

Consolidated Financial Report for the First Three Months of Fiscal 2020 [Japanese GAAP]

February 4, 2020

Company Name:	EPS Holdings, Inc.
Stock Listing:	First Section, Tokyo Stock Exchange
Code Number:	4282
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Filing of Quarterly Securities Report:	February 12, 2020
Scheduled Payment of Dividends:	_
Supplementary explanatory materials prepared:	None
Explanatory meeting:	None

(¥ millions are rounded down)

1. Consolidated Results for the First Three Months of Fiscal 2020 (October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019)

(]	 Consolidated Operati 	ng Results	(¥ millions; p	percentage figures represe	nt year-on-year changes)

	parent
Fiscal 2020 15,053 (6.9)% 740 (52.9)% 892 (43.7)% 491 (58.1)%
Fiscal 2019 16,162 2.5% 1,571 (12.2)% 1,586 (16.1)% 1,172	(7.0)%

Note: Comprehensive income: Fiscal 2020, 1Q: ¥74 million [(93.2)%], Fiscal 2019, 1Q: ¥1,093 million [(35.7)%]

First Three Months	Profit per share (¥)	Profit per share (diluted) (¥)
Fiscal 2020	10.97	—
Fiscal 2019	25.78	—

(2	(2) Consolidated Financial Position (¥ millions)								
		Total assets	Net assets	Equity ratio (%)					
	December 31, 2019	65,211	47,575	68.4					
	September 30, 2019	66,566	46,337	65.1					

Notes: Equity: December 31, 2019: ¥44,598 million, September 30, 2019: ¥43,301 million

2. Dividends

		Dividend per share (¥)					
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Year End	Full Year			
Fiscal 2019	_	13.00	-	15.00	28.00		
Fiscal 2020	—						
Fiscal 2020 (forecast)		13.00	_	15.00	28.00		

Notes: Revisions to recent dividend forecasts: None

3. Forecast of Consolidated Results for Fiscal 2020 (October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020)

(¥ millions; percentage figures represent year-on-year changes)

	Net sales	Operating income	Recurring profit	Profit attributable to owners of parent	Profit per share (¥)
Full year	72,500 5.1%	6,170 (1.7)%	6,320 0.8%	3,540 (2.6)%	77.39

Notes: Revisions to recent consolidated results forecasts: None

* Notes

- (1) Changes to important subsidiaries during the first three months changes in specified subsidiaries resulting in revised scope of consolidation: None
- (2) Application of special accounting methods in the preparation of quarterly consolidated financial statements: None
- (3) Changes in accounting principles, accounting estimates and restatements
 - a. Changes in accounting policies in conjunction with revisions to accounting standards: None
 - b. Other changes: None
 - c. Changes in accounting estimates: None

d. Restatements: None

(4) Number of shares issued (common stock)

(Shares)

				(Shares)
a. Number of shares issued at the end of the period (including treasury stock):	Fiscal 2020, 1Q end	46,311,389	Fiscal 2019 end	46,311,389
b. Number of treasury stock at the end of the period:	Fiscal 2020, 1Q end	653,547	Fiscal 2019 end	1,971,195
c. Average number of stock during the period:	Fiscal 2020, 1Q	44,779,375	Fiscal 2019, 1Q	45,476,799

Note: 93,090 company shares owned by EPS EKISHIN Co., Ltd. have been included in the number of treasury stock at the end of the period.

- * This financial report is outside the scope of the quarterly audit reviews performed by certified public accountants or auditing firms.
- * Explanation concerning the appropriate use of financial forecasts and other notable matters Earnings forecasts and other forward-looking statements in this report are based on data currently available to management and certain assumptions that management believes are reasonable. Actual results may differ materially from these statements for various reasons.

