

# History

Corporate	
1910s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Two of Japan's leading optical manufacturers merge to form a comprehensive, fully integrated optical company known as Nippon Kogaku K.K. (1917)</li> <li>● Acquisition of Fujii Lens Seisakusho (1917)</li> <li>● Research on manufacture of optical glass initiated (1918)</li> <li>● Completion of Ohi Plant (1918)</li> </ul>
1920s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Eight German technicians invited to provide technical guidance (1921)</li> <li>● Binoculars MIKRON 4x, 6x (1921)</li> <li>● Microscope Model JOICO (1925)</li> </ul>
1930s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Completion of new Ohi Plant (1933)</li> </ul>
1940s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Following end of W.W.II, production shifted to civilian optical products (1945)</li> <li>● Decided the name of small-sized cameras as Nikon (1946)</li> <li>● Ophthalmic Lens Pointal (1946)</li> <li>● Tilting Level Type E (1947)</li> <li>● Transit Type G (1947)</li> <li>● Film Camera Nikon I (1948)</li> <li>● Profile Projector Model I (1948)</li> <li>● Stock exchange listings gained on both Tokyo and Osaka exchanges (1949)</li> </ul>
1950s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The New York Times announced the superior quality of Nikon cameras and Nikkor lenses to the world (1950)</li> <li>● Nikkor Club formed to promote popular photography culture (1952)</li> <li>● First service center opened (1953); development of nationwide network begins</li> <li>● First U.S. subsidiary, Nikon Optical Co.,(now NIPPON KOGAKU (U.S.A.) Inc.) established (1953)</li> <li>● Nikon Inc. established in the United States (1953)</li> <li>● Film Camera Nikon F (Nikon's first SLR camera) (1959)</li> </ul>
1960s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon AG established in Switzerland (1961)</li> <li>● Management buy-in with Sakura Electronic Industries, Ltd. (now Tochigi Nikon Corporation) (1963)</li> <li>● Factory operations commence at Yokohama site (now Yokohama Plant) (1967)</li> <li>● Photo gallery Ginza Nikon Salon opened (1968)</li> <li>● K.K.Tachibana Seisakusyo (renamed Mito Nikon Corporation in 1977, dissolved in 2010) established (1968)</li> <li>● Nikon Europe N.V. (now Nikon Europe B.V.) established in the Netherlands (1968)</li> </ul>
1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon House opened in New York (1970)</li> <li>● Nikon Photomic FTN loaded on APOLLO 15 (1971)</li> <li>● Factory operations commence at Sagamihara site (now Sagamihara Plant) (1971)</li> <li>● Shinjuku Nikon Salon opened (1971)</li> <li>● Sendai Nikon Corporation established (1971)</li> <li>● Nikon Vertriebs GmbH (now Nikon GmbH) established in West Germany (now Germany) (1971)</li> <li>● Nikon Optical Shop Co., Ltd. established (1973)</li> <li>● Osaka Nikon Salon opened (1974)</li> <li>● Aiko Lens K.K. (now Aichi Nikon Co., Ltd.) established (1974)</li> <li>● Microscopes BIOPHOT/METAPHOT (1976)</li> <li>● Nikon Live Galerie opened in Zurich, Switzerland (1976)</li> <li>● Nikko Engineering K.K. (now Nikon Engineering Co., Ltd.) established (1978)</li> <li>● Nikon Canada Inc. established in Canada (1978)</li> <li>● Nikon U.K. Ltd. established in U.K. (1979)</li> <li>● Nasu Optical K.K. (now Nasu Nikon Co., Ltd.) established (1979)</li> </ul>

