

First Half Results for FY2017 (Six months ended August 31, 2017)

Lawson, Inc.
October 12, 2017

Financial Results for First Half of FY2017

Satoshi Nakaniwa
Senior Vice President
Chief Financial Officer
Lawson, Inc.

Financial Results for 2017 1H: Overview

Billion of yen	FY2016 1H	FY2017 1H	Diff.	v. plan	FY2017
	Act.	Act.			Forecast
Operating Profit	39.9	38.9	▲0.9	+1.4	68.5
Recurring profit	38.3	38.4	+0	+2.4	65.5
Net profit	22.6	23.6	+1.0	+2.6	33.5
TTL no. of stores in Japan	12,733	13,587	+854	+89	(no change from initial estimate)
OP	Non-consol.	31.7	31.1		
	Seijo Ishii	3.3	3.4		
	United Cinema	1.6	2.0		
	Overseas	▲1.7	▲1.8		

Non-consolidated:

- ✓ Existing-store sales: +1.0% YoY
- ✓ Gross profit margin: 31.3% (±0.0% YoY)
- ✓ SG&A: 138.9 billion yen (+5.2bln yen YoY, -2.8bln yen v. plan)
 - Personnel costs +1.7bln yen YoY ±0.0bln yen v. plan
 - IT related expenses -2.1bln yen -2.0bln yen
 - Facilities expenses +4.7bln yen ±0.0bln yen
- ✓ Opening 466 stores (excl. Lawson Store 100, incl. 101 brand conversion). Closure 139 stores (+91 v. plan)

✓ **Consolidated OP down 0.9bln yen YoY but up 1.4bln yen above target**

OP down YoY on higher preparatory costs for entering the finance services and increased pro-forma standard taxes. OP up v. plan on schedule review for next-generation systems investment.

✓ **Net profit increased 1.0bln yen YoY, 2.6bln yen above target**

Net profit up YoY on lower losses caused by reflecting losses on natural disaster in the previous year and fewer store closures, and the previous year's reversal of deferred income tax assets. Net profit up v. plan on higher-than-expected operating profit and reduced losses resulting from fewer store closures.

FY2017 2H/ Full-year Company Forecast

Billion of yen	FY2017			FY2017			Diff. (b-a)
	1H	2H	Year	1H	2H	Year	
	Est.	Est.(a)	Est.	Act	Rev.(b)	Est.	
OP	37.5	31.0	68.5	38.9	29.5	68.5	approx. -15

■ **2H OP estimate revisions**

➤ **IT costs approx. +0.5bln yen**

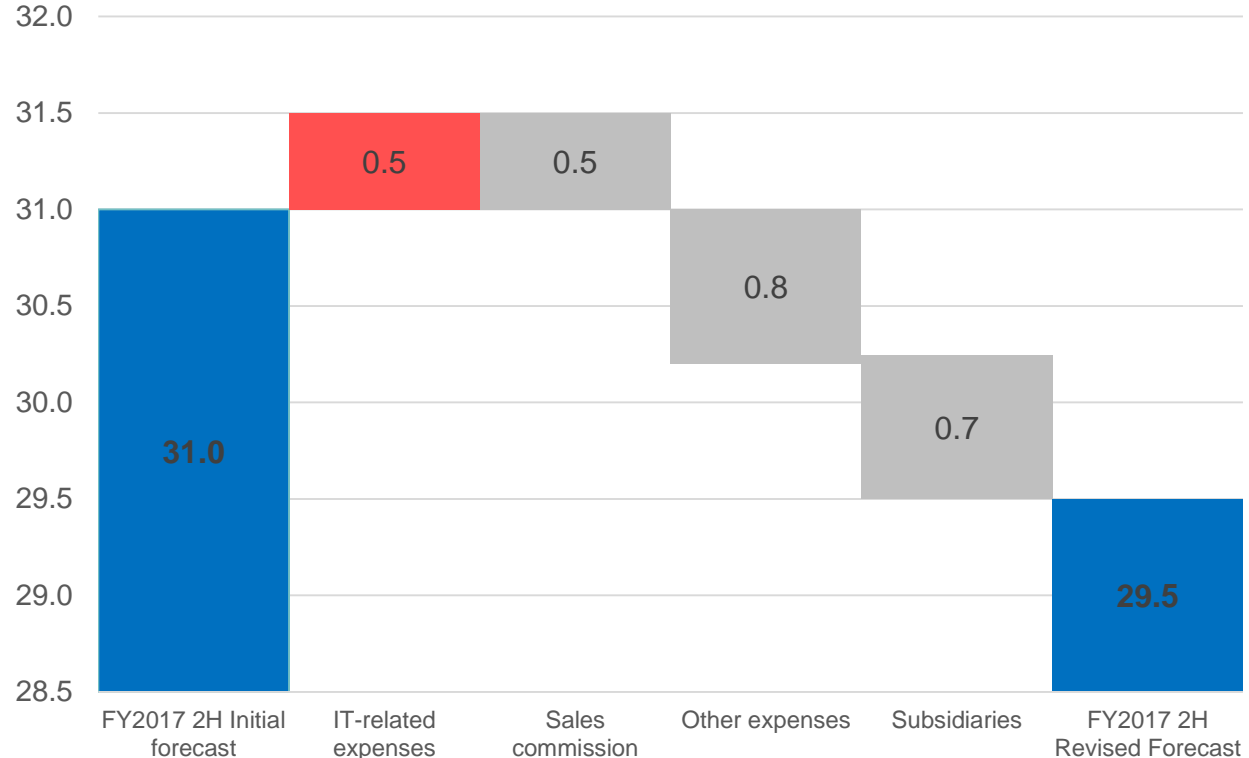
Next-generation system investment schedule review

➤ **Sales commission approx. -0.5bln yen**

Additional support for new stores

➤ **Other SG&As approx. -0.8bln yen**

➤ **Subsidiary firms OP approx. -0.7bln yen**



Achieving Our Mid-Term Management Vision

Sadanobu Takemasu

President and CEO
Representative Director
Chairman of the Board

Lawson, Inc.