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1. Qualitative Information Concerning Quarterly Financial Statements

(1) Explanation Regarding Consolidated Operating Results

Overview of Operating Results for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2019

1 0			-)			(¥ millions)
	The First Three Months of Fiscal 2019The First Three Months of Fiscal 2020		Change		nge	
	Amount	%	Amount	%	Amount	%
Net sales	16,162	100.0	15,053	100.0	(1,109)	(6.9)
Operating income	1,571	9.7	740	4.9	(830)	(52.9)
Recurring profit	1,586	9.8	892	5.9	(693)	(43.7)
Profit attributable to owners of parent	1,172	7.3	491	3.3	(680)	(58.1)

Forward-looking statements contained in this document are based on a judgment of operating results for the three months ended December 31, 2019.

In the three months ended December 31, 2019, both net sales and operating income for the entire Group progressed largely in line with consolidated forecasts.

The EPS Group posted consolidated net sales of \$15,053 million, a decrease of 6.9% year on year, despite an increase in income in the CSO Business. This decrease in sales was due to the temporary suspension of production lines at the EKISHIN (China) Business following the amendment of the Drug Administration Law in China, and conclusion of a large-scale project in the Global Research Business in the previous fiscal year. Furthermore, operating income declined 52.9% year on year to \$740 million, owing to impacts from the conclusion of a very profitable monitoring project in the CRO Business in the previous fiscal year and completion of a large-scale clinical research project, in addition to the suspension of product lines in the EKISHIN (China) Business.

Operational segment are outlined as follows.

Segment Overview

The Group primarily operates businesses in the following five segments (three domestic segments and two overseas segments).

					(¥ millions)
			The First Three	The First Three	
			Months of fiscal	Months of fiscal	Change
			2019	2020	
	CRO	Net sales	7,001	6,926	(74)
	СКО	Operating income	1,264	787	(477)
Domestic	SMO	Net sales	3,470	3,509	38
Business	SMO	Operating income	477	471	(5)
	CSO	Net sales	1,952	2,831	878
	CSU	Operating income	99	226	126
	Global	Net sales	1,177	1,016	(160)
Overseas	Research	Operating income	31	70	39
Business	EKISHIN	Net sales	3,149	1,160	(1,989)
	(China)	Operating income (loss)	77	(355)	

EPS Associates Co., Ltd. in the CRO Business in the first three months of fiscal 2019, merged with EPS International Holdings Co., Ltd. in the Global Research Business on October 1, 2019. Consolidated figures in the year-on-year comparison above have been reclassified to their business segments after the merger took place.

1) CRO Business

In the CRO Business, the Group conducts operations mainly based on the following structure:

a. Contract-based clinical study and post-marketing surveillance (PMS) services: EPS Corporation and AC MEDICAL INC.

b. Clinical research services: EP-CRSU Co., Ltd.

c. Pharmaceutical and medical IT services: EP-Techno Co., Ltd.

Looking at performance in the CRO Business by service, sales and operating income declined in contract-based services, such as clinical studies and PMS services, as they were impacted by both the conclusion of high-value projects in monitoring that ended in the previous fiscal year and sluggish inquiries in the second half of the previous fiscal year. However, when compared against the forecast, sales and operating income have exceeded expectations as the trials currently underway are proceeding smoothly and acquisition of new projects are also steadily growing. Inquiries are also moving in a favorable trajectory this fiscal year.

Clinical research services continued in line with the forecast. Profit has been decreasing due to the conclusion of a largescale clinical trial in the previous fiscal year; however, the operation rate is satisfactorily progressing due to active acceptance of orders for doctor-initiated clinical trials.

In pharmaceutical and medical IT services, sales of external systems have been increasing.

As a result, net sales were $\pm 6,926$ million, a decrease of ± 74 million, or 1.1%, year on year, and operating income was ± 787 million, a decrease of ± 477 million, or 37.7%, year on year.

2) SMO Business

The SMO Business is undertaken by EP-SOGO Co., Ltd.

