

History

● Corporate ● Product

Corporate History	
1910s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three of Japan's leading optical manufacturers merge to form a comprehensive, fully integrated optical company known as Nippon Kogaku K.K. (1917) ● Ohi Dai-ichi Plant (now Ohi Plant) is completed (1918) ● Research on manufacture of optical glass is initiated (1918)
1920s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MIKRON 4x and 6x ultra-small-prism binoculars are marketed (1921) ● JOICO Microscope is marketed (1925)
1930s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8-inch astronomical telescope is installed at National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, and is operated until 2006 (1931) ● NIKKOR is adopted as brand name for camera lenses (1932)
1940s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With the end of World War II, production shifts to consumer-use such as cameras, microscopes, binoculars, surveying instruments, measuring instruments and ophthalmic lenses (1945) ● Pointal ophthalmic lens is marketed (1946) ● Nikon brand name is adopted for small-sized cameras (1946) ● Tilting Level E and Transit G surveying instruments are marketed (1947) ● Nikon I small-sized camera is marketed (1948) ● Model I profile projector is marketed (1948) ● Listed on both Tokyo and Osaka stock exchanges (1949)
1950s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The New York Times introduces the superior features of Nikon cameras and Nikkor lenses to the world (1950) ● nikkor club is established to promote photography culture (1952) ● Nikon Optical Co., Inc. (now Nippon Kogaku (U.S.A.) Inc.) is established to import products, including cameras, as well as conduct technical services and market research in the U.S. (1953) ● Nikon F SLR camera is marketed (1959)
1960s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon AG is established in Switzerland (1961) ● Ultra-micro Nikkor high-resolution optical lenses are marketed (1962) ● Management buy-in of Sakura Electronic Industries, Ltd. (now Tochigi Nikon Corporation) (1963) ● Ruling Engine No. 1 is installed at Tokyo University of Education (1964) ● Ohi Plant's Ofuna site (now Yokohama Plant) is built (1967) ● Photo gallery Ginza Nikon Salon is opened (1968) (Shinjuku Nikon Salon is opened in 1971, Osaka Nikon Salon is opened in 1974) ● K.K. Tachibana Seisakusho (corporate name changed to Mito Nikon Corporation in 1977, Mito Nikon Precision Corporation in 2007, dissolved in 2010) is established (1968) ● Rotary encoder RIE digital measuring instrument is marketed (1968) ● Nikon Europe N.V. (now Nikon Europe B.V.) is established in the Netherlands (1968)
1970s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Photomic FTN is mounted on APOLLO 15 (1971) ● Sendai Nikon Corporation is established (1971) ● Ohi Plant's Sagamihara site (now Sagamihara Plant) is built (1971) ● Nikon Vertriebs GmbH (now Nikon GmbH) is established in West Germany (now Germany) (1971) ● Nikon Optical Shop Co., Ltd. is established (1973) ● Biophot and Metaphot microscopes are marketed (1976) ● Nikko Engineering K.K. (now Nikon Engineering Co., Ltd.) is established (1978) ● Nikon Canada Inc. is established in Canada (1978) ● Nikon U.K. Ltd. is established in the U.K. (1979)

