

# Manufacturing Solutions Business Strategy

June 10, 2021

Seiko Epson Corporation Manufacturing Solutions Operations Division

© Seiko Epson Corporation. 2021

#### **EPSON** EXCEED YOUR VISION

#### Disclaimer regarding forward-looking statements

The foregoing statements regarding future results reflect the Company's expectations based on information available at the time of announcement. The information contains certain forward-looking statements that are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the competitive environment, market trends, general economic conditions, technological changes, exchange rate fluctuations and our ability to continue to timely introduce new products and services.

#### Note regarding business profit

Business profit is calculated by deducting cost of sales and SGA expenses from revenue. Although not defined in the statement of consolidated comprehensive income, this indicator is very similar to the concept of operating income under J-GAAP. Epson will present this information as a reference, as the Company believes users of financial statements will find it useful when evaluating Epson's financial performance.

#### Numerical values presented herein

Numbers are rounded down to the unit indicated. Percentages are rounded off to one decimal place. Years mentioned in these materials are fiscal years unless otherwise indicated.

© Seiko Epson Corporation. 2021

### Contents

© Seiko Epson Corporation. 2021

#### **EPSON** EXCEED YOUR VISION

### 1. Goals

- (1) Achieving the Epson 25 Renewed Corporate Vision (announced in March 2021)
- (2) Manufacturing innovation

## 2. Growth strategy

- (1) Market size
- (2) Epson's strengths
- (3) Issues and actions
- (4) Financial targets

# 3. Examples of initiatives

- This is today's agenda.
- First, I'm going to talk about the goals of the manufacturing solutions business. After that, I will explain the growth strategy.
   I will end with specific examples of initiatives being pursued.



• Before begin talking about the goals of manufacturing innovation, though, I want to go over the Epson 25 Renewed corporate vision, which was announced in March of this year.

### Our Aspirational Goal

**EPSON** 



- We aspire to achieving sustainability and enriching communities.
- Sustainability is a fundamental requirement for enriching the rest of the world and the global environment.
- That's why we at Epson let societal issues and customer expectations direct our actions.
   I want us to approach the development of our business by asking ourselves what we can do to solve these issues and in what way we

can contribute to society.



- When we renewed Epson 25, we also amended the value creation story.
- We have identified certain materialities, or important issues, that Epson should help to solve. These include societal issues such as high environmental impacts and labor shortages.
- Achieving sustainability in a circular economy, advancing the frontiers of industry, and improving the quality of life are seen as key materialities.



- We have identified five areas where we will drive innovation to address these issues.
- In the manufacturing solutions business, we want to provide innovative production systems that contribute to sustainability and enrich communities.
- Manufacturing solutions is an area with a lot of growth potential, so we will be allocating more management resources, including human resources, to this area for the time being.



- This slide depicts our manufacturing innovation goals.
- As is indicated on the top of the slide, the goal is to innovate manufacturing by co-creating flexible, high-throughput production systems that reduce environmental impacts.
- I will explain the reasons for setting this vision on slides that follow.



- First, let's examine the typical flow of work in a factory to give you a better idea about what goes on at a manufacturing site.
- Most products go through a variety of factory processes before being delivered to customers. Typically, many different types of parts are produced, transported, and assembled to create finished products that are then inspected and packaged.
- Manufacturing is supported by countless industrial equipment and people.



- Automated systems are used in the assembly processes in such a factory flow.
- A robot is usually at the heart of these systems, which also included various other units in different combinations in order to transfer and assemble parts and perform other tasks.
- Epson has been producing and selling such robots since 1983.
- Our SCARA robots, which we use in watch assembly, perform highprecision tasks at high speed. They have earned a reputation for excellence the manufacture of small products making Epson the global market share leader in this category of robots.



