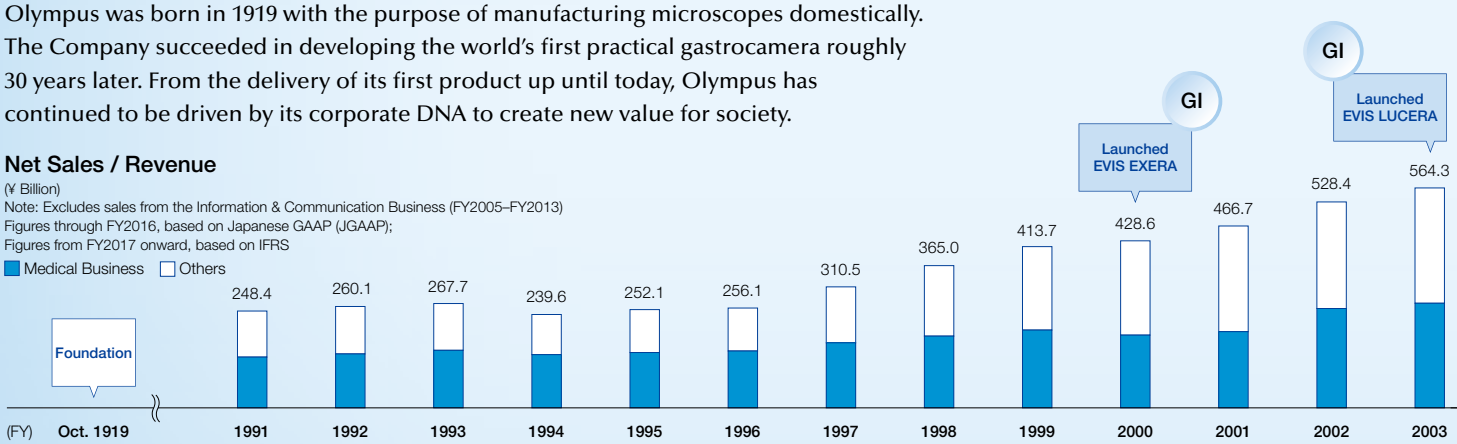
Our Innovation History

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.

Net Sales / Revenue

(¥ Billion)
Note: Excludes sales from the Information & Communication Business (FY2005–FY2013)
Figures through FY2016, based on Japanese GAAP (JGAAP);
Figures from FY2017 onward, based on IFRS



From the Founding of Olympus and the Path to Business Modernization

1919 Established as Takachiho Seisakusho to manufacture microscopes in Japan
1921 Registered trademark as Olympus
1949 Name changed to Olympus Optical Co., Ltd. Company listed on Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE)

Evolution as an Integrated Optical Manufacturer and Expansion of Overseas Sales Networks

1964 Established Olympus Europe
1968 Established Olympus Corporation of America
1979 Established U.S. location in California (currently world's largest endoscope service center)
1989 Established Beijing residential office and corporation in Singapore

Diversification of Medical Business

2001 Commenced collaboration with Terumo Corporation
2004 Acquired Celon AG
2008 Established first training center in China (Shanghai)
Acquired Gyrus Group PLC to strengthen surgical area of Medical Business

1919–1950s | **1960–1980s** | **1990–2010**

Evolution of Medical Business

Development of World's First Practical Gastrocamera

Olympus succeeded in creating a gastrocamera through joint development between the Company's R&D team and a physician in the Department of Gastroenterology of the University of Tokyo. The introduction of fiberscopes made it possible to see directly inside a patient's stomach in real time.

Entry into Surgical Device Business

Predicting that endoscopes would eventually be used in surgery, Olympus acquired German rigid endoscope manufacturer Winter & Ibe GmbH in 1979 and expanded its business into the surgical endoscope field.

New Era of Videoscopes

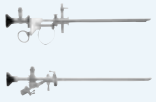
The development of videoscopes, which feature imaging elements such as CCDs built into their distal tips, contributed to a substantial increase in the accuracy of diagnoses. This increase in accuracy came from the ability to display images on monitors for multiple healthcare professionals to view.

