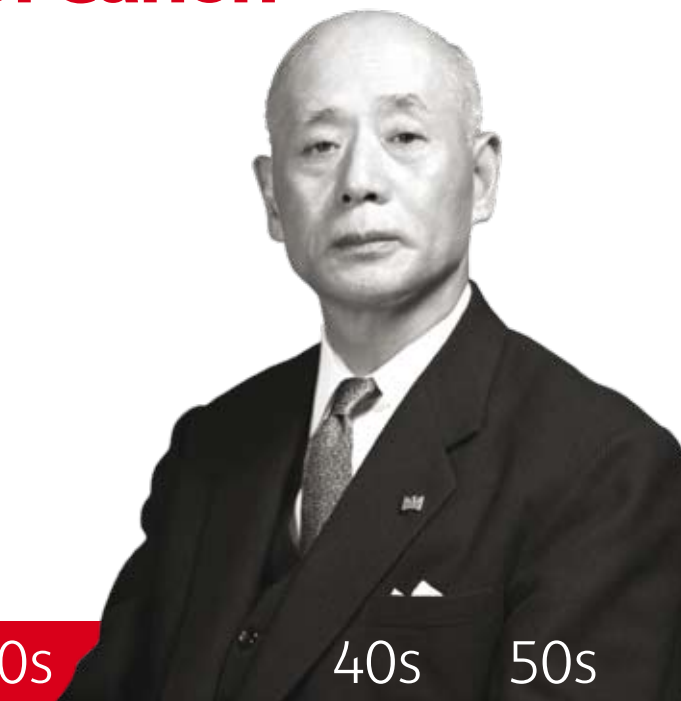


The history of Canon



1961

"Electric-eye" boom is sparked by the introduction of the Canonet.



1964

Canola 130, the world's first 10-key calculator, is introduced.

1976

Canon launches the world's first camera with an embedded micro-computer, the AE-1.



1985

The BJ-80, the world's first inkjet printing using Bubble Jet technology, is introduced.



1987

The EOS 650, autofocus SLR camera is introduced.



1996

The IXUS, a 2x zoom pocket-sized camera with the Advanced Photo System, is introduced.



1999

Mr Tsuruoka is appointed President of Canon Europa N.V.



2003

CXDI-31, the world's first portable digital X-ray system, is used to help reconstruct the face of an Egyptian mummy believed to be Queen Nefertiti.



30s

40s

50s

60s

70s

80s

90s

00s

1933 Precision Optical Instruments Laboratory, the predecessor of Canon, is set up in Tokyo.

1934 The Kwanon, Japan's first 35mm focal plane-shutter camera, is produced in prototype form.



1934

The Kwanon, Japan's first 35mm focal plane-shutter camera, is produced in prototype form.

1935 The Hansa Canon, a 35mm focal-plane-shutter camera, is introduced.

1937 The company is reformed as Precision Optical Industry, Co. Ltd. and the year is taken as the formal founding of Canon.

1940 Japan's first indirect X-ray camera is developed.

1942 Dr. Takeshi Mitarai becomes President of Precision Optical Industry Co. Ltd.

1947 The company is renamed Canon Camera Co., Inc.

1952 The Canon IVSb, a 35mm flash-and-shutter camera, is introduced.

1957 Canon Europa established in Geneva as the sole European distributor.

1958 A field zoom lens for television broadcasting, is introduced.

1959 The world's first camcorder with zoom lens, Reflex Zoom 8, is introduced.

1970

NP1100, Canon's first plain-paper copying machine using its "new process" technology, is launched.



1961 "Electric-eye" boom is sparked by the introduction of the Canonet.

1963 Canon SA Geneva is established.

1964 Canola 130, the world's first 10-key calculator, is introduced.

1967 Dr. Takeshi Mitarai sets out the business vision of 'cameras in the right hand, business machines in the left'.

1968 Canon Amsterdam N.V. (now Canon Europa N.V.) is established.

1969 The company's name is changed to Canon Inc. Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €1 million.

1970 NP1100, Canon's first plain-paper copying machine using its 'new process' technology, is launched.

The PPC-1, Japan's first mask aligner, is announced.

1979

The LBP-10, using a semiconductor laser, is introduced.



1971 The Canon F-1, a top-end SLR camera, and FD lenses are introduced.

1972 Canon Giessen GmbH established in West Germany as Canon's first European production site.

Canon Calculator Italia S.p.A. is established (today known as Canon Italia S.p.A.).

