

LAWSON, INC.

## Interim Results for Fiscal 2010

October 13, 2010

**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 fact. 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. LAWSON's fiscal year-end is the end of February.

# Interim Results for Fiscal 2010

Yoshiyuki Yahagi  
Chief Financial Officer

	1H FY2009	1H FY2010		
	Actual	Actual	YoY	vs. Initial Plan
(Consolidated: Billions of yen)				
Net sales of all stores	840.7	<b>837.8</b>	99.7%	99.3%
Operating profit	30.1	<b>30.1</b>	100.0%	108.1%
Operating profit ratio	3.6%	<b>3.6%</b>	0.0%P	0.3%P
Recurring profit	29.7	<b>29.6</b>	99.7%	109.6%
Interim net profit	15.8	<b>12.2</b>	77.4%	94.5%
EPS (Yen)	160.17	<b>123.44</b>	77.1%	94.2%
Projected dividend per share (Yen)	80	<b>85</b>	5	-
<b>Total number of stores</b>	<b>9,629</b>	<b>9,860</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>-</b>

(Notes) Interim net profit and EPS for 1H FY2009 have been corrected due to prior-year adjustments of LAWSON ENTERMEDIA, INC. Results for 1H FY2009 include the results of Ninety-nine Plus Inc. for the period from January to June.

## ■ Consolidated operating profit: Slightly increased

We achieved our year-on-year plan for interim existing store sales, with the second quarter offsetting underperformance in the first quarter.

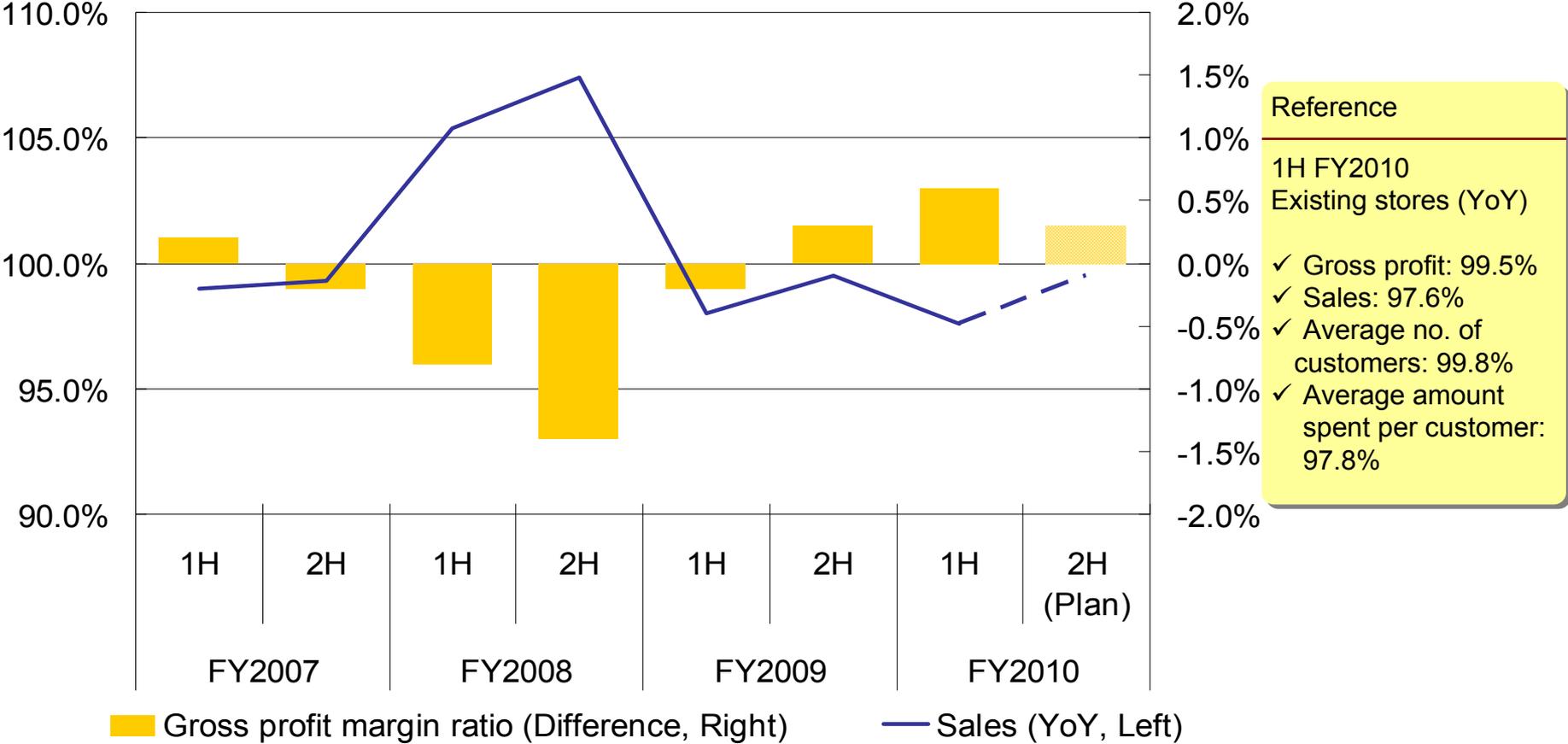
We continued to make progress cutting SG&A expenses. Consequently, interim operating profit far exceeded our plan.

## ■ Consolidated interim net profit: Declined

We recorded a loss on disposal of 1.2 billion yen on the training facility to reduce maintenance costs, as well as a 1.8 billion yen impairment loss for old IT systems at Ninety-nine Plus Inc. due to the early introduction of new IT system, PRiSM.

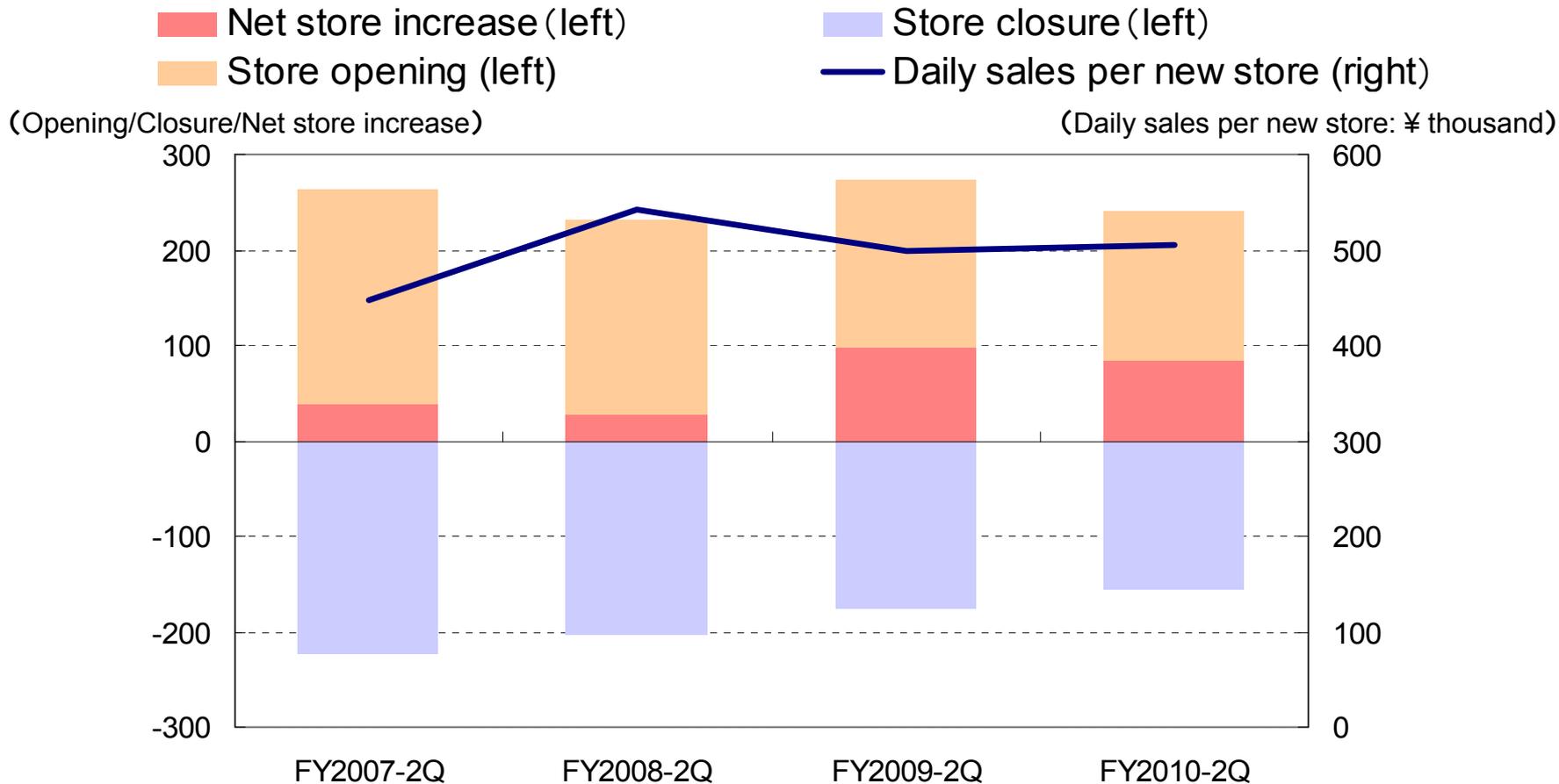
Together, these restructuring costs totaled 3.0 billion yen and were booked as extraordinary losses.

