

History of Canon

Ever since Canon was founded, we have grown through innovation to meet the needs of the times based on our Enterprising Spirit. We have created generations of competitive products and services by pursuing a basic strategy of globalization and diversification.

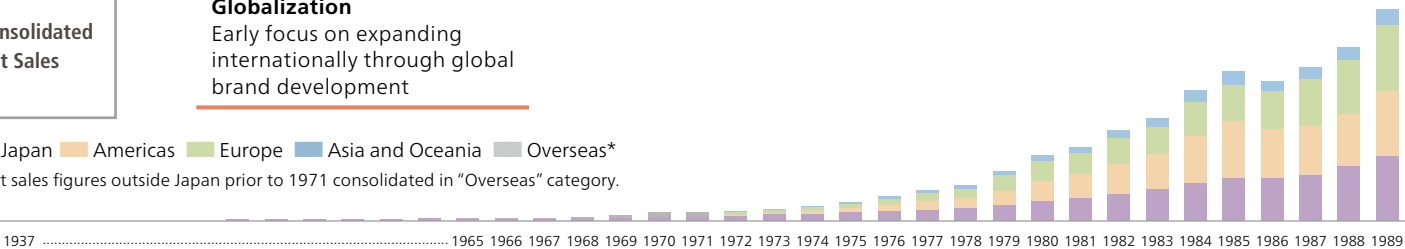
Thinking on Value Creation

- Creating products and services that meet society's expectations through new technologies and staying ahead of the times
- Helping more people enjoy richer lives
- Constant pursuit of excellence in environmental, quality, cost and delivery performance

Consolidated Net Sales

Globalization
Early focus on expanding internationally through global brand development

Japan Americas Europe Asia and Oceania Overseas*
* Net sales figures outside Japan prior to 1971 consolidated in "Overseas" category.



Evolution of Business Plans



1960s

1970s

1980s

Societal Issues and Global Trends

High economic growth

Advance of electronics technology

Product/Business Development and Activities

1961 Launch of Canonet
A low-priced model with internal automatic exposure mechanism rapidly became a hit product. Helped to popularize photography



1964 Launch of Canola 130, the world's first 10-key electronic calculator
This model condensed the previous format with 10 keys for each number column into a single 10-key format. The 10-key format goes on to become the de facto standard



Diversification
Creation of new businesses by integrating existing technologies with new state-of-the-art advances

1970 Launch of Japan's first domestically produced plain-paper copier (PPC)
Successfully commercialized a plain-paper copier that did not use the patent of US Xerox Corporation. Contributed to the advance of office automation



1970 Launch of Japan's first domestically produced semiconductor lithography equipment
Using its camera lens technology, succeeded in commercializing a stepper. Subsequent contributions to the development of semiconductor devices included the world's first sub-micron level print line width