- With so many robots in the field, we have many customer touchpoints that we can leverage along with our technological capabilities to expand our target markets.
- In addition to assembly processes, we are targeting expansion in the inspection and parts production processes.
- We changed the name of our wholly owned subsidiary Shinko Sellbic to Epson TcForm Corporation on June 1<sup>st</sup>, . This is an important part of our strategy to expand robot sales in parts production processes. The management of Epson TcForm will be further integrated with Epson. We intend to make serious inroads in the parts production market primarily by leveraging the strength of compact injection molding machines produced by Epson TcForm.
- In addition, we will build a business around design and installation support. When factory managers build a production line that integrates robots, they expect more than just the delivery of robots. They expect to receive the design ideas and support they will need to transform manufacturing itself.
- So, in addition to driving advances in compact injection molding machines and compact robots used in parts production, assembly, and inspection processes, we intend to assist our customers with total design and installation support.



- Before talking about the actions we are taking in these three priority areas, I want to explain the expectations of customers in each. Factory managers are seen as our main customer.
- For assembly and inspection, factory managers want to produce high-quality products flexibly and stably, since these processes have a substantial impact on the quality and cost of the final products shipped. On the other hand, many tasks are performed by hand and are difficult, causing workers to leave or avoid factory jobs altogether. In addition, factories need to keep production going even in a pandemic or natural disaster.
- Next, let's consider parts production. It is still very common for manufacturers to use large machines to produce even small plastic parts. Large injection molding machines use large molds and have long paths through which the resin material must pass, resulting in the use of more plastic material than is necessary. Most large machines also consume a lot of power. Customers want to reduce these environmental impacts while ensuring economic feasibility.
- So, factories require transformative innovation, but it is not easy for customers to install new processes. Customers have a variety of concerns. For example, they may wonder who to consult or whether they can introduce new processes with a small investment. They may worry that installing a new process might take too much time. Factory managers can consult system integrators who design and manufacture systems. But if the system integrator has no experience of developing the process, it may be necessary to develop technology from scratch. This would make the construction period longer and increase costs.
- We have strong technical capabilities and experience automating our own factories, so together with system integrators and other partners, we can be a one-stop consultant to meet customers' expectations when implementing a factory transformation.



- This is how Epson intends to meet customer expectations by transforming factories.
- First, we will provide flexible, high productivity assembly and inspection systems with robots capable of performing difficult tasks that used to be done manually.
- Next, for parts production processes, we will provide compact molding machines that reduce wastes of materials, electricity, and space.
- In the design and installation support area, we will use our own manufacturing knowledge as we work with system integrators and other partners to ease the burden on factory managers when building production systems.



- Our goal is to create compact factories that use smaller equipment and reduce reliance on unskilled labor.
- Most manufacturing is a cooperative effort among multiple companies, each responsible for different processes. Large trucks are used when transporting parts from one factory to the next for processing. The environmental impact of this is heavy. If manufacturing facilities become more compact and parts production, assembly, and other processes can all be performed within the same factory, waste associated with transportation and packaging can be eliminated, and environmental impacts can be reduced.
- In addition, by automating the simple tasks, the productivity of people in the factory as a whole will increase.
- Epson wants to drive manufacturing innovations that fundamentally change the way factories are and how they operate.



- Because of these strategies, we have decided to change the name of our innovation area to manufacturing solutions.
- Until now, the main focus was on selling technologically superior robots. From now on, however, we will pivot in a different direction and seek to drive manufacturing innovations that meet the expectations of our factory customers.



• In the next part, I will explain our growth strategy and how we intend to achieve this goal.



- First, let's look at the market size.
- On this slide, the yellow boxes indicate the size of the overall market in each category. The dark blue boxes show the size of the markets that Epson is targeting.
- The total market for molding machines, robots, and engineering is about 5 trillion yen, but this includes equipment for producing large items such as vehicles and the market for equipment engineering and design.
- Epson will target the *compact* segment in these markets, indicated in dark blue. In 2020, compact injection molding machines were a 110billion yen market, compact robots were a 230-billion yen market, and engineering for the 3C and beginner markets was 780 billion yen. So, we anticipate a high rate of growth out to 2025.



- We have many strengths in the compact segment.
- Efficient, compact, and precision technologies are the source of Epson's strength in the manufacturing solutions business because they allow us to differentiate our products. We also have volume production expertise from having developed manufacturing systems for everything from watches to printers and projectors.
- Our global sales and service network is another strength, one that is essential for executing our strategy. Having a solid foundation for delivering different kinds of value to factory customers is an important resource for driving innovation.
- We will maximize the value for our customers by capitalizing on these strengths in the three priority areas.
- I will expound further on these two areas of strength from the next slide.