Mid-Term Management Vision

Mid-Term Management Vision (Key targets toward FY2021)

- Consolidated OP: more than 100bn yen
- Daily sales: 600,000 yen/per store
- ROE: over 15%
- Japan CVS network: 18,000 stores
- Debt/equity ratio: 1.0 or less

1000 Days Action Plan

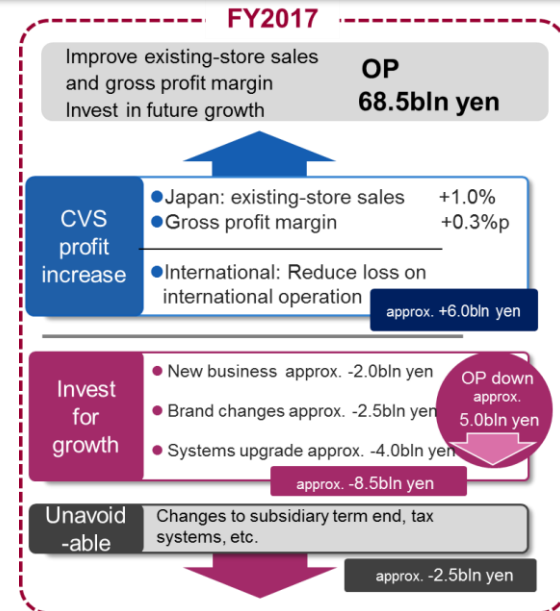
Become an essential part of our communities

Build Next-generation LAWSON CVS model
Create appealing stores for evening/night-time customers



Overhaul fundamental structures, react to changes, challenge future growth opportunities

FY2017 Initial Plan



FY2017 1H Results Review

Consolidated OP: 38.9 bln yen (-2.5% YoY, +1.4 bln yen v. plan)

Consolidated net profit: 23.6 bln yen (+4.6% YoY, +2.6 bln yen v. plan)

- Achieved profit target but gross profit margin fell short of target.
- Reviewed planning for investment in next-generation systems.

(Yen in billions)

	FY2016	FY2017		FY2017
	1H	1H	YoY	1H Est.
Non-consolidated operating profit	31.7	31.1	-1.8%	-
Consolidated operating profit	39.9	38.9	-2.5%	37.5
Consolidated recurring profit	38.3	38.4	+0.2%	36.0
Consolidated net profit	22.6	23.6	+4.6%	21.0
Existing-store sales (YoY)	-0.9%		+1.0%	+1.0%
Gross profit margin	31.3%		31.3%	31.6%

Existing-store sales YoY 101.0%
Gross profit margin 31.3%

Hit desserts (GODIVA collaborated) and salad items

→ **Attracted quality-seeking customers,
female customers**

Stronger support for everyday life

(Supermarket alternative, broader product ranges)

→ **Evening/nighttime customer spend increases**

Boxed-meals, OTC fast food sales below plan

→ **Gross profit margin falls short of target**

1H

Stronger products

Differentiated products



Expanding new customer base

Dessert Sales per store (YoY)
+2.5%



Pasta Sales per store (YoY)
+16.3%



Salad Sales per store (YoY)
+12.1%



Strong support from female customers and quality-seeking customers

1H Stronger support for everyday life

Alternative to supermarket

Wider range of products

Evening/nighttime
Spending per customer

Larger number of
Customers
with 5 purchases



Deli

Daily delivered foods

Frozen foods

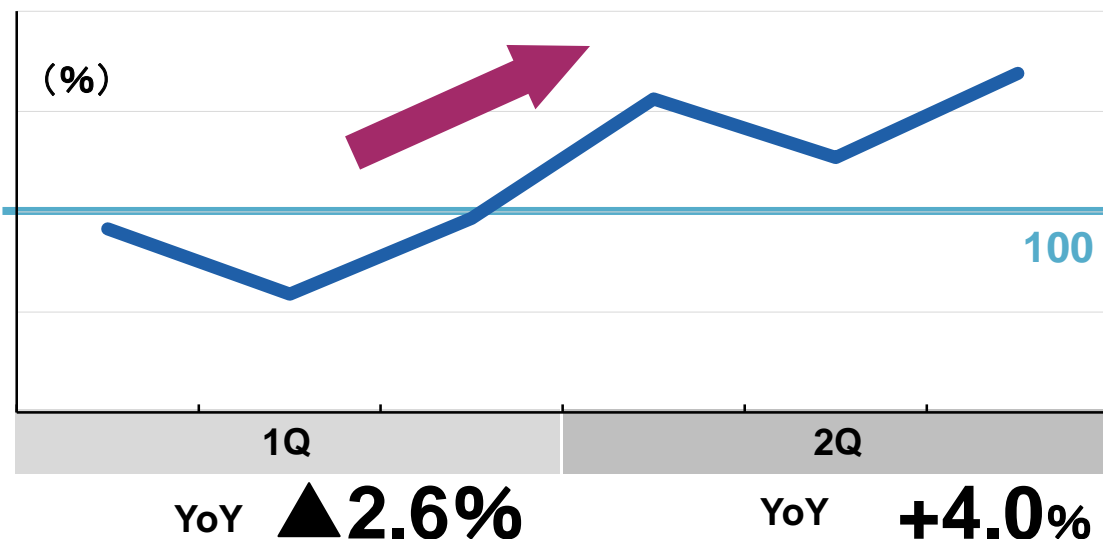
1H Existing-store	Number of customers	YoY -0.5%
	Spending per customer	YoY +1.5%

1H Core CVS categories

Over-the-counter fast food

- Struggled in 1Q but improved in 2Q

1H existing-store sales trend for over-the-counter fast food



"Deka-yakitori" (Mega grilled chicken)

Deli,
OTC FF
strong

Renewal



"LChiki" fried chicken
40% bigger than former LChiki

Rice based items

- Continued declining year-on-year sales trend for rice balls and boxed-meals

(launch “new onigiri-ya”, strengthen bento)

Launch new onigiri-ya

驚き **地域** **具材** **海苔** **ごはん**

「おいしいごはん」で
心をこめて握ります。
どこよりも

「パリパリな海苔」で
包みます。
どこよりも

美味しい具を
「たっぷり」使います。
どこよりも

地域に眠る
「おいしい食材」を
取り寄せます。

今はない
「驚きのあるメニュー」を
つくります。

1.6 X increase
amount of filling



Greatly improved taste of rice

Hal salt water, half salt sprinkling

Sprinkle with large-grain coarse salt

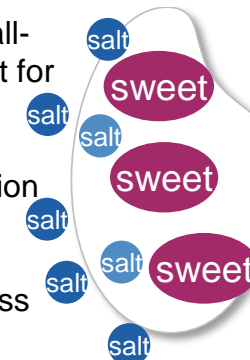
Steam in salt water for salt to permeate rice



