

# INTEGRATED REPORT 2024

Powered by **Innovation**, Pioneering the **Future** 







# Powered by Innovation, Pioneering the Future

# **Company Creed / Corporate Philosophy**

- 1. Place a high value on trust and strive for the utmost reliability.
- 2. Maintain a vibrant company based on harmony and open-mindedness.
- 3. Be creative and contribute to society through our business activities.



**Values** 

trustworthy organization

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## **Editorial Policy**

This report is to provide information on Ashimori Industry's efforts for corporate value creation. In addition to financial information including business results and strategy, this report is edited with the intention of informing shareholders, investors, and other stakeholders of the company's non-financial information such as ESG topics.

#### Period covered

Fiscal year ended March 2024 (April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024) When necessary, past and recent information are also included.

#### Organizations covered

Ashimori Industry Co., Ltd. and group companies

#### **Published**

September 2024

#### Disclaimer

Although the information in this report has been compiled with the utmost care, we do not guarantee that all of it is accurate and/or up to date. We are therefore not responsible for any losses, damages, or other problems that arise due to causes such as the information being erroneous or out of date.

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#### Value Creation

# **Value Creation History**

Since our foundation in 1878, we have contributed to society's advancement through the provision of products that anticipate the needs of the times by using our technical expertise—the roots of our identity. We will continue to take on new challenges as we contribute to society in the safety and renewal fields.

# Understanding the times and entering new business areas

- 1878 Ashimori Buhei the 10th begins trading in cotton and linen in Osaka, the center of Japan's spinning industry at that time.
- 1885 Begins manufacturing cotton power transmission ropes.
- 1887 Begins manufacturing spindle bands for ring spinning machines in order to respond to demand spurred by technological changes in the industry.
- 1908 Establishes a full-fledged mass-production factory (in Juso, Osaka) in response to the stellar reputation for the company's braiding technology and the toughness of its ropes and spindle bands.
- 1935 Reorganizes as a joint-stock company named Ashimori Rope Works.
- 1944 Changes the company name to Ashimori Industry Co., Ltd.

- 1950 Company listed on the Osaka Securities Exchange.
- 1952 Succeeds in Japan's first development of the latex rubber-lined fire hose and begins its manufacture.
- 1953 Begins manufacturing synthetic fiber
- 1961 Company listed on the First Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

- 1962 Begins manufacturing automotive seatbelts. Begins manufacturing airbags in 1989.
- 1967 Obtains JIS (Japanese Industrial Standards) labeling approval, a first for an automotive seatbelt manufacturer, a year after the JIS seatbelt standard was created.

# Foundation: Rope-making begins

At a time when spinning factories were sprouting up in Osaka, company founder Ashimori Buhei the 10th believed that cotton yarn was a key to industrial advancement and a product sure to be in ever greater demand. He was the first in Japan to succeed in using a machine

to make cotton rope used as a means to transmit power from one engine to multiple machines.





# Starts fire hose business

To respond to a rapid decline in demand for cotton power transmissions ropes, Ashimori decided to forego using linen, which was difficult to procure, and instead

succeeded-for the first time in Japanin the manufacture of cotton and nylon fire hoses that were leak proof thanks to latex rubber lining.



# **Enters field of automotive** safety systems

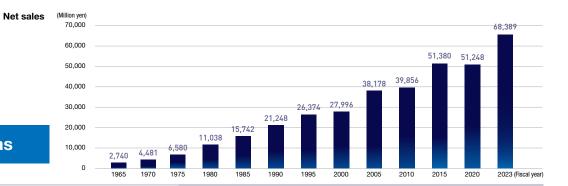
With car seatbelts becoming mandatory in the U.S., increased demand was anticipated in Japan as well. Using its years of know-how in weaving, Ashimori began developing and manufacturing car seatbelts.



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Value Creation

# **Value Creation History**



# Understanding the times and entering new business areas

- 1980 Begins PALTEM pipeline rehabilitation business; Ashimori adopted its proprietary technology for textiles and fire hoses to jointly develop PALTEM with Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.
- 1991 Begins manufacturing Air Roll cargo-transportation system.

