



Yumeshin Holdings / 2362

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INDEX

How to read a Shared Research report: This report begins with the trends and outlook section, which discusses the company's most recent earnings. First-time readers should start at the business section later in the report.

Executive summary	3
Key financial data	4
Recent updates	5
Highlights	5
Trends and outlook	7
Business	19
Business description	19
Business model	24
Profitability/ financial indicators	27
Group companies	28
Strengths and weaknesses	29
Market and value chain	31
Historical financial statements	36
Income statement	50
Balance sheet	52
Statement of cash flows	54
Other information	55
History	55
News and topics	56
Major shareholders	60
Top management	60
Dividends and shareholder benefits	60
Employees	60
Company profile	61

Executive summary

Business

- ▼ Yumeshin's main segment is Construction Technician Temporary Staffing, and it also has an Engineer Temporary Staffing business. The company conducts "specific temporary staffing." It signs a worker staffing agreement with a client and dispatches its own full-time employees to perform the job on client sites. The client directly manages the staff and can utilize them for the duration of the assignment.
- ▼ In construction, timing of orders is uncertain, site locations change with each project, duration of projects vary and are comparatively short, and the work is labor intensive. According to the company, this makes outsourcing perfectly suited to the needs of the industry. While many of its peers respond to outsourcing needs in various fields, Yumeshin has focused on construction staffing.
- ▼ Yumeshin mainly provides workers in their 20s. Since the bubble burst in the 1990s, the domestic construction workforce has aged as firms have cut back on new hiring. There is now strong demand for young workers on construction sites, partly owing to difficult physical conditions—including extreme weather and exposure to the elements—and to the fact that young workers ask for lower wages and offer nimble footwork. Yumeshin thus focuses on hiring and dispatching young workers to capitalize on this demand.
- ▼ The Engineer Temporary Staffing business is conducted through Yume Technology Co., Ltd. (formerly Fullcast Technology Co., Ltd.), which is slated to become a wholly owned subsidiary of Yumeshin Holdings in January 2019. Yume Technology employees (technicians), who have experience in various fields, including semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry, provide services in response to the research and development needs of client companies under worker staffing or outsourcing agreements. As of end-September 2018, 2,414 engineers were registered in the company's books. High-end engineers comprised about 20% of total engineers, and middle-end engineers and technical support engineers each accounted for about 40%.
- ▼ The company's sales are driven by the number of staff that it dispatches, utilization rates, hours dispatched, and wages. The majority of cost of sales is labor costs. The gross profit margin remains around 30%. SG&A expenses are mainly personnel and hiring costs (advertising and others), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio remains in the 16–21% range.

Earnings

- ▼ For FY09/19, Yumeshin forecasts full-year sales of JPY50.0bn (+23.7% YoY), operating profit of JPY6.0bn (+15.7% YoY), recurring profit of JPY6.0bn (+21.4% YoY), and net income attributable to parent company shareholders of JPY4.1bn (+12.8% YoY). In the mainstay Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, the company plans to focus on recruitment and aims to hire 2,700 workers.
- ▼ In September 2018, Yumeshin announced its medium-term management plan for FY09/19–FY09/21. The new plan is targeting FY09/21 sales of JPY76.2bn, operating profit of JPY10.0bn, and net income attributable to parent company shareholders of JPY6.8bn. The company aims to build scale through aggressive hiring in both core segments.

Strengths and weaknesses

Shared Research thinks Yumeshin's strengths include its brand recognition based on its stock market listing, the experience of its top management, and its effective use of younger employees. Weaknesses include performance in favorable economic periods when younger employees may look elsewhere for work, dependence on construction industry, and poor cost effectiveness in new business areas (see the Strengths and weaknesses section for details).

Key financial data

Income statement (JPYmn)	FY09/09	FY09/10	FY09/11	FY09/12	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18	FY09/19
	Par.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Est.
Sales	5,483	4,862	6,817	10,982	12,538	16,482	21,116	23,271	30,510	40,419	50,000
YoY	-22.6%	-11.3%	40.2%	61.1%	14.2%	31.5%	28.1%	10.2%	31.1%	32.5%	23.7%
Gross profit	1,759	1,490	1,899	3,159	3,450	4,583	5,150	6,563	8,781	12,339	
YoY	-13.7%	-15.3%	27.4%	66.3%	9.2%	32.8%	12.4%	27.5%	33.8%	40.5%	
GPM	32.1%	30.7%	27.9%	28.8%	27.5%	27.8%	24.4%	28.2%	28.8%	30.5%	
Operating profit	756	520	543	1,195	1,230	1,857	1,727	2,433	2,362	5,186	6,000
YoY	54.5%	-31.2%	4.4%	120.1%	3.0%	51.0%	-7.0%	40.9%	-2.9%	119.6%	15.7%
OPM	13.8%	10.7%	8.0%	10.9%	9.8%	11.3%	8.2%	10.5%	7.7%	12.8%	12.0%
Recurring profit	807	552	451	1,296	1,771	2,952	1,960	2,463	2,424	4,941	6,000
YoY	117.1%	-31.6%	-18.3%	187.2%	36.7%	66.7%	-33.6%	25.7%	-1.6%	103.8%	21.4%
RPM	14.7%	11.4%	6.6%	11.8%	14.1%	17.9%	9.3%	10.6%	7.9%	12.2%	12.0%
Net income	679	386	102	739	1,389	2,246	1,882	1,623	1,426	3,636	4,100
YoY	106.9%	-43.2%	-73.5%	622.5%	88.0%	61.8%	-16.2%	-13.7%	-12.1%	154.9%	12.8%
Net margin	12.4%	7.9%	1.5%	6.7%	11.1%	13.6%	8.9%	7.0%	4.7%	9.0%	8.2%
Per share data											
Shares issued (year-end; '000)	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	74,573	
EPS	9.9	6.7	1.4	12.6	22.7	34.6	27.8	21.8	19.1	48.8	55.0
Dividend per share	3.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	20.0	30.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0	35.0
Book value per share	32.3	31.3	26.6	35.9	79.3	112.5	181.8	168.6	160.7	172.6	
Balance sheet (JPYmn)											
Cash and cash equivalents	1,710	2,020	2,305	2,565	4,262	5,755	11,460	8,724	8,556	11,301	
Total current assets	2,816	3,027	3,917	4,684	6,457	8,856	15,210	13,334	14,839	18,887	
Tangible fixed assets	1,405	1,230	1,388	1,412	1,465	811	940	1,353	1,080	938	
Investments and other assets	641	788	566	908	1,440	2,723	3,299	3,193	3,388	2,995	
Intangible fixed assets	40	36	759	666	553	416	348	1,221	1,060	744	
Total assets	4,902	5,082	6,630	7,670	9,916	12,806	19,798	19,118	20,401	23,571	
Accounts payable	10	8	10	14	9	12	9	11	25	9	
Short-term debt	1,119	702	2,195	1,826	840	856	1,106	891	1,733	1,309	
Total current liabilities	1,538	1,102	3,400	3,402	2,455	3,593	4,031	3,552	5,848	6,647	
Long-term debt	1,198	2,020	1,088	1,509	1,649	893	1,219	1,645	1,045	2,538	
Total fixed liabilities	1,203	2,024	1,472	1,932	2,082	1,307	1,649	2,055	1,532	2,952	
Total liabilities	2,740	3,126	4,872	5,334	4,538	4,899	5,681	5,606	7,381	9,599	
Net assets	2,161	1,956	1,757	2,336	5,378	7,907	14,117	13,512	13,080	13,973	
Total interest-bearing debt	2,317	2,722	3,284	3,335	2,488	1,749	2,325	2,536	2,779	3,847	
Cash flow statement (JPYmn)											
Cash flows from operating activities	941	558	528	1,064	793	1,659	713	726	1,536	3,929	
Cash flows from investing activities	82	-498	-409	202	180	620	-178	-1,118	417	415	
Cash flows from financing activities	-1,237	-178	4	-152	595	-734	5,272	-2,173	-2,027	-1,592	
Financial ratios											
ROA (RP-based)	15.5%	11.1%	7.7%	18.1%	20.1%	26.0%	12.0%	12.7%	12.3%	22.5%	
ROE	33.2%	18.7%	5.8%	40.4%	39.1%	36.3%	18.0%	12.4%	11.6%	29.3%	
Equity ratio	44.1%	38.5%	23.5%	27.4%	50.4%	57.6%	68.5%	65.7%	58.7%	54.6%	

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Recent updates

Highlights

On **March 12, 2019**, Shared Research updated the report following interviews with Yumeshin Holdings Co., Ltd.

On **the same day**, the company announced a monthly flash for February of FY09/19; see the Monthly flash section for further details.

On **February 13, 2019**, the company announced a monthly flash for January of FY09/19.

On **February 8, 2019**, the company announced earnings results for Q1 FY09/19; see the results section for details.

On **January 22, 2019**, the company announced it has terminated the agreement to acquire a business from JSC Corporation via a simple absorption-type company split.

The company decided to terminate the agreement to acquire JSC Corporation's construction technician temporary staffing business via a simple absorption-type company split (potential transaction announced on December 27, 2018). According to the company, the termination of this agreement will not have an impact on its FY09/19 financial results.

Reason for termination of agreement

Yumeshin had intended to supplement the technological capability of its Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business (where many of the registered technicians are young) with technicians possessing advanced credentials (such as first-class architects and certified CAD technicians) who are registered under JSC Corporation's construction technician temporary staffing business. Yumeshin had an agreement with JSC Corporation regarding the number of technicians (employment contracts and temporary staffing contracts) it will be gaining through the business acquisition. However, the company has decided to terminate the agreement, as it became evident this number could not be reached.

Date of termination

January 22, 2019

On **January 11, 2019**, the company announced a monthly flash for December of FY09/19.

On **December 27, 2018**, the company announced its decision to acquire a construction technician temporary staffing business from JSC Corporation (via a simple absorption-type company split).

The company reached a decision to acquire JSC Corporation's construction technician temporary staffing business through an absorption-type company split with a tentative effective date in February 2019. As compensation for this transaction, Yumeshin plans to pay around JPY200mn to JSC.

About 60 construction technicians are registered within JSC's construction technician temporary staffing business and 40% of them are qualified as first-class architects, first-class construction management engineers, or possess other advanced credentials. Their high skill levels have earned JSC trust from its client companies. JSC has also established a stable profit base for the business, as many of its clients are major construction companies.

JSC's operating results and financial status over the past three years

Fiscal year	FY03/18
Net assets	-JPY70mn
Total assets	JPY387mn
Sales	JPY3.8bn
Operating profit	-JPY73mn
Recurring profit	-JPY75mn
Net income	-JPY96mn

On **the same day**, Shared Research updated the report following interviews with the company.

For previous releases and developments, please refer to the News and topics section.

Trends and outlook

Monthly flash

Number of staff at work FY Est. 8,800 staff, (YOY 27%)

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing	4,707	4,826	4,907	4,930	5,015							
Engineer Temporary Staffing	2,396	2,478	2,491	2,607	2,679							
Group total	7,103	7,304	7,398	7,537	7,694							
YoY	27.4%	26.4%	25.2%	24.7%	25.9%							

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Construction orders (JPYmn)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-Jun.	Jul.-Sep.	Oct.-Dec.	Total	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-Jun.	Jul.-Sep.	Oct.-Dec.	Total
Total orders	22,144	19,464	21,830	20,373	83,810	22,536	19,002	21,565	20,631	83,734
YoY	-1.7%	2.4%	1.2%	-1.3%	0.1%	-1.8%	-3.6%	-5.6%	-1.2%	-3.1%
Total orders	22,952	19,715	22,852	20,879	86,398	20,205	18,914	21,911	20,746	81,776
YoY	13.6%	4.2%	4.3%	0.6%	5.7%	6.2%	5.2%	8.9%	7.2%	6.9%
Total orders	19,024	17,982	20,126	19,356	76,488	18,357	16,493	22,034	18,338	75,222
YoY	3.6%	9.0%	-8.7%	5.6%	1.7%	10.3%	13.9%	21.0%	2.7%	6.6%
Total orders	16,646	14,480	18,209	17,862	70,544	11,285	8,404	11,158	10,210	41,057
YoY	47.5%	72.3%	63.2%	74.9%	71.8%	0.6%	-5.6%	-2.4%	1.7%	-1.3%
Total orders	11,219	8,907	11,433	10,039	41,598	11,235	9,183	11,293	9,992	41,703
YoY	-0.1%	-3.0%	1.2%	0.5%	-0.3%	-18.7%	-18.1%	-17.0%	-15.9%	-17.4%

Source: Shared Research based on *Current Survey on Orders Received for Construction*, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Quarterly trends and results

Cumulative (JPYmn)	FY09/18				FY09/19				FY09/19	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	% of FY	FY Est.
Sales	9,411	19,339	29,662	40,419	11,824				23.6%	50,000
YoY	34.5%	33.2%	34.1%	32.5%	25.6%					23.7%
Gross profit	2,880	5,950	9,109	12,339	3,518					
YoY	42.7%	39.7%	42.8%	40.5%	22.2%					
GPM	30.6%	30.8%	30.7%	30.5%	29.8%					
SG&A expenses	1,648	3,363	5,211	7,152	2,277					
YoY	20.1%	13.3%	13.2%	11.4%	38.2%					
SG&A ratio	17.5%	17.4%	17.6%	17.7%	19.3%					
Operating profit	1,232	2,587	3,898	5,186	1,241				20.7%	6,000
YoY	90.8%	100.5%	119.3%	119.6%	0.7%					15.7%
OPM	13.1%	13.4%	13.1%	12.8%	10.5%					12.0%
Recurring profit	1,204	2,558	3,640	4,941	1,260				21.0%	6,000
YoY	66.3%	86.9%	96.8%	103.8%	4.6%					21.4%
RPM	12.8%	13.2%	12.3%	12.2%	10.7%					12.0%
Net income	958	1,872	2,716	3,636	852				20.8%	4,100
YoY	124.5%	127.4%	151.1%	154.9%	-11.0%					12.8%
Net margin	10.2%	9.7%	9.2%	9.0%	7.2%					8.2%

Quarterly (JPYmn)	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Sales	9,411	9,928	10,324	10,757	11,824			
YoY	34.5%	32.0%	35.9%	28.1%	25.6%			
Gross profit	2,880	3,071	3,158	3,230	3,518			
YoY	42.7%	37.0%	48.9%	34.5%	22.2%			
GPM	30.6%	30.9%	30.6%	30.0%	29.8%			
SG&A expenses	1,648	1,715	1,848	1,942	2,277			
YoY	20.1%	7.5%	13.1%	6.8%	38.2%			
SG&A ratio	17.5%	17.3%	17.9%	18.0%	19.3%			
Operating profit	1,232	1,355	1,311	1,288	1,241			
YoY	90.8%	110.2%	169.1%	120.4%	0.7%			
OPM	13.1%	13.7%	12.7%	12.0%	10.5%			
Recurring profit	1,204	1,353	1,082	1,301	1,260			
YoY	66.3%	110.0%	125.0%	126.6%	4.6%			
RPM	12.8%	13.6%	10.5%	12.1%	10.7%			
Net income	958	914	844	920	852			
YoY	124.5%	130.6%	226.4%	167.0%	-11.0%			
Net margin	10.2%	9.2%	8.2%	8.6%	7.2%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Main components of SG&A expenses

Cumulative (JPYmn)	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SG&A expenses	1,648	3,363	5,211	7,152	2,277			
YoY	20.1%	13.3%	13.2%	11.4%	38.2%			
Personnel expenses	793	1,582	2,427	3,231	928			
YoY	30.4%	22.5%	19.0%	14.5%	17.0%			
Hiring expenses	363	770	1,290	1,853	642			
YoY	10.7%	5.5%	15.9%	19.2%	76.9%			
Other	492	1,011	1,494	2,068	707			
YoY	12.8%	6.7%	3.0%	1.2%	43.9%			

Quarterly (JPYmn)	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
SG&A expenses	1,648	1,715	1,848	1,942	2,277			
YoY	20.1%	7.5%	13.1%	6.8%	38.2%			
Personnel expenses	793	789	845	804	928			
YoY	30.4%	15.5%	13.0%	2.7%	17.0%			
Hiring expenses	363	407	520	563	642			
YoY	10.7%	1.2%	35.8%	27.6%	76.9%			
Other	492	519	483	575	707			
YoY	12.8%	1.6%	-4.0%	-3.1%	43.9%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Sales and profit by segment

Segment sales and profit (cumulative) (JPYmn)		FY09/18				FY09/19			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Sales		9,411	19,339	29,662	40,419	11,824			
YoY		34.5%	33.2%	34.1%	32.5%	25.6%			
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing		7,017	14,392	21,861	29,609	8,416			
YoY		32.9%	32.0%	33.0%	31.0%	19.9%			
Engineer Temporary Staffing		2,281	4,760	7,507	10,379	3,354			
YoY		37.5%	38.8%	40.8%	40.9%	47.0%			
Operating profit		1,232	2,587	3,898	5,186	1,241			
YoY		90.8%	100.5%	119.3%	119.6%	0.7%			
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing		1,263	2,520	3,755	4,981	1,373			
YoY		86.8%	72.6%	77.6%	73.1%	8.7%			
Profit margin		18.0%	17.5%	17.2%	16.8%	16.3%			
Engineer Temporary Staffing		182	281	415	465	170			
YoY		47.7%	53.6%	139.9%	161.8%	-6.6%			
Profit margin		8.0%	5.9%	5.5%	4.5%	5.1%			
Quarterly (JPYmn)		FY09/18				FY09/19			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Sales		9,411	9,928	10,324	10,757	11,824			
YoY		34.5%	32.0%	35.9%	28.1%	25.6%			
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing		7,017	7,375	7,469	7,748	8,416			
YoY		32.9%	31.2%	34.8%	25.7%	19.9%			
Engineer Temporary Staffing		2,281	2,479	2,747	2,872	3,354			
YoY		37.5%	40.1%	44.4%	41.0%	47.0%			
Operating profit		1,232	1,355	1,311	1,288	1,241			
YoY		90.8%	110.2%	169.1%	120.4%	0.7%			
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing		1,263	1,257	1,235	1,226	1,373			
YoY		86.8%	60.4%	88.8%	60.6%	8.7%			
Profit margin		18.0%	17.0%	16.5%	15.8%	16.3%			
Engineer Temporary Staffing		182	99	134	50	170			
YoY		47.7%	65.5%	-	970.9%	-6.6%			
Profit margin		8.0%	4.0%	4.9%	1.7%	5.1%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment earnings

Cumulative (JPYmn)		FY09/18				FY09/19			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Sales		7,017	14,392	21,861	29,609	8,416			
YoY		32.9%	32.0%	33.0%	31.0%	19.9%			
Gross profit		2,230	4,677	7,116	9,605	2,614			
YoY		41.8%	40.9%	43.9%	40.9%	17.2%			
GPM		31.8%	32.5%	32.6%	32.4%	31.1%			
SG&A expenses		1,054	2,157	3,361	4,624	1,241			
YoY		17.5%	16.0%	18.8%	17.4%	17.7%			
SG&A ratio		15.0%	15.0%	15.4%	15.6%	14.7%			
Operating profit		1,263	2,520	3,755	4,980	1,373			
YoY		86.8%	72.6%	77.6%	73.1%	8.7%			
OPM		18.0%	17.5%	17.2%	16.8%	16.3%			
Quarterly (JPYmn)		FY09/18				FY09/19			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Sales		7,017	7,375	7,469	7,748	8,416			
YoY		32.9%	31.2%	34.8%	25.7%	19.9%			
Gross profit		2,230	2,447	2,439	2,489	2,614			
YoY		41.8%	40.1%	50.3%	33.0%	17.2%			
GPM		31.8%	33.2%	32.7%	32.1%	31.1%			
SG&A expenses		1,054	1,103	1,204	1,263	1,241			
YoY		17.5%	14.5%	24.1%	13.9%	17.7%			
SG&A ratio		15.0%	15.0%	16.1%	16.3%	14.7%			
Operating profit		1,263	1,257	1,235	1,225	1,373			
YoY		86.8%	60.4%	88.8%	60.5%	8.7%			
OPM		18.0%	17.0%	16.5%	15.8%	16.3%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Number of technicians in Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

