

History

MHI Group is one of the world's leading industrial groups, spanning energy, smart infrastructure, industrial machinery, aerospace and defense. We combine cutting-edge technology with deep experience to deliver innovative, integrated solutions that help to realize a carbon-neutral world, improve the quality of life and ensure a safer world.

1884–1945

Evolution from a foundation in shipbuilding to the manufacture of transportation infrastructure

In 1884, our founder, Yataro Iwasaki, leased the Nagasaki Shipyard from the Meiji government and began the business. Leveraging its technological expertise, including from the production of Japan's first iron steamship, MHI diversified its business by expanding into various machinery, such as turbines, internal combustion engines, aircraft, and automobiles. In that era of global uncertainty, the most advanced technology of the time was being used for military purposes.

1946–1963

Shift to producing consumer goods to support postwar reconstruction

After the war, MHI shifted its focus to the development and manufacture of various consumer products to support Japan's reconstruction. In 1950, MHI was split into three entities under the GHQ policy to dissolve Japan's largest conglomerates. This enabled us to further expand and diversify our product lines and enhance our technological competitiveness. It also laid the foundation for MHI to grow into a leading player in heavy industry.

1964–1999

Entry into large-scale project development following the reunification

In 1964, MHI completed the reunification of its former companies, resulting in the birth of the new Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. By addressing the soaring energy demand and robust private-sector investment, we supported Japan's ensuing period of rapid economic growth. Subsequently, faced with a severe downturn in the shipbuilding industry, we focused on growth areas, such as power systems and aviation, while pursuing global expansion as a means of finding new opportunities abroad. We also leveraged our advanced technologies to enter the space development sector, ushering in a new era.

2000–

Contribution to a sustainable society

To meet the challenge of balancing growing energy demand with the need to reduce environmental impact, we provide a range of products and solutions, including the world's most efficient gas turbines, nuclear power plants, and CO₂ capture systems. In these ways, we help realize a sustainable society. In 2021, we announced our Carbon Neutrality declaration, MISSION NET ZERO.

1870

Origin of Mitsubishi
Tsukumo Shokai



Yataro Iwasaki
MHI's first president

1884



Nagasaki Shipyard

1893

Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha

1917

Mitsubishi
Shipbuilding &
Engineering Co., Ltd.

1921

Mitsubishi Electric
Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

1934

Mitsubishi Heavy
Industries, Ltd.

1950

Central Japan
Heavy-Industries, Ltd.

1950

East Japan Heavy-
Industries, Ltd.

1952

Mitsubishi Nippon-
Heavy-Industries, Ltd.

1970

Mitsubishi Motors
Corporation

● Establishment

● Foundation

● Establishment

● Merger

1873

Mitsubishi
Shokai

1875

Mitsubishi Steamship Co.
Mitsubishi Mail Steamship Co.

1886

Mitsubishi Sha

1907

Shipbuilding
Division of
Mitsubishi
Goshi Kaisha

1920

Mitsubishi Internal
Combustion Engine
Manufacturing
Co., Ltd.

1921

Mitsubishi
Internal
Combustion
Engine Co., Ltd.

1928

Mitsubishi
Aircraft Co., Ltd.

1950

West Japan
Heavy-
Industries, Ltd.

1952

Mitsubishi
Shipbuilding &
Engineering
Co., Ltd.

1952

Shin
Mitsubishi
Heavy-
Industries, Ltd.

1964

Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd.



1908

Made shipbuilding history with the construction of *Tenyo Maru*, Japan's first passenger ship exceeding 10,000 gross tons



1908

Manufacture of Japan's first steam turbine



1939

Successfully completes the "Nippon" round-the-world goodwill flight



1970

Kansai Electric Power's Mihama Unit 1 (PWR nuclear power plant) begins operation



1986

Successful launch of first H-I rocket



2011

World's most-efficient J-series gas turbine achieves record turbine inlet temperature of 1,600°C during demonstration test



2016

World's largest CO₂ capture plant (for enhanced oil recovery) completed in the United States



2019

Doha Metro, a fully automated unmanned urban rail system, begins operation in Qatar