# FY 2008 First-Half Financial Results

# Six months ended September 30, 2007



**November 16, 2007** 

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Representative Director and CEO

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# I. Summary of Consolidated Results of FY2008 1H

# FY2008 1H Financial Results (Consolidated)



(Hundred Million Yen)

			FY2008 1H			
	FY2007 1H Results	Initial Plan	Actual			
		IIIIII FIAII	Results	vs. FY07 1H	vs. Plan	
Chain-wide Retail Sales	1,429	1,476	1,448	+1.3%	1.9%	
Net Sales	1,166	1,284	1,295	+11.0%	+0.9%	
Gross Profit	361	398	396	+10.0%	0.5%	
% of Net Sales	31.0%	31.0%	30.6%			
SG&A	301	355	366	+21.5%	+3.1%	
% of Net Sales	25.9%	27.6%	28.3%			
Operating Income	59	43	30	48.8%	30.2%	
% of Net Sales	5.1%	3.3%	2.3%			
Ordinary Income	86	62	48	44.1%	22.6%	
% of Net Sales	7.4%	4.8%	3.7%			
Net Income	50	34	20	59.4%	41.2%	
% of Net Sales	4.3%	2.6%	1.6%			

Amounts are rounded down to the nearest hundred million yen.

<sup>%</sup> of Net Sales and YoY comparison are calculated in million yen.

# FY2008 1H Financial Summary (Consolidated)



		Factors for Increases and Decreases
Consolidated Net Sales	vs. FY07 1H +12.9billion	<ul> <li>Acquisition of US auto-parts retailer, Strauss Discount Auto</li> <li>Growth in new business initiatives – automobile sales, inspection and maintenance services, and motorcycle goods sales</li> <li>Incorporation of the oil distribution company, PALSTAR</li> </ul>
Trust Galles	vs. Plan +1.1billion	<ul> <li>Domestic store sales lower than the initial plan</li> <li>Sales transaction of AUTOBACS STRAUSS beginning in Q1, earlier than the initial schedule of Q2</li> </ul>
Gross Profit	vs. FY07 1H +3.5billion	<ul> <li>Sales growth in overseas business – relatively high gross profit rate</li> <li>Wholesale price cuts mainly in car electronics products</li> </ul>
O1033 1 TOIL	vs. Plan 0.2billion	<ul><li>Wholesale gross profit lower than the initial plan</li><li>Weak sales at subsidiaries of domestic stores</li></ul>
	vs. FY07 1H +6.5billion	Increase in strategic investments – installation of new store POS systems and vehicle purchase program, increase in new employments and staff training programs
SG&A	vs. Plan +1.1billion	<ul> <li>Execution of administrative cost reductions</li> <li>Higher than expected SG&amp;A expenses in overseas business</li> <li>Cost related to the change in sales transaction period of AUTOBACS STRAUSS</li> </ul>

# **Sales and Income of Subsidiaries**



(Hundred Million Yen)

		FY2007		FY2	008 1H	
		1H Results	Initial Plan	Actual Results	vs. FY07 1H	vs. Plan
<b>2</b>	Net Sales	1,166	1,284	1,295	+129	+11
Consolidated	Ordinary Income	86.2	62.0	48.1	38.1	13.9
Non-	Net Sales	973	1,010	990	+17	20
Consolidated	Ordinary Income	88.6	65.0	60.6	28	4.4
Domestic Stores Subsidiaries	Net Sales	366	390	378	+12	12
	Ordinary Income	0.9	1.0	2.3	3.2	3.3
Overseas Stores Subsidiaries	Net Sales	51	117	140	+89	+23
	Ordinary Income	4.4	7.0	8.6	4.2	1.6
Supporting	Net Sales	71	75	79	+8	+4
Functions Subsidiaries	Ordinary Income	4.9	2.0	3.0	1.9	+1
Total Car-life Support Subsidiaries	Net Sales	48	91	88	+40	3
	Ordinary Income	0.4	2.0	0.7	+0.3	1.3

Amounts are rounded down to the nearest hundred million yen.

<sup>%</sup> of Net Sales and YoY comparison are calculated in million yen.

# **Overseas Business: Overall Performance**



	YoY sales growth rate	Business Conditions in each Market
France	+34.7%	Penetration of AUTOBACS-style selling methods Expanding AUTOBACS brand acceptance and recognition in the market Growing confidence in future sales/profit growth
U.S. West	+10.5%	
U.S. AUTOBACS STRAUSS	-	·Focusing on product replenishment ·AUTOBACS style experimentation at four stores ·Cost exceeding the initial plan
China	+39.8%	Opening of 1st franchise store in China Expansion of the service focused small-format stores
Thailand	+166.7%	Sales growing favorably capturing market share from
Taiwan	+74.6%	competitors
Singapore	+24.3%	Thailand and Singapore stores turning profitable

### Overseas Business: AUTOBACS STRAUSS



May: >AUTOBACS SEVEN acquired Strauss
Discount Auto

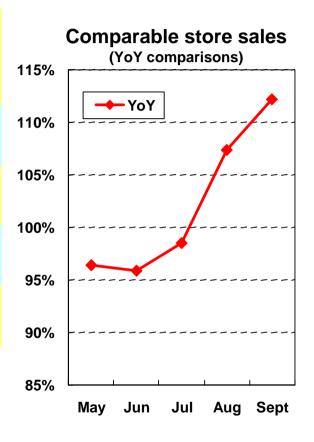
>Started product replenishment

June: Store modification: experimented towerstocking of tires at four stores

July: Store modification: strengthened car accessories at two stores

Aug: >Store modification: executed towerstocking of tires at 13 stores

Sept: >Store modification: enhanced highperformance parts at 15 stores





# **Store Sales Volume and Customers coming back!!**

## **AUTOBACS STRAUSS: Store Modifications**



**♦**Tires: Tower-stocking





Engine Oil: Full replenishment of products



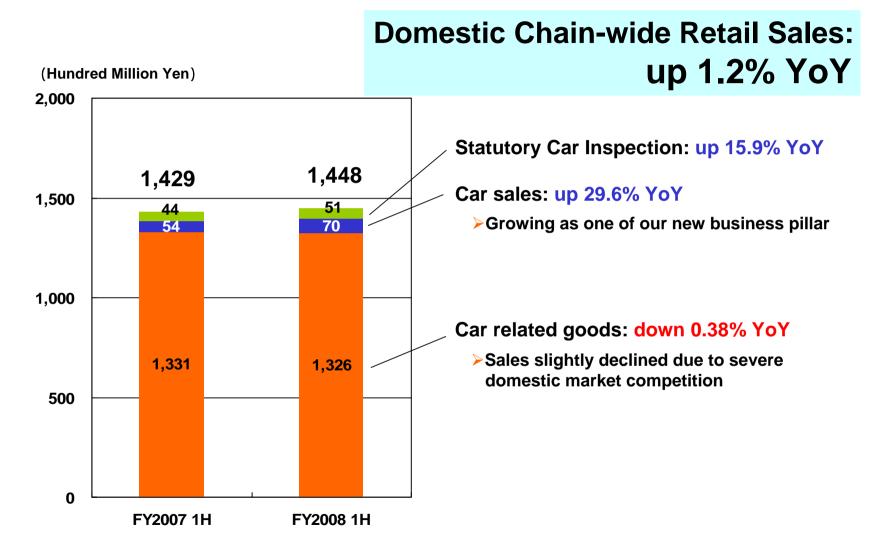




# II. Summary of Chain-wide Retail Sales of FY2008 1H

#### FY2008 1H Domestic Chain-wide Retail Sales\*



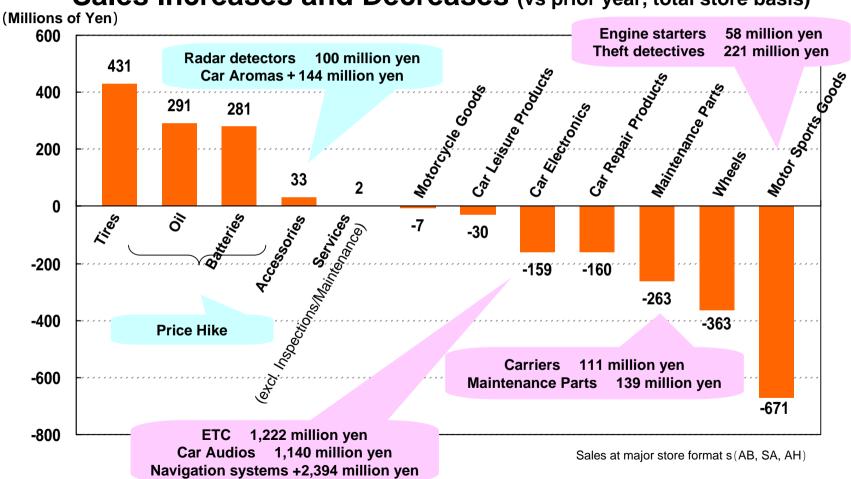


<sup>\*</sup> Domestic Chain-wide retail sales: Major format stores (AB, SA, AH) + Used car goods + C@RS(with vehicle search terminals)