Cumulative	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
No. of technicians (quarter end)	4,629	4,852	4,978	5,066	5,428			
New hires	695	1,371	2,087	2,764	774			
Departures	468	921	1,511	2,100	412			
Retention rate	72.3%	72.1%	72.2%	71.8%	72.6%			
Quarterly	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
New hires	695	676	716	677	774			
Departures	468	453	590	589	412			
Retention rate	72.3%	71.9%	72.4%	70.7%	72.6%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Retention rate: Number of technicians at quarter end / (Number of technicians at end previous year's quarter + cumulative annual new hires)

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing sales metrics

Cumulative	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
No. of technicians (average)	4,575	4,686	4,767	4,835	5,363			
YoY	30.6%	28.7%	27.2%	24.3%	17.2%			
Utilization rate	94.9%	94.6%	94.1%	93.8%	93.2%			
YoY change	1.6pp	1.6pp	1.7pp	1.6pp	-1.7pp			
Average hours per day	9.61	9.64	9.59	9.57	9.61			
YoY	-1.1%	-0.6%	-0.4%	-0.4%	-0.1%			
Average hourly wage (JPY)	2,844	2,859	2,879	2,890	2,975			
YoY	2.6%	2.4%	3.0%	3.3%	4.6%			
Quarterly	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
No. of technicians (average)	4,575	4,797	4,929	5,039	5,363			
YoY	30.6%	26.8%	24.5%	16.9%	17.2%			
Utilization rate	94.9%	94.3%	93.1%	92.9%	93.2%			
YoY change	1.6pp	1.6pp	2.0pp	1.1pp	-1.7pp			
Average hours per day	9.61	9.67	9.49	9.51	9.61			
YoY	-1.1%	-0.2%	0.2%	-0.3%	-0.1%			
Average hourly wage (JPY)	2,844	2,874	2,919	2,923	2,975			
YoY	2.6%	2.4%	4.2%	4.3%	4.6%			
New hires, % of total employees	47.1%	46.2%	44.1%	41.3%	40.9%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Average wages based on years of employment in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment

Cumulative (average) (JPY/hour)	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
First year	2,614	2,629	2,645	2,650	2,715			
YoY	2.9%	2.7%	3.6%	3.7%	3.9%			
Second year	3,023	3,024	3,033	3,040	3,075			
YoY	3.5%	3.3%	3.5%	3.3%	1.7%			
Third year	3,166	3,162	3,174	3,180	3,245			
YoY	2.7%	2.6%	2.5%	2.2%	2.5%			
Fourth year and beyond	3,498	3,498	3,511	3,518	3,581			
YoY	0.4%	1.0%	1.6%	1.6%	2.4%			
Quarterly (average) (JPY/hour)	FY09/18				FY09/19			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
First year	2,614	2,644	2,677	2,665	2,715			
YoY	2.9%	2.6%	5.2%	4.0%	3.9%			
Second year	3,023	3,025	3,051	3,061	3,075			
YoY	3.5%	3.2%	3.9%	2.8%	1.7%			
Third year	3,166	3,158	3,198	3,198	3,245			
YoY	2.7%	2.5%	2.1%	1.3%	2.5%			
Fourth year and beyond	3,498	3,498	3,537	3,539	3,581			
YoY	0.4%	1.5%	2.9%	1.8%	2.4%			

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Note: Shared Research calculated quarterly averages from cumulative figures.

Q1 FY09/19 results

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY11.8bn (+25.6% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY1.2bn (+0.7% YoY)
- ▷ **Recurring profit:** JPY1.3bn (+4.6% YoY)

▷ **Net income*:** JPY852mn (-11.0% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Sales increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments.

In terms of profit, operating profit was in line with Q1 FY09/18 due to an increase in SG&A costs despite higher sales. SG&A expenses were JPY2.3bn (up 38.2% YoY). In addition to hiring costs of JPY642mn (up 76.9% YoY) outsourcing expenses were JPY226mn (up 227.5% YoY), along with M&A advisory costs related to the acquisitions of Neplus K.K. and Sanritsu Design, Co., Ltd. in October 2018. Recurring profit increased owing to an increase in non-operating income. Net income attributable to parent company shareholders declined, primarily reflecting a decline in extraordinary income. In Q1 FY09/18, the company recorded extraordinary income of JPY258mn, including a JPY256mn gain on sales of shares of subsidiaries and associates; in Q1 this year, extraordinary profit was JPY3mn.

Progress towards the FY09/19 full year forecast was 23.6% for sales (23.3% in Q1 FY09/18 compared with full-year results for FY09/18), 20.7% for operating profit (23.8%), 21.4% for recurring profit (24.4%) and 20.8% for net income attributable to parent company shareholders (26.3%). According to the company, sales and profits were in line with expectations.

The overview by segment is as follows.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

▷ **Sales:** JPY8.4bn (+19.9% YoY)

▷ **Segment profit:** JPY1.4bn (+8.7% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,800 technicians over the year, as major construction projects related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen got into full swing, and as Osaka was officially named host of the 2025 World Expo. The company hired 744 new technicians in Q1 FY09/19 (698 in Q1 FY09/18). The number of technicians registered in the company's books as of end-December 2018 was 5,302 (+673 YoY).

Construction Temporary Staffing business: sales and key metrics of sales performance

Sales growth was driven by an increase in the number of technicians utilized following increased hiring of technicians and improved wages.

As for the key metrics of sales performance such as the number of technicians that it dispatches, utilization rates, hours dispatched and wages, the average number of technicians was up 17.2% YoY with staff utilization rate down 1.7pp YoY, the average number of hours dispatched down 0.1%, and wages increased by 4.6% YoY.

▷ As of end-December 2018, the number of registered technicians was 5,428 (up 799 YoY).

➢ As a result of the company's increased focus on recruitment, 774 people joined the company in Q1 (versus 695 in Q1 FY09/18).

➢ The retention rate rose by 0.3 pp to 72.6% from 72.3% in Q1 FY09/18. According to the company, the improvement in retention rate reflects initiatives such as extending the training period for new technicians from two weeks to three weeks and the commencement of on-site training by reproducing construction sites inside the warehouse.

▷ The utilization rate (number of technicians on assignment divided by total number of technicians) declined 1.7pp YoY to 93.2% from 94.9% in Q1 FY09/18. This decline reflected increased hiring, as mentioned above, and the extension in the training period for new technicians.

▷ Hours dispatched (the average number of hours worked per day) was 9.61 hours, down 0.1% YoY (-0.01 hours YoY). The decline in work hours was driven by the continued impact of the government's push for work style reform.

- Total hours worked by technicians increased 1.0% YoY (0.10 hours YoY), showing further increase after bottoming out in Q3 FY09/18 (April-June 2018).

▷ The average hourly wage was JPY2,975 (+JPY131 or +4.6% YoY).

- The ratio of first-year technicians whose average hourly wage is relatively low was 40.9% (-6.2pp YoY) as of end-December 2018. Hourly wage for technicians in all age groups increased.
- Average wages per year of employment were as follows: up 3.9% YoY for first-year technicians, up 1.7% YoY for second-year technicians, up 2.5% YoY for third-year technicians, and up 2.4% YoY for four-plus years technicians. Given the robust demand for construction technician temporary staffing, average hourly wages continue to trend higher.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing: Gross profit and SG&A expenses

The segment's gross profit margin was 31.1% (-0.7pp YoY) due to increased wages paid to technicians and lower technician utilization rates despite higher wages received. Although the gross profit margin declined, gross profit increased to JPY2.6bn (+17.2% YoY) due to higher sales.

SG&A expenses were JPY1.2bn (+17.7% YoY), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 14.7% (-0.3pp YoY). Hiring costs rose as a result of the increase in the number of new hires, particularly veteran technicians with a relatively high average hourly wage. In the past, the company has tended to hire relatively young or inexperienced technicians in their twenties. However, in FY09/19, the company is increasing its hiring of experienced veteran technicians aged 40 or above.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY3.4bn (+47.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY170mn (-6.6% YoY)

Demand for engineers continued to be robust, underpinned by strong domestic demand in the manufacturing industry including automotive, electronics, and semiconductor sectors. The IT industry, another customer base, continued to see a high level of investments into infrastructure overhaul and information security.

Under these conditions, the company set a yearly hiring plan of 1,800 engineers and focused on hiring activities in order to respond to the growing demand for engineers.

Sales were up due to the increase in engineer numbers. Meanwhile, segment profit declined YoY on higher hiring expenses since the company recruited aggressively in preparation for rising future demand. The company stated that progress was largely in line with its initial plan.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 53.9% YoY, the staff utilization rate fell 2.1pp YoY, and the average hourly wage declined 0.7% YoY.

▷ The average number of engineers was 2,659 (versus 1,727 in Q1 FY09/18), and the number of engineers on the company's books at end-December 2018 was 2,719 (versus 1,761 at end-December 2017).

- The company hired a total of 362 people in Q1 (versus 159 in Q1 FY09/18). Of these new engineers, 182 were female and 26 were foreign nationals.
- Out of the total number of engineers on the company's books, about 10% were high-end engineers. Middle-end engineers were around 20% and technical support engineers were around 70%.

▷ The staff utilization rate was 91.1% down 2.1pp YoY from 92.3% in Q1 FY09/18. The utilization rate reflected the increase in the number of engineers.

▷ The average hourly wage was JPY2,816 (-0.7% YoY, or JPY19 YoY). This decline was due to the increase in the number of technical support staff with a relatively low wage amongst the total number of registered engineers.

In the fields of semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry, high-end engineers mainly engage in design and development and middle-end engineers are primarily involved with design, evaluations, and maintenance. Technical support engineers mainly handle installation of IT products and troubleshooting in addition to general business.

Other

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY71mn (-44.8% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment loss:** JPY16mn (JPY81mn segment loss in FY09/18)

In the Other segment, the company introduces personnel to various companies in the construction and manufacturing industries and provides hiring support services to Japanese companies which are seeking local personnel in Vietnam.

The segment loss declined as the company withdrew from some of the unprofitable business in FY09/18. However, this also resulted in sales decline.

For details on previous quarterly and annual results, please refer to the Historical financial statements section.

Full-year company forecasts

FY09/19 forecasts

(JPYmn)	FY09/18			FY09/19
	1H Act.	2H Act.	FY Act.	FY Est.
Sales	19,339	21,081	40,419	50,000
YoY	33.2%	31.8%	32.5%	23.7%
Cost of sales	13,388	14,693	28,081	
Gross profit	5,950	6,388	12,339	
YoY	39.7%	41.3%	40.5%	
GPM	30.8%	30.3%	30.5%	
SG&A expenses	3,363	3,789	7,152	
SG&A ratio	17.4%	18.0%	17.7%	
Operating profit	2,587	2,599	5,186	6,000
YoY	100.5%	142.5%	119.6%	15.7%
OPM	13.4%	12.3%	12.8%	12.0%
Recurring profit	2,558	2,383	4,941	6,000
YoY	86.9%	125.9%	103.8%	21.4%
RPM	13.2%	11.3%	12.2%	12.0%
Net income	1,872	1,764	3,636	4,100
YoY	127.4%	192.5%	154.9%	12.8%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Company forecast for the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Act.	FY09/19 Est.
Annual hiring	2,764	2,800
No. of technicians (year-end)	5,066	5,900
Net increase	664	834
Sales	29,609	36,000
YoY	31.0%	21.6%
Operating profit	4,981	6,000
YoY	73.1%	20.5%
OPM	16.8%	16.7%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Company forecast for the Engineer Temporary Staffing segment

Engineer Temporary Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Act.	FY09/19 Est.
Annual hiring	1,118	1,800
No. of technicians (year-end)	2,414	3,400
	698	986
Sales	10,379	13,000
YoY	40.5%	25.3%
Operating profit	465	0
YoY	165.9%	n/a
OPM	4.5%	0.0%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

In FY09/19, Yumeshin forecasts sales of JPY50.0bn (+23.7% YoY), operating profit of JPY6.0bn (+15.7% YoY), recurring profit of JPY6.0bn (+21.4% YoY), and net income attributable to parent company shareholders of JPY4.1bn (+12.8% YoY).

The company anticipates sales to increase due to a rise in both the billing rate and the number of technicians, resulting from recruiting activities in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments. It expects profits to fall in the Engineer Temporary Staffing segment as hiring and personnel expenses both balloon as a result of a higher number of hires. However, Yumeshin forecasts profits will increase in the company's key Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, which the company expects will lead to overall growth in all profit categories from operating profit downward.

The company pushed its target of producing profit in FY09/18 and achieved profit increases of over 100% in all levels of profit from operating profit downward. From FY09/19, the company is starting to promote and focus on a new target of increasing the

combined total of engineers and technicians on its books to 20,000 in the medium to long term. As a result, the rate of profit growth in FY09/19 is expected to fall short of the rate of growth in FY09/18.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

For FY09/19, the company is forecasting segment sales of JPY36.0bn (+21.6% YoY) and operating profit of JPY6.0bn (+20.5% YoY).

Key assumptions underlying the sales forecast are detailed below, including the company's assumptions with respect to the number of technicians, staff utilization rates, and billing rates.

Number of technicians

During FY09/19, the company plans to hire 2,800 construction technicians; this compares with actual hires of 2,764 during FY09/18. The company is assuming a retention rate (number of technicians at period-end/ (number at end of previous period + new hires during current period)) of at least 70% versus 71.8% in FY09/18; this would bring the number of construction technicians on the company's payroll at end-FY09/19 to 5,900 (an increase of 834 or 16.5% versus end-FY09/17). To keep up retention rates, the company plans to continuously engage in various improvement measures, including providing support for new technicians, raising skills through regular technical training, as well as enriching the employee benefit system.

Staff utilization rates

The company is looking to improve its staff utilization by cutting back on new hiring during April–June quarter, the slow season for construction work, and continuously working to expand sales channels at regional offices outside of the Tokyo Metropolitan Area. Yumeshin Holdings plans to maintain a utilization rate of about 93%, level with FY09/18.

Billing rates

Aiming to increase its billing rates by about 2% YoY, the company plans to consistently provide follow-up training for its staff technicians.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

For FY09/19, the company is forecasting segment sales of JPY13.0bn (+25.3% YoY) and operating profit of JPY0mn (operating profit was JPY465mn in FY09/18).

In Engineer Temporary Staffing, the company plans to hire young and unexperienced employees and female and foreign engineers in order to cement its place in the technical support staff area, its unique staffing field. The company will also focus on personnel development as it aims to enhance the content of its training sessions, primarily for IT engineers.

After hiring 1,118 new engineers in FY09/18, Yume Technology is looking to hire 1,800 more engineers during FY09/19. With this, it aims to have 3,400 engineers on its payroll at end-FY09/19 (a 40.8% net increase over 986 at end-FY09/18).

Other Businesses

In Other businesses, the company plans to expand its recruitment business which does hiring support for businesses in the construction, manufacturing, and IT industries. The company plans to build a base for its Japanese education business by introducing overseas personnel from countries such as Vietnam or the Philippines to Japanese companies.

Long-term outlook

In September 2018, Yumeshin announced a new medium-term management plan covering FY09/19 through FY09/21.

Consolidated earnings forecasts under medium-term plan

Earnings plan (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Act.	FY09/19 Est.	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
Sales	40,419	50,000	63,500	76,200
YoY	32.5%	23.7%	27.0%	20.0%
Operating profit	5,186	6,000	8,000	10,000
YoY	119.6%	15.7%	33.3%	25.0%
OPM	12.8%	12.0%	12.6%	13.1%
Net income	3,636	4,100	5,400	6,800
YoY	155.0%	12.8%	31.7%	25.9%
Net margin	9.0%	8.2%	8.5%	8.9%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Targets under medium-term plan for Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business

Construction Technician Temp. Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Act.	FY09/19 Est.	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
No. of technicians hired	2,764	2,800	2,900	3,000
No. of technicians (year-end)	5,066	5,900	6,800	7,800
Net increase	664	834	900	1,000
Sales	29,609	36,000	43,000	50,000
YoY	31.0%	21.6%	19.4%	16.3%
Operating profit	4,981	6,000	7,000	8,000
YoY	73.1%	20.5%	16.7%	14.3%
OPM	16.8%	16.7%	16.3%	16.0%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Targets under medium-term plan for Engineer Temporary Staffing business

Engineer Temporary Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Act.	FY09/19 Est.	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
No. of technicians hired	1,118	1,800	2,000	2,200
No. of technicians (year-end)	2,414	3,400	4,400	5,500
Net increase	698	986	1,000	1,100
Sales	10,379	13,000	19,500	25,000
YoY	40.5%	25.3%	50.0%	28.2%
Operating profit	465	0	1,000	2,000
YoY	165.9%	n/a	n/a	100.0%
OPM	4.5%	0.0%	5.1%	8.0%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Overview of new medium-term management plan

Basic plan: Moves up target date for reaching group-wide goal of 10,000 technicians, raises operating profit target to JPY10.0bn

Under the previous medium-term management plan (announced in November 2017), the company had set its sights on a group-wide total of 10,000 technicians by the end of FY09/20. In its new medium-term plan, the company has moved up the target date for achieving that goal to the end of FY09/20 and, based on this, has set a target for consolidated operating profit of JPY10.0bn in FY09/21.

The company aims to expand its business and cater to demand for technician temporary staffing services in the construction, manufacturing, and IT industries by aggressively stepping up hiring not only in its mainstay Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business but also in its Engineer Temporary Staffing business.

The overview by segment is as follows.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

In FY09/21, Yumeshin Holdings will aim for sales of JPY50.0bn (+68.9% versus FY09/18 results) and operating profit of JPY8.0bn (+60.6% versus FY09/18 results). The company plans to seek growth in both sales and profit using a higher number of technicians on its books as a source of earnings.

At its Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business, Yumeshin sees continued strong demand for construction site supervisors to meet the needs stemming from construction related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and the growing number of redevelopment projects being undertaken in the Greater Tokyo Area. The company also sees demand remaining strong after 2020 as redevelopment continues in the Greater Tokyo Area (with projects in such areas as Shinagawa, Yaesu, and Shibuya), aging infrastructure is replaced, and more redevelopment projects are undertaken in rural areas to create cities based on the "compact city" urban design concept.

To keep up with the expected growth in demand, the company plans to maintain an annual hiring goal of more than 2,800 technicians. It looks to increase the retention rate through continuous follow-up measures and other strategies, and aims to have 7,800 technicians registered in its books at end-FY09/21.

Yumeshin hired 2,764 technicians in FY09/18 but aims to hire 3,000 in FY09/21. Previously, the company had targeted inexperienced or young technicians in their twenties but, moving forward, will also add veteran technicians in their forties or older who have experience in the industry. According to the company, more than 50% of construction workers are in their forties or fifties, which means that the company could greatly expand its hiring totals by adding veterans to its hiring pool. The company had about 340 veteran technicians on its books as of end-September 2018 and is increasing its number of veteran hires through strategies such as enhancing the content of Ore no Yume ("My Dream"), a job information site aimed at veteran technicians.

The retention rate for technicians in FY09/18 was 71.8%, 1.0pp lower YoY, but is now on an upward trend thanks to the company's engagement in providing support for new technicians, improving skills through regular technical training, and enhancing its company benefit system.

Engineer Temporary Staffing business

In FY09/21, Yumeshin Holdings will aim for sales of JPY25.0bn (+140.9% versus FY09/18 results) and operating profit of JPY2.0bn (+329.9% versus FY09/18 results). The company will use the increased number of engineers on its books as a source of earnings as it strives to achieve growth in both sales and profit.

At its Engineer Temporary Staffing business, Yumeshin sees the shortage of IT technicians growing even worse in light of the announcement by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry that by the year 2030 they expected there to be a shortage of roughly 790,000 IT engineers in Japan alone. The company also anticipates that the shortage of IT engineers will be felt more and more in the R&D departments of Japanese manufacturers as they step up efforts to develop new production automation and optimization technologies that make use of AI and IoT. To help meet those needs, during FY09/19 the company is planning to front-load spending at its administration, training, and sales departments to handle the increase in hiring and the addition to its engineering staff, with the goal of being able to consistently hire at least 2,000 engineers every year. The company's goal is to have at least 5,000 engineers on staff by end-FY09/21 and it will strive for this target primarily through increasing its number of annual hires.