In the same business, the EPS Group is proactively undertaking initiatives such as full development of proposal-based sales operations for clients requesting trials, securing orders through business alliance contracts, and focusing resources on superior facilities suited for case clustering.

At the same time, with maintenance of the Company's internal structure and the appropriate placement of CRCs (clinical trial coordinators) and SMAs (managers that support clinical trial centers), the EPS Group will push forward with improving profitability and efficiency while strengthening specialized education, starting with the fields of cancer, mental diseases, and dermatology.

Furthermore, since the previous fiscal year, the Company has begun a collaborative project between the CRO Business and the Global Research Business, and is undertaking development of a new business model for the purpose of speedily gathering cases and reducing clinical trial costs.

As a result, net sales were ¥3,509 million, up ¥38 million, or 1.1%, year on year. Due to human investment in the abovementioned initiatives, operating income decreased to ¥471 million, down ¥5 million, or 1.2%, year on year.

3) CSO Business

The CSO Business is undertaken by EP-PharmaLine Co., Ltd., AC MEDICAL INC. and ES-Link Co., Ltd.

In CMR (Contract Medical Representative) services for pharmaceuticals, performance was largely in line with forecasts as the decrease in demand for CMRs originating from the recent decline in MRs in the pharmaceutical industry looped around and inquiries trended toward recovery.

In the medical contact center business that undertakes call center operations for medical institutions, the Company received orders for highly profitable spot projects and surpassed the forecast. Furthermore, CMRs for medical institutions, the academic and technical materials production business, and the BPO business proceeded largely according to forecasts.

As a result, net sales were $\frac{12,831}{100}$ million, an increase of $\frac{1878}{100}$ million, or 45%, year on year with growth mainly focused on the medical contact center business, and operating income was $\frac{1226}{100}$ million, an increase of $\frac{126}{126}$ million, or 127.1%, year on year.

4) Global Research Business

The Global Research Business comprises EPS International Holdings Co., Ltd. and its overseas group companies, and is developing business focused on the Asia-Pacific region, including CRO business within China.

Orders from overseas for trials within Japan experienced a decrease in sales due to the conclusion of a large-scale project in the previous fiscal year. The Company maintained its business base in the Asia-Pacific region, and is focusing on orders for local projects in each country. Furthermore, for the CRO business within China, inquiries are increasing in line with expansion in the China market, and the Company is looking to reinforce its operations there.

As a result, net sales were ¥1,016 million, a decrease of ¥160 million, or 13.7%, year on year, and operating income was ¥70 million, an increase of ¥39 million, or 125.8%, year on year.

5) EKISHIN (China) Business

The EKISHIN (China) Business is undertaken by the two regional holding companies EPS EKISHIN Co., Ltd. and EPS (China) Co., Ltd., as well as related Group companies in China.

In the EKISHIN (China) Business, under a solid capital and business partnership with SUZUKEN Co., Ltd., the Group provides product-related services centered on pharmaceuticals and medical devices, international trading-related services and peripheral support services. The Group is working to further expand earnings as a specialist trading company in the healthcare industry linking Japan and China.

Manufacture and sales of pharmaceutical products serve as the pillar of profit for product-related services; however, sales and profit in this business declined due to impacts from the implementation of simultaneous inspections and investigations at existing manufacturers in line with the announcement of revisions to China's Drug Administration Law in August 2019 and temporary suspension of manufacturing lines at a Group company in China. The affected manufacturing lines recommenced operations in December 2019, however, there is a possibility that there will be an impact on supply going forward.

For sales of services such as for medical devices, sales and profits grew and new breakthroughs are proceeding favorably. Furthermore, sales of products were brisk in international trading-related services.

As a result, net sales were \$1,160 million, a decrease of \$1,989 million, or 63.2%, year on year, and operating loss was \$355 million (\$77 million in operating income recorded in the previous fiscal year).