# Existing Stores (Non-Consolidated)



- Gross profit margin improved considerably due to revamping raw materials procurement and promoting projection ordering method.
- Customer numbers improved on the back of the popularity of desserts and cooked noodles, and the summer heatwave.
- Existing store sales dropped due to a decline in average amount spent per customer, reflecting ongoing price competition.

# Existing Stores (Non-Consolidated)



- The net increase in stores ended up with 84 stores as a consequence of the number of store openings, which was 40 higher than planned, and of the number of store closure, which was 24 less than planned. => Revised the annual plan of net increase for 120 stores.
- Outstanding contracts at period-end was 286, which covered the annual plan.
- Daily sales at new stores increased to 505 thousand yen. Persistent efforts in improving efficiency of opening new stores continued to boost the sales at new stores.

# Key Components of SG&A Expenses

(Billions of yen)		1H FY2010		FY2010 (Full Year)
		Actual	YoY	Forecast <sup>1)</sup>
Non- conso- lidated	Selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses	88.3	▲ 0.6	Slight increase
	<b>&lt;Major Strategic Expenses&gt;</b>			
	Personnel costs	17.0	▲ 1.8	Down approx. 10%
	IT-related costs	7.0	1.5	<i>Up approx. 10%</i>
	<small>(Hardware leasing, software amortization, maintenance, etc.)</small>			
	Advertising and promotional expenses	4.7	▲ 0.6	Down approx. 10%
<b>Consolidated SG&amp;A expenses</b>		<b>119.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b><i>Slight decrease</i></b>

1) Italics mean revised figures for the full year.

## 1H YoY Differences

Non-  
consolidated

- Personnel costs  
Decrease in store crew expenses due to decline in number of Company-operated stores
- IT-related costs  
Rebound increase after streamlining from last year
- Advertising and promotional expenses  
Decrease due to effective use of shopping points program

Consoli-  
dated

- Ninety-nine Plus  
Increase due to increased store openings

## 1H Plan Differences

Non-  
consolidated

- Difference from initial plan: Minus 2.3 billion yen**
- IT-related costs  
Minus 0.9 billion yen due to reduced maintenance costs
  - Advertising and promotional expenses  
Minus 0.8 billion yen due to use of shopping points program

Consolidated

- Difference from initial plan: Minus 3.0 billion yen**
- Ninety-nine Plus  
Minus 0.5 billion yen against plan due to non-achievement of store-openings

# Earnings of Major Subsidiaries and Affiliates

(Billions of yen)

<Operating Profit of Major Subsidiaries>			1H FY2010		FY2010 (Full Year)
	Fiscal Year-end	Shareholding	Actual	YoY	Forecast <sup>1)</sup>
LAWSON ENTERMEDIA, INC.	Feb.	100.0%	<b>0.61</b>	▲ 0.10	<b>1.0</b>
Ninety-nine Plus Inc.	Feb.	100.0%	<b>1.03</b>	0.07 <sup>2)</sup>	<b>2.2</b>
LAWSON ATM Networks, Inc.	Feb.	44.0%	<b>1.65</b>	0.24	<b>2.8</b>
Cross Ocean Media, Inc.	Feb.	42.0%	▲ <b>0.17</b>	-	▲ <b>0.4</b>

<Operating Profit of Equity-method Affiliates>			1H FY2010	
LAWSON Okinawa, Inc.	Feb.	49.0%	<b>0.28</b>	-
SHANGHAI HUALIAN LAWSON CO., LTD.	Dec.	49.0%	▲ <b>0.05</b>	▲ 0.00

1) Italics mean revised figures for the full year.

2) Compared with the operating profit from January to June for FY2009, which was included in LAWSON's consolidated results for that fiscal year.

## LAWSON ENTERMEDIA, INC.

Although earnings fell, performance was better than planned with no impact observed from the recent incident.

## Ninety-nine Plus Inc.

Although earnings fell short of plan, they contributed to consolidated operating profit.

## LAWSON ATM Networks, Inc.

Achieved higher earnings due to increased ATM installations.

## Cross Ocean Media, Inc.

Upfront investments for launching digital signage business.

# 1H FY2010 Balance Sheet and Cash Flows (Consolidated)

	As of Aug. 31, 2010	YoY
<b>Total current assets</b>	158.5	26.3
(Cash and bank deposits)	97.6	33.6
(Marketable securities)	1.0	▲ 1.5
(Accounts receivable)	30.5	4.0
Total property and store equipment	323.2	7.3
<b>Fixed assets</b>	152.0	6.7
Total intangible fixed assets	36.3	1.9
Investments and other assets	134.9	▲ 1.3
(Long-term loans receivable)	31.5	1.7
(Lease deposits)	81.8	▲ 1.3
<b>Total assets</b>	481.8	33.7