- This is the first area of strength.
- I will show you an example in which we utilized our strong technology and volume production expertise.
- This video shows an extremely common task in the production of devices, that of connecting cables to boards. Cables formerly had to be connected by hand because although robots can perform precise tasks, they were not good at tasks that involved a lot of variability, such as picking up and accurately inserting flexible cables into connectors whose installation positions varied.
- We succeeded in automating cable insertion by detecting positions with a camera and making subtle adjustments to the insertion force with a force sensor attached to the end-effector, which acts as a hand.
- So, by providing technology and expertise along with high-speed, highprecision robots, we are easing the burden on customers who want to automate factories.



- The second area of strength is the global sales and service network that we built in the printer business.
- We have used this sales network to capture the No. 1 share of the global SCARA robot market. Having so many customers in the SCARA robot market means that we have expansive customer contacts in the so-called 3C markets for communications, consumer electronics, and computers, where SCARA robots are widely used in the assembly process.
- But manufacturers are also interested in and expect to automate other processes, such as parts production and inspection. We will continue to meet these expectations and expand our business footprint.



- So, as I have said, we will leverage Epson's strengths to expand our business footprint, but there are two things we must do.
- One is to develop next-generation platforms for assembly and inspection processes. The other is to strengthen the digital transformation infrastructure that all three priority areas have in common. We believe that these are indispensable for us to create new customer value and continue to build competitive advantage.
- The reason is that we recognize that we need to respond more rapidly to customer needs and need to get better at proposing solutions to customers.
- I will explain these two issues and specific actions being taken to address them on the slides that follow.



- The first action is to develop next-generation platforms.
- Epson currently owns the top share in the global market for SCARA robots used in assembly and inspection processes. We have achieved this by assembling a broad lineup of fast, accurate robots.
  On the other hand, since these robots are custom engineered for maximum performance, it took time to expand the lineup and tailor the design to the customer's needs. The robots did not share enough standardized parts, and this made it difficult to reduce costs when procuring parts.
- To counter this, we are developing next-generation platforms that can be used for a long time. Increasing the number of standardized core parts will put us in a position to expand the lineup efficiently and flexibly. This will make it possible to quickly meet diversifying customer expectations and strengthen cost competitiveness.
- Initially, we will invest primarily in the development of next-generation platforms and will begin launching new products from 2023.



- The second action is to strengthen digital transformation infrastructure and build strong customer relationships.
- In the past, our ability to propose solutions to customers depended on the skills of individuals because customer information and technical data were dispersed. As a result, operational support for equipment was delayed or became passive, and we were unable to flexibly propose and respond to the expectations of customers.
- To address these issues, we are strengthening our digital transformation infrastructure. By centralizing data and sharing technical knowledge, we will improve our ability to make proposals without relying solely on individual skills. In addition, we will enhance our corrective maintenance services so that we can monitor the operational status of equipment and proactively meet customer expectations.
- This will allow us to reduce regional disparities in sales and services, increase customer satisfaction together with our partners, and build strong relationships of trust along with Epson brand loyalty.



 To sum up our growth strategy, we intend to drive innovation in manufacturing by capitalizing on Epson's strengths, including factors for differentiation backed by efficient, compact and precision technologies; volume production expertise in compact, precision assembly factories; and a global sales and service network. We will also address recognized issues by developing next-generation platforms and strengthening our DX infrastructure.



- These are the performance targets we expect to achieve from our growth strategy.
- First, as announced in March of this year, the manufacturing solutions business has set a compound annual sales growth rate target of 15% or more out to 2025.
- The two graphs break down this target further.
- The graph in the middle of the slide shows the percentage of revenue by area. I said that we are going to expand our business footprint. We will expand beyond assembly processes and into parts production and inspection processes, as well as into design and installation support. In 2025, we want the graph to look something like this.
- For the time being, investment in SCARA and 6-axis robots used in assembly and inspection will be concentrated on the development of next-generation platforms. As illustrated by the graph on the right, we want new products to account for the large majority of revenue in 2025.
- We are not providing specific figures in these graphs.