(2) Explanation Concerning Forward-Looking Statements such as Consolidated Financial Forecasts

There have been no changes to the consolidated financial forecasts announced in the financial report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019 issued on November 7, 2019.

2. Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes (1) Quarterly Consolidated Balance Sheets

		(¥ millions)
	As of September 30, 2019 (Previous Fiscal Year-End)	As of December 31, 2019 (End of the First Three Months)
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and time deposits	17,283	18,975
Notes and accounts receivable-trade	16,125	13,386
Marketable securities	1,858	1,808
Merchandise and finished goods	992	1,121
Work in process	1,464	2,008
Other current assets	3,248	3,515
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(137)	(158)
Total current assets	40,834	40,658
Fixed assets:		
Property, plant and equipment	5,658	6,045
Intangible fixed assets:		
Goodwill	6,762	6,675
Other intangible fixed assets	991	996
Total intangible fixed assets	7,754	7,672
Investments and other assets:		
Investment securities	4,786	4,201
Lease and guarantee deposits	2,067	2,169
Other investments and other assets	5,492	4,491
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(27)	(26)
Total investments and other assets	12,319	10,835
Total fixed assets	25,732	24,553
Total assets	66,566	65,211

		(¥ millions)
	As of September 30, 2019	As of December 31, 2019
	(Previous Fiscal Year-End)	(End of the First Three Months)
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable—trade	648	777
Short-term loans	1,265	965
Current portion of long-term loans payable	449	372
Income taxes payable	1,302	92
Allowance for employees' bonuses	3,051	1,438
Provision for loss on order received	242	225
Other current liabilities	9,030	9,746
Total current liabilities	15,991	13,618
Non-current liabilities:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · ·
Long-term debt	424	367
Allowance for directors' and corporate auditors'	205	106
retirement benefits	395	106
Net defined benefit liability	2,146	2,110
Asset retirement obligations	614	596
Other non-current liabilities	656	836
Total non-current liabilities	4,238	4,017
Total liabilities	20,229	17636
Net assets		- ,
Shareholders' equity:		
Capital stock	3,888	3,888
Additional paid-in capital	13,669	12,889
Retained earnings	28,628	28,454
Treasury common stock, at cost	(3,765)	
Total shareholders' equity	42,420	44,054
Accumulated other comprehensive income:		,
Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities	808	364
Foreign currency translation adjustment	544	621
Remeasurements of defined benefit plans	(470)	
Total accumulated other comprehensive income	881	544
Non-controlling interests	3,035	2,976
Total net assets	46,337	47,575
Total liabilities and net assets	66,566	65,211

(2) Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income

		(¥ millions
	First Three Months of	First Three Months of
	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020
	(October 1, 2018	(October 1, 2019
	to December 31, 2018)	to December 31, 2019)
Net sales	16,162	15,053
Cost of sales	10,055	10,889
Gross profit	6,107	4,164
Selling, general and administrative expenses	4,536	3,423
Operating income	1,571	740
Non-operating income:		
Interest income	27	26
Gain on insurance cancellation	27	25
Foreign exchange gains	_	61
Other non-operating income	31	70
Total non-operating income	85	184
Non-operating expenses:	2	
Interest expenses	3	3
Foreign exchange losses	57	
Equity liquidation loss	_	14
Treasury stock disposal expenses	-	11
Other non-operating expenses	9	2
Total non-operating expenses	70	32
Recurring profit	1,586	892
Extraordinary gains:		
Gain on sales of investment securities	256	—
Gain on step acquisitions	198	-
Total extraordinary gains	454	_
Profit before income taxes	2,040	892
ncome taxes	73	(203
ncome tax adjustment	659	748
Fotal income taxes	733	545
Profit	1,307	347
Profit (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests	134	(144)
Profit attributable to owners of parent	1,172	491

