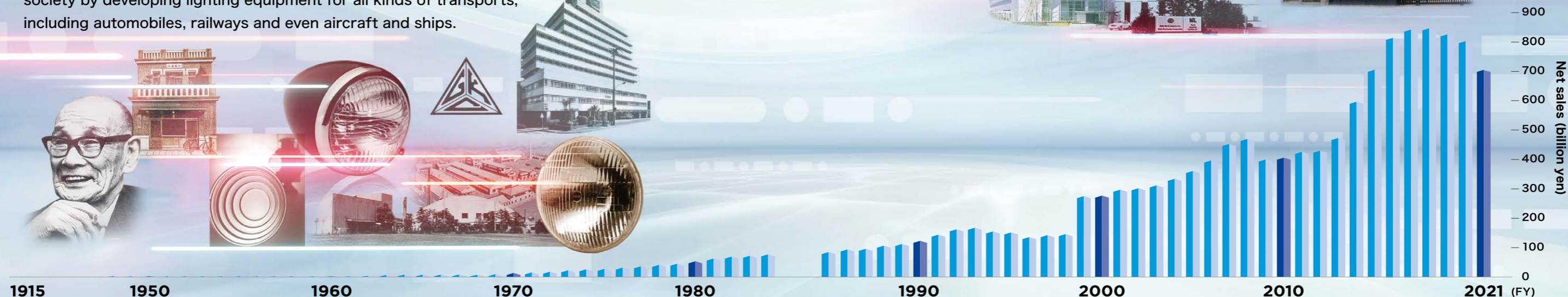


The KOITO Group's History

The foundation of KOITO began in 1915 with the development and production of the Japan's first fresnel lenses for railway signal lamps. Since then, we have been contributing to the safe and comfortable society by developing lighting equipment for all kinds of transports, including automobiles, railways and even aircraft and ships.



1915

Koito Genrokuro Shoten founded
 Founder Genrokuro Koito founded Koito Genrokuro Shoten in Kyobashi-ku, Tokyo (current Kyobashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo) to sell fresnel lenses for railway signal lamps, which he succeeded in the Japan's first production in 1912.



1957

Production and sales of all-glass sealed beam (SB) headlamps begins
 Since 1951, KOITO has been developing all-glass SB headlamps. Through many trials and improvements at the Shizuoka Plant, KOITO succeeded in its commercialization in 1957. KOITO then started supplying the products to various automotive manufacturers, including Toyota Motor Company (current Toyota Motor Corporation), from October 1957.



1985

Production and sales of all-resin aerodynamic-type headlamps begins
 As a result of steady efforts on resinizing headlamps to reduce weight and improve design, KOITO has succeeded in developing plastic lenses and a BMC reflector with even higher heat resistance and molding accuracy in 1981. In January 1985, the world's first all-resin aerodynamic-type headlamp was adopted in Toyota Motor "Soara."



2007

Production and sales of the world's first LED headlamps begins
 With white LEDs rapidly becoming more efficient, KOITO developed a headlamp using LEDs as the light source for low beam. Offering improved photometric performance and heat dissipation efficiency, they were installed in the Lexus LS 600h in May 2007, becoming the world's first LED headlamp in the market.



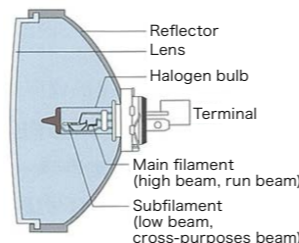
1936

Entering the automotive lighting equipment business
 Based on KOITO's experience in supplying headlamps to military motorcycle with sidecars called "Kurogane" in 1932 and three-wheeled trucks in 1933, KOITO has started to supply headlamps for the AA passenger cars to the automotive department of Toyoda Automatic Loom Works, Ltd. (current Toyota Motor Corporation) in 1936. This commemorates KOITO's participation in automotive lighting equipment business.



1978

Production and sales of halogen headlamps begins
 Halogen bulbs, which have high luminous intensity and excellent glare-proofing properties, were standardized in Europe in 1971 and in the United States in 1978. In line with these trends, KOITO started producing SB and SSB headlamps incorporating halogen light sources in July 1978.