	As of Aug. 31, 2010	YoY
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	206.3	21.8
(Accounts payable-trade for franchised stores)	93.2	20.0
(Deposits received)	74.9	9.0
<b>Total long-term liabilities</b>	72.0	6.5
(Deposits received from franchisees and lessees)	38.2	▲ 0.4
<b>Net assets</b>	203.4	5.3
(Common stock)	58.5	—
(Retained earnings)	94.9	0.8
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	481.8	33.7

Impact of new lease accounting standard  
 “Fixed assets” +8.7 billion yen  
 “Current/long-term liabilities” +7.7 billion yen

	(Billions of yen)		
	1H FY2008	1H FY2009	1H FY2010
Cash flows from operating activities	48.7	49.5	63.4
Cash flows from investing activities	3.7	▲ 15.8	▲ 12.6
<b>Free cash flows</b>	52.4	33.6	50.7
Cash flows from financing activities	▲ 5.3	▲ 11.2	▲ 16.1
(Reference) Cash and bank deposits	104.8	102.0	97.6

Cash flows from operating activities increased 13.9 billion yen year on year to 63.4 billion yen in 1H FY2010

■ Reflected improvement in working capital in line with increase in bill settlement transactions

# FY2010 Forecasts (Consolidated)

	FY2009	1H FY2010	FY2010	
(Billions of yen)	Actual	Actual	Forecasts <sup>1)</sup>	YoY
Net sales of all stores	1,666.1	837.8	<b>1,655.0</b>	99.3%
Operating profit	50.2	30.1	<b>50.5</b>	100.4%
Operating profit ratio	3.0%	3.6%	<b>3.1%</b>	0.1%P
Recurring profit	49.4	29.6	<b>49.1</b>	99.3%
Net profit	12.5	12.2	<b>22.0</b>	175.1%
ROE	6.5%	6.3%	<b>11.2%</b>	4.7%P
EPS (Yen)	126.67	123.44	<b>220.29</b>	173.9%
Dividend payout ratio	126.3%	—	<b>77.2%</b>	▲ 49.1%P
Projected dividend per share (Yen)	160	85	<b>170</b>	10
Total number of stores in Japan	9,761	9,860	<b>10,011</b>	250
(Non-Consolidated)				
Gross profit at existing stores (YoY)	96.8%	99.5%	<b>100.0%</b>	3.2%P
Net sales at existing stores (YoY)	95.9%	97.6%	<b>98.6%</b>	2.7%P
Gross profit margin ratio	30.4%	30.9%	<b>30.9%</b>	0.5%P

1) Revisions to initial full-year forecasts for fiscal 2010 are italicized.

## 2H FY2010

- 0.3 percentage point increase in the gross profit margin ratio due to progress in structural reforms.
- Invest in improving products to minimize backlash impact on cigarette sales from rushing buy ahead of tobacco tax hike
- Increase investment in growth fields (fresh food convenience stores, etc.)
- Downward revision of net profit (-1.8 billion yen) due to unexpected first-half extraordinary losses (3.0 billion yen)

# LAWSON Management Strategy

Takeshi Niinami  
President & CEO

	Key Initiatives	1H Achievements	
Short-term ↑	Improvement in franchise owner QSC	✓ Increased ratio of S/A ranked stores in Mystery Shoppers Program	
	Strategies to increase gross profit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Raised gross profit margin ratios by 0.6% points</li> </ul>	
			Structural reforms of procurement and distribution
			PRiSM
	Multi-partner shopping points program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Grew cardholder base to more than 25 million</li> <li>✓ Sales to cardholders accounted for 28% of total sales</li> </ul>	
Medium- to long-term ↑	Strengthened Group governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Implemented recommendations of third party investigating committee</li> <li>✓ Acquired 100% Ownership of subsidiaries, Ninety-nine Plus and LAWSON ENTERMEDIA (LEM)</li> </ul>	
	Fresh food-type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Conversion to fresh food-type stores (hybrid)</li> <li>✓ Delayed acquisition of LAWSON STORE100</li> </ul>	
	Healthcare-type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ CVS with prescription pharmacies</li> <li>✓ Opened a store with a drug store chain</li> </ul>	
	In-store kitchen-type	✓ Trial sales of fresh lunch boxes and delicatessen items	
	Overseas development	✓ Opened first store in Chongqing in July, 2010	

## Key Issues

## Actions

Backlash from rushing buy of cigarettes

- ✓ Development and promotion of value-added products
  - Counter fast foods
  - Original products
- ✓ Utilize PRiSM to minimize opportunity loss