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1980s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Acquired Kurobane Kogaku K.K. (now Kurobane Nikon Co., Ltd.) (1980)</li> <li>● Released NSR-1010G (Resolution: 1.0μm) : First stepper made in Japan (1980)</li> <li>● Fieldscope (1981)</li> <li>● Zao Nikon Co., Ltd. (now Miyagi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd.) established (1981)</li> <li>● Nikon Precision Inc. established in the United States (1982)</li> <li>● Completion of Kumagaya Plant (Operations initiated in 1985) (1984)</li> <li>● Cascading CI activities, terminated in March 1989 (1985)</li> <li>● First representative office in China opened in Beijing (1985)</li> <li>● Total Station DTM-1(1985)</li> <li>● NSR-L7501G (for LCD) (1986)</li> <li>● Film Camera Nikon F-501 [N2020]* (1986)</li> <li>● Nikon Hong Kong Ltd. established in Hong Kong (1986)</li> <li>● Nikon Systems Inc. established (1986)</li> <li>● Nikon France S.A. established in France (1986)</li> <li>● Nikon Tec Corporation established (1987)</li> <li>● Nikon Sales-Promotion Co., Ltd. established (dissolved in 2003) (1987)</li> <li>● Nikon Photo Products Inc. (renamed Nikon Imaging Japan Inc. in 2008) established (1988)</li> <li>● Changed company name to Nikon Corporation (1988)</li> <li>● Nikon Precision Europe GmbH established in West Germany (now Germany) (1988)</li> <li>● Nikon Optical Canada Inc. established in Canada (1988)</li> <li>● VISUCOMLAND (electronic imaging equipment showroom) opened (1989)</li> </ul>
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Precision Korea Ltd. established in Korea (1990)</li> <li>● Sagami Optical Co., Ltd. established (dissolved in 2002) (1990)</li> <li>● Nikon (Thailand) Co.,Ltd. established in Thailand (1990)</li> <li>● Completion of Mito Plant (1991)</li> <li>● Nikon Kft. established in Hungary (1991)</li> <li>● Nikon Instech Co., Ltd. established (1992)</li> <li>● Nikon Geotecs Co., Ltd. (dissolved in 2003, transferring its business to Nikon-Trimble Co., Ltd.) started operations (1992)</li> <li>● Nikon Optical Co., Ltd. (dissolved in 1999, transferring its business to Nikon Eyewear Co., Ltd. and Nikon-Essilor Co., Ltd.) started operations (1992)</li> <li>● Service center opened in Kuangchou, China (1992)</li> <li>● Nikon Life Co.,Ltd., Nikon Logistics Corporation and Nikon Technologies,Inc., (merged to form Nikon Business Service Co.,Ltd. in 2007) established (1993)</li> <li>● Nikon Instruments S.p.A. established in Italy (1993)</li> <li>● Nikon s.r.o. established in Czech (1994)</li> <li>● NSR-S201A (Resolution: 0.25μm) (1995)</li> <li>● CNC Video Measuring System NEXIV VM-500N (1995)</li> <li>● Nikon Singapore Pte Ltd established in Singapore (1995)</li> <li>● Nikon Precision Taiwan Ltd. established in Taiwan (1995)</li> <li>● Nikon Svenska AB (now Nikon Nordic AB) established in Sweden (1995)</li> <li>● Biological Research Microscope ECLIPSE E800 (1996)</li> <li>● Nikon Research Corporation of America established in the U.S. (1996)</li> <li>● Beijing Nikon Ophthalmic Products Co., Ltd. established in China (1996)</li> <li>● MN Optical Corporation, a joint venture with Hitachi Maxell, Ltd., (dissolved in 1999) established (1996)</li> <li>● Nikon Digital Cameras COOLPIX 100 (1997)</li> <li>● Guang Dong Nikon Camera Co., Ltd. established in China (1997)</li> <li>● Nikon Optical U.K. Ltd. established in U.K. (1998)</li> <li>● Observation systems incorporated on the Large-scale optical Infrared Telescope SUBARU (1999)</li> <li>● Nikon Digital SLR Camera D1 (1999)</li> <li>● Nanjing Nikon Jiangnan Optical Instrument Co., Ltd. established in China (1999)</li> <li>● In-house company system introduced (1999)</li> <li>● Surveying instruments operations became an independent company (1999)</li> <li>● Hang Zhou Nikon Camera Co., Ltd. established in China (1999)</li> </ul>

