

or voting rights, for the first time, (ii) 3% or more but less than 10% of the total number of issued shares or voting rights, for the first time, or (iii) 10% or more of the total number of issued shares or voting rights.

Dividends and Proceeds of Sale

Under the Foreign Exchange Act, dividends paid on, and the proceeds of sales in Japan of, shares held by nonresidents of Japan, may, in general, be converted into any foreign currency and repatriated abroad. The acquisition of our shares by nonresidents by way of a stock split is not, in general, subject to any notification or reporting requirements.

10.E. TAXATION

Japanese Taxation

The following is a summary of the principal Japanese national tax consequences to owners of shares of our common stock or ADSs representing shares of our common stock who are Nonresident Shareholders. The statements regarding Japanese tax laws set forth below are based on the laws and treaties currently in force and as interpreted by the Japanese tax authorities at the date of this annual report and are subject to changes in the applicable Japanese law or tax treaties, conventions or agreements, or in the interpretation thereof, occurring after that date. This summary does not include all possible tax considerations which may apply to a particular investor and potential investors are advised to satisfy themselves as to the overall tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of shares of our common stock or ADSs, including specifically the tax consequences under Japanese law, the laws of the jurisdiction of which they are resident, and any tax treaty, convention or agreement between Japan and their country of residence, by consulting their own tax advisors.

For the purpose of Japanese taxation, a Nonresident Shareholder of ADSs will generally be treated as the owner of the shares underlying the ADSs, which may be evidenced by one or more American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs").

Generally, a Nonresident Shareholder of shares of our common stock or ADSs will be subject to Japanese income tax collected by way of withholding on dividends we pay. Stock splits are, in general, not subject to Japanese income tax or corporation tax.

In the absence of any applicable tax treaty, convention or agreement reducing the maximum rate of Japanese withholding tax or allowing exemption from Japanese withholding tax, the rate of Japanese withholding tax applicable to dividends paid by a Japanese corporation to Nonresident Shareholders is generally 20.42%. However, with respect to dividends paid on listed shares issued by a Japanese corporation (including shares of our common stock or ADSs) to Nonresident Shareholders, except for any individual shareholder who owns 3% or more of the total number of shares issued by the relevant Japanese corporation, the aforementioned 20.42% withholding tax rate is reduced to 15.315% for dividends due and payable on or before December 31, 2037. Due to the imposition of a special additional withholding tax (2.1% of the original withholding tax amount) to secure funds for reconstruction from the Great East Japan Earthquake, the original withholding tax rate of 15% and 20%, as applicable, has been effectively increased, respectively, to 15.315% and 20.42%, during the period beginning on January 1, 2013 and ending on December 31, 2037.

At the date of this annual report, Japan has income tax treaties in force, whereby the above-mentioned withholding tax rate is reduced, generally, to 15% for portfolio investors, with, among others, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore and Spain (for dividends due and payable on or before December 31, 2021), while the income tax treaties with, among others, Australia, Austria, Belgium, France, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States generally reduce the withholding tax rate to 10% for portfolio investors and the income tax treaties with, among others, Spain (for dividends due and payable on or after January 1, 2022)