Medical Equipment

1950
Developed world's first practical gastrocamera

1964
Introduced GTF fiber gastroscope

1966
Launched Olympus' first biopsy scope and endotherapy devices (biopsy forceps and cytology brushes)



1975
Entered medical surgical endoscopy field

2000
Introduced EVIS EXERA endoscopic video system

2002
Launched EVIS LUCERA, the world's first HD endoscopy system

2006
Introduced EVIS EXERA II and EVIS LUCERA SPECTRUM, endoscopic video systems that include NBI technologies

Scientific Solutions and Imaging Products

1920
Introduced Asahi 600x microscope

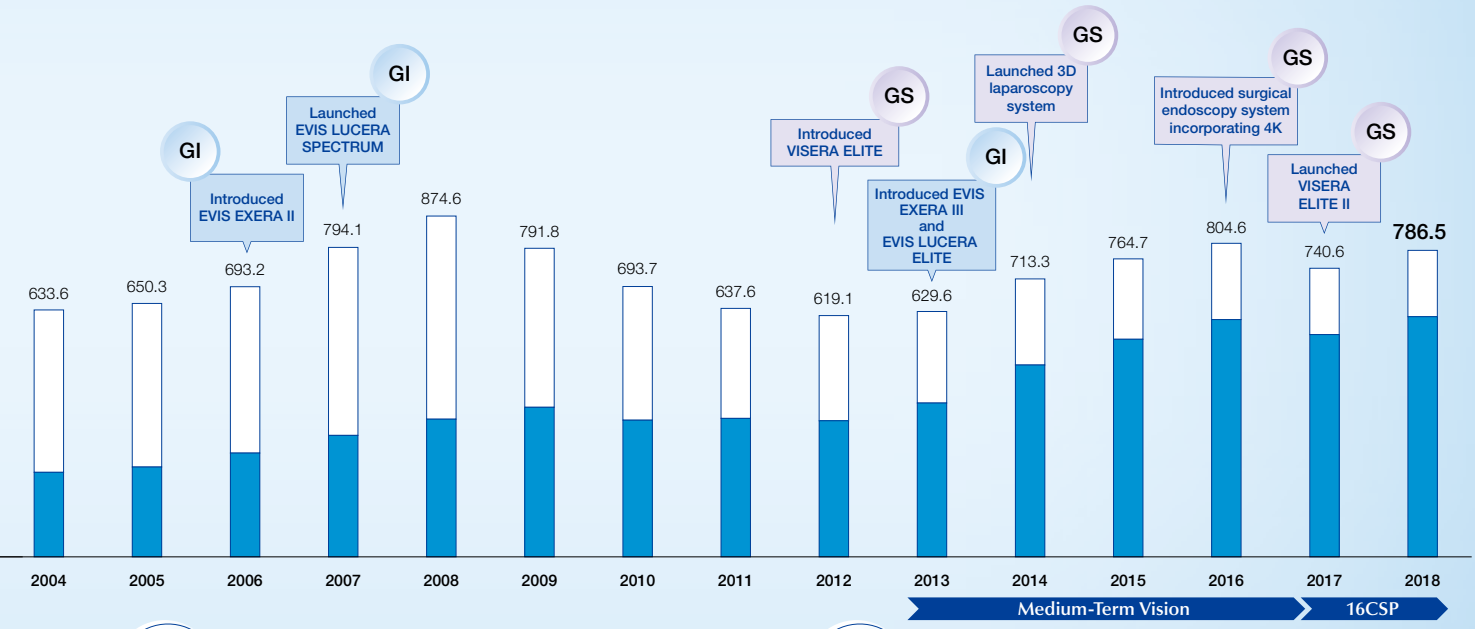
1936
Introduced Olympus' first camera, the Semi-Olympus I, marking entry into camera business

1963
Launched the Olympus Pen F, the world's first half-size SLR camera

1968
Launched Company's first industrial-use fiberscope, marking entry into industrial endoscope field

2006
Introduced OmniScan iX non-destructive testing system

2009
Introduced first Olympus mirrorless camera, OLYMPUS PEN E-P1



Unveiled "Back to Basics" slogan and began shifting resources to Medical Business

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

2013 Security on Alert Designation placed on Company stock by TSE removed

Procured capital through public offering in overseas markets (approx. ¥110 billion)

2015 Integrated three companies and shifted to matrix-style operational structure

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

2016 Increased production capacity (completed construction of new buildings) at medical endoscope development and production sites (Aizu, Shirakawa, and Aomori)

Announced new medium-term management plan, 16CSP

2017 Acquired Image Stream Medical, Inc., of the United States

2011–2015 | **2016–Present**

Development of Endoscopic Surgery

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.

Advent of Observation Using Specific Light Spectra

Olympus continued to accelerate the advance 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.

2012
Introduced THUNDERBEAT, the world's first energy device to integrate both advanced bipolar and ultrasonic energy

2012
Introduced EVIS EXERA III and EVIS LUCERA ELITE next-generation platform systems for gastrointestinal endoscopy

2017
Launched VISERA ELITE II surgical endoscopy system compatible with 3D and infrared (IR) observation functions

2013
Launched flagship mirrorless camera OLYMPUS OM-D E-M1

2016
Launched IPLEX NX industrial endoscope featuring the series' top levels of brightness and resolution

2016
Released FV3000 laser scanning confocal microscope that displays life phenomena with exceptional speed and accuracy

2016
Introduced VANTA, the first handheld X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzer compliant with IP65 water and dust resistance standards

2017
Launched EPOCH 6LT miniature, lightweight ultrasonic flaw detector