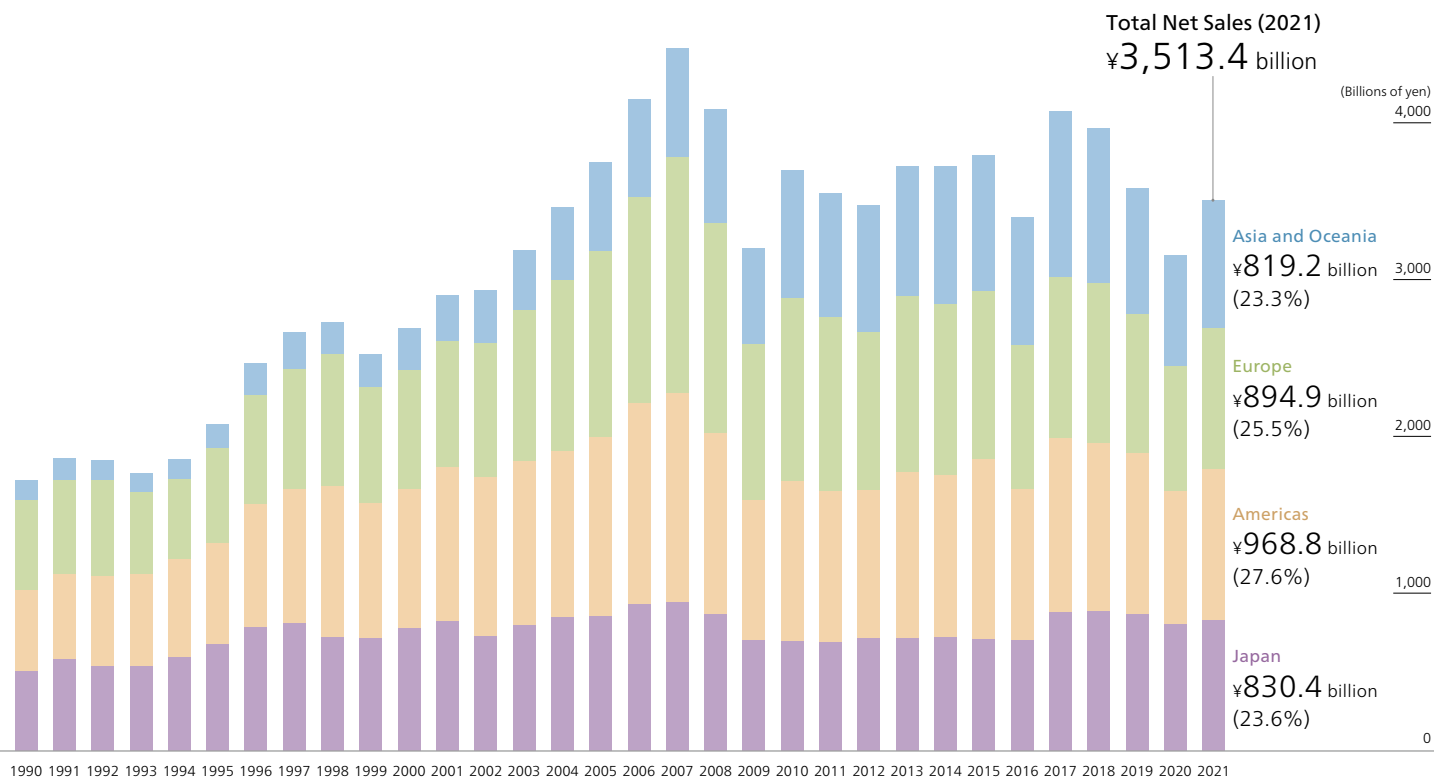
1984 Launch of world's smallest, lightest laser printer
Contributed to the realization of desktop publishing, followed by the rapid spread of laser printers



1985 Launch of the world's first inkjet printer using Bubble Jet technology
Subsequently developed superior miniaturization and color printing technologies, leading to the popularization of high-resolution, full-color printing at home



1987 Launch of CLC-1, the world's first digital full-color copying machine
In an era dominated by monochrome copying, realized high-resolution, full-color copying, marking the start of a new era



1990s

2000s

2010–2020s

Digitalization and networking technology advanced with the development of IT

Adoption and expansion of AI and IoT

Increasing environmental awareness

1990
Start of toner cartridge recycling program

Quickly recognizing the large volume of consumed cartridges as an issue for companies, started a recycling program

1996
Launch of ELPH (IXY or IXUS in other regions), the world's smallest film camera with Advanced Photo System (APS)

Global hit due to innovative, high-end design and easy portability for daily use

1998
Launch of digital X-ray radiography equipment for medical use

Elimination of film enabled instant imaging after exposure, and environmental breakthrough since developer fluid wasn't needed



2000
Launch of iR series new-generation network MFDs

Realized seamless linking of input and output of paper and digital documents and enabled digitization of paper documents and output from remote locations

2000
Launch of PowerShot S100 DIGITAL ELPH (DIGITAL IXUS in other regions), the world's smallest, lightest digital compact camera

A high-image-quality digital camera that was stylish and easy to carry became a hit product



PowerShot S100 DIGITAL ELPH / DIGITAL IXUS

2007
Expansion of industrial equipment business

Canon Tokki joined the Group. Contributed to spread of devices using OLED displays through successful realization of OLED panel manufacturing equipment in the 2010s

2010
Expansion of digital commercial printing business

Canon Production Printing joined the Group. Promoted advanced digital printing

2015
Strengthening of network camera field

Leading global company Axis Communications joined the Group. Expanded Canon's presence in areas offering security and safety

2016
Expansion of the medical business

Canon Medical Systems joined the Group. Expanded businesses that serve patients and medical institutions

2018
Opened the Canon Eco Technology Park, an automated recycling plant

Developed as a site for communicating environmental activities

2021
Accelerating the Development of Next-Generation CT

Made Canada's Redlen Technologies Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary. Accelerated development of photon counting CT