

# **DENSO CORP**

Japan Governance Service

MEETING DATE	Fri, 19 Jun 2020 10:00 am	TYPE	AGM	ISSUE DATE	Wed, 03 Jun 2020
MEETING LOCATION	Head Office, DENSO CORPORATION 1-1, Aichi, Japan	Showa	-cho, K	ariya,	
CURRENT INDICES	PIRC Japan				
SECTOR	Motor vehicle parts and accessories				

# **COMPANY OVERVIEW**

DENSO Corp is involved in the automotive, consumer related systems and industrial products businesses. Its products include power-train equipment, electronics, heat equipment, information safety, motor, industrial equipment and lifestyle related equipment. It is geographically located in:Japan, North America, Europe, Oceania. The company was founded in December 1949 and is head quartered in Kariya, Japan.

#### **MEETING SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

The company operates under the Kansayaku-setchi-kaisha structure, with a board of directors and a board of corporate auditors.

	PROPOSALS	ADVICE
1.1	<b>Elect Arima Kouji</b> President. It is considered the responsibility of the most senior Board member to ensure that there is appropriate outside oversight of Board decisions. As there are three or more outside directors, it is considered that there is adequate outside presence on the Board, and support is therefore recommended.	For
1.2	Elect Yamanaka Yasushi Executive Director.	For
1.3	Elect Wakabayashi Hiroyuki Executive Director.	For
1.4	<b>Elect Usui Sadahiro</b> Executive Director. Newly nominated Executive Director. As independent directors comprise more than one-third of the entire Board, support is recommended.	For
1.5	Elect Toyoda Akio Independent Non-Executive Director.	For
1.6	Elect George Olcott Independent Non-Executive Director.	For
1.7	Elect Kushida Shigeki Independent Non-Executive Director.	For
1.8	Elect Mitsuya Yuko Independent Non-Executive Director.	For
2	Elect Reserve Corporate Auditors (JP) Independent Substitute Corporate Auditor. Support is recommended.	For

### 3 Payment of Bonus to Directors/Corporate Auditors

The company proposes the payment of bonuses to directors and corporate auditors. Although shareholders are given an opportunity to vote at the Annual Meeting on whether bonus would be paid, the level of individual payment is unclear and is decided entirely by the board. However, the company does disclose that only internal directors will be able to benefit from this awards scheme and aggregate amount payable is disclosed. A vote for is recommended.

#### 4 Reviewing Aggregate Remuneration Amount of Directors/Corporate Auditors It is proposed to approve the aggreagate remuneration of directors, pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act and the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Companies Act. The increase has been justified and it is within recommended limits. Also, performance-related pay is restricted to executives. Support is therefore recommended

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR RESOLUTIONS

#### Proposal 2 - Elect Reserve Corporate Auditors (JP)

The traditional governance structure for Japanese companies (Kansayaku) involves the appointment of corporate auditors. Large Japanese companies are required to form a board of corporate auditors with powers to examine board activities and oversee financial reports. Such companies are required by law to appoint at least three statutory auditors to the corporate audit board. At least half the corporate auditors must qualify as 'outsiders'. Beyond this legal minimum, it is considered to be best practice that boards of corporate auditors should be composed wholly of outsiders. New appointments are therefore considered in the context of their effect on the balance of independence.

Note: It is considered that the corporate auditor board will be 25.0% independent following the Annual Meeting.

## **Pay and Public Health Crisis**

All companies need to review their approach to pay, and amounts to be paid, to their executives in the light of current events. Few if any executive pay schemes are likely to be appropriate for a company in current market circumstances and the health emergency. PIRC therefore calls on companies to suspend all payments to executives other than basic salary from the 1st April, until the end of the financial year December 2020.

It is also important that such a review is considered in the context of its impact on employees, especially where there have been, or may need to be, redundancies or layoffs.

There is also an anomaly in variable pay being determined on the historic performance as at the year end, given the occurrence of extremely material post balance sheet events. If it is deemed appropriate to cut dividends and reduce the workforce, due to these events, which in many cases are already happening, then it is difficult to understand how executive bonuses and LTIP awards - essentially based on last financial year - can be justified.

