# LINE Q4 2016 Earnings Results

January 25, 2017

**LINE Corporation** 

Revised on February 23, 2017



### Disclaimer

This presentation contains forward-looking statements with respect to the current plans, estimates, strategies and beliefs of LINE Corporation (the "Company"). Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those statements using words such as "anticipate," "believe," "continues," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "project" and similar expressions and future or conditional verbs such as "will," "would," "should," "could," "might," "can," "may," or similar expressions generally intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on information currently available to the Company, speak only as of the date hereof and are based on the Company's current plans and expectations and are subject to a number of known and unknown uncertainties and risks, many of which are beyond the Company's control. As a consequence, current plans, anticipated actions and future financial position and results of operations may differ significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statements in the presentation. You are cautioned not to unduly rely on such forward-looking statements when evaluating the information presented and the Company does not intend to update any of these forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that might affect the Company include, but are not limited to:

- i. its ability to attract and retain users and increase the level of engagement of its users;
- ii. its ability to improve user monetization;
- iii. its ability to successfully enter new markets and manage its business expansion;
- iv. its ability to compete in the global social network services market;
- v. its ability to develop or acquire new products and services, improve its existing products and services and increase the value of its products and services in a timely and cost-effective manner;
- vi. its ability to maintain good relationships with platform partners and attract new platform partners;
- vii. its ability to attract advertisers to the LINE platform and increase the amount that advertisers spend with LINE;
- viii. its expectations regarding its user growth rate and the usage of its mobile applications;
- ix. its ability to increase revenues and its revenue growth rate;
- x. its ability to timely and effectively scale and adapt its existing technology and network infrastructure;
- xi. its ability to successfully acquire and integrate companies and assets;
- xii. its future business development, results of operations and financial condition;
- xiii. the regulatory environment in which it operates;
- xiv. fluctuations in currency exchange rates and changes in the proportion of its revenues and expenses denominated in foreign currencies; and
- xv. changes in business or macroeconomic conditions.

### **Executive Summary (Q4 2016)**

#### Ads

- Steady growth in the number of official accounts for Messenger Ads
- Performance Ads continues to add Ad inventory and clients

## Communication & Content

- Sharp increase in sticker engagement. Year-end campaigns contributing to Paying User (PU) growth
- Solid revenue from existing game titles

#### **Smart Portal**

- LINE NEWS MAU continue to grow globally
- Number of LINE Pay registered accounts and GMV steadily rising

#### **Financial**

Negative impact of 678mn yen in revenues and 1.08bn yen in operating income due to adjustments to reconcile the differences in settlement amounts from the in-app payment processing platform providers

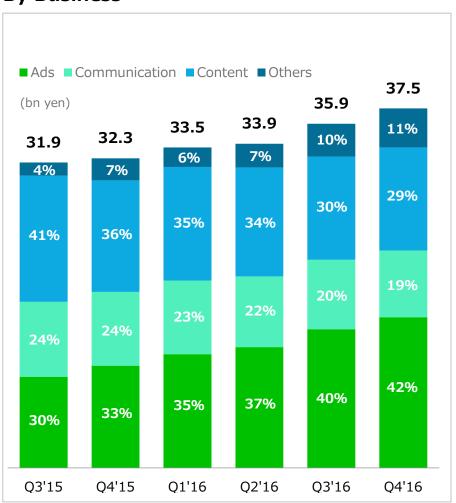
### **Monthly Active Users | Four Key Countries**



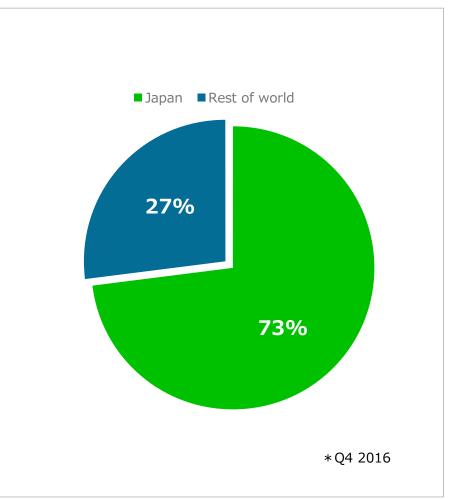
- YoY 15.4%↑
- DAU/MAU: 72%
- Global MAU: 217mn