• On the slides that follow, I will provide specific examples of actions being taken to realize the growth strategy.



- First, let's take a look at a production line in one of Epson's factories.
- Akita Epson Corporation produces watch movements, inkjet printheads for printers, and other modules located in the heart of Epson products. Manufacturing in this facility is supported by several hundred Epson robots.
- Because we have our own manufacturing sites, we understand what our customers expect and are able to understand what they need to innovate their manufacturing processes.



- Next, I will show you an example in which we used our own experience to meet customer expectations.
- Okinawa Tokyo Keiso Co., Ltd., which appears in this video, manufactures semiconductor processing equipment.
- The company got in touch with Epson because they were having problems connecting a pliable hose during equipment assembly.
- We listened to what was happening on the manufacturing floor and what they needed, demonstrated that the problem could be solved by combining a force sensor and a 6-axis robot, and proposed a system for them.
- They were our first customer in the design and installation support area, an area on which we will focus a lot of effort.



- The next example is of a new system created around a small injection molding machine.
- The aim is to complete multiple processes in a factory within a single machine.
- In the first half of this presentation, I talked about increasing human and space productivity and reducing environmental impacts through manufacturing innovations. The system shown in this movie is a perfect example of that.
- A series of operations is handled by a single system. Parts molded by a compact injection molding machine are picked up, visually inspected, and loaded on trays. Since the quality of these small parts has been assured before they are loaded on trays, they do not need to be realigned in the next process. Once this equipment is installed in an assembly plant, the packaging materials used to move parts between factories are no longer needed, saving energy and money in transportation.
- This system combines Epson's technical knowledge in areas such as robots and inspection programs.



- In the last example, I will show equipment that we are considering putting on the market in the near future.
- Inkjet printheads and robots can be combined to make it possible to print directly on three-dimensional objects, such as customized helmets, for example.
- In the past you would have to print the customer's design on a label, cut the label to match the contours of the helmet, and then attach it to the helmet.
- The new 3D object printer, however, can print directly on the helmet, reducing the number of processes and quickly providing customers with a design that suits them.



• Before closing, I want to say a few words about the International Robot Exhibition.

#### **International Robot Exhibition 2022 EPSON** New concept product families will be exhibited at the International Robot Exhibition scheduled for March 2022 EPSON New SCARA robots 3D object printer nent diagnosi 3D printer and preventive maintenance DRY FIBER Dry fiber technology application Naturally derived Compact precision injection molder stic-free) materia © Seiko Epson Corporation. 2021

- The International Robot Exhibition is held once every two years. The next one is scheduled for March 2022.
- At next year's exhibition, we plan to demonstrate new concept product families that reflect the growth story.
- We are also thinking of providing more details at small meetings and the like. At that time, I would like to give more specifics on products and services and describe the manufacturing innovation story that we envision.



## Glossary

Term	Meaning
Injection molding machine	A machine that works by injecting melted plastic into a mold to form parts (example application: manufacture of plastic model kits)
Peripheral equipment	Hardware that is mounted on, connected to, or used with robots, such as force sensors, vision cameras, vibration feeders, and general-purpose end-effectors
Engineering	Conceptualizing, proof-of-concept testing, designing, manufacturing and improving the operation of automation systems for manufacturing processes (i.e., production engineering)
3C	Communication (mainly smartphones), consumers (mainly of home electronics), and computers (mainly PCs)
Sensing device	Devices that utilize Epson's own sensing technology
Flat screw	A key component technology for Epson's compact precision injection molding machines, flat screws are a disc-shaped plasticizing mechanism (a part that melts and transports resin)
Sler	Here, an Sler refers not to a software system integrator but to a business operator that proposes, conceptualizes, installs, and supports automation systems in manufacturing processes
Sensory inspection	Inspections performed to assess product quality using human senses, such as sight for visual inspections and tactile/pressure sensing for inspecting motion during assembly

© Seiko Epson Corporation. 2021

EPSON EXCEED YOUR VISION