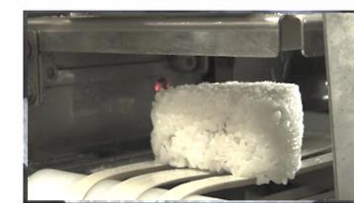
100% salt sprinkling

Use small-grain salt for just the right permeation

Maintain sweetness of rice



Change the operation from steaming in the salt water to only sprinkling salt



Stronger staple items



New launching
Nov. Mixed lunch box
Hamburg box
Dec. Deep fried chicken box

Boxed-meals

Stronger deli menu

15 items → **19** items

Fuller evening/nighttime product range



“Machikado Chubo” (in store kitchen)

End February 2018

4,000 stores

- Stronger menu
- Standardized operation for more efficient processes



- Reduce preparation time by improving store productivity
- Use tablets for more efficient preparation schedules and freshness management

2H

Ingredients initiatives

The tastiest café latte

Raw milk **100%**

Uses carefully selected milk from different regions



Coffee beans

Improved milk mix

- Long, low-heat roasting
- New Mandolin blend



Milk bottle Trademark



Lawson's

“Hot milk”

On sale 10.17

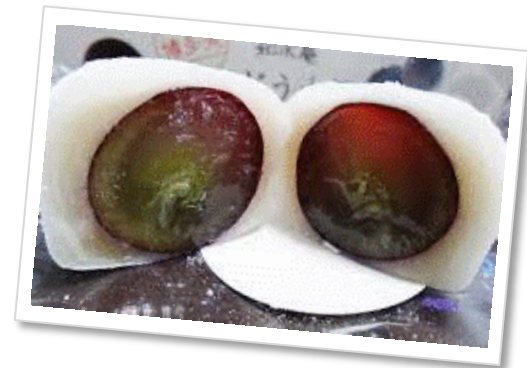


Desserts with superior ingredients

Made with “French chocolate”
Premium chocolate eclair

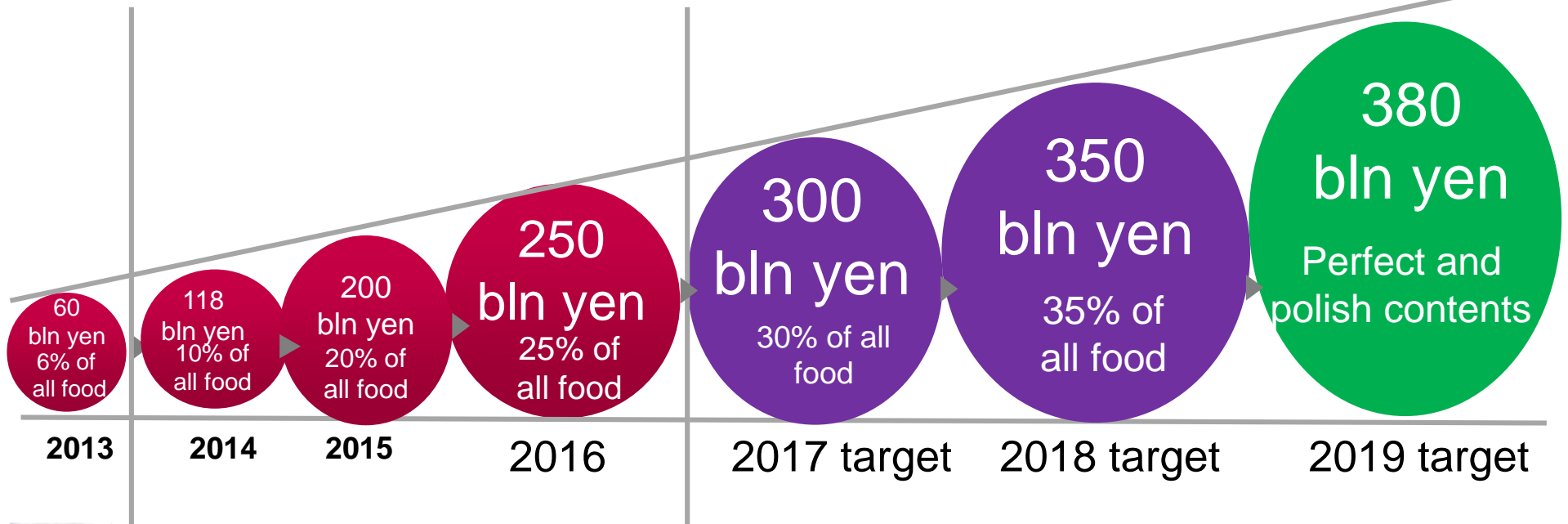


“Nagano purple”
Grape-in rice cake with bean paste



Expand health-related items category

Continue achieving “delicious health”



Growth investment: Overall

Brand conversion: Completed for 52 stores as planned converted from Save On/ Three F

New business: 0.6bln yen invested in preparation for entry into finance services

Next generation systems: Started introducing tablets

Reviewed overall schedule to reflect opinion in pilot store

**FY2017
Initial Plan**

**Growth
Investment**

- **Brand conversion: approx. –2.5 bln yen**
- **New business: approx. –2.0 bln yen**
- **Next generation system:
approx. –4.0 bln yen**

Growth investment: Brand conversion

1H results

SAVE ON: 45 stores (Saitama)

Three-F : 7 stores (Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa)

Daily sales: Improved over 20% as average

By changing brand names, stores have been able to..