### Revenues

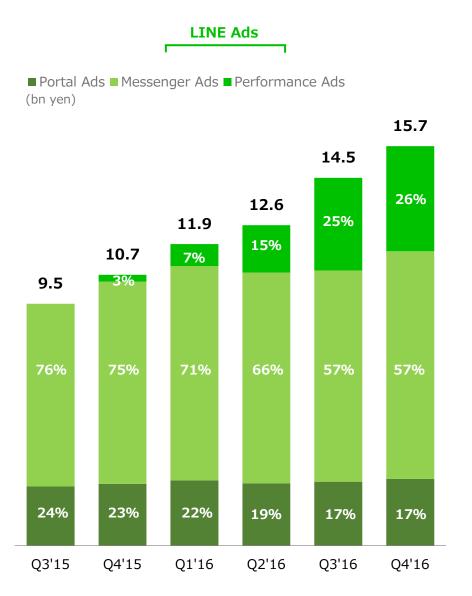
#### **By Business**



#### By Geography







#### Ads revenue

YoY 47.5%↑ / QoQ 8.6%↑

#### LINE Ads revenue

YoY 59.1% ↑/ QoQ 9.5% ↑

#### # of Global Paid Official Accounts

Q3'15	Q4'15	Q1'16	Q2'16	Q3'16	Q4'16
390	419	456	480	521	549

#### **LINE Ads Platform Impressions (mn)**

Q1'16	Q2'16	Q3'16	Q4'16
6,751	7,992	9,933	11,166

### Communication Stickers, Theme, LINE Out(Call), etc

(bn yen)



#### **Communication revenue**

YoY 9.6% ↓ / QoQ 3.9% ↓

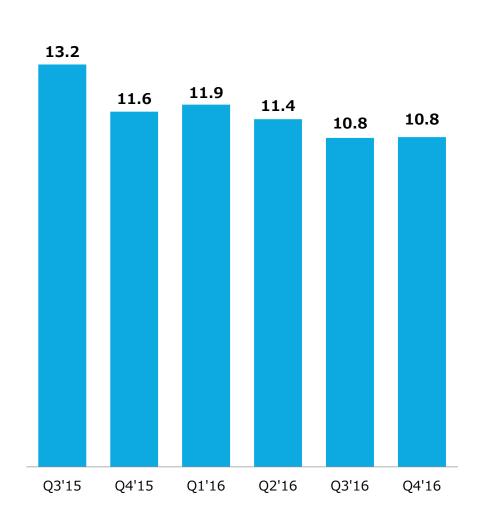
Sticker settlement amount recovered but revenue declined due to 469mn yen adjustment

#### Daily average number of stickers sent (mn)

Q3'15	Q4'15	Q1'16	Q2'16	Q3'16	Q4'16
379	388	389	397	384	407







#### **Content revenue**

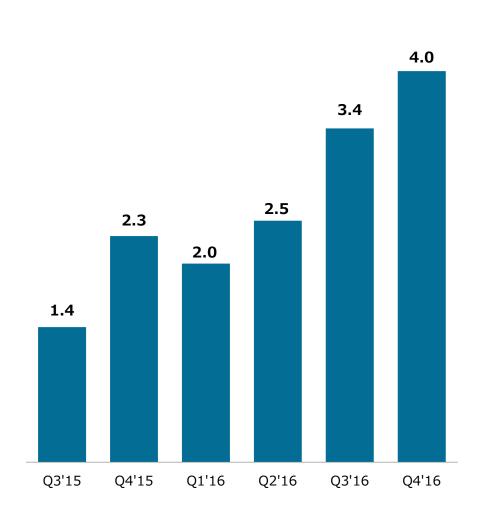
YoY 7.5%  $\downarrow$  / QoQ 0.1%  $\downarrow$ 

Solid revenue from existing casual game but revenue was flat due to 209mn yen adjustment

#### LINE GAME KPI

	Q3'15	Q4'15	Q1'16	Q2'16	Q3'16	Q4'16
MAU(mn)	32.0	31.9	30.8	28.9	27.5	26.5
PU ratio	4.4%	5.2%	5.2%	4.9%	5.1%	5.0%

(bn yen)



#### **Others revenue**

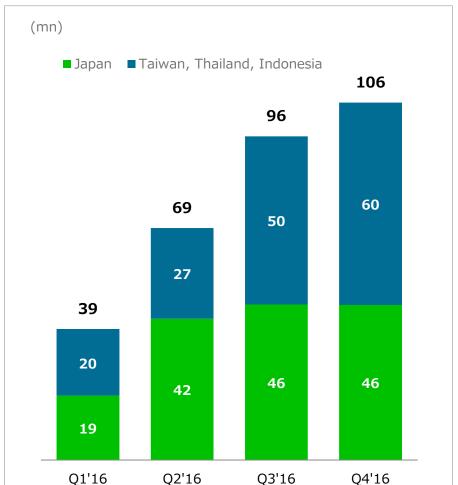
YoY 72.9%  $\uparrow$  / QoQ 17.1%  $\uparrow$ 

