On-line Game in Asia Broadband in the Future

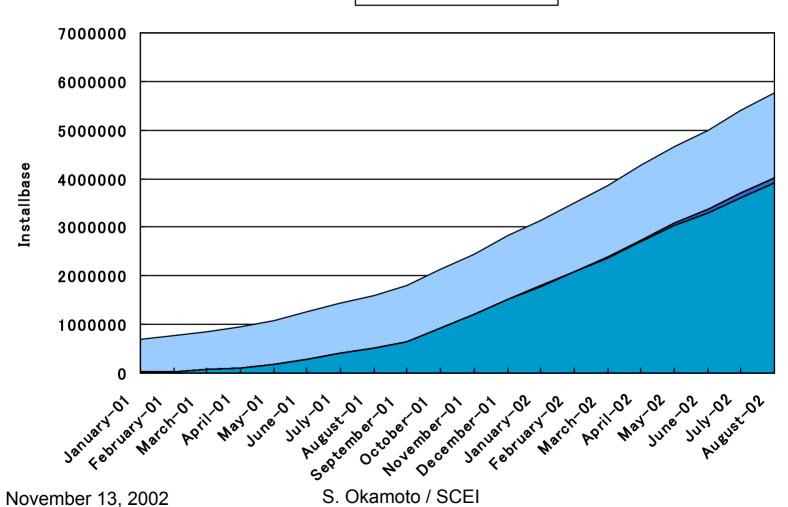
Shin'ichi Okamoto
CTO
Sony Computer Entertainment, Inc.

Agenda

- Latest trend
- Action by SCE
- For the next step

Broadband in Japan

■ ADSL ■ FTTH ■ CATV



New Trend: VoIP Services

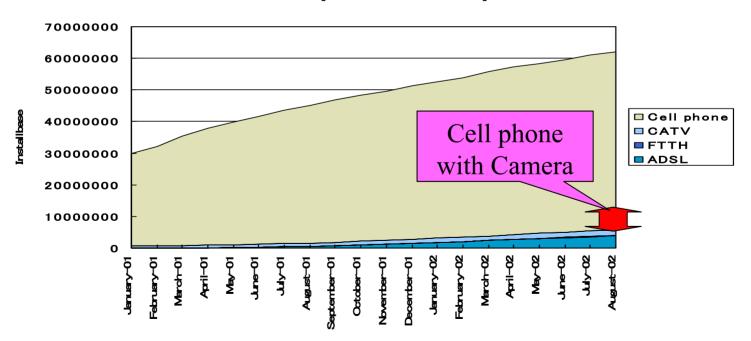
- Ex.: "BB Phone" by Yahoo! BB
 - Monthly fixed fee: 390 yen (<\$3)</p>
 - Per one minute fee: 7.5 yen (<7c) for all area in Japan and USA
- Merits of subscribers
 - ADSL subscribers can reduce their payment for voice service with VoIP service.

New Trend: New Contents

- Ex.: Bandai started a streaming distribution of the newest series of "Gundom" animation film
 - Free to watch
 - Available for one week from the next day of TV broadcast
 - http://flets.gundam-seed.net/

New Trend: Cell Phone with Camera

6.7m units were shipped in the six months from Apr. to Sept. of 2002



S. Okamoto / SCEI

New Trend: MMORPG in Asia and Console

	Lineage	FFX I	Ultima Online	PSO	Ever Quest
Users	6,000K users(TTL) 2700K users(KOREA) 2300K users(TWN·HK) 50K users(JPN) simultaneous 300K users	120K users (JPN) simultaneous 5.50K users	240K users (TTL) 80K users (JPN)	300K users (TTL) 130K users (JPN:DC+PC)	430K users (TTL) 12.0K users (JPN) simultaneous 100K users
Platform	PC	PS2/ PC(2002 Nov7th)	PC	Dreamcast/PC	PC
Package	Free (Download, post)	7,800yen (shop front)	1,980yen (Shop front/Online)	6,800yen(DC/PC) (shop front)	\$19.99 (Online/shop front)
Online Payment	1,400yen(incl.tax)/month	•1,280yen /month(basic) •100yen/month (supplement)	•\$9.95/month (card) •3,980yen/90days 1,980yen/30days (prepaid)	•400yen /30days 1,000yen/90days (DC) •1,000yen/30days 2,000yen/90days (PC)	\$12.95/month
Company	NC Software (Korea)	Square (JPN)	Electric Arts (USA)	SEGA (JPN)	SOE (USA)