- Change customer base: Increase female customers**
- Change top-selling products: Higher counter FF sales**



SAVE ON



Growth investment: Next generation systems

Reviewed overall schedule based on pilot store results

Put schedule back a few months to reflect on-the-ground opinion

Tablet-style terminals



Counter Fast foods preparation

→ **Efficient preparation to reduce sales opportunities loss**

Some pilot stores managed to boost counter fast food sales by **over 10%**

Work schedule management

→ **Standardize operation to reduce difficulties, waste and fluctuations**

Introduced in FY2017 2Q

New POS cash registers



Speedy calculations

→ **Efficient money management**

New **double-speed** receipt printers

Easy-to-use operation

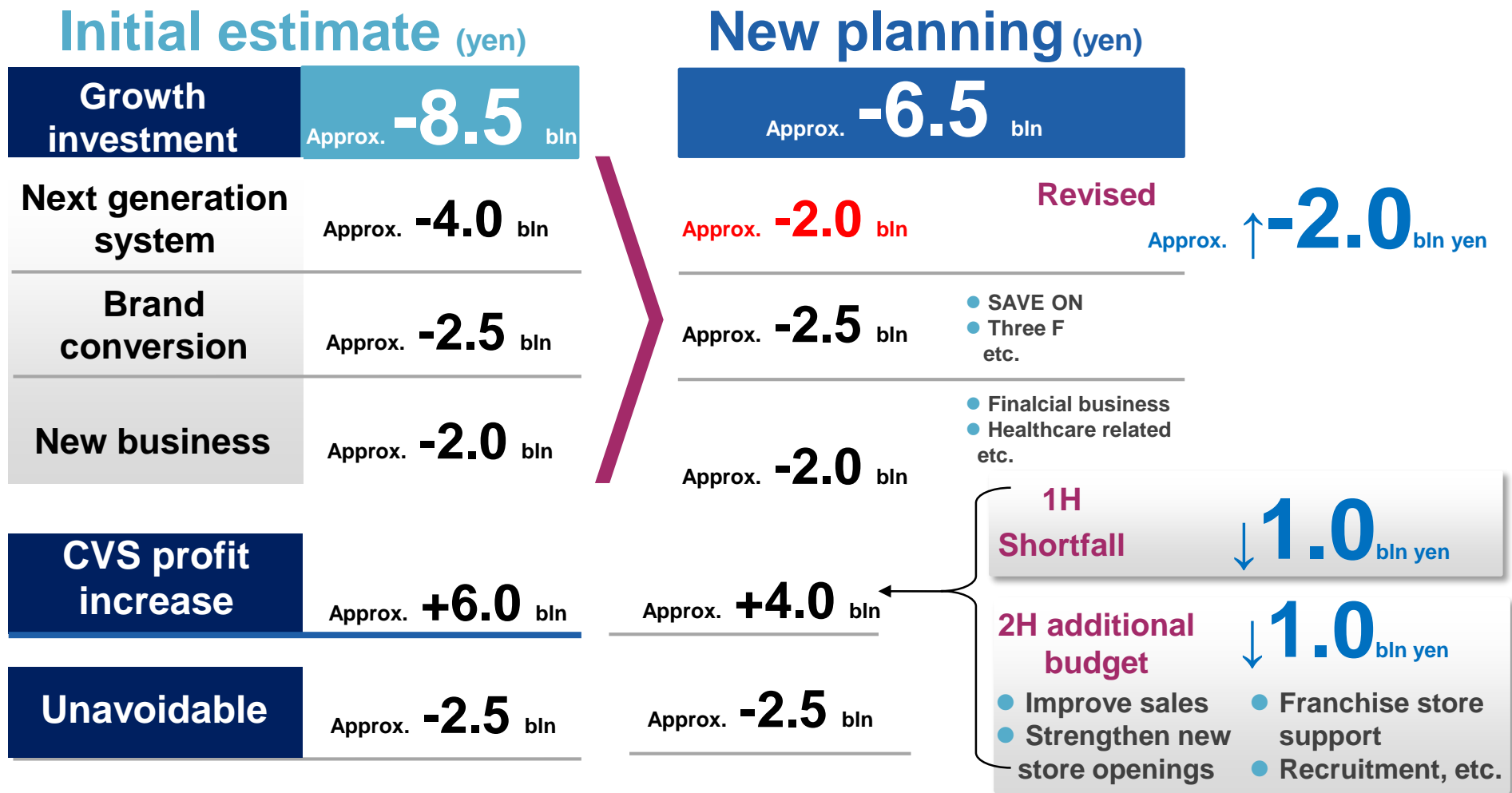
→ **Even new crew can serve our customers smoothly**

Changed design of checkout counter

→ **Reduced required space by one third**

Introduce from FY2017 4Q

FY2017 Cons. OP forecast unchanged at 68.5 bln yen



※Forecast of subsidiaries are mostly the same, excl. LS100

※Figures rounded to nearest 0.5bln yen for clarity of display

Consolidated OP 68.5 bil yen (YoY -5.2 bil yen)

No change from initial estimate

(Billions of yen)

		FY2017 Plan	
		Plan	Difference/YOY
Non-consolidated	Existing-store sales (YOY)*	+1.0%	
	Gross profit margin diff.*	+0.1%P	
	SG&A expenses (YOY)	+5% ~ +10%	
	Operating profit	52.5	-4.9 / -8.6%
Difference : consolidated and non-consolidated		16.0	-0.3 / -2.2%
Consolidated operating profit		68.5	-5.2 / -7.1%
Consolidated net profit		33.5	-2.9 / -8.0%

* Including LAWSON and NATURAL LAWSON stores



Aging society

Nuclear families



Changing lifestyles

Future Opportunity



More women at work

**More international
staffs/customers**



An essential part of our community life

The best store in town

Joint initiatives with Mitsubishi Corporation

- Strengthen upstream, downstream supply chain
 - Overseas ingredients
 - Domestic vendors
 - Domestic distributors
- Global network
- Human resources (Overseas & new businesses)