# Sales Breakdown by Product Category



### Sales Increases and Decreases (vs prior year, total store basis)



# **Statutory Car Inspection Sales\***



# Statutory Car Inspection Sales: 5.1 Billion Yen (YoY sales growth +16.9% / YoY volume growth +15.7%)

Number of fully certified centers\*\*

238 (Mar 07) 249 (Sep 07)

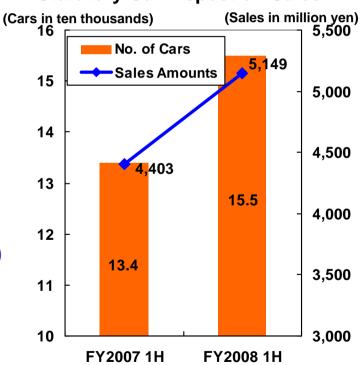
Number of examiners

521 (Mar 07) 597 (Sep 07)

Product sales attributed to inspection

14.8 thousand yen/car (Mar 07)
16.6 thousand yen/car (Sep 07)

#### **Statutory Car Inspection Sales**



<sup>\*</sup> Statutory Car Inspection Sales: Include sales from major store formats (AB+SA+AH) and independent C@RS stores.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Fully certified centers: Stores fully equipped with inspection facilities. Vehicles are not required to carry to the Land Transport Bureau of jurisdiction. Therefore, inspection services can be offered even on public holidays.

#### Car Sales\*



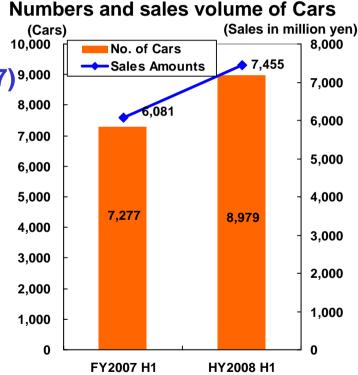
# Car Sales: 7.4 Billion Yen (YoY sales growth +22.6% / YoY volume growth +23.4%)

SUGOKAI used car purchasing system

Stores operating SUGOKAI: 133 (Sep 07)9,000

Cars evaluated with SUGOKAI: approximately 11,000 (as of Sep 07)

- Number of stores offering car sales
   362 (Mar 07) 386 (Sep 07)
- Product sales attributed to car sales
   73 thousand yen/car (Mar 07)
   86 thousand yen/car (Sep 07)



<sup>\*</sup> Car Sales: Include sales from major store formats (AB+SA+AH) and independent C@RS stores.



# III. Plans and Measures for FY2008 2H

# FY2008 Financial Plan (Consolidated)



(Hundred Million Yen)

	FY Mar	ch 2007	FY March 2008			
	1st Half Results	Full Year Results	1st Half Results	Full Year (Initial Plan)	Full Year (Revised Plan)	vs. FY07 Full Year Results
Chain-wide Retail Sales	1,429	2,984	1,448	3,100	3,072	+2.9%
Net Sales	1,166	2,425	1,295	2,720	2,749	+13.4%
Gross Profit	361	747	396	855	837	+12.3%
SG&A	301	625	366	753	775	+24.3%
Operating Income	59	122	30	102	62	49.1%
Ordinary Income	86	163	48	135	93	42.9%
Net Income	50	91	20	73	43	52.7%

Amounts are rounded down to the nearest hundred million yen.

<sup>%</sup> of Net Sales and YoY comparison are calculated in million yen.

## **FY2008 Sales and Income Plan of Subsidiaries**



(Hundred Million Yen)

			FY2008					
		FY2007 Full Year Results	Full Year (Initial	Full Year (Revised	vs. FY07	vs. Initial		
	_		Plan)	Plan)	Full Year	Plan		
Consolidated	Net Sales	2,425	2,720	2,749	+324	+29		
Consolidated	Ordinary Income	163.2	135.0	93.0	70.2	42.0		
Non-	Net Sales	2,032	2,105	2,085	+53	20		
Consolidated	Ordinary Income	171.5	130.0	111.0	60.5	19.0		
Domestic	Net Sales	770	812	786	+16	26		
Stores Subsidiaries	Ordinary Income	6.5	13.0	4.0	2.5	9.0		
Overseas	Net Sales	107	294	292	+185	2		
Stores Subsidiaries	Ordinary Income	10.9	18.0	22.0	11.1	4.0		
Supporting	Net Sales	150	177	175	+25	2		
Functions Subsidiaries	Ordinary Income	7.5	7.0	6.0	1.5	1.0		
Total Car-life	Net Sales	97	180	177	+80	3		
Support Subsidiaries	Ordinary Income	1.2	4.0	3.0	+1.8	1.0		

## **FY2008 Business Plan: Store Allocations**



#### **Domestic Store Openings and Closings**

	No.of	FY 2008							No.of Stores at FY08	
Store Stores Type at FY07		1H (Results)			2H (Plan)					
.,,,,,	end	New	AB SA	S/B · R/L	Closed	New	AB SA	S/B·R/L	Closed	end
AB	402	+ 2	2	+ 4/ 4	1	+1	2	+ 1/ 1	-	400
SA	70	+ 1	+ 2	-	-	-	+ 2	-	-	75
АН	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
SH	27	+ 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Total	510	+7	0	0	1	+1	0	0	1	516

**Excludes AUTOBACS Express Stores** 

#### **Overseas Store Openings and Closings**

Country /	No.of Stores	FY:	No.of Stores		
Region	at FY07 end	1H	2H (Plan)	at FY08 end	
Taiwan	4	-	-	4	
Singapore	1	-	-	1	
Thailand	2	-	-	2	
Europe	8	-	+1	9	
U.S.A.	1	+89	-	90	
China	5	+4	+3	12	
Total	21	+93	+4	118	

S/B=Scrap & Build, R/L=Relocation

AB: AUTOBACS SA: Super AUTOBACS AH: AUTO HELLOES

SH: AUTOBACS Hashiriya Tengoku Secohan Ichiba

# **FY2008 Business Plan: Merchandising Initiatives**



#### For all Products

- Add lower-priced items to increase customer traffic
- Prepare with the best product arrangements that fulfills the needs of each store's core customer
- Improve gross margin by having more products controlled under category management
- Develop new products with suppliers and modify sales space to be more attractive to female customers
- Promote maintenance parts to customers at service pits

#### For each Product

- Tires: Start selling new private brand snow tires
- Car Electronics: Enable price competitiveness of navigation systems through volume purchasing / Enhance selling of digital affiliates
- Oil: Active promotion of seasonal products and membership exclusive items / Time-reduction plan for the waiting time of oil changes
- Selling promotion of fuel-saving products

### FY2008 Business Plan: New Business Initiatives



### **Statutory Car Inspections and Maintenance Services**

- Statutory Car Inspection Services:
  - > Promote inspection booking in the peak selling season of car parts
  - >Attract customers by using several communication packages
- Maintenance Services:
  - Introduce standard maintenance packages to stores
  - > Promote additional maintenance services to customers

#### Car Sales

- Search franchise candidates for the new C@RS business (aim to have 300 stores by end-of-year)
- Promote staff training at stores
- Active promotion for the acknowledgement of "SUGOKAI" used car purchasing system
- Re-strengthen the retail business through the introduction of new car sales

# FY2008 Business Plan: Staff Training Initiatives



## **Staff Training:**

## To focus on the empowerment of "Total Car-life Services"

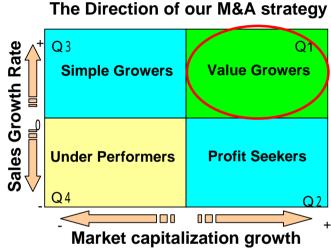
- Nurture younger generations
- Facilitate certificate acquisition / enhance training programs
  - Store Manager certification program
  - ➤ Car-life advisor certification program
  - Mechanic certification program
- Implement a group-wide employment system

# **Future Growth Strategy**



### M&A programs as a vector of Growth

- Business backgrounds:
  - ➤ Market shrinkage
  - Growing concern over the reducing use of automobiles
- Fund usage and the direction of M&A strategy
  - Domestic Market:
    Speed building of the business infrastructure
  - Overseas Market: Maximize return on investment / Access to highly-skilled, competent employees
- Accurate and objective investment decision provided by the investment committee and the M&A project staff



## Conclusion



FY 2008 Financial Performance

Mid-Term Business Plan





#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

These materials include forecasts regarding the Company's future plans, strategies, and performance. This information is based on judgments and estimates made in accordance with information currently available. Actual results may differ substantially from forecasts due to such factors as changes in operating circumstances.