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Network Adaptor (Ethernet/Modem)

- Aug. 27 in North America
 - Game retail channel, \$39.99
 - 400k units till the end of 2002
- Spring of 2003 in Europe
- Specification
 - 100Base T Ethernet
 - V90 modem
 - HD I/F
 - Start up Disc



On-line Games at Launching



SOCOM: U.S. Navy SEALs (VoIP + Headset)





NFL GameDay '03

November 13, 2002

Launching: Latest TOP10 Title List

by NPDFunworldSM TRSTS® Service

- Madden 2003
- SOCOM: U.S. Navy SEALs
- NCAA Football 2003

Top 2 are on-line titles!

- Grand Theft Auto III
- Gran Turismo™ 3: A-spec
- Medal of Honor Frontline
- Onimusha 2 Samurai's Destiny
- NFL 2K3
- Street Hoops
- Stuntman

Broadband Unit

- In Japanese
 - May 2002
 - Distribution channel :Broadband ISPs
- Specification
 - Network Adapter
 - + 40G Byte HDD
 - + Broadband Navigator





On-line Games in Japan

Final Fantasy XI



Catan



November 13, 2002

Hot Shots Golf Online



Nobunaga Online



Venus & Braves



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"PlayStation BB"

Definition

- Home entertainment platform based on "PlayStation 2", TV set and broadband network.
- "PlayStation BB Navigator"
 - Software to enjoy broadband contents and services on "PlayStation 2", supporting game, picture, movie, music, proprietary home-pages providing game publishers and ISP. A sort of Media Player.

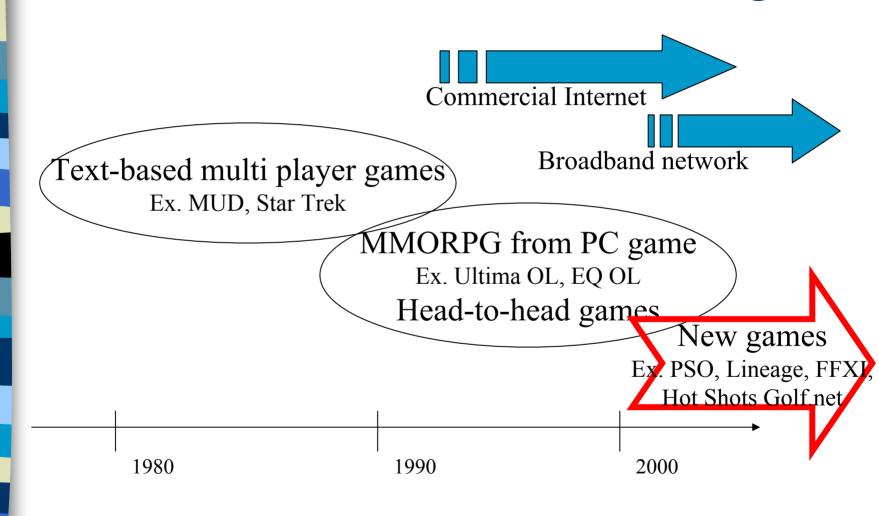
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Flexibility of On-line Game

- Server-oriented type
 - All the players are linked to server while they are playing the game
 - Ex.: MMORPG like Ultima Online and Ever Quest
- Head-to-head type
 - No server, or small server
 - Ex.: SOCOM (16 users play together as a team with voice chat)
- Information sharing type
 - Ex.: Everybody's Golf.net (Japanese language only)
- Distribution type
 - Download, streaming, virtual rental, episodic, ...

