

A 130-year History of an “Enterprise”



Founder Kibaturo Oki

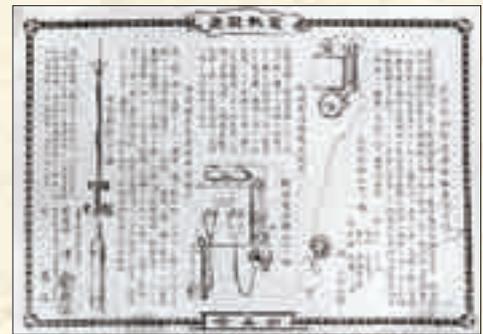
In 1881, Kibaturo Oki, a former engineer of the Telegraph Bureau, founded Meikosha, the predecessor to OKI. The company developed a series of new products including a “microsound” device that worked on the same principle as the Edison telephone when Japanese people had little interest in electricity, let alone telephony. In other words, Meikosha, true to its enterprising spirit, contributed to the expansion

of the telephone business in its early days.

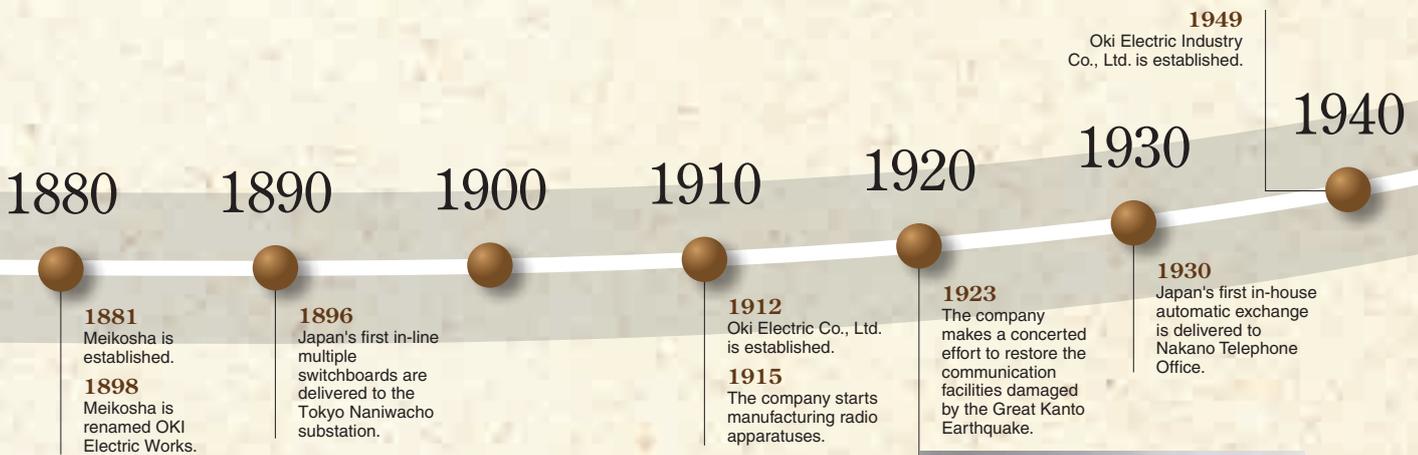
Since then, the OKI Group has developed and offered technologies, products and services resolving various social challenges in many aspects through its 130-year history. In recent years, the group has also promoted the improvement and enhancement of its management systems for the whole

process from product development to distribution in order to respond appropriately to changes in the business environment such as the increasingly globalized economy and rapid progress toward an information society.

This section takes a look back over the history of the OKI Group and introduces some episodes leading to its current CSR initiatives.



One of Meikosha's earliest posters advertising an alarm bell rental service, bargain lighting rods, and others. We can see the teething troubles and innovative ideas of the company.



Episode 1

Contribution to the Recovery from the Great Kanto Earthquake

The growing telephone network in the Tokyo and Yokohama metropolitan area was heavily damaged by the Great Kanto Earthquake on September 1, 1923. OKI made a concerted effort to restore the communication facilities devastated by the earthquake. Records show that OKI contributed its power supply units for the recovery of communication systems at public facilities. As the earthquake highlighted the importance of wireless communication in times of disaster, Japan decided to start radio broadcasting in the near future. At the same time, automatic exchanges were started to be introduced to telephone offices because they were quake-resistant and easy to restore in case of emergencies.



Kyobashi Telephone Office damaged by the Great Kanto Earthquake

ing Spirit”

Episode 4

Management of Chemical Substances Contained in Products

In 1999, OKI established an information system of chemical substances contained in products based on data collected from its green procurement surveys and started using the system in-house. Comprised of a data base and a product design system, this information system allows users to calculate the quantities of chemical substances contained in a product and verify the conformity with the applicable regulations. The convenience and usefulness of the system attracted so much attention when a presentation about it was given at an outside seminar. This later led to the commercialization of the system. OKI has continued to be involved in the sophistication of the system by promptly responding to newly enacted regulations as well as changes in the existing regulations inside and outside Japan.

2010

2010
The company participates in United Nations Global Compact.

Episode 5

Information Security Efforts in the Internet Age

The use of the Internet increased dramatically in the early 1990's when many employees at OKI started using e-mails on a daily basis. As the company opened its official website in 1995, the threat of computer virus also increased. As a result, OKI started making organizational efforts for information security. OKI Customer Adtech a company responsible for the maintenance of OKI's information system, was quick to respond to the threat and had its service engineers carry notebooks with anti-virus tips in order to prevent virus infection on its customers' computers.

2000

2001
A subsidiary for manufacturing ATMs is established in China.

2003
An information system of chemical substances contained in products is launched.

2005
The OKI Group Charter of Corporate Conduct is established.

1990

1990
A page printer for Japanese with LED as a light source is launched.

1994
A printer manufacturing plant is built in Thailand.

1995
The company's official website is opened.

1995
The company starts trying to obtain ISO 14001 certification.

1996
Japan's first VoIP system is launched.

1980

1982
The world's first ATM with banknote recycling is launched.

1970

1971
D10 digital electronic telephone switchboard is delivered to Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation.

1979
The company's headquarters starts conducting an environmental audit.

1960

1961
Japan's first computer using core memory is launched.

1950

1951
The company's shares is listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

1953
Page teletypewriters are launched.



First group blood donation at OKI Shinagawa Station (at the time)



LED page printer for Japanese

Episode 2

Approach to LED

LED has recently attracted considerable attention as an energy-saving light source. OKI initiated its research on LED in 1966. Two years after that, the company developed an optical mark reader. It was Japan's first commercial application of LED for a large-size device. Based on the technology used therein, OKI and (then) Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corporation started a joint research project to develop an electronic photo printer with LED as a light source. As a result, an LED array head was successfully developed in 1979. It has later become a basis of today's downsized, energy-saving LED printers.

Episode 3

Japan's First Corporate Blood Drive

On August 21, 1964, OKI launched Japan's first corporate blood drive inspired by a single employee. In those days, Japanese people started realizing an impending need for blood donation as hepatitis after transfusions of sold blood became a huge social issue. OKI's blood drive attracted press attention and eventually facilitated corporate blood drives in Japan. Since then, the member companies of the OKI Group inside and outside Japan have contributed to the development of local communities through their blood donation. It is particularly notable that OKI Precision Thailand has been committed to blood donation activities since 1996 because blood for transfusions are always in short supply in the Kingdom of Thailand. In fiscal 2010, OKI Precision Thailand was commended by Thai Red Cross Society for its continuous blood drive efforts.



Commendation from Thai Red Cross Society