

Value Creation Milestones

Since its founding in 1919, Daicel has steadily evolved by meeting the ever-changing demands of society. We are currently focused on developing products that can support sustainability across the globe. We have been creating value throughout a history of challenges and accomplishments for over a hundred years.

FY2020/3 Consolidated sales
¥412.8 billion

1919 to the 1950s

Very Early Years

Initially founded as a celluloid maker named Dainippon Celluloid, Daicel immediately contributed to Japan's industrial progress. The foundations of our cornerstone products, such as acetic acid and cellulose acetate, were established from the very beginning through our pursuit of fireproofing celluloid.



- 1919 Established Dainippon Celluloid, Co., Ltd.
- 1935 Constructed the Arai Plant and began producing acetic acid
- 1919 Constructed the Kawachi Sub-Plant of the Aboshi Chemical Plant (currently the Harima Plant)

1960s

Development of Petrochemicals

During the period of rapid economic growth in Japan, we entered the petrochemical business to expand our product line of chemicals. We also launched our engineering plastics business with the production of AS and ABS resins and polyacetal. Featuring outstanding durability and chemical resistance, our engineering plastics have since supported the downsizing of many products, including automobiles.



- 1961 Established Dainippon Kasei Co., Ltd. (currently the Ohtake Plant) Launched the petrochemical business
- 1964 Established Polyplastics Co., Ltd. Launched the engineering plastics business

1980s and 1990s

Entering Overseas Markets

To enhance our core business and surmount the structural recession that hit Japan in the late 1970s, we commercialized acetic acid using the methanol carbonylation process, which led to a realignment of the acetic acid sector. Our local subsidiaries in Europe, the US and Asia were established in the 1980s. We also set our sights on the pharmaceutical industry and accelerated our chiral separation business in the US and Europe.



- 1980 Commercialized acetic acid using the methanol carbonylation process
- 1984 Established Daicel (U.S.A.), Inc. (currently Daicel America Holdings, Inc.) and Daicel (Europa) GmbH
- 1989 Established Daicel Chemical (Asia), Pte. Ltd. (currently Daicel (Asia), Pte. Ltd.)
- 1990 Established Chiral Technologies, Inc.

2000 to present

Expansion of the Pyrotechnic Devices Business and "Daicel Way" Production Innovation across the Group

We established inflator production and sales sites in six countries. In Japan, we expanded our "Daicel Way" production innovation, which was originally established at the Aboshi Plant, across all our companies, accelerating our process innovation initiatives. In 2017, we opened Innovation Park to consolidate our R&D, engineering and production functions.



- 2000 Constructed the Integrated Production Center of the Aboshi Plant
- 2009 Began producing ethyl acetate using the esterification process
- 2017 Opened Innovation Park



Toward a Sustainable Society

We endeavor to develop products that make daily life healthier, safer and richer, and strive to manufacture them in ways that protect the environment, workers and the general public. Daicel is committed to realizing a sustainable society.

The Daicel Group's Products and their Social Value

Celluloid

Enrichment of daily life

As a pioneer in the field of plastics, we played an integral role in the development of the Japanese chemical industry.

- 1928 Started producing photographic film materials in response to the popularization of photography and movies



Cellulose acetate

Safety

- 1938 Commercialized cellulose acetate, offering a solution to flammability concerns associated with cellulose nitrate

Polyacetal

Conserving resources and energy

- 1964 Started producing polyacetal, a high-performance resin, supporting the downsizing of many products, including automobiles, while also reducing environmental impact



Acetic acid using the methanol carbonylation process

Realignment of the acetic acid sector

- 1980 Introduced the methanol carbonylation process to produce acetic acid, our core material, which led to the realignment of the acetic acid sector

Chiral columns

Safer medications

- 1982 Started producing chiral columns, which are used to separate substances that may otherwise cause adverse side effects



Automobile airbag inflators

Safety and security

- 1988 Started supplying the key component for automobile airbag systems that protect passengers in the event of a collision

Actranza™ lab.

Advanced medicine

We are working toward practical applications of new drug delivery systems, which utilize our pyrotechnic technology, for gene therapy and other advanced medicine.



Marine biodegradable cellulose acetate

Solution for marine plastic

We have developed an eco-friendly, naturally derived cellulose acetate that can decompose in seawater twice as fast as conventional products.