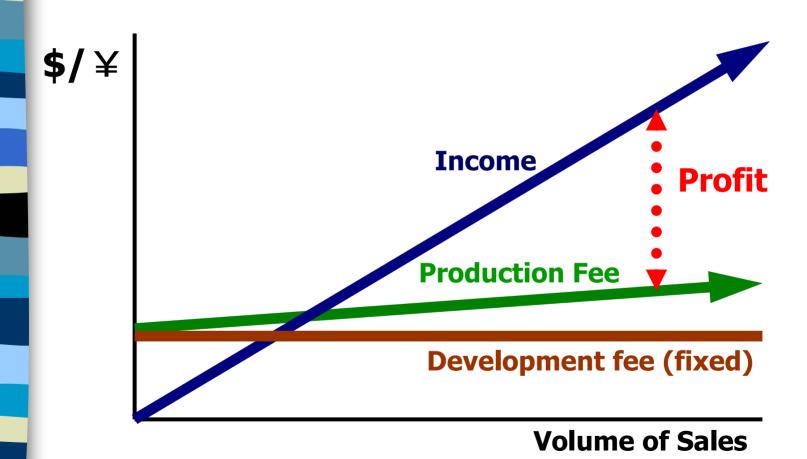
New Games in Broadband Age



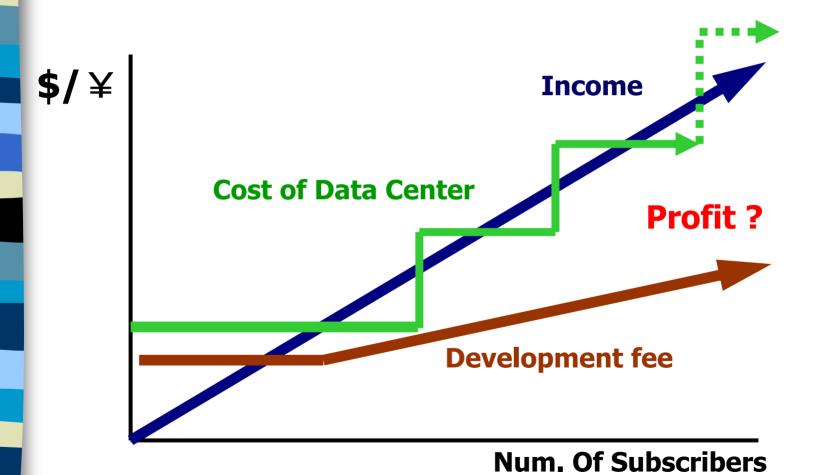
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Biz Model of Video Game



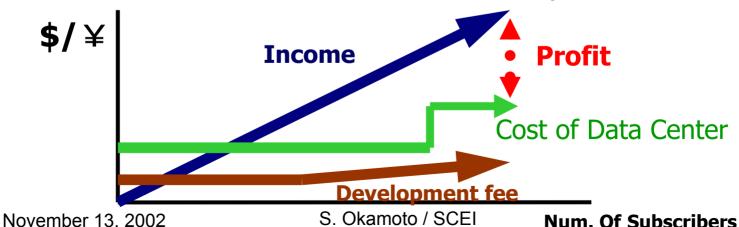
Biz Model of On-line Game



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Idea: Hybrid Game Business

- Income = Disc sales (+ network fee)
- Back up with ...
 - Productive Middleware
 - Flexible & Low Cost Data Center
 - Non-Server Centric Game System



Conclusion

- Re-definition of "Broadband" is valuable.
 - From the view of contents and services
 - Not technology, not infrastructure
- On-line gaming is one of the killer contents for broadband, because it has established business and customers.
- Effective business model is necessary, anyway.

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