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

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1980s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kurobane Kogaku K.K. (now Kurobane Nikon Co., Ltd.) is acquired (1980) ● NSR-1010G Step-and-Repeat System (g-line stepper) is marketed (1980) ● Nikon Americas Inc. is established in the U.S. (1981) ● Nikon Fieldscope is marketed (1981) ● Zao Nikon Co., Ltd. (now Miyagi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd.) is established (1981) ● Nikon Precision Inc. is established in the U.S. (1982) ● Kumagaya Plant is built (1984) ● NSR-1010i3 Step-and-Repeat System (i-line stepper) is marketed (1984) ● Total Station DTM-1 surveying instrument is marketed (1985) ● Nikon Hong Kong Ltd. is established in Hong Kong (1986) ● Nikon Systems Inc. is established (1986) ● Nikon F-501 autofocus SLR camera is marketed (1986) ● Nikon France S.A. (now Nikon France S.A.S.) is established in France (1986) ● NSR-L7501G large substrate exposure system (LCD Stepper) is marketed (1986) ● Nikon Tec Corporation is established (1987) ● NSR-1505EX excimer stepper (KrF stepper) is marketed (1988) ● Nikon Photo Products Inc. (now Nikon Imaging Japan Inc.) is established (1988) ● Corporate name is changed to Nikon Corporation (1988) ● Nikon Precision Europe GmbH is established in West Germany (now Germany) (1988)
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Precision Korea Ltd. is established in Korea (1990) ● Nikon (Thailand) Co., Ltd. is established in Thailand (1990) ● Mito Plant is built (1991) ● Nikon Kft. is established in Hungary (1991) ● Nikon Instech Co., Ltd. is established (1992) ● Nikon Geotecs Co., Ltd. (dissolved in 2003, business transferred to Nikon-Trimble Co., Ltd.) starts operations (1992) ● Nikon Optical Co., Ltd. (dissolved in 1999, business transferred to Nikon Eyewear Co., Ltd. and Nikon-Essilor Co., Ltd.) starts operations (1992) ● Nikon Life Co., Ltd., Nikon Logistics Corporation and Nikon Technologies, Inc., (merged to form Nikon Business Service Co., Ltd. in 2007) are established (1993) ● Nikon Instruments S.p.A. is established in Italy (1993) ● Nikon s.r.o. is established in the Czech Rep. (1994) ● NEXIV series CNC video measuring system is marketed (1995) ● NSR-S201A lens-scanning KrF excimer stepper (KrF Scanner) is marketed (1995) ● Nikon Singapore Pte Ltd is established in Singapore (1995) ● Nikon Precision Taiwan Ltd. is established in Taiwan (1995) ● Nikon Svenska AB (now Nikon Nordic AB) is established in Sweden (1995) ● Nikon Research Corporation of America is established in the U.S. (1996) ● ECLIPSE E800 biological microscope for research is marketed (1996) ● Guang Dong Nikon Camera Co., Ltd. is established in China (1997) ● COOLPIX 100 and 300 digital cameras are marketed (1997) ● Nanjing Nikon Jiangnan Optical Instrument Co., Ltd. is established in China (1999) ● D1 digital SLR camera is marketed (1999) ● Hang Zhou Nikon Camera Co., Ltd. is established in China (1999) ● In-house company system is inaugurated (1999) ● Surveying instruments operations are reorganized into an independent company (1999)
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon-Essilor Co., Ltd., a joint venture with Essilor International of France, is established ● Nikon Eyewear Co., Ltd. is established (dissolved in 2008) ● Vision Nikon 21 business strategy is formulated; corporate philosophy is defined as "Trustworthiness and Creativity" ● Nikon Precision Singapore Pte Ltd is established in Singapore ● FX-21S LCD scanner is marketed ● Nikon Tsubasa Inc. is established ● Nikon Holdings Europe B.V. is established in the Netherlands ● Nikon Instruments Inc. and Nikon Eyewear Inc. (dissolved in 2002) are established in the U.S.
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sport optics operations are reorganized into an independent company; Nikon Vision Co., Ltd. is established ● Nikon (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. starts operations in Malaysia ● Executive Officer System is introduced
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Instruments Europe B.V. starts operations in the Netherlands ● Nikon Imaging (China) Co., Ltd. is established in China ● Dong Guan Nikon Surveying Instruments Co., Ltd. is established in China ● Nikon Precision Shanghai Co., Ltd. is established in China

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2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ohi West Building is completed ● New Brand Symbol for Nikon Group is introduced ● Nikon-Trimble Co., Ltd., a joint venture with Trimble Navigation Ltd. of the U.S., is established ● Nikon Instruments (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. is established in China ● Nikon Polska Sp. z o.o. starts operations in Poland
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hikari Glass Co., Ltd. becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary ● Yokohama Plant Yokosuka Branch (now Yokosuka Plant) is built
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Instruments Korea Co., Ltd. starts operations in Korea ● Nikon Imaging (China) Sales Co., Ltd. starts operations in China ● Yokohama Logistics Center is established as a new base that brings together all of Nikon's Japan warehouses for imaging products ● Company-wide integration of ISO 14001 certification is completed
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NSR-S609B ArF immersion scanner is marketed ● Nikon Instech Co., Ltd. is merged with Kogaku Co., Ltd. and Okuma Shokai Co., Ltd. ● Nikon Imaging Korea Co., Ltd. starts operations in Korea ● Nikon Australia Pty Ltd starts operations in Australia ● BioStation CT cell culture observation system is marketed ● Shonan Branch starts operations
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tochigi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. is established ● Nikon International Trading (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. starts operations in China ● "Our Aspirations—Meeting needs. Exceeding expectations.", a new vision statement, formulated ● Nikon India Private Limited starts operations in India ● D3 digital SLR camera is marketed
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sendai Nikon Precision Corporation (merged with Miyagi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. in 2009) is established ● Nikon (Russia) LLC. starts operations in Russia
2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon and Essilor International Joint Research Center Co., Ltd., a joint venture with Essilor International of France, is established ● FX-101S LCD scanner is marketed ● Nikon Mexico S.A. de C.V. starts operations in Mexico ● Mito Nikon Precision Corporation is merged with Tochigi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. ● Sendai Nikon Precision Corporation is merged with Miyagi Nikon Precision Co., Ltd. ● Metris NV becomes Nikon Metrology NV, a wholly owned subsidiary of Nikon Corporation in Belgium ● NSR-S620 ArF immersion scanner is marketed
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Head Office is relocated to Shin-Yurakucho Bldg. ● N-SIM and N-STORM super resolution microscopes are marketed ● Nikon Holdings Hong Kong Limited is established in Hong Kong ● HN-6060 non-contact multi-sensor 3D metrology system is marketed
2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Sales (Thailand) Co., Ltd. starts operations in Thailand ● Nikon do Brasil Ltda. starts operations in Brazil
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nikon Plaza Sendai is opened ● Nikon Middle East FZE starts operations in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) ● Cumulative production of NIKKOR lenses for Nikon SLR and Nikon 1 reached 70 million units

* For other products, please refer to back number of Fact Book.