Quarterly Consolidated Comprehensive Income

		(¥ millions)
	First Three Months of	First Three Months of
	Fiscal 2019	Fiscal 2020
	(October 1, 2018	(October 1, 2019
	to December 31, 2018)	to December 31, 2019)
Profit	1,307	347
Other comprehensive income:		
Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities	(70)	(449)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(146)	147
Remeasurements of defined benefit plans	3	29
Share of other comprehensive income of entities accounted for using equity method	0	0
Total other comprehensive income	(213)	(273)
Comprehensive income	1,093	74
(Breakdown)		
Comprehensive income attributable to owners of parent	1,018	154
Comprehensive income attributable to non-controlling interests	75	(80)

(3) Notes Concerning Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements

(Notes Concerning the Going Concern Assumption) None

(Note Concerning Significant Changes in the Amount of Shareholders' Equity)

In accordance with a Board of Directors resolution adopted on October 29, 2019, the EPS Group undertook disposal of

1,400,000 shares of treasury stock to Hongkong Tigermed Co., Ltd. through a third-party allocation on December 12, 2019. The Company acquired 82,000 of its own shares in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors on February 1, 2019.

As a result, treasury shares decreased by $\frac{12,586}{1,178}$ million during the three months ended December 31, 2019, to stand at $\frac{11,178}{1,178}$ million as of December 31, 2019.

(Segment Information)

I. The First Three Months of Fiscal 2019 (October 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018)

1. Information Concerning Net Sales and Operating Income for Each Segment

									(¥ millions)
	CRO Business	SMO Business	CSO Business	Global Research Business	EKISHIN (China) Business	Others	Total	Elimination/ Corporate (Note)	Amount recorded on quarterly consolidated statements of income
Net sales Sales to outside customers Inter-segment	6,499	3,443	1,929	1,086	3,142	61	16,162	-	16,162
sales and transfers	502	26	23	90	/	417	1,067	(1,067)	-
Total	7,001	3,470	1,952	1,177	3,149	478	17,230	(1,067)	16,162
Segment operating income	1,264	477	99	31	77	2	1,952	(381)	1,571

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Note: Eliminations/Corporate for operating income of ¥(381) million includes intersegment transactions of ¥8 million and non-attributable corporate expenses not distributed to each segment of ¥(389) million. The main corporate expenses comprise expenses related to the Company (the holding company).

2. Information Concerning Impairment Loss on Fixed Assets or Goodwill in Each Reportable Segment In the three months ended December 31, 2018, All Right Technology Inc. became a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company by means of a stock exchange with the Company. As a result, the amount of goodwill in the CRO Business segment increased by ¥1,164 million.

^{1.} Information Concerning Net Sales and Operating Income for Each Segment

									(¥ millions)
	CRO Business	SMO Business	CSO Business	Global Research Business	EKISHIN (China) Business	Others	Total	Elimination/ Corporate (Note)	Amount recorded on quarterly consolidated statements of income
Net sales Sales to outside customers Inter-segment	6,522	3,500	2,802	957	1,158	113	15,053	Ι	15,053
sales and transfers	404	8	29	59	1	419	922	(922)	_
Total	6,926	3,509	2,831	1,016	1,160	532	15,976	(922)	15,053
Segment operating income	787	471	226	70	(355)	30	1,230	(489)	740

Note: 1. Eliminations/Corporate for operating income of ¥(489) million includes intersegment transactions of ¥7 million and non-attributable corporate expenses not distributed to each segment of ¥(497) million. The main corporate expenses comprise expenses related to the Company (the holding company).

2. EPS Associates Co., Ltd. merged with EPS International Holdings Co., Ltd. on October 1, 2019, and EPS Associates Co., Ltd. is changing its company name to EPS International Holdings Co., Ltd. In line with this change, its business segment has changed from the CRO Business to the Global Research Business. The Company is now disclosing segment information from the first three months of fiscal 2019, based on the reporting segments for the first three months of fiscal 2020.

II. The First Three Months of Fiscal 2020 (October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019)