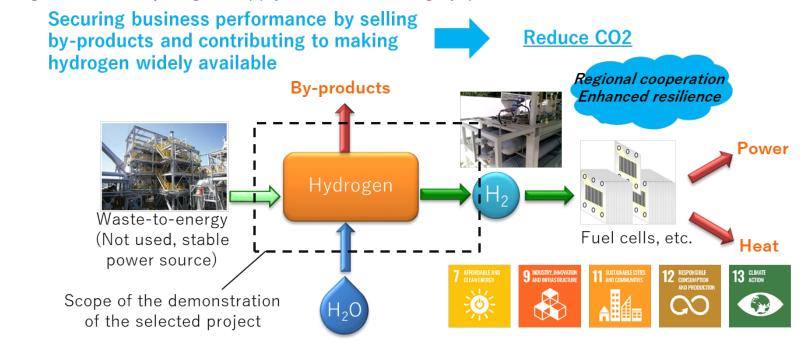


<sup>\*</sup>Based on external evaluations in FY2022

## Low Carbon Technology Research, Development Nasahi Holdings and Demonstration Program

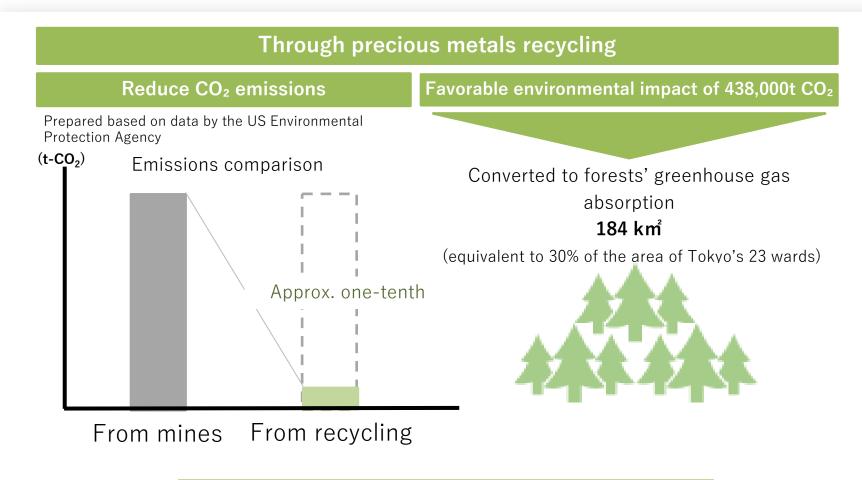


- Asahi Pretec Corp. has proposed the "Development of a system for building a green hydrogen supply chain through effective use of by-products" jointly with FC Development Co., Ltd., X-Scientia Co., Ltd., and Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Limited., for the "2021 Low Carbon Technology" Research, Development and Demonstration Program," which was publicly called on by the Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment and this system has been selected for a partiallysubsidized project.
- The introduction of a hydrogen generator at the Kitakyushu Plant completed in December 2022 and technical demonstration testing finished in March 2023.
- Aiming to create a hydrogen supply chain and selling by-products.



# Contribution to CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction by Precious Metals Recycling







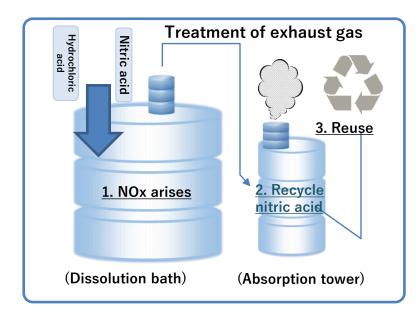
Precious metals recycling growth strategy

Carbon neutral strategy

## Factory GX and Cost Reduction



 Recycle 99% of the NOx gas produced as nitric acid when dissolving recycled materials using nitric acid



- NOx arises from the dissolution of recycled materials
- 2. Recycle nitric acid in the absorption tower
- 3. Reuse in the dissolution bath



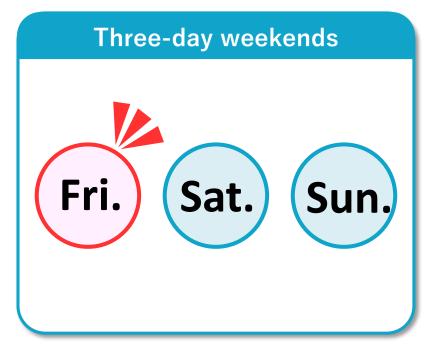
Dissolution bath



Competition strategy for precious metals recycling costCarbon neutral strategy



- To achieve a good work-life balance for employees in various forms.
- To improve productivity and allow our organizations to run smoothly
- Two models to cover different roles and workplaces.