Yumeshin hired 1,118 engineers in FY09/18 and plans to hire 2,200 in FY09/21. The company is continuously strengthening its hiring of female engineers, who accounted for about 60% of new hires in FY09/18, and is enhancing its recruitment of foreign engineers by increasing its number of overseas hiring centers.

Recruitment of foreign engineers

Yumeshin provides Japanese language education and resident qualifications to engineers recruited locally at its overseas hiring centers, subsequently dispatching them to domestic companies. In FY09/18, the company had two hiring centers, one in Vietnam and one in the Philippines, hired 80 foreign engineers, and had 180 total foreign engineers on its books. As of the

beginning of FY09/19, the company had already decided to open hiring centers in Taiwan, South Korea, Russia, and Poland and was considering new centers in Mexico and India. The company expects to hire an increasing number of engineers and forecasts a growing number of engineers on its books as it opens new hiring centers overseas.

Business

Business description

Yumeshin's main segment is Construction Technician Temporary Staffing, and it also has an Engineer Temporary Staffing and other businesses.

Segment, company, and business

Segment	Company	Business
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing	Yumeshin Holdings Co., Ltd.	Staff construction supervisors and technicians; draft and sell blueprints
Engineer Temporary Staffing	Yume Technology Co., Ltd. Krung thep Co., Ltd.	Dispatching of engineers to the manufacturing and IT industries Engineer staffing services in design and development fields
Other Businesses	Yume Agent Co., Ltd.	Recruitment services for construction and manufacturing industries
	Yumeagent Philippines Corp.	Japanese language education for local human resources in the Philippines
	Yumeagent Vietnam Co., Ltd.	Hiring support for human resources in Vietnam

Earnings by segment

(JPYmn)	FY09/10	FY09/11	FY09/12	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.
Sales	4,862	6,817	10,982	12,538	16,482	21,116	23,271	30,510	40,419
YoY	-11.3%	40.2%	61.1%	14.2%	31.5%	28.1%	10.2%	31.1%	32.5%
Construction Technician Temp. Staffing	4,552	5,268	6,472	8,163	11,731	13,855	17,401	22,608	29,609
YoY	-10.9%	15.7%	22.9%	26.1%	43.7%	18.1%	25.6%	29.9%	31.0%
% of sales	93.6%	77.3%	58.9%	65.1%	71.2%	65.6%	74.8%	74.1%	73.3%
Engineer Temporary Staffing	-	1,210	4,109	3,911	4,189	4,773	5,803	7,368	10,379
YoY	-	-	239.6%	-4.8%	7.1%	13.9%	21.6%	27.0%	40.9%
Total segment profit	619	732	1,440	1,610	2,135	1,824	2,558	2,493	5,330
YoY	7.9%	1.5%	6.7%	11.1%	13.6%	-	40.2%	-2.5%	113.8%
Construction Technician Temp. Staffing	693	773	1,172	1,231	1,703	1,733	2,213	2,877	4,981
YoY	-	11.5%	51.7%	5.1%	38.3%	-	27.6%	30.0%	73.1%
Profit margin	15.2%	14.7%	18.1%	15.1%	14.5%	12.5%	12.7%	12.7%	16.8%
% of total segment profit	111.9%	105.5%	81.4%	76.5%	79.2%	85.6%	85.5%	116.3%	93.4%
Engineer Temporary Staffing	-	-1	243	302	374	479	436	178	465
YoY	-	-	-	24.5%	23.8%	-	-9.1%	-59.2%	161.8%
Profit margin	-	-	5.9%	7.7%	8.9%	10.0%	7.5%	2.4%	4.5%
Amortization of goodwill	-1	-30	-83	-83	-76	-103	-132	-196	-184
Company-wide expenses	-66	-251	-61	245	877	6	7	65	40
Operating profit	520	543	1,195	1,230	1,857	1,727	2,433	2,362	5,186
YoY	-31.2%	4.4%	120.1%	3.0%	51.0%	-7.0%	40.9%	-2.9%	119.6%
OPM	10.7%	8.0%	10.9%	9.8%	11.3%	8.2%	10.5%	7.7%	12.8%
Recurring profit	552	451	1,296	1,771	2,952	1,960	2,463	2,424	4,941
YoY	-31.6%	-18.3%	187.2%	36.7%	66.7%	-33.6%	25.7%	-1.6%	103.8%
RPM	11.4%	6.6%	11.8%	14.1%	17.9%	9.3%	10.6%	7.9%	12.2%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Note: "% of total segment profit" measures the share of an individual segment's profit against the total value of profit for all segments combined.

Note: Following change in reporting segments in FY09/18, the company is now reporting using the following three segments: Construction Technician Temporary Staffing, Engineer Temporary Staffing, and Other Businesses.

Note: Until FY09/14 segment profit was adjusted with recurring profit. After FY09/15, these figures are adjusted with operating profit.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

The parent company, Yumeshin Holdings, runs this core business, which accounted for 73.3% of sales and 73.1% of operating profit in FY09/18. Construction Technician Temporary Staffing can be further subdivided into construction and technical support services, and drawing and blueprint production.

With construction companies as main clients, dispatches full-time employees under “specific temporary staffing”

The company is engaged in so-called “specific temporary staffing.” It signs a worker staffing agreement with a client and dispatches its own full-time employees to perform the job on client sites. The client directly manages the staff and can utilize them for the duration of an assignment. This form of employment relationship is legally different from so-called “general temporary staffing” when workers register as “temporary staff” with the service provider.

In construction, timing of orders is uncertain, site locations change with each project, duration of projects vary and are comparatively short, and the work is labor intensive. According to the company, this makes outsourcing perfectly suited for the needs of the industry. While many of its peers provide outsourcing services in different fields, Yumeshin has focused on construction staffing.

Construction and technical support services

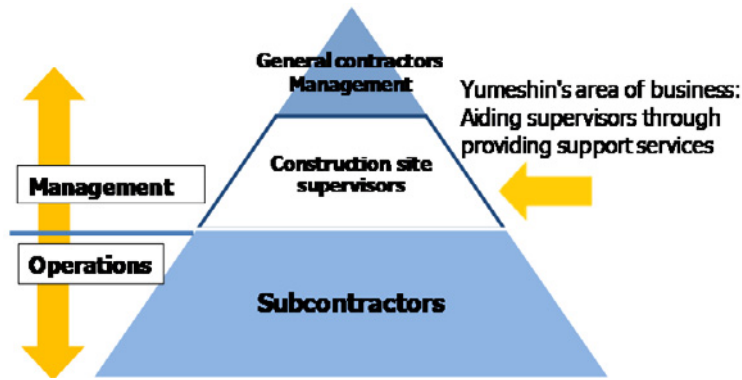
This is the company’s core business, it has been offering this service since March 1991. The company provides construction companies with construction supervisors and Computer Aided Design (CAD) operators, providing support for technical personnel at construction sites. Yumeshin’s full-time employees are about 80% of staff; the remaining 20% are contract employees.

Providing staffing to a multilayered subcontracting structure

Before looking at the company’s Temporary Staffing segment in further detail, some features of the Japanese construction industry warrant an explanation. Japan’s construction industry has a unique multilayered subcontracting structure. General contractors mostly handle project supervision, parceling out work to subcontractors. Employees of the general contractor do not take part in actual construction, instead subcontractor employees handle the construction work. General contractors are more akin to construction project managers for the end customer. Typical examples of general contractors include Taisei Corp. (TSE1: 1801), Obayashi Corp. (TSE1: 1802), Shimizu Corp. (TSE1: 1803), Kajima Corp. (TSE1: 1812), Takenaka Corp. (unlisted), Nishimatsu Construction Co. (TSE1: 1820), Maeda Corp. (TSE1: 1824), and Tokyu Construction Co. (TSE1: 1720). Subcontractors receive part of the construction work from general contractors, who originally received the orders from the customers.

Large subcontracting firms would typically include major facility construction companies like Kandenko Co. (TSE1: 1942), Kinden Corp. (TSE1: 1944), or Takasago Thermal Engineering Co. (TSE1: 1969). Occasionally, these major facility construction companies might themselves serve as primary contractors. In addition to these firms, there are companies engaged in various specialized areas such as carpentry, structural steel, interiors, etc. These are also referred to as “subcontractors.” While there are some subcontractors that hire their own workers, most will further “sub-subcontract” the work out to smaller operations. This secondary and tertiary subcontracting gives the industry its multilayered subcontracting structure.

Construction supervision services provided by the company staff include such general supervision tasks as coordinating work of various specialist workers on the construction site, preparing and making corrections in construction drawings, etc. The company provides safety control, quality control, process control, cost management, and environmental management for the construction industry. In the multilayer subcontracting structure of a typical Japanese construction site, Yumeshin provides construction site supervisors who assist in communication between the prime contractor employees (managers and supervisors) and subcontractors (workers who actually do construction).



Source: Company materials

Dispersed client base and low per-client dependency

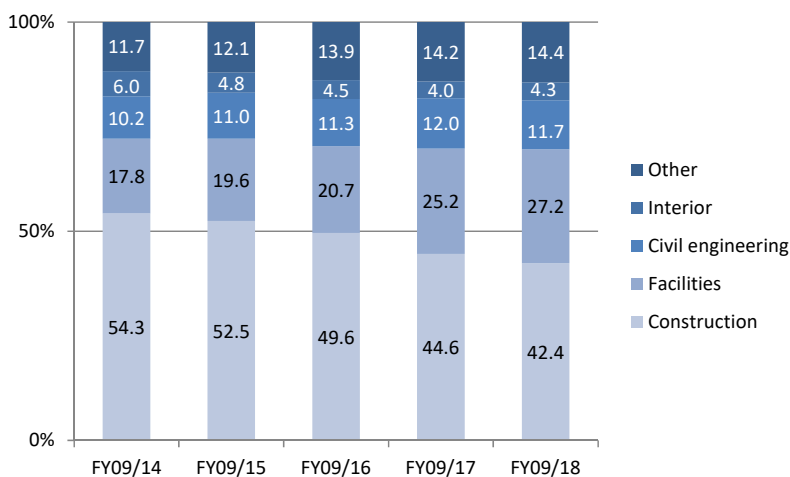
The company had 693 client firms in FY09/13 and more than 1,690 in FY09/17, demonstrating a steady increase in the number of clients. As clients increase, the share of sales to the top five clients has decreased from 18.5% in FY09/13 to 15.3% in FY09/17. The share of sales associated with the top ten clients has also decreased from 27.5% in FY09/13 to 22.1% in FY09/17.

Share of sales by customer (%)

Rank	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17
1	Tokyu Construction 6.6	Daiwa House Industry 6.5	Daiwa House Industry 6.2	Daiwa House Industry 6.1	Daiwa House Industry 5.4
2	Daiwa House Industry 4.8	Tokyu Construction 4.6	Taisei 3.7	Taisei 4.1	Taisei 3.8
3	Kurosawa Construction 2.7	Taisei 3.5	Shimizu 2.8	Shimizu 3.4	Shimizu 2.6
4	Takenaka 2.2	Hazama Ando 1.6	Tokyu Construction 2.7	Takenaka 3.0	Takenaka 2.0
5	Taisei 2.2	Shimizu 1.6	Takenaka 2.2	Shinryo 1.7	Fuji Electric 1.6
	Top 5 companies 18.5	Top 5 companies 17.8	Top 5 companies 17.5	Top 5 companies 18.3	Top 5 companies 15.3
	Top 10 companies 27.5	Top 10 companies 24.9	Top 10 companies 24.8	Top 10 companies 24.6	Top 10 companies 22.1

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Share of sales by areas of staff specialization (%)



Source: Shared Research based on company data

Business characteristics

Yumeshin differentiates itself from competition through hiring many young employees, and focusing the majority of its business on the greater Tokyo area.

Employees primarily in their twenties

The Japanese construction industry is aging—over 40% of all employees are in their fifties, those in their forties constitute some 23%, and staff in their twenties and thirties make up a minority. This is because the construction industry held back on new hiring when the asset price bubble burst in Japan in the early 1990s. By contrast, 66.4% of Yumeshin’s staff were in their twenties as of September 2017. Construction sites typically expose workers to the elements. Wages tend to be low, and employees must be physically fit. Therefore, it is more suitable to young workers. As a result, the company responds by mainly employing young people for its Temporary Staffing services.

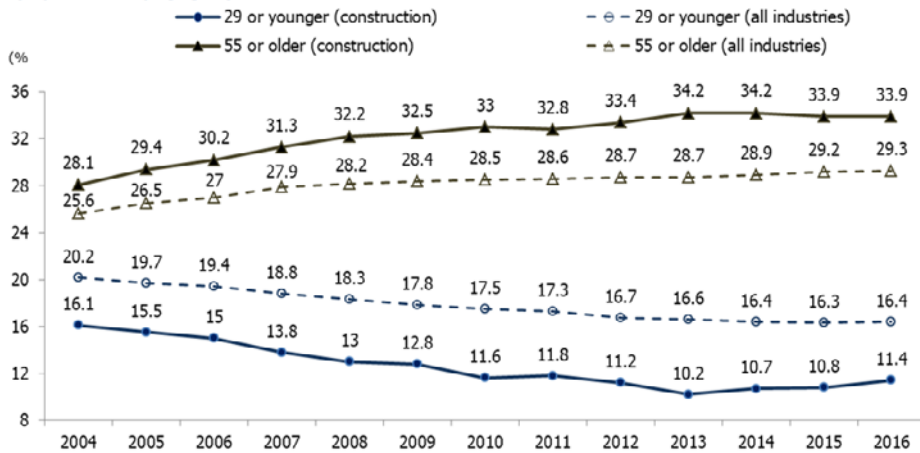
Remarkably, of the company’s employees, around 80% have been with the firm for at least three years. Employees typically go through two weeks of initial training in-house, and are then sent to gain hands on experience at client sites. The company emphasizes this sort of sink-or-swim, on-the-job training (OJT) and expects that while new employees may lack knowledge and experience at first, communication skills are more valuable to clients.

Employees by age group (%)

	Yumeshin	Construction industry	All industries
20s	66.4	11.2	16.7
30s	27.8	22.4	21.8
40s	2.2	23.0	23.0
50s and older	3.6	43.4	38.5

Source: Shared Research based on company data, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Employment rate by age group



Source: Shared Research based on Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications data

As of end-September 2018, the company had 5,066 staff, compared to 4,402 as of end-September 2017 (supervisors it provides to clients). The number of staff it sends to a particular site depends on the project; typically, 1–2 people for a small project, but up to 10 for a large project. Contracts are monthly, with eight-hour workdays and two days off per week. Any other work is treated as overtime.

There were about 140 sales personnel as of September 2018. Emphasis is on individual performance rather than teamwork. While salespeople work to acquire new clients, most sales involve projects from existing clients.

Drawing and blueprint production

The company started out as an architectural design firm but changed its business model to emphasize construction blueprint services once it realized that working drawings were as important as master plans in ensuring high quality construction. Working drawings are also known as “production design drawings” and cover not only basic construction plans but also such areas as measurements and materials based on requirements related to durability, appearance, project scheduling, costs, etc. The clients

for drawing services are general contractors and other construction related firms. In order to respond to the demand for lower-cost construction drawings, the company began outsourcing drawing production to affiliates in China (Shanghai, Dalian) and Vietnam. The Vietnamese affiliate was originally a subsidiary, Yumeshin Vietnam Co., Ltd., established in 1996, but the company excluded this from consolidation in 2009.

According to the company, drawing and blueprint production services have a gross profit margin of about 70% and operating profit margin of up to 40%.

Yumeshin uses the same sales personnel for both construction and technical support services and drawing services. The workflow for a construction project: commissions for working drawings are paid prior to the start of construction work. After construction begins, a CAD operator (dispatched through construction and technical support services) may make changes to the working drawings.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

Operations in this segment are carried out by Yume Technology Co., Ltd. (scheduled to become a wholly owned subsidiary in January 2019; formerly, Fullcast Technology Co., Ltd.), which was acquired during FY09/11.

Yume Technology employees (technicians), with expertise in such areas as semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry, provide services under a worker staffing or outsourcing agreement in response to clients' research and development needs.

Its main clients handle equipment such as semiconductors, semiconductor manufacturing equipment, AV products (digital appliances), transportation equipment (auto-related products), and precision machinery. Yume Technology provides staffing services in design and development, development evaluation and testing, and quality evaluation.

It provides comprehensive systems solutions for the entire life cycle of IT infrastructure, from consulting to design and construction to operation.

In addition, Krung thep Co., Ltd. (consolidated subsidiary of Yume Technology after it acquired 100% of shares in December 2017), conducts engineer (middle to senior levels) dispatch to the design and development departments of various manufacturing companies, does development under contract, and conducts training, education, and consulting.

178 Live Market Co., Ltd. (consolidated subsidiary of Yume Technology after it acquired 100% of voting rights in October 2017), based in Taiwan, conducts staffing and dispatch businesses and operates 178 Human Resources Bank, an online staffing service. 178 Human Resources Bank is the first online job listing site in Taiwan to use completion bonuses, and it has a database focusing on IT engineers and Japanese interpreters.

In collaboration with group company Yume Agent, the company has also aggressively pursued recruitment overseas. It has provided Japanese language education to local resources in Vietnam and the Philippines and has been employing between one hundred and two hundred staff overseas on a yearly basis. The company hired 80 foreign personnel in FY09/18 and had 180 foreign workers on its books as of end-FY09/18.

Business model

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business

The company's sales are driven by the number of staff (for construction sites or CAD operators) that it dispatches, utilization rates, hours dispatched, and wages. Wages depend upon technicians' skills and years of employment. According to the company, clients typically seek discounts, but because no other companies can supply the numbers of young (relatively lower cost) staff that Yumeshin can, Yumeshin wages remain mostly stable.

Parent sales metrics

	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
Number of technicians	1,729	2,277	2,760	3,334	4,402	5,066
Number of new hires	1,233	1,628	1,702	2,018	2,666	2,764
Net increase	621	548	483	574	1,068	664
Retention rate	73.9%	67.8%	69.4%	69.8%	73.4%	70.7%
a) Average number of technicians	1,376	2,101	2,497	3,027	3,889	4,835
b) Utilization rate	94.1%	93.4%	94.6%	92.7%	92.2%	93.8%
c) Average hours per day	10.2	9.8	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.6
d) Average hourly wage (JPY)	3,590	2,569	2,644	2,706	2,797	2,890
Sales (JPYmn)	8,163	11,731	13,855	17,401	22,608	29,609
YoY	26.1%	43.7%	18.1%	25.6%	29.9%	31.0%
Ref.: a x b x c x d x operating days (JPYmn)	11,142	11,610	14,369	17,309	22,649	29,477

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Retention rate = Number of technicians at year end / (number of technicians at previous year end + new hires in the current year)

Note: Calculated based on 235 days of operation

Cost of sales

The majority of cost of sales is labor. However, in the Temporary Staffing segment, it still has to pay employees even when there is no work and employees aren't on clients' sites. It is hard to adjust wages rapidly. Given that wages are basically stable, the spread between wages received and wages paid also must be stable. Therefore, changes in gross profit margins are driven by staff utilization rates (number of staff sent out to a construction site divided by the number of total dispatch staff). Shared Research considers the labor costs incurred by the company to be long-term variable. Because of the difficult working conditions of the construction sites and other reasons causing staff to quit, the average retention rate of Yumeshin technicians is 70.7% in FY09/18 (73.4% in FY09/17). This means that the company can adjust the headcount by restricting new hiring and reducing the size of its staff through natural attrition.

SG&A expenses

The majority of SG&A expenses are personnel costs. Judging from past performance, these costs can also be considered long-term variable as the company had been adjusting them with fluctuations in sales levels.