generally reduce the withholding tax rate to 5% for portfolio investors. In addition, under the income tax treaty between Japan and the United States, dividends paid to pension funds which are qualified U.S. residents eligible to enjoy treaty benefits are exempt from Japanese income taxation by way of withholding or otherwise unless the dividends are derived from the carrying on of a business, directly or indirectly, by those pension funds. Under the income tax treaties with Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Iceland, the Netherlands, Spain (for dividends due and payable on or after January 1, 2022), Switzerland and the United Kingdom, similar treatment will be applied to dividends. Under Japanese tax law, any reduced maximum rate applicable under a tax treaty will be available when the maximum rate is below the rate otherwise applicable under Japanese tax law referred to in the preceding paragraph with respect to the dividends to be paid by us on shares of common stock or ADSs. A Nonresident Shareholder of shares of our common stock who is entitled, under any tax treaty, to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax, or exemption therefrom, as the case may be, is required to submit an Application Form for Income Tax Convention Regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax and Special Income Tax for Reconstruction on Dividends (together with any other required forms and documents) in advance, through the withholding agent, to the relevant tax authority before payment of dividends. A standing proxy for a Nonresident Shareholder may provide the application services. See “Item 10.B. Memorandum and Articles of Incorporation—Rights, Preferences and Restrictions of the Shares—Common Stock—General.” In addition, a simplified special filing procedure is available for Nonresident Shareholders to claim treaty benefits of exemption from or reduction of Japanese withholding tax by submitting a Special Application Form for Income Tax Convention Regarding Relief from Japanese Income Tax and Special Income Tax for Reconstruction on Dividends of Listed Stocks (together with any other required forms and documents). With respect to ADSs, this reduced rate or exemption will be applicable to Nonresident Shareholders of ADSs if the depository or its agent submits two Application Forms (one before payment of dividends and the other within eight months after the record date concerning such payment of dividends), together with certain other documents. To claim this reduced rate or exemption, Nonresident Shareholders of ADSs will be required to file a proof of taxpayer status, residence and beneficial ownership, as applicable, and to provide other information or documents as may be required by the depository. A Nonresident Shareholder who is entitled, under any applicable tax treaty, to a reduced rate of Japanese withholding tax below the rate otherwise applicable under Japanese tax law mentioned above, or exemption therefrom, as the case may be, but fails to submit the required application in advance may nevertheless be entitled to claim a refund from the relevant Japanese tax authority of withholding taxes withheld in excess of the rate under an applicable tax treaty (if the Nonresident Shareholder is entitled to a reduced treaty rate under the applicable tax treaty) or the full amount of tax withheld (if the Nonresident Shareholder is entitled to an exemption under the applicable tax treaty), as the case may be, by complying with certain subsequent filing procedures. We do not assume any responsibility to ensure withholding at the reduced treaty rate, or exemption therefrom, for shareholders who would be so eligible under an applicable tax treaty but where the required procedures as stated above are not followed.

Gains derived from the sale outside Japan of shares of our common stock or ADSs by a Nonresident Shareholder who is a portfolio investor are, in general, not subject to Japanese income tax or corporation tax.

Any deposits or withdrawals of shares of our common stock by a Nonresident Shareholder in exchange for ADSs are, in general, not subject to Japanese income or corporation tax.

Japanese inheritance and gift taxes at progressive rates may be payable by an individual who has acquired shares of our common stock or ADSs from another individual as a legatee, heir or donee, even if none of the acquiring individual, the decedent or the donor is a Japanese resident.

Potential investors should consult with their own tax advisors regarding the Japanese tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of shares of common stock or ADSs in light of their particular situations.

United States Federal Income Taxation

The following is a discussion of material U.S. federal income tax consequences to the U.S. Holders described below of owning and disposing of shares or ADSs, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive

description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular person's decision to hold the shares or ADSs. This discussion does not address U.S. state, local or non-U.S. tax consequences. As used herein, a U.S. Holder is a person that, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, is a beneficial owner of shares or ADSs and is: (1) a citizen or individual resident of the United States; (2) a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or (3) an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

The discussion applies only to U.S. Holders who hold the shares or ADSs as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes. The discussion does not address any alternative minimum or Medicare contribution tax consequences, nor does it address all of the tax consequences which may be applicable to special classes of holders, such as:

- certain financial institutions;
- insurance companies;
- dealers and certain traders in securities;
- persons holding shares or ADSs as part of a hedge, straddle, conversion or other integrated transaction;
- persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- regulated investment companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- partnerships or other entities classified as partnerships for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- tax-exempt entities, "individual retirement accounts" or "Roth IRAs";
- persons who acquired our shares or ADSs pursuant to the exercise of an employee stock option or otherwise as compensation;
- persons holding shares or ADSs that own or are deemed to own 10% or more of our stock (by vote or value); or
- persons holding shares or ADSs in connection with a trade or business conducted outside the United States.