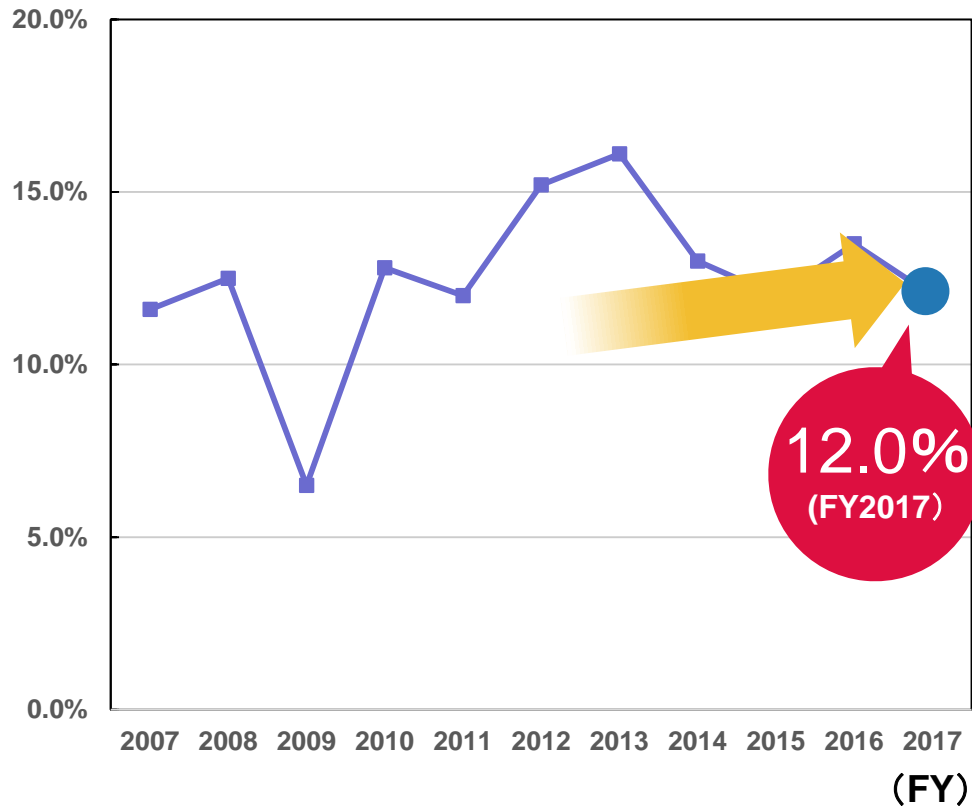
LAWSON

 Mitsubishi Corporation

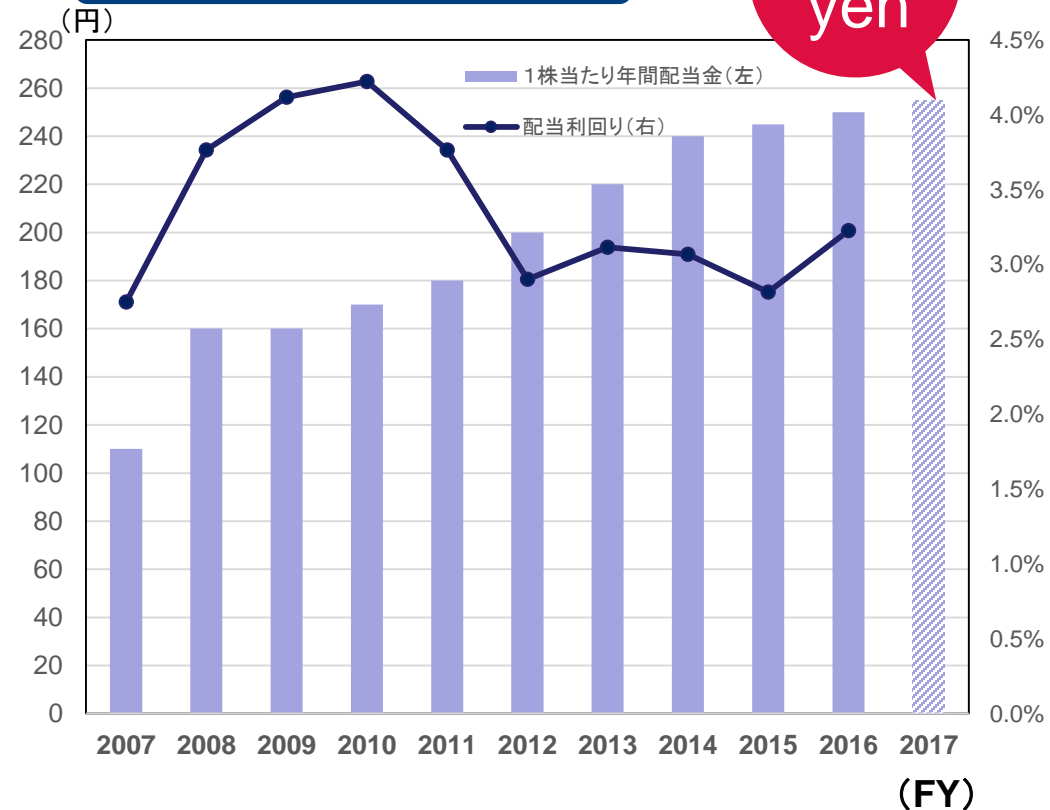
Aim to maximize Lawson's corporate value by exploiting Mitsubishi Corporation's global networks and resources

Maintain fundamental stance for continuous, stable returns
Boost ROE above 15% by FY2021

ROE



Annual dividend per share & dividend yield





**Creating Happiness and
Harmony in our Communities**

**To become an top-class effective company
To become an essential part of our community life**

Reference

Earnings Summary: FY2017 1H

		FY2015-1H	FY2016-1H	FY2017-1H		
(Billions of yen)		Actual	Actual	Actual	YoY	vs. Plan
Consolidated	Net sales of all stores	1,035.4	1,076.5	1,148.5	106.7%	99.9%
	Operating profit	42.0	39.9	38.9	97.5%	103.9%
	Operating profit ratio	4.1%	3.7%	3.4%	▲0.3%P	+0.1%P
	Recurring profit	40.7	38.3	38.4	100.2%	106.8%
	Net profit	19.8	22.6	23.6	104.6%	112.6%
	EPS (Yen)	198.11	226.07	236.36	+10.29	112.6%
	Dividend per share (Yen)	122.5	125.0	127.5	+2.5	±0
Total no. of stores in Japan		12,305	12,733	13,587	+854	+89

Note: Total chain store sales (Net sales of all stores) include sales from the convenience store operation in Japan, overseas operations and sales from Seijo Ishii (consolidated items only). Regarding Seijo Ishii, only the store sales of directly operation are included.

Note: The number of stores is the total number of convenience stores in Japan operated by the Lawson Group plus the number of stores directly operated by Seijo Ishii.