Parent earnings (JPYmn)	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
Sales	11,731	13,855	17,401	22,608	29,609
YoY	43.7%	18.1%	25.6%	29.9%	31.0%
Cost of sales	8,132	9,816	12,371	15,791	20,004
Cost ratio	69.3%	70.8%	71.1%	69.8%	67.6%
Labor costs	7,883	9,528	12,071	15,384	19,467
Outsourcing costs	94	90	93	104	108
Other costs	156	198	207	303	430
Gross profit	3,598	4,039	5,030	6,816	9,605
YoY	39.1%	12.3%	24.5%	35.5%	40.9%
GPM	30.7%	29.2%	28.9%	30.2%	32.4%
SG&A expenses	1,938	2,306	2,817	3,939	4,624
SG&A ratio	16.5%	16.6%	16.2%	17.4%	15.6%
Salaries and allowances	7,680	842	1,050	1,368	1,677
Hiring expenses	330	455	669	1,118	1,249
Operating profit	1,660	1,733	2,213	2,877	4,981
YoY	48.6%	4.4%	27.7%	30.0%	73.1%
OPM	14.2%	12.5%	12.7%	12.7%	16.8%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Engineer Temporary Staffing business

As in Construction Technician Temporary Staffing, sales are determined by the number of engineers, utilization rate, and billing rates for workers. In FY09/18, the company had 2,414 engineers (versus 1,716 in FY09/17), a 91.5% utilization rate (versus 90.2% in FY09/17), and an average hourly billing rate of JPY3,294 (versus JPY2,972 in FY09/17).

Sales metrics for Yume Technology

Sales metrics	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
Number of technicians	618	853	1,131	1,716	2,414
Number of new hires	-	289	460	941	1,118
Net increase	51	235	278	585	698
Retention rate	-	94.0%	86.1%	82.8%	85.2%
a) Average number of technicians	591	751	1,005	1,414	2,046
b) Utilization rate	96.0%	95.3%	93.3%	90.2%	91.5%
c) Average hourly wage (JPY)	3,232	3,246	3,091	3,255	3,294
Sales (JPYmn)	3,839	4,773	5,805	7,385	10,381
YoY	8.7%	24.3%	21.6%	27.2%	40.6%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Retention rate = Number of technicians at year end / (number of technicians at previous year end + new hires in the current year)

Note: Calculated based on 235 days of operation

Note: Yume Technology adopted consolidated accounting starting in FY09/18, so FY09/18 figures indicating YoY change are for reference only.

In FY09/18, the gross profit margin was 24.4%. The vast majority of cost of sales was labor (97.4%). The SG&A-to-sales ratio was 20.1%. Personnel expenses and hiring expenses account for the majority of SG&A expenses.

Yume Technology earnings performance

Yume Technology earnings (JPYmm)	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
Sales	3,839	4,773	5,805	7,385	10,381
YoY	8.7%	24.3%	21.6%	27.2%	40.6%
Cost of sales	2,892	3,555	4,326	5,622	7,852
Cost ratio	75.3%	74.5%	74.5%	76.1%	75.6%
Labor costs	2,789	3,445	4,204	5,477	
Outsourcing costs	2	5	0	0	
Other costs	101	105	122	146	
Gross profit	947	1,218	1,479	1,763	2,529
YoY	14.7%	28.6%	21.4%	19.2%	43.5%
GPM	24.7%	25.5%	25.5%	23.9%	24.4%
SG&A expenses	587	726	1,046	1,588	2,087
SG&A ratio	15.3%	15.2%	18.0%	21.5%	20.1%
Salaries and allowances	259	300	382	531	745
Hiring expenses	71	134	262	546	665
Operating profit	351	476	433	175	442
YoY	26.7%	35.8%	-9.1%	-59.6%	152.8%
OPM	9.1%	10.0%	7.5%	2.4%	4.3%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Note: Yume Technology adopted consolidated accounting starting in FY09/18, so FY09/18 figures indicating YoY change are for reference only.

Profitability/ financial indicators

Profit margins (JPYmn)	FY09/09	FY09/10	FY09/11	FY09/12	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
	Par.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.
Gross profit	1,759	1,490	1,899	3,159	3,450	4,583	5,150	6,563	8,781	12,339
GPM	32.1%	30.7%	27.9%	28.8%	27.5%	27.8%	24.4%	28.2%	28.8%	30.5%
Operating profit	756	520	543	1,195	1,230	1,857	1,727	2,433	2,362	5,186
OPM	13.8%	10.7%	8.0%	10.9%	9.8%	11.3%	8.2%	10.5%	7.7%	12.8%
EBITDA	782	554	627	1,362	1,309	2,022	1,939	2,656	2,786	5,608
EBITDA margin	14.3%	11.4%	9.2%	12.4%	10.4%	12.3%	9.2%	11.4%	9.1%	13.9%
Net margin	12.4%	7.9%	1.5%	6.7%	11.1%	13.6%	8.9%	7.0%	4.7%	9.0%
Financial ratios										
ROA (RP-based)	15.5%	11.1%	7.7%	18.1%	20.1%	26.0%	12.0%	12.7%	12.3%	22.5%
ROE	33.2%	18.7%	5.8%	40.4%	39.1%	36.3%	18.0%	12.4%	11.6%	29.3%
Total asset turnover	1.05	0.97	1.16	1.54	1.43	1.45	1.30	1.20	1.54	1.84
Working capital requirement	735	714	1,417	1,614	1,852	2,513	2,740	3,632	4,829	5,965
Current ratio	183.1%	274.8%	115.2%	137.7%	263.0%	246.5%	377.3%	375.4%	253.7%	284.2%
Quick ratio	159.6%	248.8%	109.7%	123.2%	249.4%	230.4%	352.4%	348.2%	229.3%	259.9%
OCF / Current liabilities	0.58	0.42	0.23	0.31	0.27	0.55	0.19	0.19	0.33	0.63
Net debt / Equity	28.1%	35.9%	55.7%	33.0%	-33.0%	-50.7%	-64.7%	-45.8%	-44.2%	-53.3%
OCF / Total liabilities	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4
Changes in working capital	-359	-21	703	197	238	662	227	892	1,197	1,136

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Group companies

The group consists of Yumeshin and consolidated subsidiaries. Respective segments are as shown in the table below:

Segment and name of consolidated subsidiary

Segment	Business	Consolidated subsidiary
Construction Technician Temporary Staffing	Staff construction supervisors and technicians; draft and sell blueprints	Yumeshin Holdings Co., Ltd.
Engineer Temporary Staffing	Dispatch engineers to the manufacturing and IT industries	Yume Technology Co., Ltd. Krung thep Co., Ltd.
Other Businesses	Provide staff to the construction and manufacturing industries	Yume Agent Co., Ltd.
	Japanese language education to local human resources in the Philippines	Yumeagent Philippines Corp.
	Employment support services for Vietnamese nationals	Yumeagent Vietnam Co., Ltd.

Below is a breakdown of subsidiaries (voting rights ratio in parentheses):

- ▷ Yume Technology Co., Ltd. (64.90%): Established in 1989 and became a subsidiary in May 2011. Handles temporary staffing of engineers to manufacturing businesses
- ▷ Krung thep Co., Ltd. (100% of voting rights held by Yume Technology): Conducts engineer dispatch for the design and development fields, various development work under contract, training and education on information systems and security, and consulting
- ▷ Yume Agent Co., Ltd. (100%): Established in February 2015. Handles recruitment
- ▷ Yumeagent Philippines Corp. (100%): Provides Japanese language education to local human resources in the Philippines
- ▷ Yumeagent Vietnam Co., Ltd. (100%): Provides hiring support for human resources in Vietnam

Strengths and weaknesses

Strengths

- ▶ **Reputation based on experience and stock market listing:** In the construction industry, credibility and trust are important factors in securing future work. Yumeshin has been building its reputation over many years, and has the added prestige of being a listed company—a combination not shared by many competitors. Yumeshin’s clients are mainly top-tier firms, so when the company delivers reliably for these clients, it seems reasonable to conclude other potential clients would take notice. As its relationships with blue-chip clients grow, so does Yumeshin’s reputation, creating a virtuous cycle leading to more business opportunities. Shared Research thinks that this cycle is likely to continue and strengthen with time. Because the company is publicly traded, it has a certain degree of reliability and recognition that its unlisted competitors lack. A side effect of being publicly traded is enhanced disclosure about business performance, financial condition, etc. This available information means the company is more transparent, which could make clients more confident in doing business with Yumeshin.
- ▶ **Top management has significant experience:** President and Chairman of the Board, Shingo Sato, has been in control of the company since it was founded in 1970. Even considering all listed companies in Japan, there are probably very few where top management has over 40 years of business experience. Sato has seen both the good and bad while running the firm, adding depth to his tenure. Sato commented that the company’s vigorous expansion during 2005-2007 was a significant set-back (perhaps the first such instance since the company’s founding). However, Shared Research thinks that his forthrightness and decisive action to get the company back in a shape similar to when it listed in 2003 is a key strength of the company. Sato’s many years of experience and the conviction with which he makes decisions (like using mostly younger employees), are strengths unique to Yumeshin.
- ▶ **Effective use of younger employees:** While the average employee in the construction industry has aged, the company has been actively hiring younger employees to work on client sites. Industry competitors have placed more emphasis on experience and skill in hiring decisions, resulting in a mainly older workforce. Yumeshin has favored energetic and well-rounded younger employees, and given them a lot of practical on-site experience shortly after joining the firm. As a result, the company’s employees bring both youth (and energy) to job sites and hands-on experience. The company’s financial performance suggests its sink-or-swim approach is effective.

Weaknesses

- ▶ **Performance in favorable economic periods:** Shared Research wonders if the company will be able to maintain its strength, using younger employees, during good economic times. This is tough to measure, but if the economy improves, some of the company’s younger employees may look for greener pastures elsewhere (either with competitors or higher-paying and less-demanding jobs). Job opportunities for older employees tend to be fewer, so competitors with older employees are less exposed to this potential risk. Additionally, as the aging population trend in Japan continues, hiring new graduates during boom times will likely be even more difficult than in the past. Naturally, a shortage of staff would mean lost opportunities for the company.
- ▶ **Dependence on construction industry:** In FY09/18, Construction Technician Temporary Staffing accounted for 73.3% of sales and 93.5% of profit. In Engineer Temporary Staffing, the company is expanding hiring from FY09/17, targeting earnings growth, but expects Construction Technician Temporary Staffing to contribute about 80% of operating profit even in the final year of the company’s medium-term management plan (FY09/21). As of December 2018, Construction Technician Temporary Staffing is seeing strong demand due to the recovery in construction spending and active utilization of dispatched technicians by construction contractors (see the Market and value chain section). However, if construction

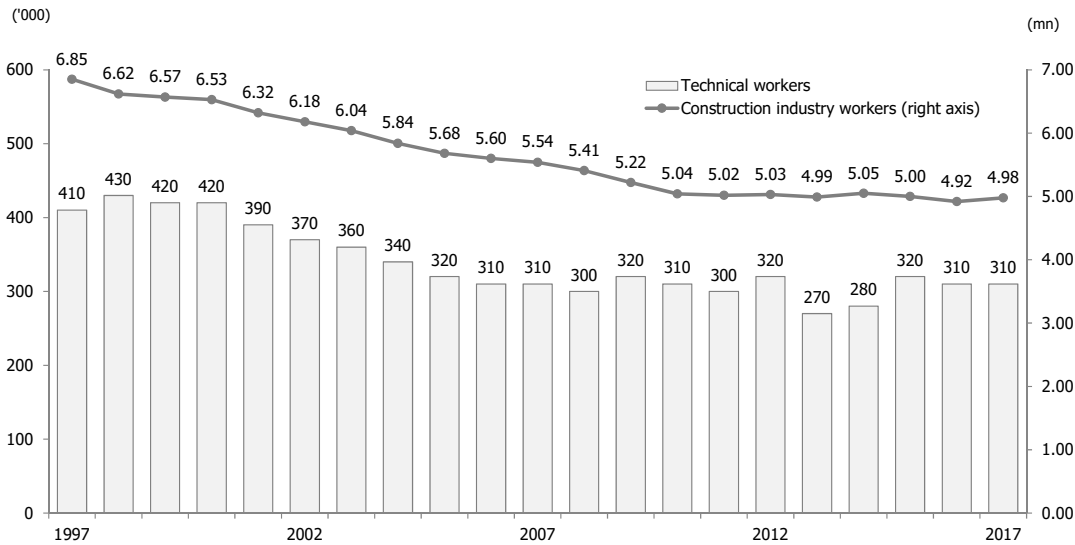
spending were to decrease again, causing diminishing demand for construction technicians, Shared Research believes this would likely have a very significant impact on the company's earnings.

Market and value chain

Market overview

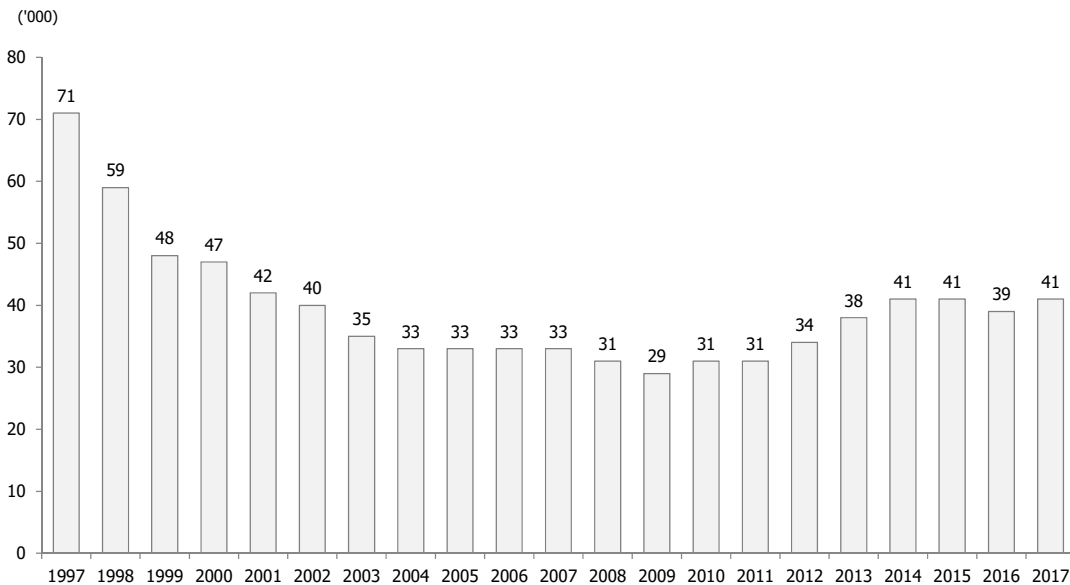
This section focuses on the market for Yumeshin’s mainstay Construction Technician Temporary Staffing.

Construction worker population



Source: Shared Research based on statistics from the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors’ *Construction Handbook 2018*

New graduates joining construction industry ('000 people)



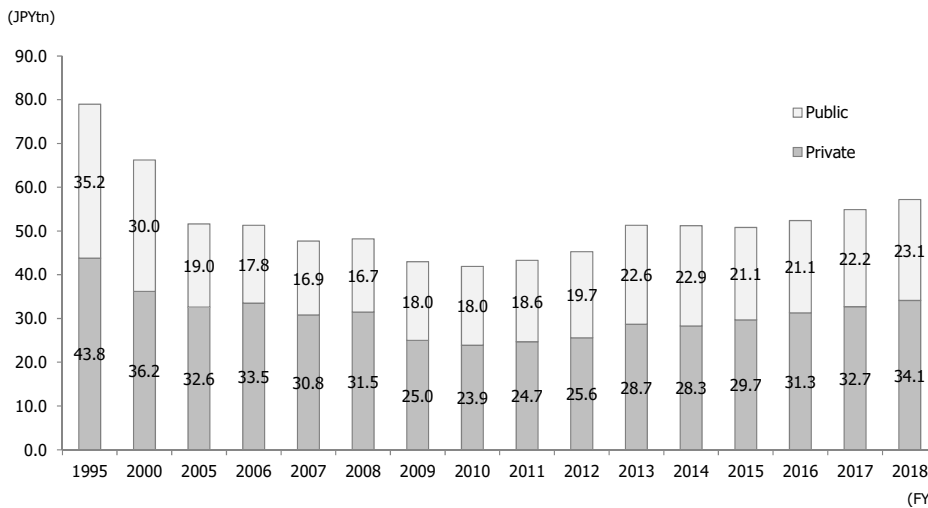
Source: Shared Research based on statistics from the Japan Federation of Construction Contractors’ *Construction Handbook 2018*

The construction industry expanded during Japan’s high economic growth period (from mid-1950s to 1960s) as it pushed mass hiring. The industry, however, has recently done without much hiring of new personnel against the backdrop of a nosedive in construction demand attributable to fewer public projects and lower capex post the economic bubble burst. Between 1997 and 2016, the number of people employed in construction decreased by 1.9mn. The number of new graduates entering the industry peaked in 1995 at 78,000. However, it bottomed out in 2009 at 29,000 and has been averaging around 40,000 a year since 2013, and finished 2017 at 41,000.

As of 2016, baby boomers were reaching their retirement ages, and the construction industry as a whole was aging accordingly, with one out of three workers (33.9%) being 55 years or older (see also Employment Rate by Age Group in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing section). Also, with less young people joining the industry, chronic worker shortages have been an industry-wide issue.

Construction spending has been declining since it peaked in 1992 at JPY84tn. Following the 2007 revision to the Building Standards Law and the global financial crisis of 2008, construction spending continued to decline, and by 2010, it fell to JPY42tn, just half of the 1992 figure. Thereafter, spending has been increasing due to recovery efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake. Particularly in Tokyo and the neighboring prefectures, strong construction demand may continue due to population inflows, as well as rising demand for rebuilding houses aged 40 years or older, enhancing buildings' earthquake resistance, and making buildings barrier-free. Shared Research believes that the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, the 2025 Osaka World Expo, and the Linear Chuo Shinkansen (high-speed maglev train line), which is scheduled to open for business in 2027, will have positive impacts on construction spending.

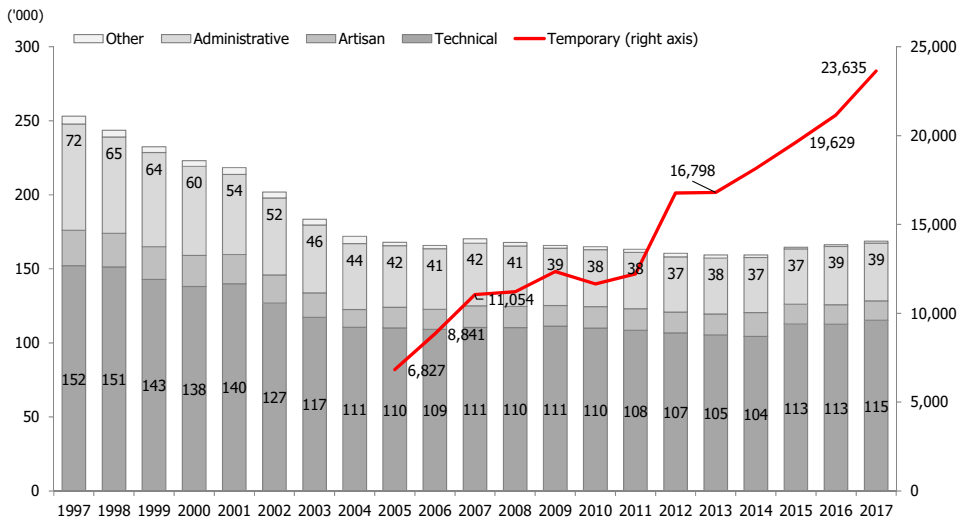
Construction spending



Source: Shared Research based on Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism *Construction Industry Investment Outlook for 2018*
 Note: Figures for 2018 are estimates.

To cope with construction demand, construction companies are cutting back on new hires in favor of hiring many more temporary workers from temporary staffing companies. Based on the figures presented in the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism's *Construction Industry Activity Survey*, Shared Research has calculated that the hiring of temporary workers from temporary staffing companies by major construction companies increased at an average annual rate of 28.8% between 2005 and 2017.

Individuals involved in major construction



Source: Shared Research based on Construction Industry Activity Survey (of 53 companies), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

The rate of population growth is the main long-term demand driver for Tokyo area construction spending. Japan's total population started to decline after peaking in 2004. By contrast, the population of the Greater Tokyo Area has been growing as more economic activity concentrated in the area, leading to increasing job opportunities and higher standards of living, which in turn are attracting more residents, a self-perpetuating loop. Between 1995 and 2000, the population grew by 849,000 people; between 2000 and 2005, by 973,000 people. On average, the population increased by over 150,000 people per year. Since 2006, the pace has slowed, but continues at a rate of more than 100,000 people per year. This migration has been causing regional housing demand to shrink, while sustaining high levels of housing demand in and around Tokyo, a trend partially responsible for making the Greater Tokyo Area the largest megalopolis in the world.

