

Ahresty Corporation TSE 1st Section: 5852

Profile

Ahresty Corp. (TSE: 5852) is a leader in the die casting industry and operates aluminum die casting business in Japan and overseas. Ahresty also produces aluminum alloy ingots. The Ahresty Group has 16 subsidiaries inside and outside Japan, and conducts manufacturing and sales in the United States, China, Mexico, India and Thailand, focusing on the establishment of a global network. The Company supplies products to major automobile, motorcycle and truck manufacturers inside and outside Japan. It had 7,044 employees as of March 2014. In March 2014, it was designated as a stock listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

Share information

(December 30, 2014)	
Share price	¥743-
Total shares issued (thousands)	26,028-
Market capitalization (millions)	¥19,339-

Investment Highlights

Sustained growth of the aluminum die-cast business

Demand for aluminum die cast is expected to remain solid due to the movement to decrease the weight of automobiles to comply with environmental demands, and Ahresty will continue to focus on aluminum die casts for automobiles. Only a handful of companies are able to manufacture die cast parts of a high level of difficulty even on a global basis, and Ahresty will work to expand sales by enhancing technological capabilities and development capabilities in accordance with automobile manufacturers' needs to further reduce weight.

Acceleration of global expansion by strengthening overseas production sites

Global expansion of business is backed by increasing demand for automotive die cast parts, which are the company's main products. Since 2012, plants have been extended in Guangzhou and Hefei in China, Mexico and India, and the Wilmington Plant in the United States is also being expanded. Ahresty is also strengthening its ability to compete on a global level by flexibly responding to the local production needs of key customers and improving productivity.

Implementation of business improvement plan in the North American business

North American Plants have had a significant impact on the deterioration of consolidated performance in the year ending March 2015. Sales and earnings had both been recovering steadily since the year ended March 2010 after the global financial crisis, but amid continued burgeoning demand for a growing number of new items and items with increased volume particularly since the third quarter of the year ended March 2014, there has been a deterioration in productivity due to a decline in workers' skill level resulting from delays in education and training after increasing the number of personnel to cater for increased demand, and teething problems with newly produced products.

An improvement project was launched in August 2014 to draw up an overall improvement plan for American plants centered on a plan to improve productivity for key products with a large impact, and this has been fully implemented since October. In addition to promoting training for improving the skills of workers and ensuring the safety of equipment, an effort is being made to improve performance by decreasing labor costs stemming from overtime and holiday work, and reducing irregular product transportation costs through the improvement of productivity. At present, the improvement plan is proceeding almost on schedule, and after achieving profitability on a monthly basis in March 2015, we expect to maintain profitability and return to previous levels by the second half of the year ending March 2015.

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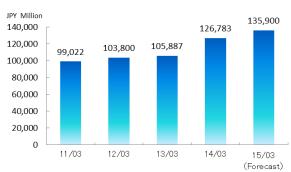
Segment Breakdown for the Year Ended March 2015



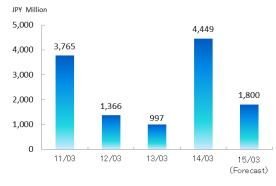
Share price (January 6- December 30, 2014)



Consolidated Net Sales



Consolidated Operating Income



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The information shown in this document includes forward-looking forecasts made by our company based on information available at this time, and these forecasts may differ from actual performance due to a variety of factors.