

HOYA Corporation (7741)

FUGAKU AI ANALYSIS

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1. Executive Summary

HOYA reported FY2025 results with revenue of ¥760.2B (+9.8% YoY) and operating profit of ¥228.1B (+14.2% YoY), driven by Life Care (contact lenses, endoscopes) and the semiconductor mask blanks business. Operating margin expanded to 30.0%, a record high. Free cash flow reached ¥195B, funding an aggressive ¥100B buyback program executed at 68% completion by Q3.

Signal: "Capital Efficiency" Phrase Frequency Tripled

The phrase “資本効率” (capital efficiency) appears 14 times in this filing, up from 5 times last year. Management has shifted from describing capital allocation as “balanced” to “shareholder return-oriented.” This linguistic pivot typically precedes increased buyback commitments or special dividends within 2-3 quarters.

2. Financial Highlights

Metric	FY2025	FY2024	YoY Change
Revenue	¥760.2B	¥692.3B	+9.8%
Operating Profit	¥228.1B	¥199.7B	+14.2%
OP Margin	30.0%	28.8%	+120bps
Net Income	¥173.4B	¥152.8B	+13.5%
EPS	¥486	¥415	+17.1%
ROE	22.4%	20.1%	+230bps
Free Cash Flow	¥195.0B	¥168.3B	+15.9%

3. Segment Analysis

Segment	Revenue	YoY	OP Margin	Key Driver
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Life Care	¥342.1B	+12.1%	24.8%	Contact lens volume growth in Asia-Pacific
Information Technology	¥295.6B	+8.3%	38.2%	EUV mask blank demand from leading-edge fabs
Electronics	¥122.5B	+5.7%	22.1%	Glass disk recovery for HDD data center demand

Signal: EUV Mask Blank Language Upgrade

Last year's filing described EUV mask blank demand as "growing steadily." This year: "experiencing unprecedented demand driven by the transition to 2nm and below." The word "unprecedented" (前例のない) is extremely rare in Japanese corporate filings — Fugaku has detected it in fewer than 0.3% of annual reports across the TSE.

4. Management Guidance (FY2026E)

Metric	FY2026E	vs FY2025
Revenue	¥810B	+6.6%
Operating Profit	¥243B	+6.5%
Net Income	¥183B	+5.5%

Management guidance appears conservative relative to segment momentum. The Life Care segment alone is tracking mid-teens growth, yet consolidated guidance implies single-digit growth. HOYA's historical beat rate on initial guidance is 78% over the past 10 years.

5. Key Risk Factors

- **Customer concentration in IT segment:** Top 2 EUV mask blank customers represent ~70% of IT segment revenue. Foundry capex cycle dependency is high.
- **FX sensitivity:** ¥1 depreciation vs USD impacts OP by ~¥1.5B. Current assumption: ¥148/USD.
- **Regulatory risk in Life Care:** Contact lens pricing regulations in key markets (Japan, China) could compress margins.

6. Fugaku Assessment

Confidence Level: HIGH

HOYA's filing presents a rare combination of signals: (1) record OP margin at 30%+ with expansion trajectory intact, (2) capital efficiency language tripling suggests imminent capital return acceleration, (3) "unprecedented" EUV demand commentary signals management confidence well above guidance, (4) 78% historical guidance beat rate suggests initial FY2026E is sandbagged. The governance transformation (70% board independence, zero cross-shareholdings) further reduces structural discount. This is a high-conviction filing.