#### # of LINE Friends stores in 5 countries

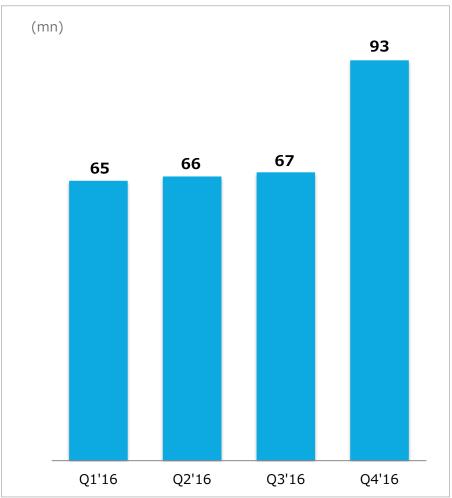
Q1'16	Q2'16	Q3'16	Q4'16
22	19	25	26

### **Smart Portal Update | Contents Platform**

#### **LINE NEWS & LINE Today MAU**



#### **B612 MAU (Global)**



### **Smart Portal Update | Life Platform**

#### LINE Pay Registered Accounts (global)



#### **Domestic**

 New user registration increased due to New Year's "Otoshidama" campaign

#### **Taiwan**

 Started issuance of CTBC LINE Pay card, partnering with CTBC Bank

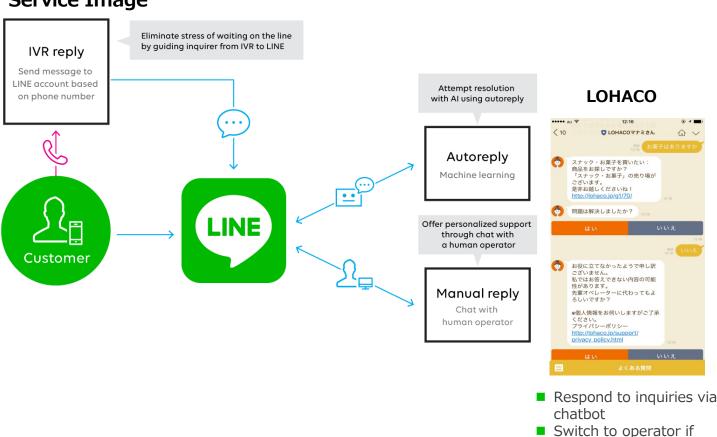
#### **Indonesia**

Partnered with largest local Mandiri
Bank and started LINE Pay e-cash

### **Smart Portal Update | Life Platform**

- Customer support service using both AI engine and operator
- Automatically reply to customer inquiries using natural language processing and deep learning technology

#### **Service Image**



#### **AIRDO**

- \* AIRDO AIR DO ソラミチ リネ ADO019 東京/羽田 札幌/千歳 未定 36A QRコードの取得はこちら **予約便照会**
- Board flight using QR code sent to LINE chat
- Chatbot for inquiries

necessary

<sup>\*</sup> IVR: Interactive Voice Response

### Earnings Summary (Q4 2016)

(,,,,,,,,,,)	04115	Q3'16	0.414.6	Growth	
(mn yen)	Q4'15		Q4'16	Y/Y	Q/Q
Revenues and other operating income	32,440	36,099	38,145	17.6%	5.7%
Revenues	32,332	35,930	37,465	15.9%	4.3%
LINE Ads	8,235	11,960	13,098	59.1%	9.5%
Portal Ads	2,431	2,524	2,633	8.3%	4.3%
Communication	7,714	7,255	6,973	-9.6%	-3.9%
Content	11,637	10,774	10,760	-7.5%	-0.1%
Others	2,315	3,417	4,002	72.9%	17.1%
Other operating income	108	170	680	530.3%	301.1%
Operating expenses	31,659	31,173	36,542	15.4%	17.2%
Operating income	781	4,927	1,603	105.3%	-67.5%
Margin(%)	2.4%	13.6%	4.2%	+1.8pt	-9.4pt
Pre-tax income	-1,860	4,578	2,724	n/a	-40.5%
Tax	-4,433	1,664	<u>1,086</u>	n/a	-34.7%
Net income from continuing operations	2,574	2,915	<u>1,639</u>	-36.3%	-43.8%
Discontinued operations income	-2,852	-96	-219	n/a	n/a
Net income	-279	2,818	1,419	n/a	-49.6%