- 1998 Establishes KPN Ashimori Co., Ltd. (now Ashimori (Thailand) Co., Ltd.). Establishes bases in Shanghai in 2003, India in 2009, South Korea in 2011, Mexico in 2012, and Germany in 2017.
- 2008 Establishes Ashimori Industry Yamaguchi Co., Ltd. Establishes the Hamamatsu Plant.
- 2016 Acquires Allsafe Japan Ltd.
- 2017 Acquires Shibata Industry Co., Ltd.
  Acquires Takara Sangyo in Shiga, Japan.

- 2022 Moves to the Prime Market on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.
- 2023 Moves to the Standard Market on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

1980 -

1998 -

2022 -

# Starts pipeline rehabilitation business

Taking advantage of the trend to maintain and repair existing gas pipelines instead of installing new ones, Ashimori utilized its accumulated technologies to

develop PALTEM, a new pipeline rehabilitation technology (hose lining method) that was the first of its kind in Japan.



# Expands overseas, establishes drivers of growth

In the automotive safety systems business, Ashimori built its first factory outside Japan, in Thailand, in 1998. The company went on to accelerate its global push by establishing strategic overseas bases for greater procurement capability, improved cost competitiveness, and wider sales routes. In the high performance

products business, Ashimori expanded its production system. The company also strengthened business and expanded operations through moves including acquisitions of companies dealing in logistics machinery and pipeline rehabilitation work.



# Excellence recognized worldwide New Ashimori Vision 2028

In the leadup to our 150th anniversary in 2028, we have revised our Mission, Vision, and Values statements to make them more engaging for group employees. We have also created a new slogan: "Powered by Innovation, Pioneering the Future" to enhance unity. The slogan inherits the spirit of our company creed and demonstrates our strong will to utilize our technological strengths and continue to reform our company culture with the aim of becoming an excellent, world-class organization.

Value Creation

# Value Creation Process

Company Slogan

# Powered by **Innovation**, Pioneering the **Future**

Social issues **Business activities** Output Input **Outcome** 

Key issues for Ashimori





Safety and security



Gender equality, espect for diversity



## Financial capital

Consolidated total assets

**53.861** million yen

#### Human capital

Number of employees (consolidated)

2,442

#### Intellectual capital

Number of patents held

349

205 overseas

R&D expenses

501 million yen (for Automotive Safety Systems)

568 million yen

181 million yen

#### Manufactured capital

Group companies

in Japan

overseas

Note: FY2023 results

# **Providing new value**

Medium-Term Management Plan

**Excellence recognized worldwide** 

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Mission Provide products that protect lives and livelihoods

Vision

Maintain our reputation as a trusted organization

**Values** 

Make quality our number one priority in production

- 1. Place a high value on trust and strive for the utmost reliability
- 2. Maintain a vibrant company based on harmony and open-mindedness
- 3. Be creative and contribute to society through our business activities

- · Tradition, reliability
- Our people
- Technology, adaptability, R&D

## Materiality

- Harmony with the environment
   Supply of reliable products at appropriate prices
   Enhancement of governance
- · Human resource development and diversity · Thorough compliance with laws, rules, and regulations

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## Main products

- Seatbelts
- Airbags
- Separation nets
- Tonneau covers



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- PALTEM pipeline rehabilitation
- Hoses for firefighting and fire hydrants
- Disaster relief products



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- Labor-saving logistics products
- Soil stabilization products
- Belts (land and sea transportation, solar power generation)



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**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS** 