■ Consolidated operating profit down 2.5% YoY but 3.9% or 1.4 billion yen above target

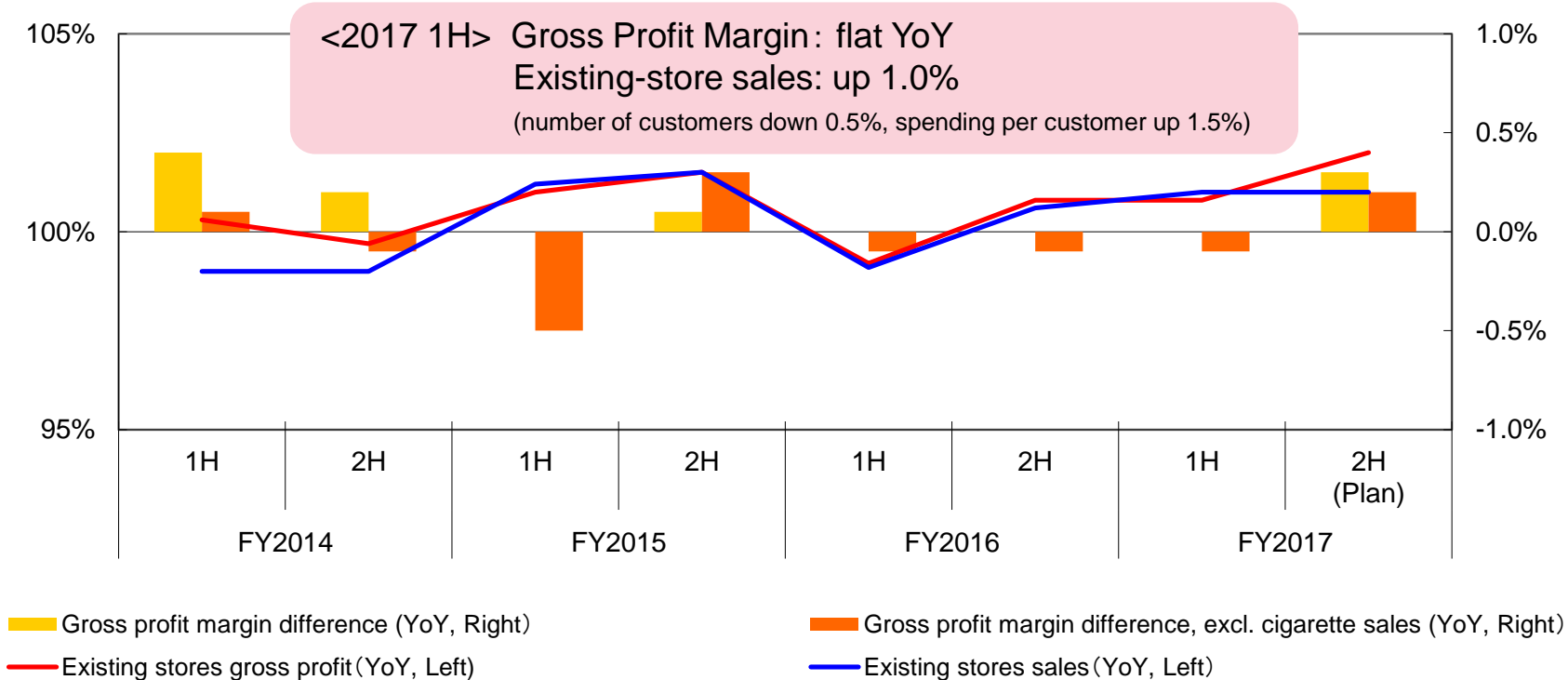
Non-consolidated OP dipped 1.8% YoY on such items as higher cost for brand conversion and pro-forma standard taxation. Consolidated OP also down on a 0.6bln yen increase in preparatory costs for entering the financial industry. However, both consolidated and non-consolidated OP rose v. plan on lower costs resulting from the schedule review for next-generation system's investment at the Lawson parent.

■ Consolidated net profit up 4.6% YoY and 12.6% above target

Rose YoY on reduced losses from fewer store closures and previous year's reversal of deferred tax assets linked to tax rate changes. Consolidated net profit also exceeded target thanks to lower losses from fewer store closures.