1996

Production and sales of discharge headlamps (GDHL) begins
 With a light source that utilizes arc discharge between electrodes, discharge headlamps (GDHL) were excellent in increasing light intensity, and has long life and high energy efficiency. As the next-generation lamp, KOITO succeeded in developing the lamp as well as a control circuit called ballast, and were installed in the Nissan "Terrano" and the Toyota "Mark II" in 1996.



2019

Production and sales of the world's first BladeScan™ ADB begins
 KOITO developed the world's first ADB (Adaptive Driving Beam) system which emits LED light to fast-revolving blade mirrors and ensures high-resolution light distribution. It was installed in the Lexus RX in August 2019, becoming the world's first system in the market.



Founding Period 1915~1945

- 1915 Koito Genrokuro Shoten founded (Kyobashi, Tokyo) Fresnel lenses for railway signal lamps introduced
- 1930 Koito Genrokuro Shoten becomes KOITO MANUFACTURING
- 1935 Shinagawa Plant opens (Tokyo, Japan)
- 1936 KOITO MANUFACTURING CO., LTD. incorporated (capital 2.5 million yen)
- 1943 Shizuoka Plant opens (Shizuoka, Japan)

Post-war Recovery and Developing Period 1946~1980

- 1949 KOITO MANUFACTURING listed on both the Tokyo and Osaka Stock Exchange
- 1955 Enacted **KOITO** trademark
- 1961 Transferred a head office to Minato-ku, Tokyo
- 1968 Chicago Representative Office opens (Illinois, U.S.A.)
- 1970 Headquarters building completed (Minato-ku, Tokyo)
- 1972 Aircraft equipment and electronics plant opens (Shizuoka, Japan)
- 1977 Haibara Plant opens (Shizuoka, Japan)
- 1979 Production and sales of Japan's first aerodynamic-type headlamps begins

Expanding Period 1981~1999

- 1981 Production and sales of the world's first plastic lens headlamps begins
- 1983 North American Lighting, Inc. established (Illinois, U.S.A.)
- 1985 "Innovative ideas and decisive action" corporate slogan introduced
- 1986 THAI KOITO COMPANY LIMITED established (Thailand) Sagara Plant opens (Shizuoka, Japan)
- 1988 Capital interest in Ta Yih Industrial Co., Ltd. acquired (Taiwan)
- 1990 Production and sales of projector headlamps begins
- 1992 Fujikawa Tooling Plant opens (Shizuoka, Japan)
- 1996 Capital interest in Britax Vega Limited acquired (U.K.)
- 1997 Technical Center opens in Shizuoka Plant (Shizuoka, Japan) INDIA JAPAN LIGHTING PRIVATE LIMITED established (India)
- 1999 Britax Vega Limited becomes Koito Europe Limited

To Be a "Global No.1 Supplier" 2000~Present

- 2001 Koito Czech s.r.o. established (Czech Republic)
- 2003 Production and sales of the world's first swivel AFS (Adaptive Front Lighting System) begins
- 2005 Fuzhou Tayih Industrial Co., Ltd. becomes a KOITO subsidiary (China) KOITO KYUSHU LIMITED established (Saga, Japan) GUANGZHOU KOITO AUTOMOTIVE LAMP CO., LTD. established (China)
- 2006 Production of all-glass sealed beam headlamps ends (Total production: 430 million units)
- 2010 PT. INDONESIA KOITO established (Indonesia)
- 2012 North American Lighting Mexico, S.A. de C.V. established (Mexico)
- 2014 Hubei Koito Automotive Lamp Co., Ltd. established (China)
- 2015 KOITO celebrates its 100th anniversary
- 2017 NAL do Brasil Indústria e Comércio de Componentes de Iluminação Ltda. established (Brazil) KOITO MALAYSIA SDN. BHD. established (Malaysia)
- 2019 Capital interest in BrightWay Vision Ltd. acquired (Israel)
- 2020 Capital interest in Cepton Technologies, Inc. acquired (U.S.A.) KOITO Development Center opens (Aichi, Japan)