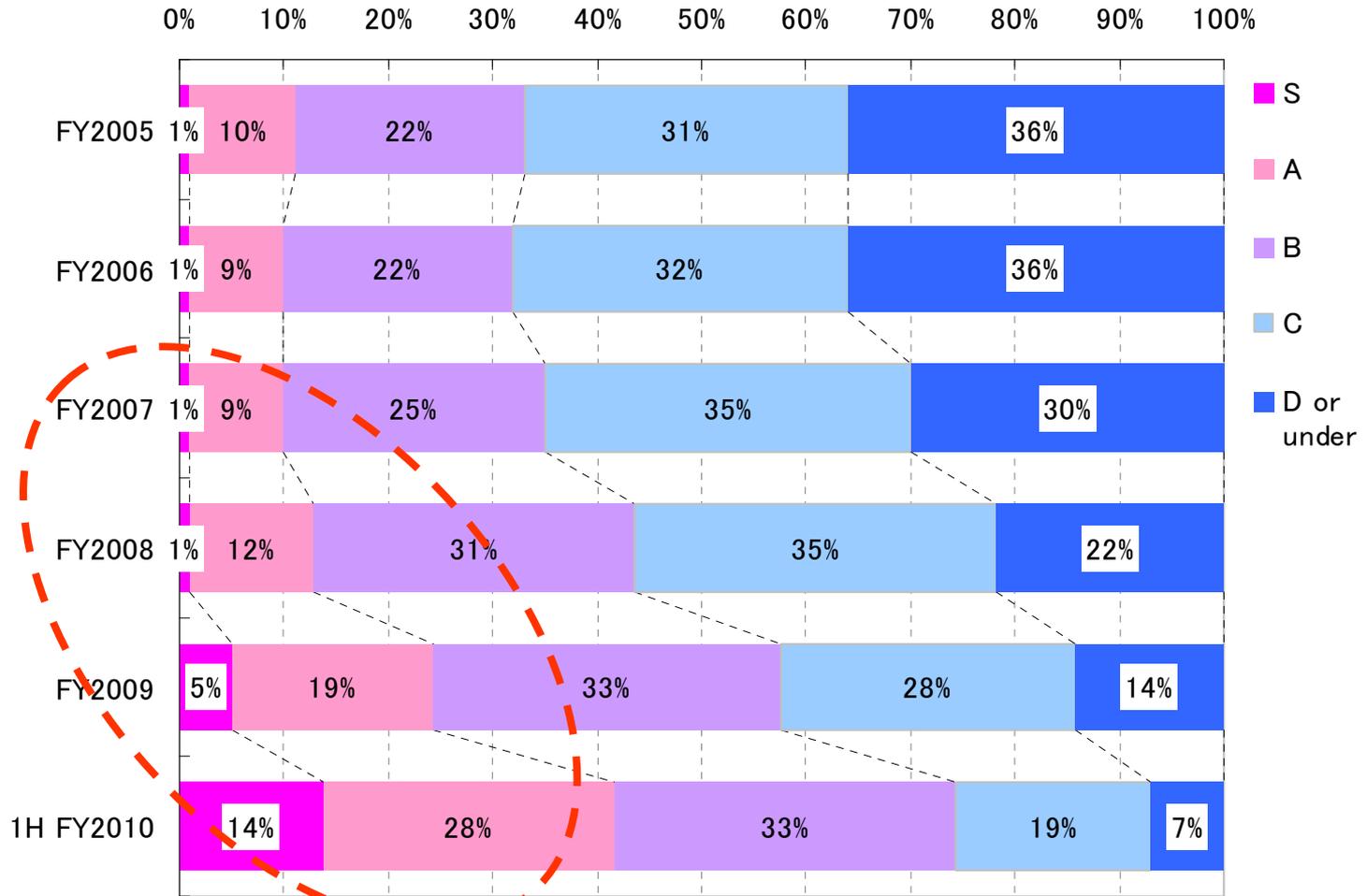
Multi-format strategy to expand customer base

- ✓ Fresh food-type stores
- ✓ In-store kitchen-type stores
- ✓ Healthcare-type stores  
(Stores with prescription pharmacies, joint store openings with drug store chain)

Proactive initiatives for overseas development

- ✓ Revitalization of Shanghai Business
- ✓ Aggressive store expansion in Chongqing
- ✓ Further training for foreign national employees and appointment to overseas offices