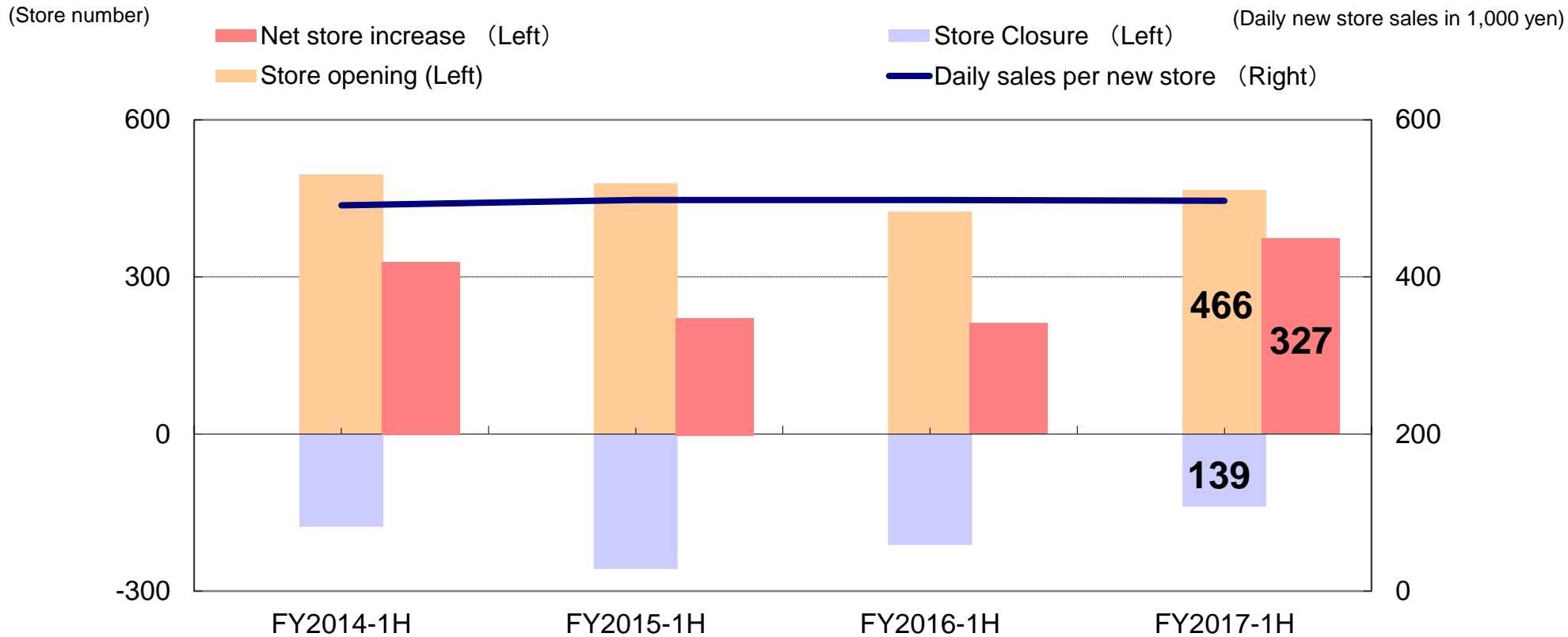
Existing Stores (Non-Consolidated)*

* excluding Lawson Store 100



- Existing-store sales rose 1.0% YoY as expected, but fell short of plan when ticket sales are excluded. Customer visits dipped by a marginal 0.5% YoY, but average customer spend increased 1.5% on better merchandizing for everyday needs and improved evening and nighttime product ranges.
- The overall gross profit margin held steady YoY at 31.3% as the proportion of sales contributed by cigarettes and over-the-counter fast food categories, which tend to impact gross margins, remained largely unchanged.
- Existing-store gross profit, which has direct implications for franchisee profits, rose 0.8% YoY in 1H.

Store Openings (Non-consolidated*) * excluding Lawson Store 100



- Opened 466 new stores (including brand conversion for 45 SAVE ON, 7 Three F stores and others) That total is just 4 stores below plan so roughly on target.
- Closed 139 stores, 91 fewer than initially planned, resulting in a net increase of 327 stores (+87 compared to initial plan).
- Daily sales per new store held steady at 497,000 yen.

* Converted LAWSON, LAWSON STORE 100 and NATURAL LAWSON stores are included in the new store openings and closure data from FY2015.

* Stores transferred from Lawson, Inc. to Lawson Sanin, Inc. are not included in the store opening, closure or net increase data.

Key Components of SG&A Expenses

		FY2016-1H	FY2017-1H		FY2017
(Billions of yen)		Actual	Actual	Change vs. Plan	Forecast
Non-consolidated	Selling, general & administrative expenses	133.7	138.9	+5.2 ▲ 2.8	Increase 5-10%
	<Major Expenses >				
	Personnel expenses	20.7	22.4	+1.7 +0.0	Increase 5-10%
	IT-related expenses (Hardware leasing, software amortization, maintenance, etc.)	4.6	2.4	▲ 2.1 ▲ 2.0	<i>Increase 0-5%</i>
	Advertising and promotional expenses	7.6	6.3	▲ 1.3 ▲ 0.3	<i>Decrease 10-15%</i>
	Sales commission	7.2	8.8	+1.6 +0.0	Increase 25-30%
	Facilities expenses	71.1	75.9	+4.7 +0.1	Increase 5-10%
Consolidated SG&A expenses		186.2	200.3	+14.1 ▲ 3.5	Increase 5-10%

Note: Figures in italic indicate the revised figures from the initial plan.

Compared to FY2016 1H

- Personnel: Wages up on more directly-run stores
- IT costs: Cost-cutting and investment plan review
- A&P: Down v. FY2016 promotion cost
- Sales commission: By increasing number of stores

- In addition to non-consolidated factors, include additional cost of newly consolidated subsidiaries and of new Lawson stores overseas.

Compared to FY2017 1H Plan

- Lower-than-expected IT-related costs on cost-cutting and a reviewed schedule for next generation systems investment

- Same as above.

Earnings of Major Subsidiaries

(Billions of yen)

Operating Profit

			FY2017-1H			FY2017
	FY-end	Ownership	Actual	YoY change	vs.Plan	Forecast
SEIJO ISHII CO., LTD.	Feb.	100.0%	3.41	+0.09	+0.41	7.3
Lawson Store100, Inc.	Feb.	100.0%	▲ 0.00	▲ 0.37	▲ 0.33	▲ 0.0
Lawson HMV Entertainment, Inc.	Feb.	100.0%	0.63	▲ 0.33	0.01	2.0
United Cinemas Co., Ltd.	Feb.	100.0%	2.08	+0.48	0.53	2.6
Lawson ATM Networks, Inc.	Feb.	95.0%	3.00	▲ 0.24	▲ 0.09	5.7
Chongqing Lawson, Inc.	Dec.	100.0%	▲ 0.19	+0.06	0.00	▲ 0.3
Shanghai Lawson, Inc.	Dec.	100.0%	▲ 0.75	▲ 0.11	▲ 0.16	0.1

Note: Figures in italic indicate the revised figures from the initial plan.

Note: SEIJO ISHII's result of FY2016 is result of 6 month from January to June 2016 due to changing closing month from December to February in FY2016.

LAWSON STORE100

Sales trend continues strong with existing-store sales rising 1.3% YoY in 1H. FY2017 estimates include a considerable 0.4 billion yen contraction in OP due to the change in accounting period, but an actual increase in OP when compared to the same twelve months from March through February.

SEIJO ISHII

Reported an overall operating profit of 0.03 billion yen in 1H. However, existing-store sales contracted 1.3% YoY amid a struggling overall sales trend. Estimate a small amount of operating loss for full year.

Lawson HMW Entertainment

Strong ticket sales but fierce competition for large-scale events weighed on profitability, and dampened 1H profits. Expect to keep the FY2017 profit level same as FY2016.

United Cinemas

Increased customer numbers attracted by hit movies helped generated a large gain in OP in 1H, but expect OP to contract in 2H compared to strong previous year. FY2017 OP expected to increase slightly.

Lawson ATM Networks

1H revenue rose on higher numbers of ATM machines but profit down on higher business costs.