If a partnership holds shares or ADSs, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding shares or ADSs, and partners in such partnerships, should consult their own tax advisors.

This discussion is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed United States Treasury regulations, as well as the double taxation treaty between Japan and the United States ("Treaty") all as of the date hereof. These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. It is also based in part on representations by the depositary and assumes that each obligation under the deposit agreement and any related agreement or undertaking will be performed in accordance with its terms.

In general, a U.S. Holder who owns ADSs will be treated as the owner of the underlying shares represented by those ADSs for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, no gain or loss will be recognized if a U.S. Holder exchanges ADSs for the underlying shares represented by those ADSs.

The U.S. Treasury has expressed concern that parties to whom ADSs are released before shares are delivered to the depositary, or intermediaries in the chain of ownership between holders and the issuer of the security underlying the ADSs, may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the claiming of foreign tax credits by holders of ADSs. These actions would also be inconsistent with the claiming of the reduced rate of tax,

described below, applicable to dividends received by certain noncorporate holders. Accordingly, the creditability of Japanese taxes, and the availability of the reduced tax rate for dividends received by certain noncorporate U.S. Holders, each described below, could be affected by actions taken by such parties or intermediaries.

U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors concerning the U.S. federal, state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences of owning and disposing of shares or ADSs in their particular circumstances.

This discussion assumes that we are not, and will not become, a passive foreign investment company (a "PFIC"), as described below.

Taxation of Distributions

Distributions received by a U.S. Holder on shares or ADSs, including the amount of any Japanese taxes withheld, other than certain pro rata distributions of shares, will constitute foreign-source dividend income to the extent paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). Because we do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, we expect that distributions generally will be reported to a U.S. Holder as dividends. The amount of the dividend a U.S. Holder will be required to include in income will equal the U.S. dollar value of the yen dividend, calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date the payment is received by the holder, or in the case of ADSs, by the depository, regardless of whether the payment is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt. If the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, the U.S. Holder generally should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend payment. A U.S. Holder may have foreign currency gain or loss if the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars after the date of receipt. Any foreign currency gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition of yen will be U.S.-source ordinary income or loss. Corporate U.S. Holders will not be entitled to claim a dividends-received deduction with respect to our dividends. Subject to applicable limitations, and the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury, dividends received from us by certain noncorporate U.S. Holders may be taxable at favorable rates. Noncorporate U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors to determine whether they are subject to any special rules that limit their ability to be taxed at these favorable rates.

Subject to applicable restrictions and limitations that vary depending upon the U.S. Holder's circumstances and the discussion above regarding concerns expressed by the U.S. Treasury Japanese taxes withheld from dividends on shares or ADSs (at a rate not exceeding the applicable rate provided by the Treaty in the case of a U.S. Holder who is eligible for the Treaty's benefits) will be creditable against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability. The limitation on foreign taxes eligible for credit is calculated separately with respect to different categories of income, such as passive income and general income. The rules governing foreign tax credits are complex. Instead of claiming a credit, a U.S. Holder may elect to deduct such Japanese taxes in computing its taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits must apply to all foreign taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of foreign tax credits and deductions in their particular circumstances.

Sale and Other Disposition of the Shares or ADSs

A U.S. Holder will generally recognize capital gain or loss on the sale or other disposition of shares or ADSs, which will be long-term capital gain or loss if the U.S. Holder has held the shares or ADSs for more than one year. The amount of the U.S. Holder's gain or loss will equal the difference between the amount realized on the sale or other disposition and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the shares or ADSs, each as determined in U.S. dollars. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. Any gain or loss will generally be U.S.-source gain or loss for foreign tax credit purposes.