Greater Tokyo Area population

('000)	1995	2000	2005	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Tokyo	11,543	11,850	12,325	12,834	12,869	12,916	12,979	13,044	13,131	13,207	13,273
YoY	-	-	-	0.018891	0.002731	0.003652	0.5%	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%
Kanagawa	8,152	8,391	8,676	8,921	8,934	8,947	8,956	8,967	8,979	8,986	8,989
YoY	-	-	-	0.012054	0.001429	0.001455	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Saitama	6,696	6,875	6,974	7,105	7,117	7,126	7,134	7,143	7,160	7,169	7,174
YoY	-	-	-	0.009031	0.001747	0.001265	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Chiba	5,744	5,869	5,983	6,135	6,135	6,119	6,114	6,114	6,131	6,137	6,141
YoY	-	-	-	0.012415	-3.8E-05	-0.00261	-0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%
Greater Tokyo Area	32,136	32,985	33,958	34,995	35,055	35,108	35,183	35,268	35,402	35,499	35,577
YoY	-	-	-	0.013996	0.001714	0.001512	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%
Change	-	849	973	1,037	60	53	75	85	134	97	78

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications data

Long-term expected population in Greater Tokyo Area

('000)	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
Tokyo	13,515	13,733	13,846	13,883	13,852	13,759	13,607
CAGR	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.2%
Kanagawa	9,126	9,141	9,070	8,933	8,751	8,541	8,313
CAGR	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%
Saitama	7,267	7,273	7,203	7,076	6,909	6,721	6,525
CAGR	0.2%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.4%	-0.5%	-0.5%	-0.6%
Chiba	6,223	6,205	6,118	5,986	5,823	5,646	5,463
CAGR	0.0%	-0.1%	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.6%	-0.7%
Greater Tokyo Area	36,131	36,352	36,237	35,878	35,335	34,667	33,907
CAGR	0.6%	0.1%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.3%	-0.4%	-0.4%

Source: National Institute of Population and Social Security Research data

However, when viewed over a longer time span, say 2020 or 2025, the Tokyo area population is likely to decline. So, over the longer term, it is hard to be overly optimistic about housing demand in the market. Still, what is important to consider here is the balance between the supply (workers) and demand (spending) in the construction industry. In other words, it is necessary to monitor which (the supply or demand) will shrink more rapidly in the long run.

Barriers to entry

Temporary staffing services

As the great number of staffing companies serving the construction industry suggests, the barriers to entry are low. However, it is a business where the track record and reputation matter and growing into a large business is challenging. The construction industry is order driven. This creates uncertainty for the client who cannot know whether construction is going to be completed with high quality and according to specification until the work is done. This means that past performance and the existing relationship of trust with clients are very important.

Competitors

Peers in Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business

There are many of competing firms providing temporary staff to the construction industry, about 100 firms according to the company. However, the industry has seen increasing concentration, with the top five firms responsible for approximately 50% of the market and the top 10 making up about 75%. In descending order, the major players by revenues are: TechnoPro Construction, Inc. (unlisted), Tekken Kosan Co., Ltd. (a subsidiary of Tekken Corporation; TSE1: 1815), and Ikeshita Design Co., Ltd. (unlisted).

The company is independent, a relatively unique trait in the industry populated with general contractor subsidiaries, such as Act Technical Support Co., Ltd. (a subsidiary of Kajima Corporation; TSE1: 1812) and Taisei Staff Services Co., Ltd. (a subsidiary of Taisei Construction; TSE1: 1801). Such firms tend to provide staffing services primarily to their parent company and would not (or cannot) service their parent's competitors. This gives an independent firm like Yumeshin, neutral in its dealings with various general contractors, an important role. Also, as mentioned in Business Description, one important aspect of the company is that it hires young people and proactively sends them out to work at construction sites. According to the company, the competition tends to use veteran employees who used to work at general contractors (older and more expensive staff). Therefore, Shared Research notes that in the construction industry, where younger workers continue to decrease and the entire workforce keeps aging, Yumeshin is in a relatively advantageous position.

Peers in Engineer Temporary Staffing business

Competing firms providing engineer temporary staffing include TechnoPro Holdings Inc. (TSE1: 6028), Meitec Corporation (TSE1: 9744), and Altech Corporation (TSE1: 4641).

Compared with the other companies, Yume Technology focuses more on younger, relatively inexperienced engineers and middle tier (including R&D assistance and evaluation and maintenance support) and support departments, and its billing rate is lower than its peers' rates.

Overview of peers

	Sales (JPYmn)	Gross profit (JPYmn)	Operating profit (JPYmn)	Number of engineers	Billing rate (JPY)	Number of client companies	Detail
Yume Technology	10,380	2,529 (24.4%)	442	2,414	3,294	More than 400	Dispatches engineers to machinery, electrical and electronic apparatus, IT, and chemical manufacturing industries. Primary business areas include middle tier (including R&D assistance and evaluation and maintenance support) and support departments. More

							than 70% of its engineers are in their 20s and early 30s.
TechnoPro Holdings Inc.	116,529	29,475 (25.3%)	11,238	16,797	3,663	2,030	Handles the largest number of engineers and researchers in Japan. Dispatches engineers to technical fields, including machinery, electrical and electronic apparatuses, built-in control systems, IT infrastructure, software development and maintenance, chemistry, biotechnology, and construction management.
Meitec Corporation	93,619	24,368 (26.0%)	11,458	9,065	4,553	About 1,200	Dispatches engineers chiefly to advanced automotive and electrical apparatus manufacturing industries to cover design and development support. The average age of its engineers is 38.6 (as of March 2018), and more than 60% are in their 30s and 40s.
Altech Corporation	30,260	7,523 (24.9%)	3,239	3,175	3,903	About 700	Dispatches engineers to machinery, electrical and electronics apparatus, software, and chemical manufacturing industries to cover various processes from basic research through planning, design, trial manufacturing, evaluation, and analysis.

Note: Yume Technology's results are from FY09/18, TechnoPro Holdings' are from FY06/18, Meitec's are from FY03/18, and Altech's are from FY12/17.

Historical financial statements

Historical performance (for reference)

Full-year FY09/18 results

▷ Sales:	JPY40.4bn (+32.5% YoY)
▷ Operating profit:	JPY5.2bn (+119.6% YoY)
▷ Recurring profit:	JPY4.9bn (+103.8% YoY)
▷ Net income*:	JPY3.6bn (+154.9% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Sales increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments. Profits rose owing to higher billing and staff utilization rates in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, and limited cost increase as measures to control costs (including hiring expenses) proved successful.

Sales finished 3.6% higher than full-year forecast, while operating profit was 4.0% lower, recurring profit fell short by 5.0%, and net income attributable to parent company shareholders came in at 1.7% below forecasts. The company revised its full-year forecasts after its announcement of Q3 financial results, and final performance in sales and all types of profit finished roughly in line with revised forecasts.

Overview by segment are as follows.

Note that figures for segment profit and loss are adjusted to operating profit. The company reclassified its reportable segments from Q1 FY09/18, and YoY comparisons are based on previous year figures that have been adjusted in accordance with the new business segmentation.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

▷ Sales:	JPY29.6bn (+31.0% YoY)
▷ Segment profit:	JPY5.0bn (+73.1% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,500 technicians over the year, as major construction projects related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen got into full swing.

Construction Temporary Staffing business: sales and key metrics of sales performance

Sales increased as the company hired more technicians—leading to an increase in the number of technicians utilized (higher utilization rate)—and increased its billing rates for temporary staff.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 24.3% YoY, the staff utilization rate was up 1.6pp YoY, the average number of hours worked per day was down 0.4%, and the average hourly billing rate of technicians on assignment was up 3.3%

The company focused on hiring and, as a result, it hired 2,764 new technicians in FY09/18 (2,666 in FY09/17). The number of technicians registered in the company's books as of end-September 2018 was 5,066 (+664 YoY). The retention rate fell 1.0pp YoY from 72.8% to 71.8% in FY09/18, but remained above the company's target of 70%. According to Yumeshin, diverse post-hiring follow-up strategies, such as a counseling system for employees using smartphone apps and improved training and activities, have increased connections between the company and its employees despite a downward-trending retention rate accompanying a rise in new hires.

The staff utilization rate (number of technicians on assignment/total number of technicians) rose 1.6pp YoY from 92.2% to 93.8%. The utilization rate rose despite a higher number of technicians due to booming demand and an increase in sales staff at dispatching sites.

The average number of hours worked per day was 9.57 hours, down 0.4% YoY (-0.04 hours). The decline in work hours reflected the government's recent push for shorter working hours and improved conditions. According to Yumeshin, total hours worked by technicians (excluding first-year technicians) during Q4 (July–September 2018) increased 0.3% YoY after declining for twelve consecutive quarters.

Average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,890 (+JPY93 or +3.3% YoY). The ratio of first-year technicians whose average hourly billing rates are relatively low was 41.3% (-5.9pp YoY) as of end-September 2018. Hourly billing rates for the technicians in all age groups increased; by age group, average hourly billing rates for first-year technicians were up 3.7% YoY, second-year up 3.3% YoY, third-year up 2.2% YoY, and four-plus years was up 1.6% YoY. Given the robust demand for construction technician staffing, hourly billing rates have been on an upward trend. In Q4 (July–September 2018), the average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,923 (+JPY120 or +4.3% YoY), outpacing the rate of increase for the full-year. The company had been requesting increases in hourly billing rates as part of its sales activities, but as many of its customers close their books in March, these increases only became apparent starting in Q3 (April–June 2018), which corresponds to the start of the new fiscal year for its customers.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing: Gross profit and SG&A expenses

The segment's gross profit margin rose to 32.4% (+2.3pp YoY) owing to improved staff utilization rates and billing rates. Gross profit increased to JPY9.6bn (+40.9% YoY) on higher sales and the improvement in the gross margin.

SG&A expenses were JPY4.6bn (+17.4% YoY), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 15.6% (-1.8pp YoY). The rise in SG&A expenses was due to higher hiring expenses related to an increase in new hires and a climb in personnel expenses resulting from growth in the sales staff. However, in contrast with the 31.0% growth rate in sales, growth rate in SG&A expenses remained at 17.4% as hiring cost per employee fell. The number of hires made by the company increased due to projects such as the company website renewal. Hires made through recruitment media also increased while the share of hires made through recruitment agencies fell. Hiring cost per person fell thanks to a higher job offer acceptance rate that enabled efficient hiring activities.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY10.4bn (+40.9% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY465mn (+161.8% YoY)

Demand for engineers continued to be robust, primarily in the IT industry, where technological progress is accelerating, and in the manufacturing industry, which has seen strong investments into automatization and labor-saving operations.

Under these conditions, the company set a yearly hiring plan of 1,200 engineers and focused on hiring activities in order to respond to the growing demand for engineers. In FY09/18, the company hired 1,118 engineers (941 engineers in FY09/17) and the number of engineers registered in the company's books as of end-September 2018 was 2,414 (+698 YoY).

Sales were up due to the increase in engineers. As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of engineers was up 44.7% YoY, the staff utilization rate was up 1.4pp YoY, and the billings rate increased 1.2% YoY.

The company hired a total of 1,118 engineers over the full year (versus 941 in FY09/17). Of these new engineers, 666 were female and 80 were foreign nationals. The average number of engineers was 2,046 (versus 1,414 in FY09/17), and the number of engineers on the company's books at end-September 2018 was 2,414 (versus 1,716 at end-September 2017). Out of the total

number of engineers on the company's books, about 20% were high-end engineers while middle-end engineers and technical support engineers each comprised about 40%.

In contrast with high-end engineers, who mainly concentrate on design and development, middle-end engineers are primarily involved with design, evaluations, and maintenance in various fields, including semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry. In addition to general affairs, technical support engineers mainly handle installation of IT products and troubleshooting.

The staff utilization rate of 91.5% was up 1.3pp YoY from 90.2%. The utilization rate has a tendency to fall when the number of engineers increases, but an increase in sales staff helped cultivate new dispatching sites, which brought the rate up.

The segment's gross profit rose 43.5% YoY to JPY2.5bn. The gross profit margin increased 0.5pp YoY to 24.4% thanks to an improved staff utilization rate.

SG&A expenses rose 31.4% YoY to JPY2.1bn and the SG&A-to-sales ratio fell 1.4pp YoY to 20.1%. Hiring expenses and personnel expenses rose along with the number of engineers. Hiring expenses rose particularly in Q4 (July–September 2018) as the company aimed to increase its force of engineers. The company also expanded its administration department and augmented its sales staff to prepare for the future rise in engineer count. With these efforts, SG&A expenses increased to JPY615mn (+JPY35.5% YoY; +13.3% QoQ).

As a result, the segment saw a YoY increase in operating profit while operating profit margin rose 1.9pp YoY to 4.3%.

Other

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY508mn (-22.7% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment loss:** JPY116mn (JPY561mn operating loss in FY09/17)

In the Other segment, the company introduces personnel to various companies in the construction and manufacturing industries and provides hiring support services to Japanese companies which are seeking local personnel in Vietnam.

Q3 FY09/18 results

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY29.7bn (+34.1% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY3.9bn (+119.3% YoY)
- ▷ **Recurring profit:** JPY3.6bn (+96.8% YoY)
- ▷ **Net income*:** JPY2.7bn (+151.1% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Sales increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments accompanying an increase in the number of technicians. Profits rose owing to higher billing and staff utilization rates in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, and limited cost increase as measures to control costs (including hiring expenses) proved successful.

Along with the Q3 FY09/18 results, the company announced revisions to its full-year FY09/18 forecasts. Cumulative Q3 sales reached 76.1% of the revised forecasts (cumulative Q3 FY09/17 sales amounted to 72.5% of the full-year FY09/17 results), operating profit 72.2% (75.3% in Q3 FY09/17 versus full-year FY09/17 results), recurring profit 70.0% (76.3% in Q3 FY09/17 versus full-year FY09/17 results), and net income attributable to parent company shareholders 73.4% (75.8% in Q3 FY09/17 versus full-year FY09/17 results).

The overview by segment is as follows. Note that figures for segment profit and loss are adjusted to operating profit. The company reclassified its reportable segments from Q1 FY09/18, and YoY comparisons are based on previous year figures that have been adjusted in accordance with the new business segmentation.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY21.9bn (+33.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY3.8bn (+77.6% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,500 technicians over the year, as major construction projects related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen got into full swing.

Construction Temporary Staffing business: sales and key metrics of sales performance

Sales increased as the company hired more technicians—leading to an increase in the number of technicians utilized (higher utilization rate)—and increased its billing rates for temporary staff.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 27.2% YoY, the staff utilization rate was up 1.7pp YoY, the average number of hours worked per day was down 0.4%, and the average hourly billing rate of technicians on assignment was up 3.0%

The company focused on hiring and, as a result, it hired 2,087 new technicians in cumulative Q3 FY09/18 (1,865 in Q3 FY09/17). The number of technicians registered in the company's books as of end-June 2018 was 4,978 (+986 YoY). The retention rate fell 0.4pp YoY from 72.6% to 72.2% in Q3 FY09/18, but remained above the company's target of 70%. According to Yumeshin, various post-hiring follow-up strategies such as a counseling system for employees using smartphone apps, improved training as well as clubs activities have increased connections between the company and its employees.

The staff utilization rate (number of technicians on assignment/total number of technicians) rose 1.7pp YoY from 92.4% to 94.1%. In Q3 (April–June 2018), the staff utilization rate rose 2.0pp YoY from 91.1% to 93.1%. According to the company, Q3 coincides with the slow season for construction worker demand, and therefore tends to be accompanied by a decline in the staff utilization rate compared to other quarters. To minimize the effects of the off-season in Q3, the company capped hiring growth at 0.8% YoY in Q3 (+11.9% in cumulative Q3).

The average number of hours worked per day was 9.59 hours, down 0.4% YoY (-0.04 hours). The decline in work hours reflected the government's recent push for shorter working hours and improved conditions.

Average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,879 (+JPY85 YoY or +3.0% YoY). The ratio of first-year technicians whose average hourly billing rates are relatively low was 44.1% (-1.8pp YoY). Hourly billing rates for the technicians in all age groups increased; by age group, average hourly billing rates for first-year technicians were up 3.6% YoY, second-year up 3.5% YoY, third-year up 2.5% YoY, and four-plus years was up 1.6% YoY. Given the robust demand for construction technician staffing, hourly billing rates have been on an upward trend. In Q3 (April–June 2018), the average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,919 (+JPY117 or +4.2% YoY), exceeding the growth for cumulative Q3 FY09/18. The company had been requesting increases in hourly billing rates as part of its sales activities, but as many of its customers close their books in March, these increases only became apparent from Q3, which corresponds to the start of the new fiscal year for its customers.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing: Gross profit and SG&A expenses

The segment's gross profit margin rose to 32.6% (+2.5pp YoY) owing to improved staff utilization rates and billing rates. Gross profit increased to JPY7.1bn (+43.9% YoY) on higher sales and the improvement in the gross margin.

SG&A expenses were JPY3.4bn (+18.8% YoY), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 15.4% (-1.8pp YoY). In addition to a YoY increase in hiring costs, personnel expenses increased due to a growing sales staff, but a higher job offer acceptance rate contributed to effective recruitment. Consequently, the increase in SG&A expenses (+18.8%) lagged sales growth (+33.0%). Hiring costs per person fell to JPY425,000 (JPY419,000 in FY09/17). The company conducted online advertising and other initiatives to prepare for hiring in FY09/19 and beyond, but efficient recruiting activities kept the hiring cost per person more or less unchanged YoY.

Segment profit (operating profit) increased due to the sales growth effects noted above, higher GPM, and curbs on increases in SG&A expenses. The segment operating profit margin rose 4.3pp YoY to 17.2%.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY7.5bn (+40.8% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY415mn (+139.9% YoY)

As overseas economies improved, exports were robust and the business environment improved for automobile, electronic equipment, and semiconductor manufacturers, core clients for Yumeshin. The company dispatches IT engineers in the IT industry, where high investment demand has continued for infrastructure building and IT security. Investment has also increased for areas of leading-edge IT, such as the Internet of Things and artificial intelligence.

Under these conditions, the company set a yearly hiring plan of 1,200 engineers and focused on hiring activities in order to respond to the growing demand for engineers. In Q3 FY09/18, the company hired 732 engineers (77 engineers in Q3 FY09/17) and the number of engineers registered in the company's books as of end-June 2018 was 2,158 (+599 YoY).

Sales were up due to the increase in engineers. As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of engineers was up 45.9% YoY, the staff utilization rate was up 0.8pp. Sales per engineer amounted to JPY3.9mn (-3.5% YoY). With the strategic recruitment of technical support engineers beginning in FY09/17, the proportion of engineers with a relatively low billing rate increased, resulting in a decrease in sales per engineer.

Middle- and low-end engineers mainly manage and operate business systems, including design and development, development evaluation and testing, and quality evaluation of semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry. In addition to general affairs, technical support engineers mainly handle installation of IT products and troubleshooting.

In cumulative Q3 FY09/18, the company hired a total of 732 engineers (versus 655 in cumulative Q3 FY09/17), 59.6% of whom were women and 6.0% foreign nationals. The average number of engineers was 1,941 (versus 1,330 in cumulative Q3 FY09/17), and the number of engineers on the company's books at end-June 2018 was 2,158 (versus 1,559 at end-June 2017).

The staff utilization rate of 91.8% was up 0.8pp from 91.0%. In 1H FY09/18, temporary staff redundancies due to an increase in hiring staff compared to 1H FY09/17 pushed down the staff utilization rate. In cumulative Q3 FY09/18, the staff utilization rate increased as the number of new hires in Q3 (April–June) was kept below the year-earlier level.

The segment's gross profit rose 42.1% YoY to JPY1.9bn. The gross profit margin increased 0.2pp to 24.7% thanks to an improved staff utilization rate.

