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Steel Partners: Hedge Fund Activism in Japan













Management M&A Consulting Inc and Murakami Fund

- Improved business strategies of

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Austin Chee and Victoria Gonzalez



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Yoshiaki Murakami

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Austin Chee and Victoria Gonzalez

Background Information

- Japanese Fund Manager and shareholder activist
- Founder of Investment Management M&A Consulting Inc. and Murakami Fund
- Improved business strategies of cash-rich companies



Yoshiaki Murakami

Details of Crime

- 2003: Purchased shares from Nippon Broadcasting
- 2004: Learned Takafumi Horie's Livedoor Co. planned a hostile takeover of Nippon Broadcasting (5% stake)
- 2004-2005: Continued buying (1.935 million shares) and sold shares to Livedoor



The Ethical Implications

- Japanese law: those informed of a hostile takeover cannot buy shares from related company
- Profit of about 3 billion yen (\$25 million) from insider trading



Penalties

- Tokyo High Court two-year prison sentence w/ three-year suspended term
- Fined 3 million yen and 1.15 billion yen for other penalties.



Was it justified?

Justified

- · Career is ruined
- Lost 3 million yen is about
 \$25,289.79 in US dollars



• Still recovering from crisis