### **Supplemental Information to Q4 Results**

Adjustments to the earnings to reconcile the differences in settlement amounts from the in-app payment processing platform providers

 Sales records existed, but no payment from in-app payment processing platform providers  Payments made from in-app payment processing platform providers, but no match to the sales records

#### **Impact on financial statements**

(mn yen)	Amount		
Revenues	-678		
Communication	-469		
Content	-209		
Operating expenses	400		
Operating income	-1,078		

#### **Impact on financial statements**

- Recorded as a liability of 1.27bn yen as of end of December 2016
- Will be recorded as earnings once obligation of liability is finished

### **Operating Expenses**

(mm yon)	04115	Q3'16	0414.5	Growth	
(mn yen)	Q4'15		Q4'16	Y/Y	Q/Q
Operating expenses	31,659	31,173	36,542	15.4%	17.2%
Payment processing and licensing	7,859	7,308	7,346	-6.5%	0.5%
Employee compensation	10,028	9,775	10,555	5.3%	8.0%
Marketing	3,130	2,798	4,280	36.7%	53.0%
Infrastructure and communication	2,137	1,881	2,113	-1.1%	12.3%
Authentication and other service	2,995	3,584	4,673	56.0%	30.4%
Depreciation and amortization	1,104	1,425	1,441	30.6%	1.1%
Other operating expenses	4,406	4,401	6,134	39.2%	39.4%

<sup>\*</sup>Other operating expenses include LINE Friends COGS, office related expense and IPO related expenses

### **Employee Compensation and Marketing**

#### **Employee Compensation**

Q3'15

Q4'15

Q1'16

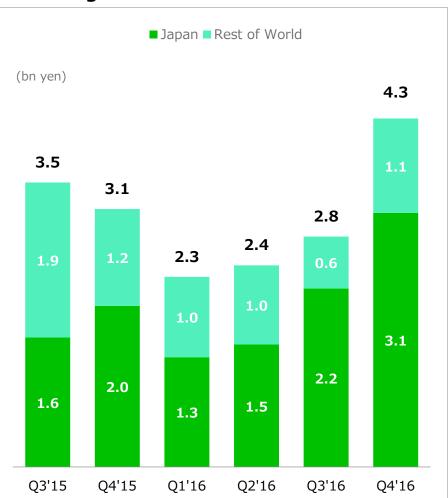
Q2'16

Q3'16

Q4'16

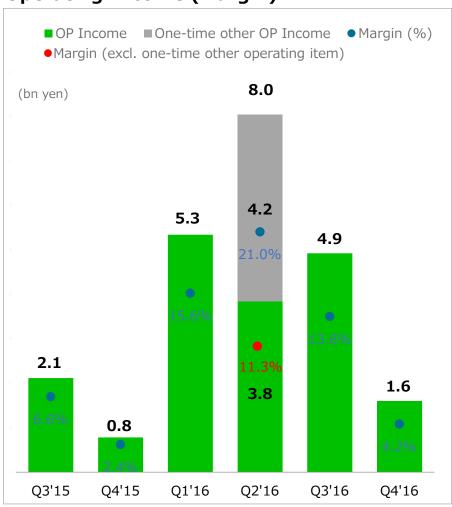
#### ■ Salary + Others SBC (bn yen) 10.6 10.0 9.8 9.7 9.4 9.0 2.2 2.9 2.4 2.5 2.5 3.0 8.4 7.4 7.3 7.1 6.9 6.1

#### **Marketing**

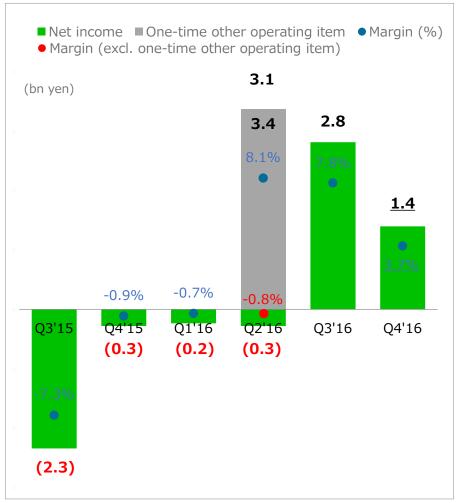


### **Operating & Net Income**

#### **Operating Income (Margin)**



#### **Net Income (Margin)**



# LINE