SG&A expenses rose 29.8% YoY to JPY1.5bn and the SG&A-to-sales ratio fell 1.7pp YoY to 19.6%. In Q4 (July–September), Yumeshin expects hiring costs to increase as it looks to raise its number of engineers, and it plans to expand administrative and sales staff to prepare for future expansion in the number of engineers.

As a result, the segment saw a YoY increase in operating profit while operating profit margin rose 1.9pp YoY to 5.1%.

In July 2018, Yumeshin announced plans to convert Centurion Capital Pacific Limited (P4U) into a subsidiary. P4U is a special purpose entity that holds the shares of P3OPLE4U, Inc., a company that mainly provides IT engineer staffing services in the Philippines. Yumeshin plans to acquire the shares in P4U in Q1 FY09/19. In FY12/17, P4U reported sales of JPY490mn and operating profit of JPY82mn.

Other

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY351mn (-19.7% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment loss:** JPY206mn (JPY413mn operating loss in Q3 FY09/17)

In the Other segment, the company introduces personnel to various companies in the construction and manufacturing industries and provides hiring support services to Japanese companies which are seeking local personnel in Vietnam.

1H FY09/18 results

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY19.3bn (+33.2% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY2.6bn (+100.5% YoY)
- ▷ **Recurring profit:** JPY2.6bn (+86.9% YoY)
- ▷ **Net income*:** JPY1.9bn (+127.4% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Sales increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments. Profits rose owing to higher billing and staff utilization rates in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, and limited cost increase as measures to control costs (including hiring expenses) proved successful.

Progress toward FY09/18 forecasts was sales 49.6% (in 1H FY09/17, sales were 47.6% of the company's FY09/17 full-year results), operating profit 57.5% (54.6%), recurring profit 56.8% (56.5%), and net income attributable to parent company shareholders 64.5% (57.7%). Progress in sales and profits was up YoY. According to Yumeshin, although the number of technicians hired in the Engineer Temporary Staffing business fell short of expectations, the number of technicians hired in the Construction Engineering Temporary Staffing business and average hourly billing rates for technicians on assignment exceeded expectations.

Overview by segment are as follows. Note that figures for segment profit and loss are adjusted to operating profit. The company reclassified its reportable segments from Q1 FY09/18, and YoY comparisons are based on previous year figures that have been adjusted in accordance with the new business segmentation.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY14.4bn (+32.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY2.5bn (+72.6% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,500 technicians over the year, as major construction projects related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen got into full swing.

The share of sales to the top ten clients accounted for 19.6% (22.1% in FY09/17). As the number of customers increased, sales became increasingly decentralized.

By dispatch area, Greater Tokyo made up 68.8% of total sales (-2.7pp YoY), while the Kinki region accounted for 10.8% (+0.5pp YoY), the Chubu region 4.3% (+1.1pp YoY), the Tohoku region 12.2% (-0.4pp YoY), and the Kyushu region 3.9% (-1.7pp YoY). Greater Tokyo and the Tohoku region's share of total sales declined while sales in other areas increased.

For sales by industry, construction made up 42.4% of total sales (-4.4pp YoY), facilities 27.2% (+4.6pp YoY), civil engineering 11.7% (+0.9pp YoY), and others 4.3% (-0.2pp YoY). The share of construction fell while the share of facilities rose.

Construction Temporary Staffing business: sales and key metrics of sales performance

Sales increased as the company hired more technicians—leading to an increase in the number of technicians utilized (higher utilization rate)—and increased its billing rates for temporary staff.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 28.7% YoY, the staff utilization rate was up 1.6pp YoY, the average number of hours worked per day was down 0.6%, and the average hourly billing rate of technicians on assignment was up 2.4%

The company focused on hiring and, as a result, the company hired 1,373 new technicians in 1H FY09/18 (1,155 in 1H FY09/17). The number of technicians registered in the company's books as of end-March 2018 was 4,852 (+987 YoY). Meanwhile, in 1H FY09/18 the retention rate fell 0.9pp YoY from 73.0% to 72.1%. In FY09/15 and FY09/16, the retention rate remained stable at 60–69%, but from FY09/17 onward this increased to 70–79%. The retention of newly hired technicians contributed to the number of registered technicians. According to Yumeshin, various post-hiring follow-up strategies such as a counseling system for employees using smartphone apps, improved training as well as clubs activities have increased connections between the company and its employees.

The staff utilization rate (number of technicians on assignment/total number of technicians) rose 1.6pp YoY from 93.0% to 94.6%. The rise in the utilization rate was due to an increase in sales staff and price negotiations efforts.

The average number of hours worked per day was 9.64 hours, down 1.1% (or 0.06 hours). The decline in work hours reflected the government's recent push for shorter working hours and improved conditions.

Average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,859 (+JPY68 YoY or +2.4%). The ratio of first-year technicians whose average hourly billing rates are relatively low was 46.2% (-0.9pp YoY). Hourly billing rates for the technicians in all age groups increased; by age group, average hourly billing rates for first-year technicians were up 2.7% YoY, second-year up 3.3%, third-year up 2.6%, and four-plus years was up 1.0%. Given the robust demand for construction technician staffing, hourly billing rates have been on an upward trend.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing: Gross profit and SG&A expenses

The segment's gross profit margin rose to 32.5% (+2.0pp YoY) owing to improved staff utilization rates and billing rates. Gross profit increased to JPY4.7bn (+40.9% YoY) on higher sales and the improvement in the gross margin.

SG&A expenses were JPY2.2bn (+16.0% YoY), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 15.0% (-2.1pp YoY). In addition to a YoY increase in hiring costs, personnel expenses increased due to a growing sales staff. Hiring costs per person fell to JPY384,000 (JPY419,000 in FY09/17) as the share of hiring through recruitment agencies declined while the share of direct hiring by Yumeshin rose.

Segment profit (operating profit) was higher and the segment operating profit margin rose 4.1pp YoY to 17.5%.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY4.8bn (+38.8% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment profit:** JPY281mn (+53.6% YoY)

As overseas economies improved, exports were robust and the business environment improved for automobile, electronic equipment, and semiconductor manufacturers, core clients for Yumeshin. The company dispatches IT engineers in the IT industry,

where high investment demand has continued for infrastructure building and IT security. Investment has also increased for areas of leading-edge IT, such as the Internet of Things and artificial intelligence.

Under these conditions, the company set a yearly hiring plan of 1,200 engineers and focused on hiring activities in order to respond to the growing demand for engineers. In 1H FY09/18, the company hired 429 engineers (349 engineers in 1H FY09/17) and the number of engineers registered in the company's books as of end-March 2018 was 1,934 (+554 YoY).

Sales were up due to the increase in engineers. As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of engineers was up 45.8% YoY, the staff utilization rate was down 1.0pp, and the average billing rate was up 2.0% YoY for middle- and low-end engineers and up 2.3% for technical support engineers. Sales per engineer amounted to JPY2.64mn (-4.8% YoY). With the strategic recruitment of technical support engineers beginning in FY09/17, the proportion of engineers with a relatively low billing rate increased, resulting in a decrease in sales per engineer.

Middle- and low-end engineers mainly manage and operate business systems, including design and development, development evaluation and testing, and quality evaluation of semiconductors, electrical and electronic apparatuses, machinery, information technology, and chemistry. In addition to general affairs, technical support engineers mainly handle installation of IT products and troubleshooting.

In Q2 FY09/18 the company hired a total of 429 engineers (versus 349 in Q2 FY09/17), 63% of whom were women and 7% foreign nationals. Yumeshin only hired 35.8% of the 1,200 engineers it planned to hire for the year. The average number of engineers during the year was 1,802 (versus 1,236 in Q2 FY09/17), and the number of engineers on the company's books at end-March 2018 was 1,934 (versus 1,380 at end-March 2017). Technical support engineers make up roughly 40% of all engineers.

The staff utilization rate of 92.7% was down 1.0pp from 93.7% in Q2 FY09/17. Temporary staff redundancies due to an increase in hiring staff compared to Q2 FY09/17 pushed down the utilization ratio.

The average hourly billing rate was JPY3,246 (+2.0% YoY) for middle- and low-end engineers and JPY2,439 (+2.3%) for technical support engineers.

The segment's gross profit rose 35.5% YoY to JPY1.2bn. The gross profit margin fell 0.6pp to 25.1% due to higher share of sales from technical support engineers whose billing rates are relatively low.

SG&A expenses rose 33.5% YoY to JPY928mn and the SG&A-to-sales ratio fell 0.8pp to 19.5%.

As a result, the segment saw a YoY increase in operating profit while operating profit margin rose 0.2pp YoY to 5.6%.

In Q2 FY09/18, the company's subsidiary, Yume Technology Co., Ltd. made Krung thep Co., Ltd., which runs an engineer dispatch business, a wholly-owned subsidiary. Since Krung thep posted sales of JPY560mn and operating profit of JPY13mn in FY01/17, the company does not expect the consolidation of Krung thep to have much of an impact on FY09/18 earnings.

Other

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY224mn (-8.6% YoY)
- ▷ **Segment loss:** JPY128mn (JPY276mn operating loss in 1H FY09/17)

In the Other segment, the company introduces personnel to various companies in the construction and manufacturing industries and provides hiring support services to Japanese companies which are seeking local personnel in Vietnam.

FY09/17 results

▷ Sales:	JPY30.5bn (+31.1% YoY)
▷ Operating profit:	JPY2.4bn (-2.9% YoY)
▷ Recurring profit:	JPY2.4bn (-1.6% YoY)
▷ Net income*:	JPY1.4bn (-12.1% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Revenue increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments. Operating profit in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment was up by 30.1% due to improved wages, however overall operating profit fell due to upfront spending in the Education business and IT business as well as higher expenses related to increased hires in the Engineer Temporary Staffing segment.

Overview by segment:

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

▷ Sales:	JPY22.6bn (+29.9% YoY)
▷ Operating profit:	JPY2.9bn (+30.0% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,000 technicians over the year, as major construction projects related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen got into full swing.

Construction Temporary Staffing business: sales and key metrics of sales performance

Sales increased as the company hired more technicians—leading to an increase in the number of technicians utilized (higher utilization rate)—and increased its billing rates for temporary staff. As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 28.5% YoY, the staff utilization rate was down 0.5pp YoY, the average number of hours worked per day was down 1.0%, and the average hourly billing rate of technicians on assignment was up 3.4%

The company focused on hiring and, as a result, 2,666 new technicians joined the company during FY09/17 (versus 2,018 in FY09/16). The number of technicians registered on the company's books at end-FY09/17 was 4,402 (+1,068 YoY). Meanwhile, the retention rate (number of technicians at period-end/ (number at end of previous period + new hires during current year)) rose 3.9pp YoY from 68.8% to 72.8%. The retention of newly hired technicians contributed to the number of registered technicians. According to Yumeshin, various post-hiring follow-up strategies such as improved training as well as clubs and activities have increased connections between the company and its employees.

The staff utilization rate (number of technicians on assignment/total number of technicians) declined 0.5pp YoY from 92.7% to 92.2%. The decline in utilization rate was due to increased hiring, extended training periods, and a pricing strategy prioritizing staff utilization over billing rates.

The average number of hours worked per day was 9.61 hours, down 1.0% (or 0.9 hours) versus the previous year. The decline in hours work reflected the government's recent push for shorter working hours and improved conditions.

Average hourly billing rate for technicians on assignment was JPY2,797 (+JPY91 YoY or +3.4%). The ratio of first-year technicians whose average hourly billing rates are relatively low was 47.2% (+2.5pp YoY). Hourly billing rates for the technicians in all age groups increased; by age group, average hourly billing rates for first-year technicians were up 4.2% YoY, second-year up 3.1%, third-year up 1.6%, and four-plus years was up 0.3%. Given the robust demand for construction technician staffing, hourly billing rates have been on an upward trend.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing: gross profit and SG&A expenses

The segment's gross profit margin rose to 30.1% (+1.2pp YoY) owing to improved billing rates. Gross profit increased to JPY6.8bn (+35.5% YoY) on higher sales and the improvement in the gross margin.

SG&A expenses were JPY3.9bn (+39.8% YoY), and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 17.4% (+1.2pp YoY). Personnel expenses were up due to increases in hiring costs and growing the sales staff.

Segment profit (operating profit) was higher and the segment operating profit margin of 12.7% was unchanged from the previous year.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY7.4bn (+27.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY178mn (-59.2% YoY)

As overseas economies improved, exports were robust and the business environment improved for automobile, electronic equipment, and semiconductor manufacturers, core clients for Yumeshin. The company dispatches IT engineers in the IT industry, where high investment demand has continued for infrastructure and IT security. Investment has also increased for areas of leading-edge IT, such as the Internet of Things and artificial intelligence.

Based on the growing demand for engineers, the company has revised its yearly hiring plan from Q3 to increase the number of hires from 675 to 1,000. Along with this, in order to construct a nimble training system, the company conducted an initiative to conduct training internally, a task that had been outsourced. In FY09/17, the company hired 941 engineers (460 engineers in FY09/16) and the number of engineers registered in the company's books at end-September 2017 was 1,716 (+585 YoY).

Sales were up due to the increase in engineers. As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of engineers was up 40.7% YoY, the staff utilization rate was down 3.1pp, and the average billing rate was down 3.8%.

During the year, the company hired a total of 941 engineers (versus 460 in FY09/16), 56% of whom were women and 10% of whom were foreign nationals. The average number of engineers during the year was 1,414 (versus 1,005 in FY09/16), and the number of engineers on the company's books at end-September 2017 was 1,716 (versus 1,131 at end-FY09/16).

The staff utilization rate of 90.2% was down 1.8pp from 93.3% in FY09/16. In January 2017, the company boosted its hiring plans from 675 engineers to 1,000, and the increase in staff ended up bringing down the utilization ratio.

The average hourly billing rate was JPY2,972 (-3.8% YoY, or JPY119 less than in FY09/16). This decline was due to the increase in the number of relatively inexperienced engineers following mass recruiting and a broader range of temporary staffing destinations, which expanded from the usual research and development into maintenance support. According to the company, billing rates in the segment declined as expected, but it was able to maintain the profit margin between its billing rates and personnel costs.

The segment's gross profit rose 19.2% YoY to JPY1.8bn though the gross profit margin declined 1.6pp to 23.9%.

SG&A expenses rose 51.9% YoY to JPY1.6bn, driven by increases in hiring costs (recruitment costs) and costs related to the shift to in-house staff training. The jump in SG&A expenses pushed the SG&A-to-sales ratio up 3.5pp to 21.5%.

As a result, the segment saw YoY declines in both its operating profit and operating profit margin.

Education and Training

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY90mn

▷ **Operating loss:** JPY344mn

The company started this business from May 2016 and invested in course curriculum design, education and training facility maintenance and website design.

IT Services

▷ **Sales:** JPY374mn

▷ **Operating loss:** JPY86mn

This new segment was established in Q1 FY09/17. In it the company provided IT services, mainly to the construction industry, and off-shore development services for Vietnam.

FY09/16 results

▷ **Sales:** JPY23.3bn (+10.2% YoY)

▷ **Operating profit:** JPY2.4bn (+40.9% YoY)

▷ **Recurring profit:** JPY2.5bn (+25.7% YoY)

▷ **Net income*:** JPY1.6bn (-13.7% YoY)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Revenue increased on growth in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing and Engineer Temporary Staffing segments. Operating profit was up due to improved wages at the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment. As operating profit increased, so did recurring profit. In FY09/15, the company booked extraordinary gains of JPY1.5bn from the sale of shares in a subsidiary, but as there were no such gains in FY09/16, net income attributable to parent company shareholders was down YoY.

Until FY09/15 segment earnings were adjusted to recurring profit in the consolidated income statement. After Q1 FY09/16, these figures are adjusted to operating profit.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

▷ **Sales:** JPY17.4bn (+25.6% YoY)

▷ **Operating profit:** JPY2.2bn (+27.6% YoY)

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, dispatch demand at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 2,000 technicians over the year, in preparation for the development rush centered on the Greater Tokyo Area and construction related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and to the Linear Chuo Shinkansen.

Sales and key metrics for Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

Sales increased as the company hired more technicians, leading to an increase in the number of technicians utilized and improved hourly wages.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of technicians was up 21.7% YoY, while the staff utilization rate was down 1.9pp YoY, and the average hourly wage increased 2.3% YoY.

As a result of recruiting efforts, the company hired 2,018 new technicians in FY09/16 (1,702 in the previous year). The average number of technicians was 3,027 (2,497 in the previous year) and that of technicians registered in the company's books at end-September 2016 was 3,334 (2,760 at end-September 2015). An improvement of 1.1pp in the retention rate to 68.7%, and

the increase in number of technicians hired led to an increase in the total number of company employees. According to the company, follow-up strategies such as club activities for employees have proven successful in improving the retention rate.

The staff utilization rate was 92.7%, down 1.9pp YoY from 94.6%. This decline was related to the increase in the number of technicians recruited, an expanded training period, and revision of pricing strategies to prioritize the staff utilization rate.

The average hourly wage was JPY2,706 (+2.3% YoY, or JPY62 more than the previous year). The proportion of first-year technicians with relatively low average wages decreased 2.3pp to 44.7%. It is the fourth year since the company started mass hiring, and the ratio of first-year technicians is decreasing. The average wage increased by 2.1pp for first-year technicians, 0.8pp for second-year, and 1.5pp for those in their fourth year or more, but it decreased by 1.6pp for third-year, and.

Focusing on Q4 (July to September) FY09/16, the average hourly wage was JPY2,745 (+7.2% YoY, or JPY184 more than Q4 FY09/15). The average wage rose YoY by 10.4% for first-year technicians and 4.0% for second-years, but decreased by 1.6% for third-years. The average wage also rose 3.2% for technicians in their fourth year or more. A revision of the pricing strategies to prioritize utilization rates was conducted in Q3 FY09/15, but the impact of such strategies has tapered off after a year, and the average hourly wage has improved in general. However, the average wage declined for third-year technicians alone due to a large number of long-term contracts, meaning the revised pricing is still taking effect.

According to the company, there is strong demand of Construction Technician Temporary Staffing, and it recognizes it has yet to face price competition with similar companies in the industry, so it is raising prices. The company restrained hiring in March and April in order to maintain pricing in Q3 (April to June), which is the off-season for construction demand. There are also ongoing negotiations on pricing from Q3 onward, and these factors have led to an uptrend in the average hourly wage.

Gross profit and SG&A expenses for Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

GPM was 28.9% (down 0.2pp YoY) due to the lower staff utilization rate, but gross profit still managed to reach JPY5.0bn (+24.5% YoY) thanks to an increase in sales. In the three months of Q4 (July to September) FY09/16, the GPM was 29.3% (+4.7pp YoY) and gross profit was JPY1.4bn (+32.3% YoY). A revision of the pricing strategies to prioritize utilization rates was conducted in Q3 FY09/15, but the impact tapered off after a year, allowing the average hourly wage to improve.

SG&A expenses came to JPY2.8bn (+22.1% YoY) and the SG&A-to-sales ratio was 16.2% (down 0.4pp YoY). Labor and hiring expenses increased, but hiring costs were kept under control, which helped lower the SG&A-to-sales ratio YoY.

As a result, the segment saw an increase in profit.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

▷ **Sales:** JPY5.8bn (+21.6% YoY)

▷ **Operating profit:** JPY436mn (-9.1% YoY)

Despite the impact from overseas economies on Yumeshin's core manufacturing clients, overall sentiment generally remained the same, with continued high investment demand for streamlining and labor-saving. Yumeshin also dispatches IT engineers in the IT industry, where there has been increasing investment in infrastructure and leading-edge IT (fintech, AR, VR, and IoT), where significant growth is anticipated.

Given this environment, the company was developing new markets, in which it anticipates strong activity from young engineers and female engineers. It also focused on hiring machinery and IT engineers. As a result, in FY09/16, the company hired 460 engineers (289 in FY09/15). The average number of engineers was 1,131 (853 engineers in FY09/15), and the number of engineers registered in the company's books at end-September 2016 was 1,005 (754 at end-September 2015).

Sales were up due to the increase in engineers. Profits were down despite the rise in sales due to an increase in hiring costs.

As for the key metrics of sales performance, the average number of engineers was up 33.8% YoY, while the staff utilization rate was down 2.0pp YoY, and wages decreased 4.8% YoY.