Realize a safe. secure, and comfortable society

> Keep people safe and protect their lives

Provide people with security

> **Support** people's lifestyles

Value Creation

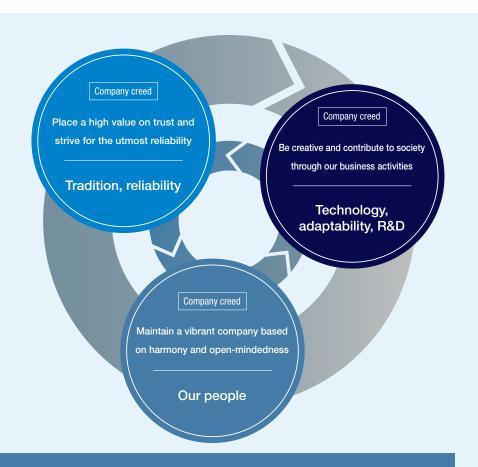
# The Source of Value Creation

Ashimori has accumulated many strengths over its 146-year history. These strengths—tradition and reliability; technology, adaptability, and R&D; and our people—are at the core of our company creed. They have enabled us to diversify business to come out with a range of products that contribute to the realization of a safe, secure, and comfortable society.

## Tradition, Reliability

Ashimori will celebrate its 150th anniversary in 2028. On the foundation of the strong technical expertise we have built up, we have sincerely responded to the detailed needs of the market and built relationships of trust with countless customers. By providing products that protect lives and livelihoods, we will continue to be a corporate group trusted by all.





## **Our People**

The Ashimori Group HR Vision Statement has been formulated to foster our ideal of an Ashimori employee: someone strongly committed to our company principles, who takes the appreciation they receive for their efforts inside and outside the company to make their job more rewarding. The Ashimori Code of Conduct has also been formulated as our commitment to society.



# Technology, Adaptability, R&D

we have continued to diversify our business operations by applying the core technologies that we cultivated in textiles. Now, having surpassed the boundaries of the textile industry, our central operations are in the fields of safety and

Originally a rope manufacturer,



renewal activities, such as safety-related automotive parts and the reconstruction of essential utilities. We will continue contributing to society through unceasing R&D and technological innovation.

Harnessing core technologies to tap into the safety and renewal market

#### Weaving/assembling

Tubular fabrics, wide-woven textiles, rope, belts, cords, etc.

#### Winding/fixing

Seatbelts, automotive interior parts, cargo-lashing systems, etc.

#### Plastic processing (covering)

Fire hoses, PALTEM liners, SZ structural materials, etc.

#### Inflating

Airbags, Air Roll System, bags for civil engineering applications, etc.

#### Combining



Integrating into systems

By deploying and combining our four core technologies of weaving/assembling, winding/fixing, plastic processing (covering), and inflating, we have developed products ranging from fiber/resin/metal composite components to complete systems. We are engaged in ongoing R&D with the aim of expanding our business in the safety and renewal market.

#### Value Creation

# **The Source of Value Creation**

# Start of manufacturing of cotton power transmission ropes (1885)

After starting up his cotton and linen thread business, company founder Ashimori Buhei the 10th became the first in Japan to successfully manufacture cotton power transmission ropes domestically, a product that had previously been imported.



# Obtained JIS certification as a seatbelt manufacturer (1967)

We were the first seatbelt manufacturer in Japan to receive JIS (Japanese Industrial Standards) certification. We also received approval for our products under overseas

standards, which opened the way for exporting to Europe and the United States.



# Start of manufacturing of latex rubber-lined Jet Hose fire hoses (1952)

By leveraging our core technologies of weaving and resin processing cultivated in the textile industry, we developed the latex rubber-lined Jet Hose fire hose. This hose replaced the linen hoses that were mainstream at the time and became the prototype for today's fire hoses.



# Four firsts in Japan

born of technology, adaptability, and R&D

# Completion of the PALTEM pipe lining system (1980)

This 100% domestically developed trenchless rehabilitation technique makes it possible to repair and replace pipelines without digging up roads. Since the existing pipelines are reused without being removed, less waste is produced and construction time can be shortened.



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#### Value Creation

# **Our Businesses**

Consolidated net sales

50.039 million yen

Fiscal year ended March 2024

# **Automotive Safety Systems**

# Seatbelt-related

**Business** 

Seatbelts

Our products ensure safety for car occupants in the event of a traffic accident and provide a comfortable car interior, thus contributing to improving the functions of automobiles, a part of social infrastructure. The transition to electric vehicles is moving the trend towards lighter automobile parts, and we are partnering with automobile manufacturers to develop products with low environmental impact.