PIRC will be reviewing the experience of companies and will take this into account when providing voting advice next season.

For

For

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS (post-Meeting)**

ARIMA KOUJI					PRESIDEN
AGE	62	TENURE	5 Years	COMMITTEES	None
GENDER	Male				
OTHER POSITION					
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	Ν		INDEPENDENT E	BY COMPANY	Ν
YAMANAKA YASUSHI				EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
AGE	63	TENURE	5 Years	COMMITTEES	None
GENDER	Male				
OTHER POSITION					
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	Ν		INDEPENDENT E	BY COMPANY	Ν
WAKABAYASHI HIROYUKI				EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
AGE	64	TENURE	4 Years	COMMITTEES	None
GENDER	Male				
OTHER POSITION					
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	Ν		INDEPENDENT E	BY COMPANY	N
USUI SADAHIRO				EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
AGE	62	TENURE	<1 Years	COMMITTEES	None
GENDER	Male				
OTHER POSITION					
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	Ν		INDEPENDENT E	BY COMPANY	Ν
Toyoda akio				EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
AGE	64	TENURE	1 Year	COMMITTEES	None
GENDER	Male	-			
OTHER POSITION					
			INDEPENDENT E		N
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	N				
GEORGE OLCOTT	65	TENURE	6 Years		
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER		TENURE	6 Years	NON-EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
GEORGE OLCOTT	65	TENURE	6 Years	NON-EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER	65	TENURE	6 Years	NON-EXE COMMITTEES	CUTIVE DIRECTO None
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER OTHER POSITION	65 Male	TENURE		NON-EXE COMMITTEES	CUTIVE DIRECTO
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER OTHER POSITION	65 Male	TENURE		NON-EXE COMMITTEES	CUTIVE DIRECTO None Y
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER OTHER POSITION INDEPENDENT BY PIRC KUSHIDA SHIGEKI	65 Male	TENURE		NON-EXE COMMITTEES	CUTIVE DIRECTO None Y
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER OTHER POSITION INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	65 Male Y		INDEPENDENT E	NON-EXE COMMITTEES BY COMPANY NON-EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO None Y CUTIVE DIRECTO
GEORGE OLCOTT AGE GENDER OTHER POSITION INDEPENDENT BY PIRC KUSHIDA SHIGEKI AGE	65 Male Y		INDEPENDENT E	NON-EXE COMMITTEES BY COMPANY NON-EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTO None Y CUTIVE DIRECTO

MITSUYA YUKO				NON-EXE	CUTIVE DIRECTOR
AGE GENDER	62 Female	TENURE	1 Year	COMMITTEES	None
OTHER POSITION					
INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	Y		INDEPENDEN	T BY COMPANY	Υ

# **CORPORATE AUDITORS**

NAME	DATE APPOINTED	INDEPENDENT BY PIRC	INDEPENDENT BY COMPANY
Gotou Yasuko	01-01-2019	No	Yes
Kitamura Haruo	01-01-2019	Yes	Yes
Niwa Motomi	01-01-2018	No	No
Shinmura Atsuhiko	01-01-2014	No	No

# **BOARD COMPOSITION**

## BOARD COMPOSITION FOLLOWING THE AGM

	Number	% of Board
Executive Director	5	62.5
Independent NEDs	3	37.5
Connected NEDs	0	0.0
Other	0	0.0

#### For Private Circulation only

© Copyright 2020 PIRC Ltd

Researcher: Melina Zoanetti Email: pircresearchAMEA@pirc.co.uk

Information is believed to be correct but cannot be guaranteed. Opinions and recommendations constitute our judgement as of this date and are subject to change without notice. The document is not intended as an offer, solicitation or advice to buy or sell securities. Clients of Pensions & Investment Research Consultants Ltd may have a position or engage in transaction in any of the securities mentioned.



Pensions & Investment Research Consultants Limited 8th Floor, Suite 8.02, Exchange Tower 2 Harbour Exchange Square E14 9GE

> Tel: 020 7247 2323 Fax: 020 7247 2457 http://www.pirc.co.uk

**Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority**