

Since
1936

Company History

[Topics]



1936 - 1969

Starting out —entering the business machines field

1970 - 1984

Coining Office Automation acronym

1985 - 1999

Driving digitization

2000 - 2009

Going global



Ricoh strengthened its overseas sales network to bolster its solutions capabilities. We acquired the European operations of Danka Business Systems PLC in 2006 and bought IKON Office Solutions, Inc., in 2008 to build a global sales support structure. We have reinforced our environmental and corporate social responsibility program since the start of the millennium. In 2002, for example, we were the second Japanese company to participate in the Global Compact of the United Nations. In 2003, our efforts earned us the World Environment Center Gold Medal for International Corporate Achievement in Sustainable Development, making us the first enterprise from Asia to receive such an honor.

2010 - Present

Creating New Value

Feb. 2001

Ricoh receives Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Award for the advanced environmental friendliness

The imagio Neo 350 series, featuring Ricoh's energy-saving technology called QSU^{*1}, won the Energy Conservation Grand Prize^{*2} for the first time in this sector. News of the award stirred users' interest in the energy efficiency of this digital copier, generating great momentum to the development and widespread use of environmentally friendly models.

^{*1} QSU stands for "quick start-up," which is Ricoh's proprietary technology that offers both energy conservation and user friendliness. QSU realizes minimal power consumption when the copier is in the standby mode and quick recovery when the user wants to photocopy.

^{*2} The Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Prize in the 11th Energy Conservation Grand Prize.



imagio Neo 350

Oct. 2001

Inaugurates the Ichimura Nature School Kanto for youth education and development

The Ichimura Nature School is an NPO for youth development founded in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Kiyoshi Ichimura, the founder of Ricoh and the Ricoh San-ai Group. It was established in Matsuda-machi, a town in the Ashigarakami District of Kanagawa Prefecture in October 2001. Based on the concept of “learning how to live from Mother Nature,” the project offers farming and other programs for children to provide them with opportunities to develop leadership skills and a self-reliant attitude.



Ichimura Nature School Kanto

Children engaged in activities
at the Ichimura Nature School

Aug. 2005

Establishes the Ricoh Technology Center, a development base for MFPs/printers, in Ebina, Kanagawa Prefecture

Ricoh Technology Center was established to consolidate development functions for imaging and solutions products (MFPs, printers, etc.) that were formerly located in separate sites in Japan, including the Ohmori Plant (Tokyo) and Atsugi Plant (Kanagawa Prefecture), into a single center. The organizational integration was planned to streamline activities in a range of development areas, from element technology and production technology to product assessment, spurring cross-divisional, cross-functional activities, thereby improving development efficiency.



Collaboration space in the Ricoh Technology Center

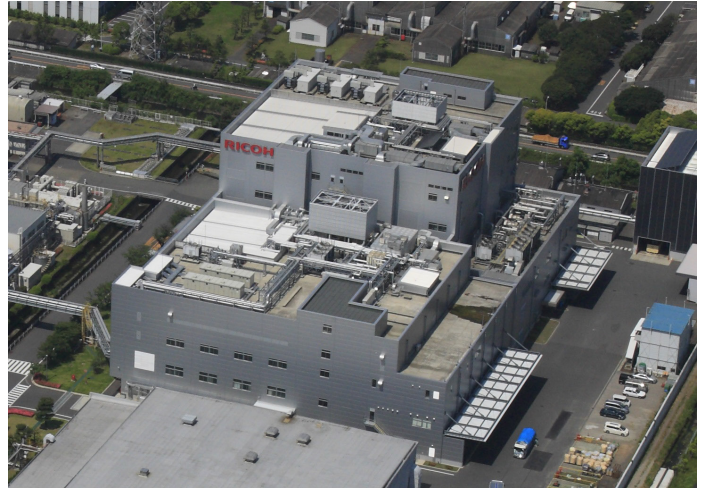


Ricoh Technology Center

Oct. 2006

Construction of mass-production plant for polymerized toner, PxP toner, completed at Numazu, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan

PxP toner is a polymerized toner with polyester developed by Ricoh, applying its original ester elongation method. While offering higher-definition quality achieved by fine, uniform and highly shape-controllable particles, this toner allows for lower-temperature fixing, thereby contributing to energy-saving machine operations. In addition, CO₂ emissions stemming from the manufacturing process can be reduced to around 65% of those of conventional ground toners. To start mass production of the PxP toner, a new plant was constructed on the premises of our Numazu Plant in Shizuoka Prefecture.



PxP toner mass-production plant

Dec. 2006

Major new billboard lights up a top the San-ai Dream Center, Ginza, Tokyo

San-ai Dream Center is a commercial facility which was completed in January 1963. The project was organized by Kiyoshi Ichimura, the founder of Ricoh, who wished to create a symbolic structure of the Ricoh San-ai Group. In 2006, a new billboard was installed on top of the building in celebration of the 70th anniversary of Ricoh's founding. The lighting installation was designed to present a vibrant image of new sprouts shooting and flower buds opening under the theme of "birth and growth." This was replaced in September 2014 by the present 100% natural energy powered billboard.



Billboard on top of the San-ai Dream Center lit up

Related website

Promotions

<http://www.ricoh.com/about/company/promotions>

Nov. 2007

Ricoh Technology Center received The Nikkei Manufacturing Award

Ricoh Technology Center in Ebina, Kanagawa Prefecture, received the fourth Nikkei Manufacturing Award hosted by The Nikkei, a well-known financial daily in Japan. The Nikkei Manufacturing Award recognizes excellent factories, R&D centers as well as programs and systems adopted in these facilities.

The Ricoh Technology Center received the award for successful initiatives in development process reforms that increased efficiency by consolidating formerly separate divisions for development, design and pre-production into a single organization to encourage cross-functional activities.



Certificate presented for the Nikkei Manufacturing Award

Oct. 2008

Ricoh enters the color Print-On-Demand market and introduces a color production printer, the Ricoh Pro C900

RICOH Pro C900 was launched to pioneer the RICOH Pro series, a new production printer brand. The product was a full-fledged print-on-demand model designed to demonstrate the high-speed, high-productivity capability of achieving 90ppm (A4 landscape) for both color and monochrome copying. It represented the fastest performance model in the category*, and satisfied the high-standards required in commercial production printers, in terms of definition quality, stable performance and reliable operation.

*Color production printers marketed at a standard unit price of 30 million yen or less (as of May 7, 2008)



RICOH Pro C900

Sep. 2009

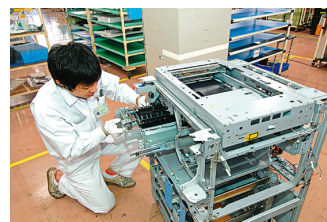
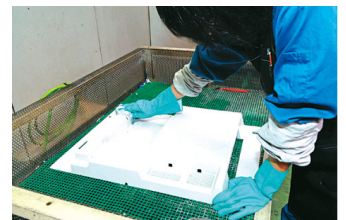
Releases Ricoh's first reconditioned digital full-color MFPs, the imagio MP C3500RC/C2500RC series (Japanese market only)

Reconditioning products is an important resource-recycling project at Ricoh. Products are reconditioned mainly by using parts that meet our quality assurance standards. The imagio MP C3500RC/C2500RC series was Ricoh's first reconditioned digital full-color MFP series. While attaining an average 80% mass content of reused parts, these models met quality standards on par with newly manufactured products*.

*Products wholly composed of newly manufactured parts or like-new products containing some remanufactured parts



imagio MP C3500RC



Used copies are disassembled, have their parts cleaned, then reassembled