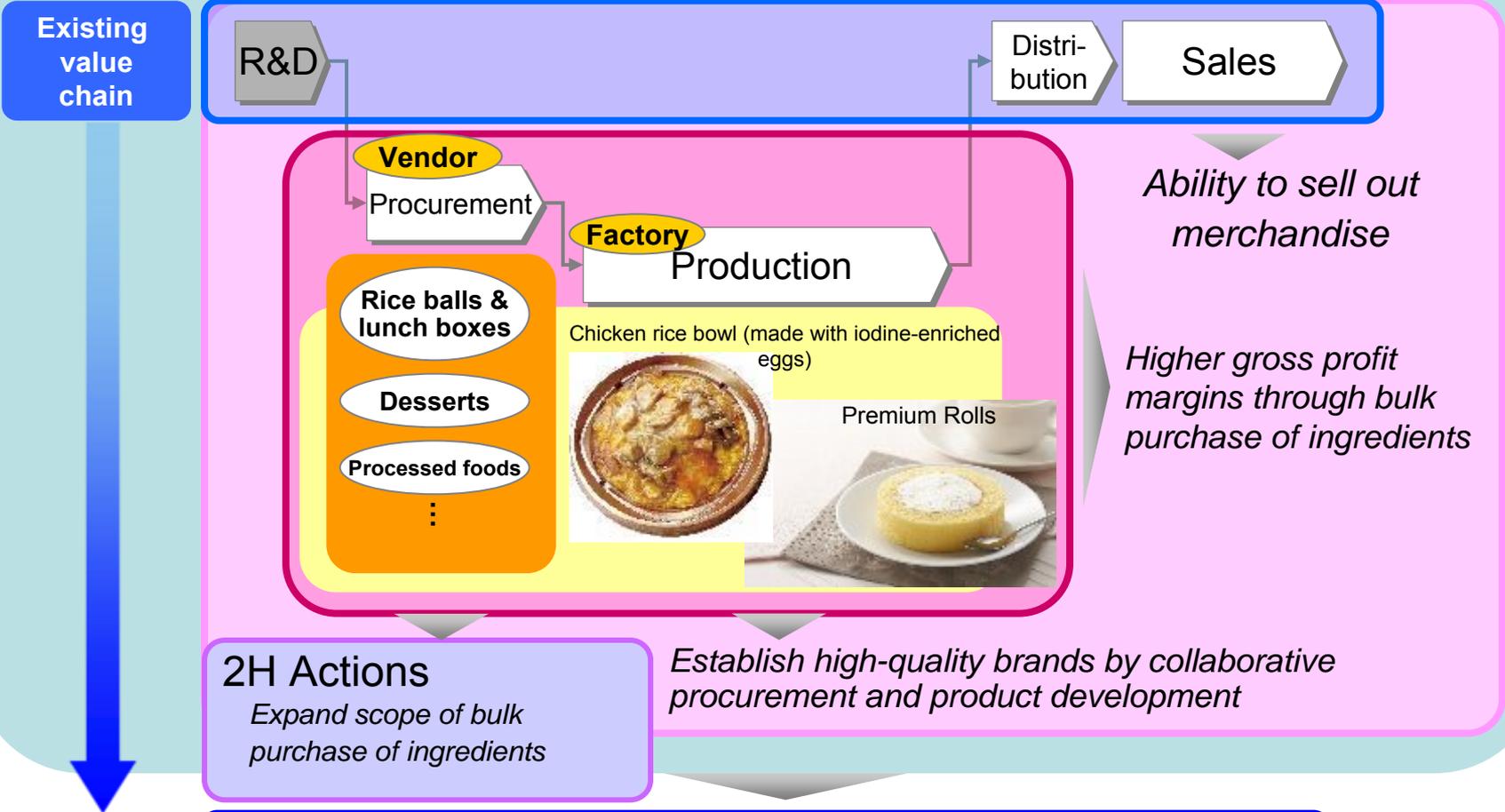
## Mystery Shoppers Rankings



*Increase in S & A ranked shares* → Enables initiatives for growth fields such as multi-formats

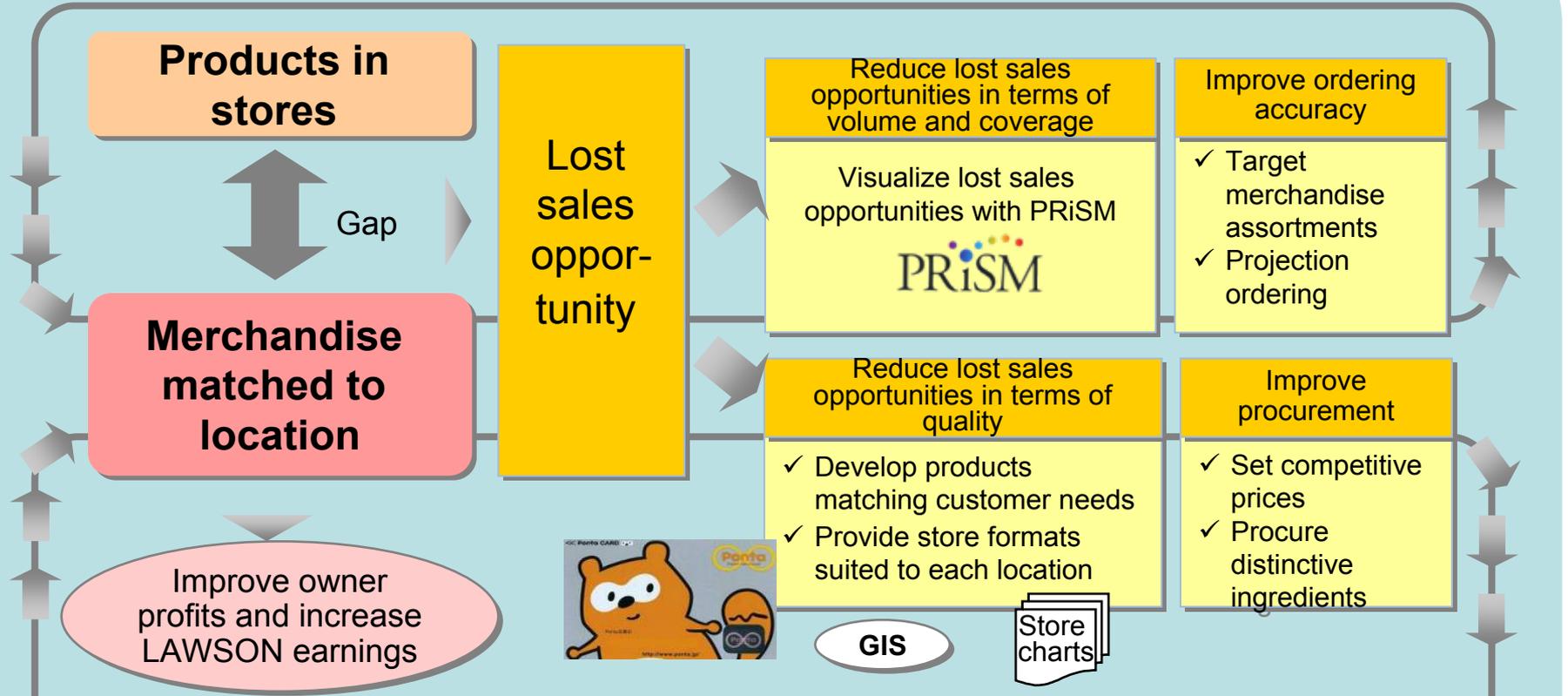
# Structural Reforms of Procurement and Distribution