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2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon-Essilor Co., Ltd., a joint venture with Essilor International S.A. of France, started operations</li> <li>● Nikon Eyewear Co., Ltd., started operations (dissolved in 2008)</li> <li>● Vision Nikon 21, a new vision statement, enacted</li> <li>● FX-21S (for LCD)</li> <li>● Nikon Precision Singapore Pte Ltd established in Singapore</li> <li>● Nikon Tsubasa Inc. established</li> <li>● Nikon Instruments Inc. and Nikon Eyewear Inc. established in the U.S. (dissolved in 2002)</li> <li>● Nikon Holdings Europe B.V. established in the Netherlands</li> </ul>
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. established in Malaysia</li> <li>● Binoculars and Telescopes business became an independent company and established Nikon Vision Co., Ltd.</li> <li>● Introduction of the Executive Officer System</li> <li>● Introduction of a Stock Option Program</li> </ul>
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Instruments Europe B.V. established in the Netherlands</li> <li>● Nikon Imaging (China) Co., Ltd. established in China</li> <li>● Dong Guan Nikon Surveying Instruments Co., Ltd established in China</li> <li>● Nikon Precision Shanghai Co., Ltd. established in China</li> </ul>
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All Nikon Plants achieved Zero Emission</li> <li>● A New Brand Symbol for the Nikon Group</li> <li>● Completion of Ohi West Building</li> <li>● Nikon-Trimble Co., Ltd. a joint venture with Trimble Navigation Ltd. of the U.S., established</li> <li>● Nikon Instruments (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. established in China</li> <li>● Nikon Polska Sp.z o.o. established in Poland</li> </ul>
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Acquired Hikari Glass Co.,Ltd.</li> <li>● Operation of Yokosuka Branch started</li> </ul>
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Instruments Korea Co., Ltd. established in Korea</li> <li>● Nikon Imaging (China) Sales Co., Ltd. established in China</li> <li>● Established Nikon Yokohama Logistics Center, a new base that brings together all of Nikon's Japan warehouses for imaging products</li> <li>● Completed Company-wide integration of ISO 14001certification</li> </ul>
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Instech Co., Ltd. merged with Kogaku Co., Ltd. and Okuma Shokai Co., Ltd.</li> <li>● Nikon Imaging Korea Co., Ltd. established in Korea</li> <li>● Nikon Australia Pty Ltd established in Australia</li> <li>● Operation of Shonan branch started</li> <li>● NSR-S609B (Resolution: 55nm)</li> </ul>
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Life Co., Ltd., Nikon Logistics Corporation and Nikon Technologies, Inc., consolidated subsidiaries, merged to form Nikon Business Service Co., Ltd.</li> <li>● Nikon Digital SLR Cameras D3</li> <li>● Tochigi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. Established</li> <li>● Nikon International Trading (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. established in China</li> <li>● "Our Aspirations -Meeting needs. Exceeding expectations.", a new vision statement, enacted</li> <li>● Nikon India Private Limited established in India</li> </ul>
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sendai Nikon Precision Corporation established</li> <li>● Nikon (Russia) LLC. established in Russia</li> </ul>
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon and Essilor International Joint Research Center Co., Ltd. established</li> <li>● Mito Nikon Precision Corporation merged with Tochigi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd.</li> <li>● Sendai Nikon Precision Corporation merged with Miyagi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. (former Zao Nikon Co., Ltd.)</li> <li>● Nikon Mexico S.A. de C.V. established in Mexico</li> <li>● Nikon Metrology NV established in Belgium</li> <li>● Nikon Imaging Systems Inc., a joint venture with FUJITSU BROAD SOLUTION &amp; CONSULTING Inc., established</li> </ul>
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Equity participation in Notion VTec Berhad of Malaysia</li> <li>● Super Resolution Microscope N-SIM/N-STORM</li> <li>● Partial transfer of Yokohama Plant site to Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism</li> <li>● Completion of a new (No. 8) building in Kumagaya Plant</li> <li>● Head Office transferred to Yurakucho, Tokyo</li> <li>● Non-contact multi-sensor 3D Metrology System HN-6060</li> <li>● Nikon Holdings Hong Kong Limited established</li> </ul>
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nikon Sales (Thailand) Co., Ltd. established</li> <li>● Cumulative production of NIKKOR lenses reached 60 million units</li> <li>● Nikon Do Brasil Ltda. established</li> </ul>

Years during which products launched in Japan. Some of the products mentioned above are marketed solely in Japan.