Consolidated Capital Expenditure & Cash Flow

(Billions of yen)

Consolidated Capital Expenditures

	FY2015-1H	FY2016-1H	FY2017-1H	FY2017
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Plan
New stores	18.2	16.8	28.6	69.0
Existing stores	2.4	3.3	2.2	8.5
IT-related	8.7	7.6	9.0	18.0
Other	0.4	0.9	4.6	5.5
Subtotal for capital expenditure	29.7	28.8	44.5	101.0
Leases	20.9	25.1	22.1	63.0
Depreciation and amortization	23.8	26.9	27.9	59.6

Consolidated Cash Flows

(Billions of yen)

	FY2015-1H	FY2016-1H	FY2017-1H	FY2017
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Forecast
Cash flows from operating activities	92.6	91.4	119.1	Approx. 120.0
Cash flows from investing activities	▲ 33.2	▲ 28.9	▲ 44.4	Approx. ▲ 110.0
Free cash flows	59.3	62.4	74.7	Approx. 9.0
Cash flows from financing activities	▲ 24.1	▲ 27.7	▲ 67.0	Approx. ▲ 1.0
(Cash dividends paid)	▲ 11.9	▲ 12.2	▲ 12.5	Approx. ▲ 25.0
Cash and cash deposits	112.1	104.0	76.0	-

- New-store investment up on higher store openings YoY and increased investment in brand conversions.
- Higher financial cash outflow on repayment of 30.0bln yen in short-term borrowings.

FY2017 Company Forecasts (Consolidated)

(Billions of yen)	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017 Forecast	
	Actual	Actual	Plan	YoY
Net sales for all stores	2,049.5	2,157.9	2,310.0	107.0%
Operating profit	72.5	73.7	68.5	92.9%
Operating profit ratio	3.5%	3.4%	3.0%	▲ 0.4%P
Recurring profit	69.6	73.0	65.5	89.7%
Net profit	31.3	36.4	33.5	92.0%
EPS (Yen)	313.81	363.96	334.81	▲29.15
Dividend per share (Yen)	245	250	255	+5
ROE	12.0%	13.5%	12.0%	▲ 1.5%P

Total no. of stores in Japan	12,515	13,243	14,159	+916
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(Non-consolidated*) *Lawson and Natural Lawson combined store total

Gross profit of existing stores (YoY)	101.3%	100.0%	101.4%	-
Net sales of existing stores (YoY)	101.4%	99.8%	101.0%	-
Gross profit margin ratio	31.3%	31.4%	31.5%	+0.1%P
Gross profit margin difference excluding cigarette sales (YoY)	▲0.5%	+0.0%P	+0.1%P	-

Note: Figures in italic indicate the revised figures from the initial plan.

Note: Total chain store sales includes sales from the convenience store operation in Japan, overseas operations and sales from Seijo Ishii (consolidated items only). Regarding Seijo Ishii, only the sales of directly operated stores are included.

Note: The number of stores is the total number of convenience stores in Japan operated by the Lawson Group plus the number of directly operated Seijo Ishii stores.

Downward revision in 2H operating profit forecast. Full-year 68.5 billion yen OP estimate unchanged. YoY existing-store sales forecast and estimated gross profit margin reflect 1H performance.

FY2017 1H & 2H Estimates

(Billions of yen)

(Consolidated)	FY2017 Forecast			
	1H Initial Plan	1H Actual	2H Plan	Full-Year Plan
Net sales for all stores	1,150.0	1,148.5	<i>1,161.4</i>	2,310.0
Operating profit	37.5	38.9	<i>29.5</i>	68.5
Operating profit ratio	3.3%	3.4%	<i>2.5%</i>	3.0%
Recurring profit	36.0	38.4	<i>27.0</i>	65.5
Net profit	21.0	23.6	<i>9.8</i>	33.5
(Non-consolidated*) *Lawson and Natural Lawson combined store total				
Gross profit of existing stores (YoY)	102.0%	100.8%	<i>102.0%</i>	<i>101.4%</i>
Net sales of existing stores (YoY)	101.0%	101.0%	<i>101.0%</i>	101.0%
Gross profit margin ratio	31.6%	31.3%	<i>31.7%</i>	<i>31.5%</i>

Note: Figures in italic indicate the revised figures from the initial plan.

Note: Note: Total chain store sales includes sales from the convenience store operation in Japan, overseas operations and sales from Seijo Ishii (consolidated items only). Regarding Seijo Ishii, only the sales of directly operated stores are included.

2H operating profit forecast revised down 1.5 billion yen compared to initial estimate on higher non-consolidated franchisee support costs and other expenses, and revised expectations for subsidiary firm performance.

Consolidated Balance Sheet at the end of FY2017

(Billions of yen)

	As of Aug. 31, 2017	Change from Feb. 28, 2017		As of Aug. 31, 2017	Change from Feb. 28, 2017
Total current assets	269.8	+20.5	Total current liabilities	399.1	+42.3
(Cash and deposits)	76.0	+7.9	(Accounts payable-trade)	136.4	+25.5
(Accounts receivable)	90.2	+11.9	(Short-term loans payable)	1.4	▲ 29.7
Total noncurrent assets	648.7	+31.4	(Deposits payable)	136.5	+33.4
Property, plant and equipment	338.8	+14.3	Total noncurrent liabilities	229.6	+5.8
Intangible assets	104.4	+9.6	(Long-term loans payable)	56.1	▲ 0.5
(Goodwill)	44.3	▲ 1.6	Net Assets	289.7	+3.8
Investments and other assets	205.5	+7.5	(Common stock)	58.5	-
(Long-terms loans receivable)	45.4	+0.9	(Retained earnings)	175.7	+10.5
(Guarantee deposits)	97.8	+2.2			
Total Assets	918.5	+52.0	Liabilities and net assets	918.5	+52.0

Accounts payable-trade under current liabilities rose YoY due to differences in the number of business days in February and August. The short-term debt total declined YoY following repayment of the 30.0 billion yen in short-term borrowings incurred at the end of FY2016. Deposits payable were higher mainly due to increasing number of stores.

Cautionary Statement

This presentation contains forward-looking statements and forecasts regarding the future plans, strategies and performances of Lawson and its subsidiaries and affiliates. These statements and forecasts are not historical facts. They are expectations based on assumptions and beliefs derived from information currently available to the Company and are subject to risks and uncertainties including, but not limited to, economic trends, heightened competition in the domestic convenience store sector, personal consumption, market demand, the tax system and other legislation. As such, actual results may differ materially from estimates. Figures in this presentation have been rounded down.