## 1H Achievements



## 1H Achievements

*Strengthen franchise owner operating capabilities*



*Strengthen product and store development capabilities*

## 2H Actions

Expand scope to reduce opportunity losses further

Ensure the whole company is aware of successful practices

# Strengthening Group Internal Controls

## 1H Achievements

### *Actions at LEM*

- ✓ Prevent reoccurring of misconduct under the Risk Management and Compliance Committee, incorporating the third party investigating committee's recommendations.
  - Implemented compliance training and promoted compliance awareness activities.
  - Encouraged use of internal whistleblower system.
  - Regularly monitored progress with countermeasures
  - Analyzed risk in the ticket business.

### *Actions in the LAWSON Group*

- ✓ Acquired Ninety-nine Plus and LEM.
- ✓ Established a double-checking procedure for payments.
- ✓ Established a Compliance and Risk Management Committee for the whole group.

## 2H Actions

- ✓ Implement fund risk management for the Group integrated fund management (Implemented from October 1, 2010)
- ✓ Formulated and adopted regulations for strengthening risk management at subsidiaries (Revised on October 1, 2010)

# Fresh Food-type Stores

## 1H Achievements

### Fresh food-type LAWSON (Hybrid)

- ✓ Refurbished regular LAWSON stores and introduced fresh foods
- ✓ No. of store conversions  
471 stores (1H)
- ✓ Improved sales from conversions  
Approx. 5% point increase

### LAWSON STORE100

- ✓ Unfulfilled store opening plan, partly due to delayed conversion to subsidiary (from February to July)
- ✓ Improvement in existing store sales:  
Higher sales year on year since August 2010
- ✓ Progress in franchising: 52 stores (1H)



## 2H Actions

- ✓ Refurbish 1,000 stores in total for the full year

- ✓ Achieve 2H store-opening plan
- ✓ Franchise\* 150 stores during the year\*  
\*Includes franchising of former SHOP99 stores
- ✓ Introduce PRiSM

# Healthcare-type LAWSON Stores

## 1H Achievements

<Convenience Stores With Prescription Pharmacies>

NATURAL LAWSON Shiroyama Trust Tower Store

(Opened in August)

- Introduced NATURAL LAWSON health-oriented products and healthcare products
- Enhanced consultation by pharmacists



<Opened a Store Jointly With a Drug Store Chain>

LAWSON STORE100 Urayasu Higashino Store

(Opened in July)

Trialing a one-stop shopping model combining a convenience store with drug store



## 2H Actions

- ✓ Open and trial convenience stores with drug-dispensing pharmacies ⇒ Open a number of stores
- ✓ Open and trial stores jointly with a drug store chain ⇒ Develop a new store format
- ✓ Develop and trial stores selling OTC medications

# In-store Kitchen-type Stores

## 1H Achievements

- ✓ Opened 20 stores
- ✓ Sold more than 200 fresh lunch boxes a day
- ✓ Sold more than 100 fresh delicatessen items per day
- ✓ Average daily sales of fresh lunch boxes and delicatessen items of approximately 100,000 yen
- ✓ Investment efficiency: ROI of 25% (Model case)
- ✓ Succeeded in expanding customer base: Approx. 15% increase in women in their 30s and 40s