As a result of recruiting efforts, in FY09/16, the company hired 460 engineers (289 in FY09/15). The average number of engineers was 1,131 (853 engineers in FY09/15), and the number of engineers registered in the company's books at end-September 2016 was 1,005 (754 at end-September 2015).

The staff utilization rate was 93.3%, down 2.0pp YoY from 95.3%. This decline was related to the increase in the number of engineers recruited.

The average hourly wage was JPY3,091 (-4.8% YoY, or JPY155 less than FY09/15). This decline was due to the increase in relatively inexperienced engineers following mass recruiting and a broader range of temporary staffing destinations, expanding from the usual research and development into maintenance support. According to the company, prices in the segment declined as expected, and it was able to maintain profit margins of wages and labor costs.

Gross profit came to JPY1.5bn (+21.4% YoY), and the GPM remained flat YoY at 25.5%.

SG&A expenses came to JPY1.0bn (+41.0% YoY), rising owing to increased hiring costs (recruitment costs). The SG&A-to-sales ratio was up 2.5pp YoY to 18.0%.

As a result, the segment saw lower profits despite increased sales.

Recruitment

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY118mn
- ▷ **Operating loss:** JPY54mn

From June 2015 the company began this recruitment business for companies in the construction and manufacturing industries.

FY09/15 results

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY21.1bn (+28.1% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY1.7bn (-7.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Recurring profit:** JPY2.0bn (-33.6% YoY)
- ▷ **Net income:** JPY1.9bn (-16.2% YoY)

Revenue increased on growth in the Temporary Staffing segment for construction technicians and engineers. Although operating profit rose due to improvements in the operation rate and unit fees for temporary staffing in the company's staffing business for construction technicians, overall operating profit was down as operating losses widened in the childcare support, nursing, and overall construction segments. Recurring profit was down YoY, owing to a difficult comparison with FY09/14, when the company booked a gain on the sale of investment securities of JPY958mn. Net income decreased on extraordinary losses of JPY279mn from valuation losses on investment securities, despite extraordinary income of JPY1.49bn from the sale of subsidiaries in the company's non-core businesses.

Construction Technician Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY13.8bn (+18.0% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY1.8bn (+4.3% YoY)

Sales rose as the company was able to utilize more people after hiring more technicians, increase utilization rates, and increase wages for dispatch workers.

Due to an aging workforce and shortage of young workers, demand for dispatch workers at general contractors remained firm. The company focused on hiring, with a target of 1,600 technicians within the year. The company hired 1,702 new technicians in FY09/15 (1,628 in FY09/14). The average number of technicians was 2,497 (2,101 in FY09/14) and that of technicians registered with the company at end-September 2015 was 2,760 (2,277 at end-September 2014).

One of the company's targets for FY09/15 was to improve the retention rate (registered technicians at year-end \div [registered technicians at previous year-end + total number that joined during the year]). To attain this goal, it introduced a site rotation system and the possibility of a minimum guaranteed level of salary for employees in their first year at the company. For employees in their second year, the company created a wage system that reflected their knowledge and qualifications. For employees in their third year and up, Yumeshin offered fixed wages and also followed up with training at head office. As a result, the retention rate showed signs of improvement at 69.4%, up from the 67.8% of the previous year.

The utilization rate increased 1.2pp YoY, from 93.4% to 94.6%. The utilization rate trended down in Q3 owing to reduced demand for personnel from the construction industry. But the company was able to lift the rate higher by controlling new hires.

Average hourly wages increased JPY75 to JPY2,644 (+2.9% YoY). The portion of new technicians—with relatively low wages—fell, and wages rose for technicians who had been with the company for several years, with the exception of those in their second year of employment. The proportion of first-year technicians declined 4.2pp to 47.0% in Q4. Average wages per year of employment were as follows:

- ▷ New technicians: +3.2% YoY
- ▷ Second year: -1.8% YoY
- ▷ Third year: +2.2% YoY
- ▷ Fourth year: +2.3% YoY

Wages for second-year technicians fell owing to measures to prevent employee turnover on grounds of time spent on call: It ensured labor utilization by lowering wages on purpose.

Gross profit totaled JPY4.0bn (+12.3% YoY). GPM decreased 1.5pp YoY to 29.2%. Despite the higher utilization rate and higher average wages, cost of sales rose owing to the decision to provide 100% compensation for time spent on call (previously 60%) from FY09/15.

SG&A expenses were JPY2.3bn (JPY1.9bn in the previous term), and hiring, personnel, and rent expenses (from relocating headquarters) rose. The SG&A-to-sales ratio rose 0.1pp to 16.6%.

Engineer Temporary Staffing

- ▷ **Sales:** JPY4.8bn (+13.9% YoY)
- ▷ **Operating profit:** JPY484mn (+29.2% YoY)

Production recovered at core manufacturing clients, supported by a correction to the yen's appreciation. Yumeshin also dispatches IT engineers in the IT industry, where corporate systems investment is picking up after a few years of restricted investment.

The mainstay engineer outsourcing business booked JPY4.1bn in sales (+29.9% YoY) and JPY432mn in operating profit (+40.5% YoY). The company focused on hiring machinery and IT engineers, acquiring new clients, and increasing utilization rates. The

number of engineers (monthly average at the end of the term) came to 859 (+41.1% from the end of the previous term), unit price stood at JPY3,246 (+0.4% YoY), and utilization rate was 95.3% (-0.7pp YoY).

Income statement

Income statement (JPYmn)	FY09/09	FY09/10	FY09/11	FY09/12	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
	Par.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.
Total sales	5,483	4,862	6,817	10,982	12,538	16,482	21,116	23,271	30,510	40,419
YoY	-22.6%	-11.3%	40.2%	61.1%	14.2%	31.5%	28.1%	10.2%	31.1%	32.5%
Cost of sales	3,723	3,371	4,918	7,824	9,088	11,900	15,966	16,707	21,730	28,081
Gross profit	1,759	1,490	1,899	3,159	3,450	4,583	5,150	6,563	8,781	12,339
GPM	32.1%	30.7%	27.9%	28.8%	27.5%	27.8%	24.4%	28.2%	28.8%	30.5%
SG&A expenses	1,003	970	1,357	1,964	2,220	2,726	3,423	4,130	6,419	7,152
SG&A ratio	18.3%	20.0%	19.9%	17.9%	17.7%	16.5%	16.2%	17.7%	21.0%	17.7%
Operating profit	756	520	543	1,195	1,230	1,857	1,727	2,433	2,362	5,186
YoY	54.5%	-31.2%	4.4%	120.1%	3.0%	51.0%	-7.0%	40.9%	-2.9%	119.6%
OPM	13.8%	10.7%	8.0%	10.9%	9.8%	11.3%	8.2%	10.5%	7.7%	12.8%
Non-operating income	199	185	232	269	648	1,379	356	246	219	187
Non-operating expense	147	152	324	168	107	284	123	216	157	432
Recurring profit	807	552	451	1,296	1,771	2,952	1,960	2,463	2,424	4,941
YoY	117.1%	-31.6%	-18.3%	187.2%	36.7%	66.7%	-33.6%	25.7%	-1.6%	103.8%
RPM	14.7%	11.4%	6.6%	11.8%	14.1%	17.9%	9.3%	10.6%	7.9%	12.2%
Extraordinary gains	25	84	7	10	266	500	1,489	2	63	450
Extraordinary losses	164	150	145	57	42	18	318	4	248	305
Tax charges	-11	78	219	469	536	1,093	1,189	708	910	1,342
Implied tax rate	-1.7%	16.0%	69.7%	37.5%	26.8%	31.8%	38.0%	28.8%	40.6%	26.4%
Net income attrib. to non-controlling interests		23	-7	40	71	95	61	130	-97	108
Net income	679	386	102	739	1,389	2,246	1,882	1,623	1,426	3,636
YoY	106.9%	-43.2%	-73.5%	622.5%	88.0%	61.8%	-16.2%	-13.7%	-12.1%	154.9%
Net margin	12.4%	7.9%	1.5%	6.7%	11.1%	13.6%	8.9%	7.0%	4.7%	9.0%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

From FY09/09 until FY09/10, sales were sluggish as construction of new houses fell due in part to stricter compliance inspections connected to revisions to the Building Standards Law. From FY09/11 until FY09/12, sales rose thanks primarily to the acquisition of Yume Technology as a consolidated subsidiary. Since FY09/13, the company has achieved earnings growth by expanding its staff of technicians and raising billing rates as the construction industry recovers.

FY09/09–FY09/10

Company sales trended downward from FY09/09 until FY09/10. This drop was primarily due to the 2008 global financial crisis and a slump in construction of new houses that occurred as a result of stricter compliance inspections in connection with 2007 revisions to the Building Standards Law.

Operating profit increased by more than 50% while sales fell 22.6% in FY09/09. This rise occurred because SG&A expenses decreased by 35.2% YoY due primarily to reduced payment of overtime wages achieved through the adoption of a flex time system. In FY09/10, operating profit dropped on lower sales.

FY09/11–FY09/12

In January 2011, the company converted Yume Technology (formerly Fullcast Technology Co., Ltd.) into a subsidiary and advanced into the construction technician temporary staffing business. This conversion boosted FY09/11 sales and also brought up FY09/12 sales through Yume Technology's full-year contributions to consolidated earnings.

Growth in operating profit was limited to 4.4% in FY09/11 but expanded by 120.1% in FY09/12. This growth was due to increased profit, which was primarily thanks to a rising utilization rate in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business.

Since FY09/13

Yumeshin hired 1,233 new construction technicians in FY09/13, about three times as many as in FY09/12. The company has since continued to conduct large-scale annual recruitment of more than 1,000 people in Construction Technician Temporary Staffing (2,764 new hires in FY09/18). Since it began, large-scale recruitment has boosted both sales and profit in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment and has driven overall company earnings as well.

Excluding FY09/15 and FY09/17, operating profit has been on an upward trend since FY09/13. In FY09/15, profit increased in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment, the company's primary business, but expanded losses in childcare support, nursing, and overall construction led to a decrease in overall profit. Profit in the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment also increased in FY09/17, but the company invested in the establishment of systems enabling annual recruitment on the scale of 1,000 new hires (compared to 460 new hires in FY09/16) in the Engineer Temporary Staffing segment, and this expenditure resulted in a reduction in profit.

Historical results vs. estimates

Results vs. Initial Est. (JPYmn)	FY09/09	FY09/10	FY09/11	FY09/12	FY09/13	FY09/14	FY09/15	FY09/16	FY09/17	FY09/18
	Par.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.	Cons.
Sales (Initial Est.)	6,250	5,120	5,200	11,000	13,500	18,000	25,000-25,500	23,000	23,000	39,000
Sales (Results)	5,483	4,862	6,817	10,982	12,538	16,482	21,116	23,271	30,510	40,419
Results vs. Initial Est.	-12.3%	-5.0%	31.1%	-0.2%	-7.1%	-8.4%	-	1.2%	32.7%	3.6%
Operating profit (Initial Est.)	680	710	620	1,250	2,100	-	-	-	3,600	5,400
Operating profit (Results)	756	520	543	1,195	1,230	-	-	-	2,362	5,186
Results vs. Initial Est.	11.2%	-26.8%	-12.5%	-4.4%	-41.4%	-	-	-	-34.4%	-4.0%
Recurring profit (Initial Est.)	652	750	620	620	2,200	3,200-4,200	-	-	3,600	5,200
Recurring profit (Results)	807	552	451	1,296	1,771	2,952	-	-	2,424	4,941
Results vs. Initial Est.	23.8%	-26.4%	-27.2%	109.0%	-19.5%	-	-	-	-32.7%	-5.0%
Net income (Initial Est.)	603	560	350	350	1,300	2,100-2,600	2,250-3,200	2,000	2,100	3,700
Net income (Results)	679	386	102	739	1,389	2,246	1,882	1,623	1,426	3,636
Results vs. Initial Est.	12.6%	-31.1%	-70.8%	111.1%	6.8%	-	-	-18.9%	-32.1%	-1.7%

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Balance sheet

Balance sheet (JPY mn)	FY09/09 Par.	FY09/10 Cons.	FY09/11 Cons.	FY09/12 Cons.	FY09/13 Cons.	FY09/14 Cons.	FY09/15 Cons.	FY09/16 Cons.	FY09/17 Cons.	FY09/18 Cons.
TOTAL ASSETS										
Cash and deposits	1,710	2,020	2,304	2,558	4,246	5,755	11,460	8,724	8,556	11,301
Marketable securities	-	-	1	7	17	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts receivable	744	721	1,425	1,626	1,860	2,524	2,748	3,642	4,854	5,973
Inventories	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other current assets	377	322	260	583	373	607	1,023	988	1,459	1,629
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-17	-37	-74	-85	-22	-32	-22	-22	-30	-18
Total current assets	2,816	3,027	3,917	4,684	6,457	8,856	15,210	13,334	14,839	18,887
Buildings and structures (net)	734	634	761	739	823	469	462	583	489	435
Machinery, equipment and vehicles (net)	7	2	5	3	2	12	7	5	3	3
Land	664	578	578	578	578	278	408	703	505	395
Other fixed assets (net)	-	3	24	16	16	15	26	36	65	91
Total tangible fixed assets	1,405	1,230	1,388	1,412	1,465	811	940	1,353	1,080	938
Investment securities	347	467	293	689	1,166	1,072	1,772	1,566	2,602	2,053
Investment real estate (net)	-	-	-	-	-	1,135	1,118	1,106	-	-
Other	294	321	273	219	273	516	409	521	786	942
Investments and other assets	641	788	566	908	1,440	2,723	3,299	3,193	3,388	2,995
Intangible fixed assets	40	36	759	666	553	416	348	1,221	1,060	744
Total fixed assets	2,086	2,055	2,713	2,986	3,458	3,950	4,588	5,766	5,528	4,678
Total deferred assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	34	7
Total assets	4,902	5,082	6,630	7,670	9,916	12,806	19,798	19,118	20,401	23,571
LIABILITIES										
Accounts payable	10	8	10	14	9	12	9	11	25	9
Short-term debt	1,119	702	2,195	1,826	840	856	1,106	891	1,733	1,309
Accrued expenses	225	262	521	551	643	799	1,069	1,058	1,408	2,026
Other current liabilities	184	130	674	1,011	964	1,925	1,848	1,591	2,681	3,303
Total current liabilities	1,538	1,102	3,400	3,402	2,455	3,593	4,031	3,552	5,848	6,647
Long-term debt	1,198	2,020	1,088	1,509	1,649	893	1,219	1,645	1,045	2,538
Other fixed liabilities	5	4	384	423	433	414	430	410	487	414
Total fixed liabilities	1,203	2,024	1,472	1,932	2,082	1,307	1,649	2,055	1,532	2,952
Total liabilities	2,740	3,126	4,872	5,334	4,538	4,899	5,681	5,606	7,381	9,599
Net assets										
Capital stock	805	805	805	805	805	805	805	805	805	805
Capital surplus	868	868	868	868	2,205	3,803	9,346	9,555	9,701	9,718
Retained earnings	1,460	1,693	1,670	2,262	3,323	3,842	3,488	2,315	1,317	2,267
Treasury stock	-975	-1,375	-1,770	-1,790	-1,290	-1,013	-0	-0	-0	-0
Share subscription rights	-	-	3	11	6	13	19	96	72	72
Non-controlling interests	-	2	193	227	376	518	542	847	1,026	1,028
Total net assets	2,161	1,956	1,757	2,336	5,378	7,907	14,117	13,512	13,080	13,973
Working capital	735	714	1,417	1,614	1,852	2,513	2,740	3,632	4,829	5,965
Total interest-bearing debt	2,317	2,722	3,284	3,335	2,488	1,749	2,325	2,536	2,779	3,847
Net debt	606	702	978	771	-1,774	-4,006	-9,136	-6,187	-5,777	-7,454

Source: Shared Research based on company data

Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Assets

The company's assets have varied considerably due to the addition and removal of subsidiaries from the scope of consolidation.

At end-FY09/04, total assets were 5.3 billion yen, but total assets grew to 47.9 billion yen in FY09/06. Starting in FY09/07, the company reversed the acquisition trend and began focusing on its main operations. The company sold non-core businesses during FY09/07. Total assets fell to 4.9 billion yen for FY09/09.

The company's assets increased due to growth at its core businesses, and in FY09/18, total assets stood at JPY23.6bn. Liquid assets, a major asset item on the balance sheet, accounted for 80.1% of total assets. The company's core business is staffing, with the majority of its liquid assets in cash and deposits (47.9% of total assets in FY09/18) and in accounts receivable (notes and accounts receivables) (25.3%). Following dividend payments of JPY2.6bn during FY09/18, the company finished FY09/18 with a combined cash and deposit balance of JPY11.3bn.

Tangible fixed assets are mainly the company's head office and its various hiring centers. Together they constituted 4.0% of total assets in FY09/18.

Liabilities

The company had JPY2.6bn of interest-bearing debt at end-FY09/04, which grew to JPY23.7bn at end-FY09/06 because of business expansion that relied on M&A and the creation of new subsidiaries. The company subsequently refocused on its main operations and as of end-FY09/18 interest-bearing debt was down to JPY3.8bn. Net debt (interest-bearing debt minus cash and cash equivalents [including short-term investment securities]) has been on the decline since FY09/13 (overrunning cash and cash equivalents).

Net assets

Vary in response to acquisitions of treasury stock or changes in retained earnings as net income or loss are realized each term. The increase in net assets after end-FY09/13 was largely due to retained earnings and disposal of treasury stock. Capital stock in FY09/13, FY09/14 and FY09/15 increased JPY1.8bn, JPY1.9bn and JPY6.6bn respectively following the disposal of treasury stock.

The equity ratio fell to 3.3% in FY09/06 and, following financial and other restructuring, stands at 54.6% as of end-FY09/18.

Statement of cash flows

Statement of cash flows (JPYmn)	FY09/09 Par.	FY09/10 Cons.	FY09/11 Cons.	FY09/12 Cons.	FY09/13 Cons.	FY09/14 Cons.	FY09/15 Cons.	FY09/16 Cons.	FY09/17 Cons.	FY09/18 Cons.
Cash flows from operating activities (1)	941	558	528	1,064	793	1,659	713	726	1,536	3,929
Cash flows from investing activities (2)	82	-498	-409	202	180	620	-178	-1,118	417	415
Free cash flow (1+2)	1,024	60	119	1,267	973	2,279	535	-392	1,953	4,345
Cash flows from financing activities	-1,237	-178	4	-152	595	-734	5,272	-2,173	-2,027	-1,592
Depreciation and amortization (A)	26	35	84	168	79	165	212	223	424	421
Capital expenditures (B)	-49	135	-80	-6	-40	-887	-393	-474	-144	-116
Working capital changes (C)	-359	-21	703	197	238	662	227	892	1,197	1,136
Simple FCF (NI + A + B - C)	1,015	576	-596	704	1,189	862	1,474	480	508	2,805

Source: Shared Research based on company data
 Note: Figures may differ from company materials due to differences in rounding methods.

Cash flows from operating activities

Trends for cash flows from operating activities are typical, varying with net income or loss and changes in working capital. In FY09/06 and FY09/07 cash flows from operating activities were negative. The principle causes were a sudden increase in working capital FY09/06, and net losses in FY09/07.

Cash flows from investing activities

Cash flows from investing activities vary mainly with acquisition or sale of investment securities.

In FY09/16, cash flows from investing activities were the result of outflows of JPY1.1bn (minus). This came from capital and business alliances and the conversion of certain companies to subsidiaries to facilitate human resource education and the dispatch of temporary staff for IT technology in the future. A breakdown shows outflows of JPY204mn to acquire affiliate shares, JPY455mn to acquire subsidiary stocks and JPY103mn to transfer a business.

Cash flows from financing activities

Through FY09/06, the cash flows from financing activities tended to be positive due to the issue of corporate bonds or borrowings accompanying the expansion of operations. Since FY09/07 the trends reversed as the company repaid bank debt and redeemed corporate bonds. The disposition of treasury shares in FY09/15 generated an income of JPY6.6bn, resulting in a positive cash flow from financing activities.

Simple free cash flow

The main sources of change have come from changes in the net income and working capital.