1973 Canon Copylux GmbH established (today known as Canon Deutschland GmbH).

1975 Canon France S.A.S. is established.

1976 Canon Business Machines (U.K.) Ltd. is established (today known as Canon (U.K.) Ltd.).

Canon launches the world's first camera with an embedded micro-computer, the AE-1.

1982

Two personal copying machines with replaceable cartridges, the PC-10 and PC-20, are launched.



1979 The LBP-10, using a semiconductor laser, is introduced.

The AF35M, a fully automatic AF compact camera, is introduced.

Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €10 million.

1980 Canon enters the facsimile market with FAX-601.

1982 Two personal copying machines with replaceable cartridges, the PC-10 and PC-20, are launched.

1983 Canon Bretagne S.A.S. is established in France as a production facility.

1985 The BJ-80, the world's first Ink Jet printer using Bubble Jet technology, is introduced.

Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €1 billion.

1986 The RC-701, the world's first still video camera and video system is introduced.

1987 Canon's 50th anniversary celebrated all over the world.

The CLC-1, Canon's first digital full-colour copying machine, is introduced.

The EOS 650, autofocus SLR camera is introduced.

Canon Foundation is established.

1988 Canon launches its First Global Corporation Plan, introducing Kyosei philosophy.

Canon Research Centre Europe Ltd. is established in the U.K., (today known as Canon Technology Europe).

New European HQ building opens in Amstelveen, the Netherlands.

1990

BJ-10 series of notebook-size inkjet printers is introduced.



1992 The GP55, a digital copying machine combining superior image quality with computer compatibility, is introduced.

Canon's first full-colour inkjet printer, BJC-800/820, is introduced.

Canon launches the first-ever camera with eye-controlled auto-focus, the EOS 5.

1994 Canon East Europe GmbH (today known as Canon CEE GmbH) opens in Vienna, with affiliates across Eastern Europe.

1995 Mr Fujio Mitarai is appointed President of Canon Inc.

1996 The Excellent Global Corporation Plan is initiated.

The IXUS, a 2x zoom pocket-sized compact camera with the Advanced Photo System, is introduced.

Canon's first digital compact camera, PowerShot 600, is introduced.

1997 Canon celebrates its 60th anniversary and the company reaches 100 million units in cumulative camera production.

Canon North-East Oy is established in Finland to expand markets in Baltic states and the CIS.

Canon enters the digital video camcorder market with the MV1.

Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €5 billion.

1998 The professional quality XL1 - the world's first Mini DV camcorder with interchangeable lenses is introduced.

Canon's first digital radiography system, the CXDI-11 is introduced.

Canon Middle East B.V. is established in U.A.E. (Established as Canon Middle East FZ-LLC (CME) in 2001).

1992

Canon launches the first-ever camera with eye-controlled auto-focus, the EOS 5.



1999 Mr Tsuruoka is appointed President of Canon Europa N.V.

Canon South Africa Pty Ltd. (CSA) is established.

The first product of the series, ImageRUNNER 6000 is introduced.

2000 The DIGITAL IXUS, an ultra compact and lightweight digital camera, is introduced.

2001 Restructuring of European HQ, with Canon Europe Ltd. offices in London and Canon Europa N.V. offices in the Netherlands.

Phase II of the Excellent Global Corporation Plan is initiated.

2002 Mr Fujio Mitarai, President and CEO of Canon Inc., is named one of the world's top 25 managers by U.S. magazine BusinessWeek.

Canon Consumer Imaging was formed to cover consumer imaging products in the region.

The Colour iRC3200 colour network digital MFD is introduced, providing new colour solutions for offices.

The EOS-1Ds pro-model digital SLR camera, featuring Canon's 11.1 megapixel full-frame 35mm CMOS imaging sensor, is introduced.

2003 CXDI-31, the world's first portable digital X-ray system, is used to help reconstruct the face of an Egyptian mummy believed to be Queen Nefertiti.

The DIGISUPER 100 xs television broadcasting lens, featuring the world's highest zoom lens range and the Optical Shift image Stabiliser, is introduced.

EOS300D DIGITAL, a high-resolution compact digital SLR AF camera, is introduced.

Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €8 billion.

2004 Canon Ru LLC is established in Moscow, Russia.

The PIXMA iP8500 inkjet printer is introduced, featuring a renewed design.

The multimedia projector XEED SX50, an LCD projector incorporating the newly developed AISYS optical system is introduced.

Canon Europe consolidated sales exceed €8 billion.

2005 The XL HI, Canon's first high-definition video camcorder is introduced.

2006 Canon launches Phase III of the Excellent Global Corporation Plan.

2007 Canon Europe's 50th anniversary.

2005 The XL HI, Canon's first high-definition video camcorder is introduced.