## 2H Actions

- ✓ Increase store openings
- ✓ Improve margins: Accelerated increase from 55% to 60%
- ✓ Improve productivity per man-hour
- ✓ Improve investment efficiency

# Overseas Development

## 2H Actions

- ✓ Aggressive Expansion to Other Cities in Chain
- ✓ Spread of Japanese-Style CVS Model (Unique Supply-Chain)
- ✓ Appointment of Foreign National Employees to Overseas Offices
- ✓ Feasibility Study on Other Asian Countries



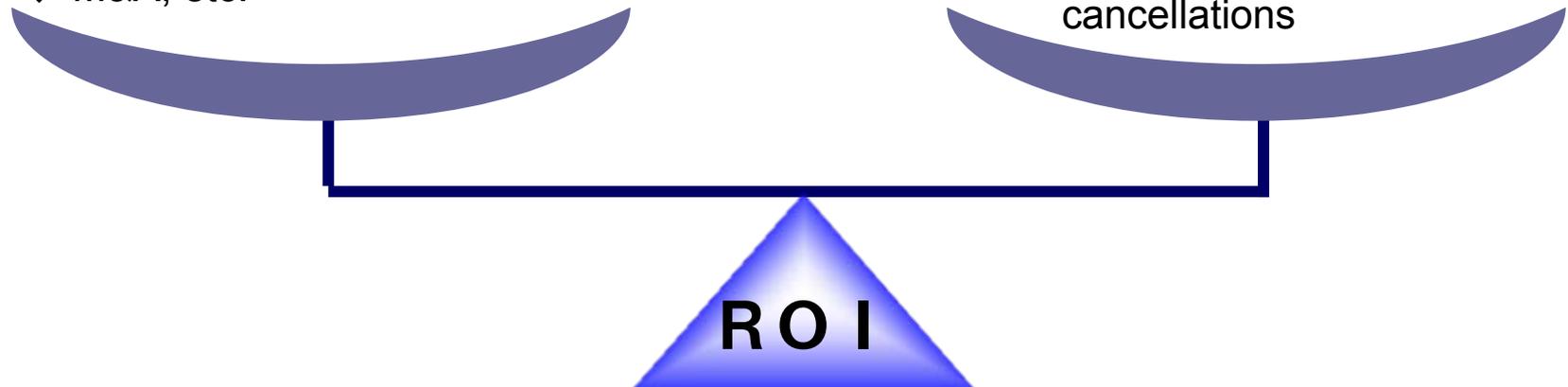
# Cash Flow Allocation

## Investment in Growth Fields

- ◆ Conversion of existing stores into fresh food-type stores, etc.
- ◆ Healthcare
- ◆ In-store kitchens
- ◆ Overseas
- ◆ M&A, etc.

## Shareholder Returns

- ◆ Increased dividends
- ◆ Treasury stock buybacks/cancellations



# References

# 1H and 2H Breakdown of FY2010 Forecasts

(Consolidated: Billions of yen)	FY2010			
	1H Plan	1H Actual	2H Plan	Full-Year Plan
Net sales of all stores	844.0	837.8	817.2	1,655.0
Operating profit	27.9	30.1	20.4	50.5
Operating profit ratio	3.3%	3.6%	2.5%	3.1%
Recurring profit	27.1	29.6	19.5	49.1
Net profit	13.0	12.2	9.8	22.0
<b>Gross profit of existing stores (YoY)*</b>	99.5%	99.5%	100.5%	100.0%
<b>Net sales at existing stores (YoY)*</b>	97.5%	97.6%	99.5%	98.6%
<b>Gross profit margin ratio*</b>	30.9%	30.9%	30.8%	30.9%

Note: Italics mean revised figures.

\* Non-consolidated

	1H FY2009	1H FY2010	FY2010 (Full-Year)
(Consolidated: Billions of yen)	Actual	Actual	Plan
New Stores	9.6	7.1	15.0
Existing Stores	3.9	3.7	10.0
IT-related	4.6	4.3	9.5
Other	0.1	0.6	1.5
Subtotal for Capital Expenditure	18.3	15.8	36.0
Depreciation	11.9	15.7	33.8

1) Depreciation for 1H FY2010 and FY2010 includes depreciation for leased property treated as a sale-and-purchase transaction due to the application of new lease accounting standards.

2) Depreciation for 1H FY2010 and FY2010 includes amortization.

3) Payments due to the repayment of lease obligations for 1H FY2010 were 4.6 billion yen.

- Allocate funds for new store investments based on Group store opening strategy
- Concentrate investment in existing stores on conversion to fresh food-oriented stores

(Reference)  
Impact of consolidating  
Ninety-nine Plus Inc.  
(1H FY2010)  
Capital expenditure:  
Approx. 0.9 billion yen