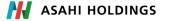


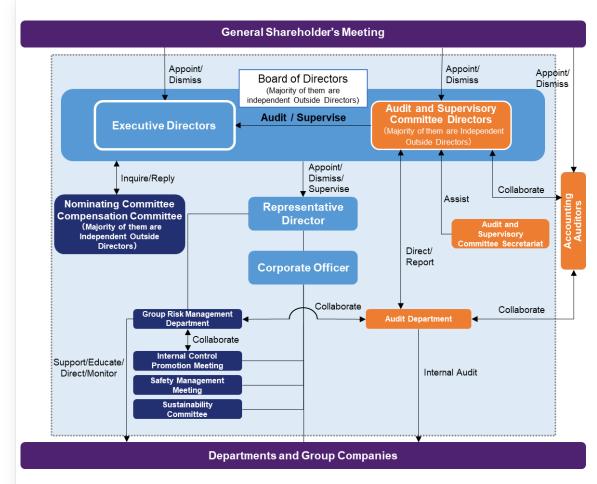
36 designated holidays per year, giving employees three-day weekends

### 10 designated holidays per year

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.

10 designated holidays per year to enable flexible time off throughout the year





<Board of Directors>

The majority is an Independent Outside Director, consisting of two Executive Directors and five Audit and Supervisory Committee Directors, including four Independent Outside Directors, for a total of seven Directors (two females).

Evaluates the effectiveness every year and the results are available on our website.

<a href="#"><Audit and Supervisory Committee></a>
<a href="#">Strengthen the supervisory function</a> for business execution by attending the executive and management committee meetings of the Group companies and share their opinions from an independent point of view.

Appointed Head of Independent Outside <u>Director</u> to further strengthen cooperation between Independent Outside Directors and Executive Directors and to carry out smooth communication and coordination.

<Risk Management Structure>
From a standpoint independent of the business unit, the Group Risk Management Department promotes risk management such as compliance risks.



Establishment of governance that allows the Board of Directors to take risks properly

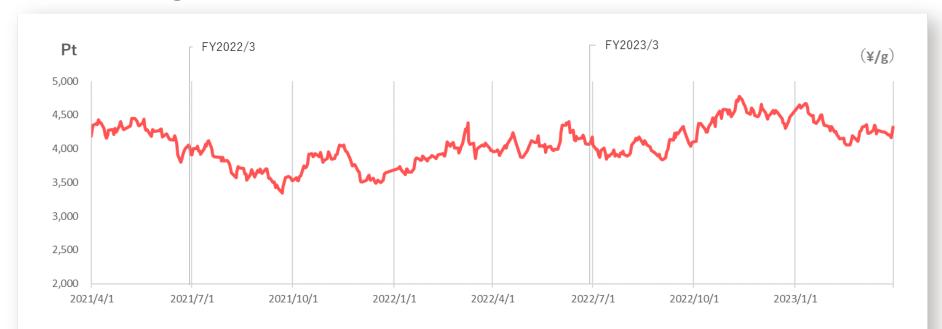
## Trend in Metals Prices (Gold, Palladium)





# Trend in Metals Prices (Platinum), Mid-term Average Price





			Unit: Yen
Precious	Q4	Q4	
<b>Metal Prices</b>	FY2022/3	FY2023/3	
(per gram)	Average price	Average price	Change
	for the period	for the period	Citalige
Gold	7,028	8,058	1,030
Palladium	8,814	6,833	(1,981)
Platinum	3,921	4,307	386

### ◆ Reference

Gold...Quote from mining company Palladium ...Nikkei low price Platinum ...retail price(exclude tax)