Olympus was born in 1919 with the purpose of manufacturing microscopes domestically. The Company succeeded in developing the world's first practical gastrocamera roughly 30 years later. From the delivery of its first product up until today, Olympus has continued to be driven by its corporate DNA to create new value for society.
Olympus continued to release innovative products, including HD surgical endoscopes—the world’s first surgical energy device to integrate both advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energy—and 3D and 4K surgical endoscopes.

**Development of Endoscopic Surgery**

The development of endoscopes, which feature imaging elements such as CCDs built into their distal tips, contributed to a substantial increase in the accuracy of diagnoses. This increase in accuracy came from the ability to display images on monitors for multiple healthcare professionals to view.

**New Era of Videoscopes**

Olympus continued to accelerate the advancement of technologies, such as narrow band imaging (NBI) technologies. As a result, endoscopes evolved from being mere observation tools to becoming medical devices capable of treatment and therapy.

**Transition from Stage of Reconstructing Management to Stage of Sustainable Growth and Development**

**2011–Present**

- **2011** Deferred recording of past losses discovered
- **2012** Appointed new management team
  - Announced medium-term vision (corporate strategic plan)
  - Formed business and capital alliance with Sony Corporation
  - Transferred Information & Communication Business
- **2013** Security on Alert Designation placed on Company stock by TSE removed
  - Procured capital through public offering in overseas markets (approx. ¥110 billion)
  - Constructed Company’s largest training and service center in China (Guangzhou)
- **2014** Withdrew from biologics business
  - Integrated three companies and shifted to matrix style operational structure
- **2015** Increased production capacity
  - (completed construction of new buildings) at medical endoscope development and production sites (Aizu, Shinakawa, and Aomori)
  - Announced new medium-term management plan, 16CSP
- **2016** Launched EZ Shot 3 Plus single-use aspiration needle for Endoscopic Ultrasound-Fine Needle Aspiration (EUS-FNA)
- **2017** Commenced sales of colonoscope with 170 degree field of vision and 110 times optical zoom

**Advent of Observation Using Specific Light Spectra**

- **1990s–2010** New Era of Videoscopes Development of Endoscopic Surgery
- **2002** Introduced EVIS LUCERA, world’s first HD endoscopy system
- **2006** Introduced EVIS EXERA II and EVIS LUCERA SPECTRUM, endoscopic video systems that include NBI technologies
- **2011** Introduced VISERA ELITE integrated surgical video endoscope system
- **2012** Introduced THUNDERBEAT, world’s first energy device to integrate both advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energy
- **2013** Launched 3D laparoscopy system and 3D laparoscope with world-first deflectable tip
- **2014** Increased production capacity (completed construction of new buildings) at medical endoscope development and production sites (Aizu, Shinakawa, and Aomori)
- **2015** Launched VISERA ELITE II surgical endoscopy system incorporating 4K technology
- **2016** Launched EZ Shot 3 Plus single-use aspiration needle for Endoscopic Ultrasound-Fine Needle Aspiration (EUS-FNA)
- **2017** Commenced sales of colonoscope with 170 degree field of vision and 110 times optical zoom

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