

History of Value Creation—Toshiba’s DNA

Toshiba’s Roots

Toshiba’s roots can be traced back to the time when the heritage of two men—Hisashige Tanaka, dubbed *Karakuri Giemon* (inventor of mechanical devices), and Ichisuke Fujioka, known as the Thomas Edison of Japan—joined forces.

Tanaka Engineering Works (later Shibaura Engineering Works), founded by Tanaka in 1873, and Hakunetsu-sha, established by Fujioka in 1890, were the two companies that would eventually become Toshiba Corporation. They both were business ventures that dreamed of a bright future for Japan, aspiring to create something never seen before that would benefit people and society.

Committed to People, Committed to the Future.

“Committed to People, Committed to the Future.” is the long standing Basic Commitment of Toshiba Group that expresses our credo since founding to always be on the watch for issues facing society amid the changing times and resolve them through business.

Today, in our everyday lives, we are asked to be responsible for a sustainable future. Natural disasters caused by climate change threaten the safety and security of our lives. Social and environmental stability are impaired by problems such as information inequality and natural resource depletion.

Toshiba is working for a sustainable future for the earth and its people by contributing to the realization of carbon neutrality and a circular economy.

Specific initiatives include protecting the safety and security of individual livelihoods by building infrastructure that is accessible to everyone, and ensuring social and environmental stability by building a society connected by data.

For many years now, Toshiba has engaged in businesses that support essential social infrastructure, including power generation, water treatment and transportation. Today, the knowledge, technology and customer connections cultivated thorough these businesses are invaluable assets. We will draw on them as we continue to create previously unseen value by maximizing the power of data.

Our unwavering drive to make and do things that lead to a better world for over 140 years



1875 Hisashige Tanaka founded a telegraphic equipment factory in Tokyo.



Hisashige Tanaka



Tanaka Engineering Works



Hisashige Tanaka



1890 Ichisuke Fujioka established Hakunetsu-sha & Co., Ltd. and manufactured Japan's first electric incandescent light bulbs.



Ichisuke Fujioka



1930 Japan's first Completed and released electric washing machines and refrigerators.



Tokyo Denki



1939 Tokyo Shibaura Denki



Hakunetsu-sha



1989 World's first Developed an ultra-supercritical high capacity steam turbine.



1967 World's first Completed the automated mail processing equipment.



1991 World's first Developed the 4-megabit NAND-type Electrically Erasable and Programmable Read-only Memory (EEPROM).



1978 Japan's first Developed a Japanese word processor.



1985 World's first Developed and launched the laptop personal computer.



2007 World's first Developed the 320-detector row CT scanner.



2017 World's first Developed the practical multi parameters phased array weather radar.



2020 Japan's first Launched operations of a large-scale carbon capture and storage facility in Omuta, Fukuoka Prefecture*3.



2021 World's No. 1 Demonstrated quantum cryptographic communications covering the world's longest*1 communication distance of over 600km.



2021 World's No. 1 Film-based perovskite photovoltaic module with the world's highest*2 power conversion efficiency



2021 Japan's No. 1 Share of mega solar power plant installations



2020 World's leading scale World's leading scale H₂ energy system (Fukushima Hydrogen Energy Research Field: FH2R) * NEDO Project

*1. Toshiba's survey in June 2020
*2. Among film-based perovskite photovoltaic modules with active area of over 100cm² made of plastic substrates, Toshiba's survey (as of September 10, 2021)
*3. Japan's first carbon capture unit to capture over 50% of total CO₂ emissions from a thermal power plant

Toshiba’s Technology to Turn on the Promise of a New Day

Founding	1960s	1970s	1980s	2010s	2020s
In 1930, Toshiba released Japan's first electric washing machines and completed Japan's first electric refrigerators. In 1955, the Company also released Japan's first electric rice cookers.	The automated mail processing equipment completed in 1967 was the world's first to mechanize manual work by recognizing handwritten characters, and became a forerunner of labor-saving equipment in the advanced information society.	In 1978, Toshiba completed Japan's first practical kana-kanji conversion system and released Japan's first Japanese word processor.	Toshiba commercialized the world's first laptop personal computer in 1985, and the world's first NAND flash memory in 1991. These developments laid the foundation for an internet-driven society.	In 2017, Toshiba developed the world's first practical multi parameters phased array weather radar.	In 2021, Toshiba developed the world's largest film-based perovskite photovoltaic module with the world's highest power generation efficiency. The module can be installed in urban areas where it is difficult to secure a large area of land, even on the walls of buildings and condominiums and the roofs of large vehicles, which used to be considered unsuitable for installation.
At a time when many women's lives were bound to the domestic realm, these products allowed women to have more free time.	At the same time, it led to the widespread use of optical character reading (OCR) technology, automatic ticket gates, and other cutting-edge image recognition technologies. In addition, research on superconducting materials, which began in the early 1960s, has borne fruit in the form of heavy ion cancer treatment devices, leading to the technology for next-generation medicine.	The development of kana-kanji conversion technology and high-capacity storage led to mobile music devices enjoyed by people out on the street, e-mail, social media, and other methods of communication, which have become the norm today.	As torrential rains are caused by locally and rapidly developing cumulonimbus clouds, they had been considered difficult to predict. However, the multi parameters phased array weather radar makes it possible to predict the signs of torrential rains and resulting rainfall quickly and accurately.	"We want to be the first to deliver products and services that make people's dreams come true and change society." This passion has been the source of Toshiba's products and services.	Toshiba's technology has altered the way people live and has also changed society.