



History of the Ricoh Group

Ricoh began by marketing sensitized paper and cameras. Ever since then, we have continued to help people share information with innovations in image processing technologies.

The early years

Ricoh's origins date back to a decision of the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research to commercialize the fruits of its R&D by setting up Rikagaku Kogyo Co., Ltd. In 1936, the institute established Riken Kankoshi Co., Ltd. (renamed Riken Optical Co., Ltd. in 1938, and Ricoh Company, Ltd. in 1963) to manufacture and sell sensitized paper. In 1950, the company popularized cameras among consumers by mass producing them for the first time in Japan, and in 1955 entered the business machine field with the introduction of the Ricopy 101.

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| 1936 | Riken Kankoshi Co., Ltd. established to make and market sensitized paper, with Kiyoshi Ichimura appointed executive managing director. | 1957 | Wins Ohkochi Memorial Production Prize for establishing mass-production system for cameras. |
| 1936 | Renamed Riken Optical Co., Ltd. (until 1963). | 1960 | Introduces the Ricoh Offset B4, the first offset printer for office use. |
| 1946 | Kiyoshi Ichimura becomes president. | 1962 | Launches the Ricoh Auto Half, a half-frame model that proves a massive hit. |
| 1950 | Launches the Ricohflex III camera, which spurred the popularization of cameras. | | Establishes Ricoh Industries, U.S.A. Inc., a sales subsidiary. |
| 1955 | Enters office copier field with the Ricopy 101, its first diazo model. | 1963 | Renamed Ricoh Company, Ltd. |
| | | 1965 | Introduces the Ricopy BS-1 as its first electrostatic copier. |
| | | 1968 | Kiyoshi Ichimura passes away. |



Kiyoshi Ichimura



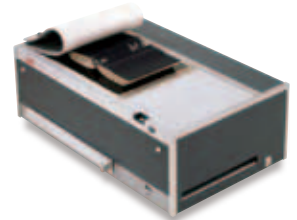
Ricohflex III



Ricopy 101



Ricoh Auto Half



Ricopy BS-1

OA pioneer

In 1974, Ricoh launched the Rifax 600S, the world's first high-speed office facsimile. In 1977, it coined the acronym OA for "office automation." During the 1980s, the company extended its support for office productivity by rolling out a lineup that included computers and word processors, optical filing systems and laser printers.

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| 1970 | Ricoh Pavilion at Japan Expo '70 highlights the theme of a "Better Vision for Humanity." | facsimile machine for offices, succeeds in transmission between Tokyo and New York via satellite communications. | |
| 1971 | Introduces the Ricom 8, its first office computer. | Establishes Ricoh Electronics, Inc., a manufacturing subsidiary in the U.S. | |
| | Establishes Ricoh Nederland B.V., a sales subsidiary in the Netherlands. | | |
| 1972 | Launches the Ricoh PPC 900, its first dry-electrostatic-transfer plain paper copier. | 1975 | Commercializes the Ricopy DT1200, a wet process-based plain paper copier that becomes the world's top-selling copier. |
| 1973 | Rifax 600S, the first high-speed | | Becomes the office automation industry's first recipient of the Deming Prize. |

1976	Establishes the Environmental Promotion Section.		plain paper copiers in Europe and North America.
	Rifax 600S adopted for use in the Montreal Olympic Games.	1982	Introduces Ricopy FT4060, the first A3 plain-paper copier.
1977	Coins the acronym OA for "office automation."	1983	Establishes Ricoh UK Products Ltd., a manufacturing subsidiary.
1981	Starts marketing Ricoh brand dry process	1984	The Rifax 1300HS receives a Nikkei Product Excellence Prize.



The Ricoh Pavilion at Japan Expo '70



Rifax 600S



Ricopy DT1200

The digital revolution

In 1987, Ricoh pioneered MFPs with the IMAGIO 320. In 1996, it helped popularize digital models by launching the imagio MF200, a compact and highly affordable MFP. The company subsequently released networked and color offerings.

1985	Receives the Ohkochi Memorial Production Prize for developing a multi-product production system for MFPs.		Establishes GR Advanced Materials, Ltd., a manufacturing subsidiary in the U.K.
	Develops speech recognition and optical character recognition technology.	1994	Ricoh UK Products Ltd. receives a Highly Recommended prize from the European Better Environment Awards for Industry for its chlorofluorocarbon-free recycling system.
1986	Adopts a new corporate logo in celebration of its 50th anniversary.	1995	Launches its first digital camera, DC-1.
1987	The OHP313R overhead projector wins the Good Design Grand Award.		Acquires Gestetner Corporation (U.K.) and Savin Corporation (U.S.).
	Establishes Ricoh Industrie France S.A., a manufacturing subsidiary.	1996	Ricoh Corporation receives the first of five straight ENERGY STAR awards from the Environmental Protection Agency of the U.S.
1989	Signs a Worldwide Sponsorship contract in the facsimile machine category for the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games.		Establishes Ricoh Asia Pacific Pte Ltd., a sales subsidiary in Singapore.
1991	The Ricoh California Research Center develops the world's fastest color imaging compression algorithm.	1997	Establishes Ricoh Silicon Valley, Inc., an R&D facility in the U.S.
	Establishes Ricoh Asia Industry (Shenzhen) Ltd., a manufacturing subsidiary, in China.	1999	Ricoh awarded Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize in eighth annual Global Environment Awards from Japan Industrial Journal.
1992	Implements the Ricoh General Principles on the Environment that defines the Group's conservation policy.		Ricoh receives Japan Quality Award.
1993	Ricoh UK Products Ltd. is the first recipient of the Queen's Award for Environmental Achievement.	2000	Receives the first Eco Mark for an MFP.



imagio MF200



DC-1



ENERGY STAR logo

A global company

Ricoh's overseas expansion began in the 1970s, when the company began selling on an original equipment manufacturer basis. U.K.-based Gestetner became part of the Group in the late 1990s as part of efforts to build a global sales support structure. The company has since expanded its operational scope, entering the production printing market and reinforcing its solutions business while deploying network appliances linked to cloud services.



San-Ai Dream Center

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| <p>2001 imagio Neo 350 series wins the Energy Conservation Grand Prize from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.
Acquires Lanier Worldwide, Inc. (U.S.).</p> <p>2002 Given the world's highest ranking for corporate social responsibility by oekom Research AG (also in 2005 and 2006).
Signs the United Nations Global Compact.</p> <p>2003 The Ricoh Group receives a Gold Medal from the World Environment Center.
Establishes Ricoh China Co., Ltd.</p> <p>2004 Acquires Hitachi Printing Solutions, Ltd., which is renamed Ricoh Printing Systems.</p> <p>2005 Given highest (AAA) evaluation in the environmental ranking organized by Deloitte Tohmatsu Evaluation and Certification Organization (also in 2006).
Given the world's highest ranking for corporate social responsibility by oekom Research AG (also in 2005 and 2006).</p> <p>2006 Lights up a major billboard atop the San-Ai Dream Center in Ginza, Tokyo.</p> <p>2007 InfoPrint Solutions Company, a Ricoh-IBM joint venture, starts operation.</p> <p>2008 Introduces the Pro C900 color production printer.
Acquires IKON Office Solutions, Inc. (U.S.).</p> <p>2009 Releases its first reconditioned color MFP, the MP C3500RC/C2500RC series, in Japan.
Produces the world's first commercial biomass toner, used in the MP 6001GP MFP.
Establishes Ricoh Manufacturing (Thailand) Ltd.</p> <p>2010 Sets up a 100% eco-powered billboard in New York's Times Square.
Launches the Projection System business.</p> | <p>2011 Launches the Unified Communication System that seamlessly integrates video, voice and other forms of data.
Establishes PENTAX Ricoh Imaging Company, Ltd.
Receives an award from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry for dry washing technology that removes residue without the use of solvents or water.</p> <p>2012 Selected by oecom Research AG as the world's best performing business for sustainability in the IT industry.
Establishes Ricoh Innovations Private Limited, an R&D facility, in India.
Releases MP 9002/7502/6002/6002GP series, the industry's first digital high-speed monochrome MFPs to feature parts made from steel scrap.
Ricopy 101, the diazo copier launched in 1955, is included in the list of Japan's Mechanical Engineering Heritage.</p> <p>2013 The Ichimura Nature School Kanto wins the Philanthropy Grand Prize.
Included in the Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations in the World by Corporate Knights (Canada) for the ninth year in a row.
Selected as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere Institute (U.S.) for the fifth year in a row.
Establishes Ricoh Technologies Company, Ltd. and Ricoh Industry Company, Ltd.
Selected for inclusion in the FTSE4Good Global Index, a leading stock index for sustainability investment, for 10 years in a row.
Becomes a component of the Dow Jones Sustainability World Indices for socially responsible investment.</p> |
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RICOH Pro C900



PENTAX Q7