Other information

History

The company was founded in 1970 as a construction design office by Shingo Sato, current Chairman and CEO. Subsequently, it became Sato Construction Design Ltd., and in October 1990, in order to expand the size of the business, the company was incorporated (and changed its name to Yumeshin Co., Ltd.). The company started a staffing business in 1991. The company launched an M&A-based expansion program in 2005, with the goal of becoming a general construction company, but with the harsh business environment and worsening business efficiency, all of the acquired firms were sold off. Since that time, the company has focused on developing its core staffing business in the construction industry.

January 1980	Established Sato Construction Design Ltd. aiming to provide construction drawings
April 1985	Started building overseas network for construction drawings
April 1987	Started ordering construction drawing to design offices overseas
October 1990	Incorporated and changed its name to Yumeshin Co., Ltd.
March 1991	Started operation of Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business
October 1994	Relocated head office to 3-23-14 Higashi-ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo
December 1996	Established Yumeshin Vietnam Co., Ltd. to enhance overseas production capacity
December 2001	Started research on, and prototype provision of, color construction drawings
September 2003	Listed on the Osaka Stock Exchange (Hercules: 2362)
April 2004	Relocated head office to 3-1-1 Higashi-ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo
April 2005	Transitioned to a pure holding company and changed name to Yumeshin Holdings Co., Ltd. New company Yumeshin Co., Ltd. established for succession of business operations
February 2006	Relocated head office to 3-11-6 Otsuka, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo
October 2007	Yumeshin Holdings Co., Ltd. took over Yumeshin Co., Ltd. in absorption-type merger
October 2010	Listed on Osaka Securities Exchange JASDAQ following market consolidation
January 2011	Made Unitech Soft Co., Ltd. a subsidiary
May 2011	Made Yume Technology Co., Ltd. (former Fullcast Technology Co., Ltd.) a subsidiary through tender offer
January 2012	Opened Yume Tansaku Café, a satellite office for recruiting, in Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, ahead of other sites in Japan
July 2013	Listed on Tokyo Stock Exchange JASDAQ following market consolidation
October 2014	Merged Yume Technology Co., Ltd. with Unitech Soft Co., Ltd. in absorption-type merger Group technicians exceeded 2000.
November 2014	Relocated head office to 1-4-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo
February 2015	Established Yume Agent Co., Ltd.
August 2015	Yume Agent Co., Ltd. made Buzz Box Co., Ltd. a subsidiary Number of group-wide technicians at work exceeded 3,000
December 2015	Yume Agent Co., Ltd. established Yumeagent Philippines Corp.
May 2016	Established subsidiary Yume Education Co., Ltd.
August 2016	Made Yume Solutions Co., Ltd. (former Social Fintech Co.) a subsidiary
November 2016	Group-wide technicians at work exceeded 4,000
January 2017	Yume Agent Co., Ltd. acquired Buzz Box Co., Ltd. in absorption-type merger
March 2017	Certified as excellent staffing operator in MHLW-commissioned Excellent Worker-Dispatch Operator Certification System
June 2017	Yume Education Co., Ltd. established Construction Qualifications Promotion Center Co., Ltd. Yume Agent Co., Ltd. made Yumeagent Vietnam Co., Ltd. a subsidiary
July 2017	Group-wide technicians at work exceeded 5,000
October 2017	Yume Technology Co., Ltd. made Taiwan-based 178 Live Market Co., Ltd. (which operates 178 Human Resources Bank) a subsidiary

December 2017 Yume Technology Co., Ltd. made Krung thep Co., Ltd. a subsidiary
Group-wide technicians at work exceeded 6,000

News and topics

December 2018

On **December 19, 2018**, the company announced a share repurchase.

Overview of the share repurchase

- ▷ Type of shares to be repurchased: Common shares of Yumeshin Holdings
- ▷ Number of shares to be repurchased: 2,700,000 shares (upper limit; 3.6% of total shares issued excluding treasury stock)
- ▷ Total amount: JPY2.0bn (upper limit)
- ▷ Repurchase period: December 20, 2018 to June 19, 2019
- ▷ Repurchase method: Purchase on the open market based on a discretionary trading contract

November 2018

On **November 14, 2018**, the company announced the conclusion of a share exchange agreement which will make Yume Technology Co., Ltd. a wholly-owned subsidiary.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held the same day, the Board passed a resolution to execute a share exchange which would make Yume Technology a wholly-owned subsidiary of the company, which would become the wholly owning parent company. Both parties subsequently entered into a share exchange agreement.

Upon resolutions related to this agreement being approved at the Yume Technology General Meeting of Shareholders (planned for December 18, 2018) and the company General Meeting of Shareholders (planned for December 19, 2018), the companies plan to execute this agreement effective January 31, 2019. The company will offer 0.75 of its shares per one share of Yume Technology stock. The company plans to issue 3,778,800 shares of its stock (equal to 5.1% of total issued shares as of September 30, 2018) through this share exchange.

Prior to the effective date of this share exchange, the common shares of Yume Technology will be delisted from the JASDAQ market of the Tokyo Stock Exchange as of January 28, 2019.

October 2018

On **October 4, 2018**, the company announced acquisition of shares in Sanritsu Design, Co., Ltd., making it a subsidiary.

At a meeting of its Board of Directors, the company decided to purchase all outstanding shares of Sanritsu Design (shares to be purchased: 40,000 shares, purchase price: undisclosed, share transfer date: October 4, 2018), and make Sanritsu Design a subsidiary.

Sanritsu Design has registered in its book some 40 engineers highly specialized in the fields of construction machinery and liquid crystals that are expected to continue to be in high demand. Strengths of Sanritsu Design's engineers lie in advanced plotting and design skills using latest 2D/3D CAD. As most engineers registered in the company's books for the Engineer Temporary Staffing business are young and inexperienced, the company can expect to complement its registered engineer base and strengthen technological capability through the acquisition. Further, because Sanritsu Design has a solid customer base comprising large companies such as Hitachi Group, the company can expect to expand its client base for its Engineer Temporary Staffing business.

Sanritsu Design's financial performance and position for the last three years (JPYmn)

Fiscal year	FY03/16	FY03/17	FY03/18
Net assets	393	39	91

Total assets	421	199	152
Sales	417	378	368
Operating profit	25	(390)	38
Recurring profit	28	(347)	52
Net income	20	(349)	52

September 2018

On **September 28, 2018**, the company announced acquisition of shares in Neplus K.K., making it a subsidiary.

At a meeting of its Board of Directors, the company decided to purchase all outstanding shares of Neplus (shares to be purchased: 1,000 shares, purchase price: JPY2.0bn, share transfer date: October 1, 2018), and make Neplus a subsidiary.

Neplus sells and rents IT devices (mainly CISCO products) and dispatches IT engineers. While most engineers registered in the company's books for the Engineer Temporary Staffing business are young and inexperienced, Neplus mainly dispatches its engineers to companies involved in upstream processing (design and development) which requires a certain level of experience and know-how. Hence, the company can expect to complement its registered engineer base and strengthen technological capability through consolidating Neplus. Further, because Neplus dispatches engineers to multiple clients the company has not had businesses with, the company can expect to expand its customer base.

Neplus' financial performance and position for the last three years (JPYmn)

Fiscal year	FY12/15	FY12/16	FY12/17
Net assets	220	319	363
Total assets	503	613	644
Sales	1,142	1,149	1,272
Operating profit	93	147	68
Recurring profit	117	151	71
Net income	74	99	44

On **September 7, 2018**, the company announced revisions to its FY09/18 earnings forecasts.

Revised forecasts for FY09/18

- ▷ Sales: JPY39.0bn (versus previous forecast of JPY39.0bn)
- ▷ Operating profit: JPY5.4bn (versus JPY4.5bn)
- ▷ Recurring profit: JPY5.2bn (versus JPY4.5bn)
- ▷ Net income*: JPY3.7bn (versus JPY2.9bn)
- ▷ Earnings per share: JPY49.62 (versus JPY38.89)

*Net income refers to net income attributable to parent company shareholders.

Reason for forecast revision

The company attributed upward revision to its earnings forecasts to strong trends at its mainstay Construction Technician Temporary Staffing segment and smaller losses at the Other Businesses segment, where restructuring is running ahead of schedule, which together are more than enough to offset the downward revision to its earnings forecasts for the Engineer Temporary Staffing segment announced in August 2018.

On **the same day**, the company announced its new medium-term management plan covering FY09/19 through FY09/21. The new medium-term plan takes into account the external environment as well as prospective trends in sales and earnings.

Basic plan: Company moves up target date for reaching group-wide goal of 10,000 technicians, raises operating profit target to JPY10.0bn
 At its Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business, Yumeshin sees continued strong demand for construction site supervisors to meet the needs stemming from construction related to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics and the

growing number of redevelopment projects being undertaken in the Greater Tokyo Area. The company also sees demand remaining strong after 2020 as redevelopment continues in the Greater Tokyo Area (with projects in such areas as Shinagawa, Yaesu, and Shibuya), aging infrastructure is replaced, and more redevelopment projects are undertaken in rural areas to create cities based on the "compact city" urban design concept. To keep up with the expected growth in demand, the company plans to maintain an annual hiring goal of more than 2,800 technicians with the aim of having 7,800 technicians registered in the company's books at end-FY09/21.

At its Engineer Temporary Staffing business, Yumeshin sees the shortage of IT technicians growing even worse in light of the announcement by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry that by the year 2030 they expected there to be a shortage of roughly 790,000 IT engineers in Japan alone. The shortage of IT engineers is expected to be felt more and more in the R&D departments of Japanese manufacturers as they step up efforts to develop new production automation and optimization technologies that make use of AI and IoT. To help meet those needs, during FY09/19 the company is planning to front-load spending at its administration, training, and sales departments to handle the increase in hiring and the addition to its engineering staff, with the goal of being able to consistently hire at least 2,000 engineers every year. The company's goal is to have at least 5,000 engineers on staff in its Engineer Temporary Staffing business by end-FY09/21.

Under the previous medium-term management plan (announced in November 2017), the company had set its sights on a group-wide total of 10,000 technicians by end-FY09/20. In its new medium-term plan, the company has moved up the target date for achieving that goal to the end of FY09/20 and, based on this, has set a target for consolidated operating profit of JPY10.0bn in FY09/21.

Consolidated earnings forecasts under new medium-term plan

Earnings plan (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Est.	FY09/19 Target	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
Sales	39,000	50,000	63,500	76,200
YoY	27.8%	28.2%	27.0%	20.0%
Operating profit	5,400	6,000	8,000	10,000
YoY	128.6%	11.1%	33.3%	25.0%
OPM	13.8%	12.0%	12.6%	13.1%
Net income	3,700	4,100	5,400	6,800
YoY	159.5%	10.8%	31.7%	25.9%
Net margin	9.5%	8.2%	8.5%	8.9%

Targets under new medium-term plan for Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business

Construction Technician Temp. Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Est.	FY09/19 Target	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
No. of technicians hired	2,700	2,800	2,900	3,000
No. of technicians (year end)	5,200	5,900	6,800	7,800
Net increase	798	700	900	1,000
Sales	29,000	36,000	43,000	50,000
YoY	28.3%	24.1%	19.4%	16.3%
Operating profit	5,100	6,000	7,000	8,000
YoY	77.3%	17.6%	16.7%	14.3%
OPM	17.6%	16.7%	16.3%	16.0%

Targets under new medium-term plan for Engineer Temporary Staffing business

Engineer Temporary Staffing (JPYmn)	FY09/18 Est.	FY09/19 Target	FY09/20 Target	FY09/21 Target
No. of technicians hired	1,200	1,800	2,000	2,200
No. of technicians (year end)	2,400	3,400	4,400	5,500
Net increase	684	1,000	1,000	1,100
Sales	10,000	13,000	19,500	25,000
YoY	35.4%	30.0%	50.0%	28.2%
Operating profit	380	0	1,000	1,800
YoY	117.2%	n/a	n/a	80.0%
OPM	3.8%	0.0%	5.1%	7.2%

August 2018

On **August 10**, the company announced revisions to earnings forecasts of its subsidiary (Yume Technology Co., Ltd.) and the booking of extraordinary losses.

The company's consolidated subsidiary Yume Technology Co., Ltd. announced revisions to its FY09/18 full-year earnings forecasts and the booking of extraordinary losses.

The company stated that the impact from the above revisions on FY09/18 earnings will be minimal as the Construction Technician Temporary Staffing business (its core business) continues to be robust owing to an increase in the number of technicians and improved billing rates, which exceeded the company's assumptions. Yumeshin has also been moving up its initial plan to streamline unprofitable businesses.

February 2018

On **February 16, 2018**, the company announced a sale of shares in an affiliated company and the booking of an extraordinary gain.

The company sold its shares in an affiliated company, BtcBox Co., Ltd. to BtcBox CEO, Mr. David Zhang on February 16. As a result of the transfer of shares, Yumeshin plans to book an extraordinary gain of JPY200mn in its FY09/18 consolidated earnings.

Major shareholders

Top shareholders	Shares held ('000)	Shareholding ratio
Shingo Sato	18,425	24.71%
Sato Sogokikaku Limited	12,444	16.69%
Japan Trustee Services Bank, Ltd. (Trust account)	3,325	4.46%
The Master Trust Bank of Japan, Ltd. (Trust account)	3,150	4.22%
GOLDMAN SACHS INTERNATIONAL	965	1.29%
Hideki Fukai	880	1.18%
Trust & Custody Services Bank, Ltd. (Securities investment trust account)	692	0.93%
Yoshiko Sato	688	0.92%
MSIP CLIENT SECURITIES	569	0.76%
JPMC GOLDMAN SACHS TRUST JASDEC LEND ING ACCOUNT	550	0.74%
SUM	41,688	55.90%

Source: Shared Research based on company data (as of end-September 2018)

Top management

The representative directors are the Chairman, Shingo Sato, and the President, Daio Sato.

Chairman of the Board, Shingo Sato

Chairman of the Board, Shingo Sato, founded Sato Construction Design (now Yumeshin) at the age of 23 in 1970 and became President. He became President and Chairman of the Board in 2005 and Chairman of the Board (present post) in 2015.

President, Daio Sato

President, Daio Sato, joined Nomura Real Estate Development Co., Ltd. He joined Yumeshin in 2010, became Director in 2015 and President (present post) in 2015.

Dividends and shareholder benefits

The company dividend policy links dividends to the level of profitability. In its medium-term management plan, which was announced in FY09/18, the company indicated its intention to pay a minimum dividend of JPY35 per share every year through FY09/20, and would increase the dividend or undertake share buybacks depending on actual results.

For FY09/19, the company plans to pay an annual dividend of JPY35 (payout ratio 63.7%), including an interim dividend of JPY15.0.

Employees

Yumeshin employed 8,187 employees at the consolidated level as of end-FY09/18 (5,514 at the parent). Parent company employees' average age of 29.3 and have been working with the company 2.3 years.

Company profile

Company Name	Head Office
YUMESHIN HOLDINGS Co., Ltd.	Marunouchi Eiraku Bldg., 22F 1-4-1 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, Japan 100-0005
Phone	Listed On
+81-3-3210-1200	JASDAQ Standard
Established	Exchange Listing
January 28, 1980	September 18, 2003
Website	Fiscal Year-End
http://www.yumeshin.co.jp/	September
IR Contact	IR Web
-	http://www.yumeshin.co.jp/ir/
IR Mail	IR Phone
-	+81-3-3210-1212

We offer corporate clients comprehensive report coverage, a service that allows them to better inform investors and other stakeholders by presenting a continuously updated third-party view of business fundamentals, independent of investment biases. Shared Research can be found on the web at <http://www.sharedresearch.jp>.

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Aeon Delight Co., Ltd.	Fujita Kanko Inc.	Oki Electric Industry Co., Ltd
Aeon Fantasy Co., Ltd.	Gamecard-Joyco Holdings, Inc.	ONO SOKKI Co., Ltd.
Ai Holdings Corporation	GCA Corporation	ONWARD HOLDINGS CO.,LTD.
ANEST IWATA Corporation	Grandy House Corporation	Pan Pacific International Holdings Corporation
AnGes Inc.	Hakuto Co., Ltd.	PARIS MIKI HOLDINGS Inc.
Anicom Holdings, Inc.	Happinet Corporation	PIGEON CORPORATION
Anritsu Corporation	Harmonic Drive Systems Inc.	RACCOON HOLDINGS, Inc.
Apaman Co., Ltd.	HOUSEDO Co., Ltd.	RESORTTRUST, INC.
Arealink Co.,Ltd.	IDOM Inc.	ROUND ONE Corporation
Artspark Holdings Inc.	IGNIS LTD.	RVH Inc.
AS ONE CORPORATION	Inabata & Co., Ltd.	RYOHIN KEIKAKU CO., LTD.
Ateam Inc.	Infocom Corporation	SarBio Company Limited
Aucfan Co., Ltd.	Infomart Corporation	SANIX INCORPORATED
AVANT CORPORATION	Intelligent Wave, Inc.	Sanrio Company, Ltd.
Axell Corporation	ipet Insurance CO., Ltd.	SATO HOLDINGS CORPORATION
Azbil Corporation	istyle Inc.	SBS Holdings, Inc.
AZIA CO., LTD.	Itochu Enex Co., Ltd.	Seikagaku Corporation
BEENOS Inc.	JSB Co., Ltd.	Seria Co.,Ltd.
Bell-Park Co., Ltd.	JTEC Corporation	SHIP HEALTHCARE HOLDINGS, INC.
Benefit One Inc.	J Trust Co., Ltd	SIGMAXYZ Inc.
B-lot Co.,Ltd.	Japan Best Rescue System Co., Ltd.	SMS Co., Ltd.
Canon Marketing Japan Inc.	JINS Inc.	Snow Peak, Inc.
Career Design Center Co., Ltd.	JP-HOLDINGS, INC.	Solasia Pharma K.K.
Carna Biosciences, Inc.	KAMEDA SEIKA CO., LTD.	SOURCENEXT Corporation
CARTA HOLDINGS, INC	Kenedix, Inc.	Star Mica Co., Ltd.
CERES INC.	KFC Holdings Japan, Ltd.	Strike Co., Ltd.
Chiyoda Co., Ltd.	KI-Star Real Estate Co., Ltd.	SymBio Pharmaceuticals Limited
Chugoku Marine Paints, Ltd.	Kondotec Inc.	Synchro Food Co., Ltd.
cocokara fine Inc.	Kumiai Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.	TAIYO HOLDINGS CO., LTD.
COMSYS Holdings Corporation	Lasertec Corporation	Takashimaya Company, Limited
CRE, Inc.	LUCKLAND CO., LTD.	Take and Give Needs Co., Ltd.
CREEK & RIVER Co., Ltd.	MATSUI SECURITIES CO., LTD.	Takihyo Co., Ltd.
Daiseki Co., Ltd.	Medical System Network Co., Ltd.	TEAR Corporation
DIC Corporation	MEDINET Co., Ltd.	Tenpo Innovation Inc.
Digital Arts Inc.	MedPeer,Inc.	3-D Matrix, Ltd.
Digital Garage Inc.	Mercuria Investment Co., Ltd.	TKC Corporation
DIGITAL HEARTS HOLDINGS Co., Ltd	Milbon Co., Ltd.	TOKAI Holdings Corporation
Dream Incubator Inc.	MIRAIT Holdings Corporation	Tri-Stage Inc.
Earth Corporation	Monex Goup Inc.	VISION INC.
Elecom Co., Ltd.	NAGASE & CO., LTD	VISIONARY HOLDINGS CO., LTD.
Emergency Assistance Japan Co., Ltd.	NAIGAI TRANS LINE LTD.	WirelessGate, Inc.
en-Japan Inc.	NanoCarrier Co., Ltd.	YELLOW HAT LTD.
euglena Co., Ltd.	Net One Systems Co.,Ltd.	YOSHINOYA HOLDINGS CO., LTD.
Evolable Asia Corp.	Nichi-Iko Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.	YUMESHIN HOLDINGS CO., LTD.
FaithNetwork Co., Ltd.	Nihon Denkei Co., Ltd.	Yume no Machi Souzou Inkai Co., Ltd.
Ferrotec Holdings Corporation	Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.	Yushiro Chemical Industry Co., Ltd.
FIELDS CORPORATION	NIPPON PARKING DEVELOPMENT Co., Ltd.	ZAPPALLAS, INC.

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