

# Intellectual Property Management

The KOITO Group places intellectual properties as the source of international competitiveness and develops business strategies by integrating R&D and intellectual property strategies. KOITO will continue to encourage activities to create intellectual properties and work to protect and utilize the intellectual property rights appropriately. At the same time, we will respect the intellectual property rights of others and strive to prevent infringements.

## ■R&D expenditures and number of patents

	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
R&D expenditures (billion yen)	34.2	36.1	34.0	36.1	32.6
Number of patents applied	600	800	1,230	1,130	938
Number of patents held	2,490	2,630	2,890	2,830	2,813

## Organization for Intellectual Property Management

The KOITO Group makes effort to reinforce the intellectual property management system of the entire Group to acquire intellectual property rights, conclude licensing contracts, and respond to the violation of rights globally by developing a management system with KOITO MANUFACTURING at the center to establish and execute intellectual property strategies integrated with business strategies.

## Measures to Prevent Violation of Intellectual Property

Given the importance of intellectual properties, the KOITO Group provides training on intellectual property rights through the job-rank based education to increase the awareness of every employee.

In addition, KOITO has introduced a patent research system available to all researchers and designers to avoid violating intellectual property rights of others and preventing future conflicts.

### KOITO's "Area Marker" was Registered as the First Domestic Design of Images

With the revision of the Design Law in April 2020, designs for buildings and images have been newly protected as intellectual property, and the Area Marker devised by KOITO has recently been registered as the first domestic design of images.

The projector mounted on the vehicle displays images of the vehicle's width on the road surface. It makes the surroundings easier to recognize the vehicle and also helps drivers to check the road surface conditions, and is expected to contribute to improve safety.

■Image of "Area Markers"