Features

# Solutions

#### Achieving both safety and comfort







Ever since receiving JIS (Japanese Industrial Standards) certification in 1967, a first for a seatbelt manufacturer, we have been actively working to achieve both safety and comfort in developing next-generation seatbelts incorporating the technologies we have built up.

## Airbag-related

Airbags

## State-of-the-art technologies protect lives

We have always manufactured a range of airbags that have incorporated the most advanced technologies of their time in the fields of fibers, chemistry, electrotechnics, electronics, control, mechanics, and sensors.







Passenger airbags



Side airbags



Curtain airbags

## Interior products

- Sunshades (electric and nonelectric)
- Separation nets

#### A comfortable car interior



Sunshades (electric and nonelectric) regulate the amount of sunlight entering through car windows and thus help create a comfortable interior.

## Preventing cargo from collapsing



cargo space. It prevents the cargo from collapsing or entering into the passenger seats BMW X2 (©BMW AG) during sudden braking.

The separation net

passenger seats and the

separates the

#### Tonneau covers

Anti-theft

(luggage covers) are to block baggage and other items in the vehicle's cargo space from outside view. They are a great anti-theft measure.

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## **Our Businesses**

Consolidated net sales

18.320 million yen

Fiscal year ended March 2024

# **High Performance Products**

Business

#### Features

PALTEM (Pipeline Automatic Lining

SysTEM) is a type of trenchless

technique for rehabilitating buried

pipelines—such as those carrying

potable water, sewage, agricultural

signals, or electricity—without having

to dig up the pipe. This environmentally

friendly method minimizes damages to

pipeline surroundings while supporting

water, gas, telecommunications

lifeline infrastructure.

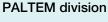
# Maintenance and management of essential utilities

# We contribute to



# Focus

Pipes (essential utilities) buried underground are subject to aging and deterioration caused by the changing environment. In Japan, recent years have seen pipes damaged and weakened due to frequent earthquakes and ground sinkage. In response to the increasing needs for pipeline rehabilitation, we are supporting society through the development and installation of new technologies.



 Manufacture and sales of materials and equipment for PALTEM pipeline rehabilitation; pipeline rehabilitation work

Construction materials



# Disaster prevention division

- Fire hoses
- · Emergency drain hoses
- Disaster prevention materials and equipment

We help make social infrastructure safe and secure by providing a range of hose types; for example, low-pressure-loss hoses that reduce pressure loss at the time of water discharge, and largediameter hoses. We also have disaster mitigation products that minimize damage and injury in disasters.

# Lengthening water supply and water discharge distance of fire hoses



Low-pressure-loss hoses reduce pressure loss by up to 50% during water supply, thus improving fire-fighting performance (greater water volume. shorter time in hose. longer water supply

## Handling large-scale fires

Solutions



Large-volume water-supply hoses can send large amounts of water over long distances. Since both sides of the hose are covered with urethane resin, it has the needed high weather resistance and durability for battling large blazes.

#### Rescue support during disasters



Our water supply and drainage system boasts superb mobility and portability. It can contribute to quick rescue activities by providing temporary drainage in urban areas and supplying clean water in disasters.

# Industrial materials division

- Fishing and marine ropes
- · Reinforcing fabrics for timing belts
- Labor-saving logistics systems

We manufacture and sell a variety of products from fiber materials to labor-saving logistics systems. Besides materials that help make possible clean, environmentally friendly energy, we have truck logistics products that can be easily used by anyone and contribute to a workplace conducive to all.

#### Labor savings in logistics



Our Air Roll System uses an air hose to raise and lower roller conveyors equipped on truck beds. It can easily be used by elderly people and women to lessen their workload

#### Preventing sinking on soft ground



Palace Sheet (tubular fabric technology) is a surface stabilization method that uses sheets to stabilize the surface layer of soft ground. When used as footing for heavy machinery temporarily placed on agricultural land, it is easy to remove and the ground can be easily restored to its original state.

#### At work in many fields



From wide-woven textiles used for rubber materials and heat-resistant screens, to lashing belts used to secure cargo or vehicles, we provide fiber materials for a wide range of fields.