

# Addressing the Social Challenges of the Times through Materials Innovation

## Start of the Chemical Business

Mitsui Mining initiated a full-scale chemical business in Omuta that later became the Omuta Works.

### 1912 —

Mitsui Mining launched its coal chemical business in 1912. The company began manufacturing raw materials for fertilizers from the exhaust gas produced as a byproduct of the coal business, thereby helping solve food shortages caused by rapid population growth—a social problem of the times. This was the first step toward the chemical business we operate today. We went on to successfully produce the synthetic dye alizarin in Japan, and developed a full-scale chemical business. Testament to this success was our achievement in synthesizing indigo—regarded as the king of dyes. This led to major changes in Mitsui Mining, which had been underpinned by profits from coal.



## Birth of Japan's Petrochemical Industry

Completed construction of Japan's first petrochemical complex.

### 1954 —

In 1955, Mitsui Petrochemical Industries was established through joint funding provided by eight companies: Mitsui Chemical Industry, Toyo Koatsu Industries, Miike Gosei Chemical Industry, Mitsui Mining, Mitsui Mining & Smelting, Koa Oil, Toyo Rayon, and Mitsui Bank. After its founding, the company secured the land it needed, purchasing an army fuel depot in Iwakuni from the government. The company pressed ahead with establishing full-scale operations, focusing on introducing new technologies, especially those from overseas. Then in April 1958, construction of Japan's first general petrochemical complex was completed and production began.



## A Shift to Full-Scale Overseas Production

Helped to make automobiles lightweight and improved fuel efficiency.

### 1977 —

We developed lightweight materials like MILASTOMER™, which has been adopted for automobile bumper components, thereby improving fuel efficiency. The overseas expansion of the polypropylene (PP) compound business in the 1980s turned out to be a major leap forward for the business, which now commands a 20% share of the global market. At the time, against the backdrop of a strong yen and strained U.S.-Japan relations, domestic automakers were shifting to full-scale production overseas. In 1986, Mitsui Toatsu Chemicals, Inc. established a manufacturing base in the state of Ohio that eventually grew into Advanced Composites, Inc.—presently our PP compound base in the United States.

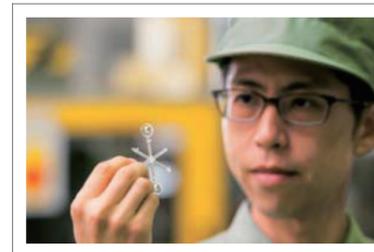


## Founding of Mitsui Chemicals

Aim to become a corporate group with undisputed global presence.

### 1997 —

Mitsui Chemicals was founded through the merger of Mitsui Petrochemical Industries and Mitsui Toatsu Chemicals, Inc. In fiscal 2007, we implemented triple bottom line management focused on economy, environment, and society.



## Heading toward a New Stage

Transforming our business portfolio, we focused on expansion in three targeted business domains and restructured the Basic Materials business.

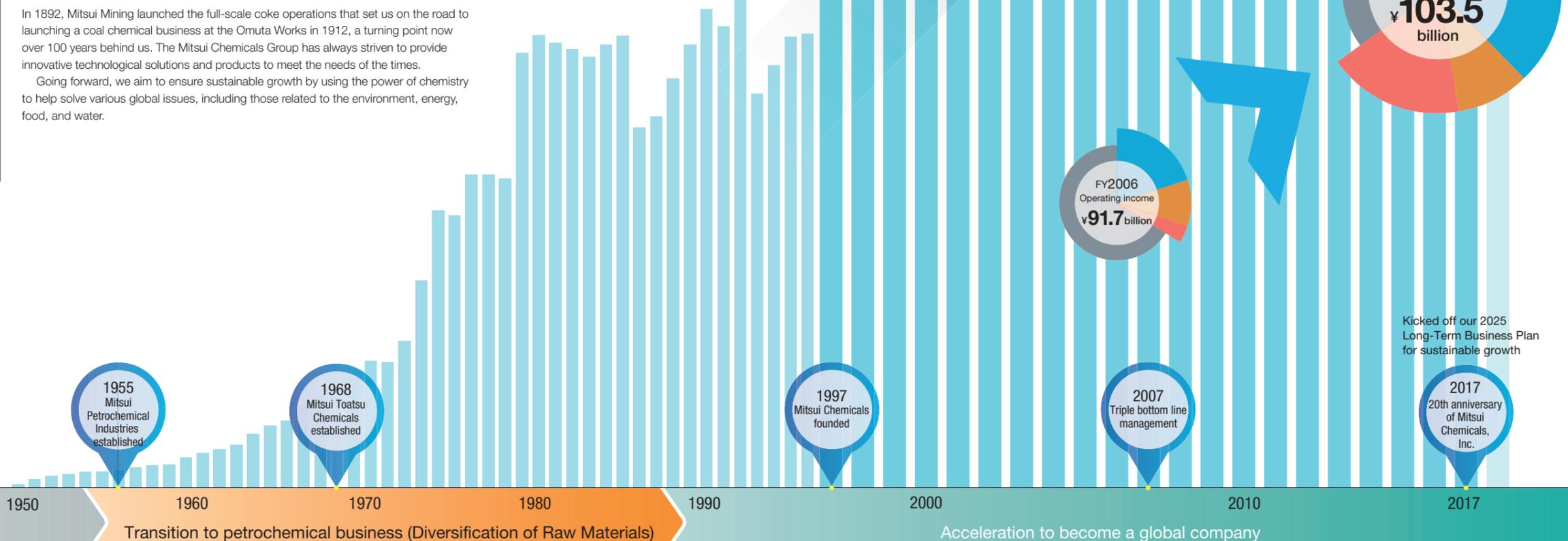
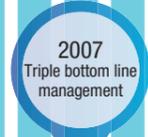
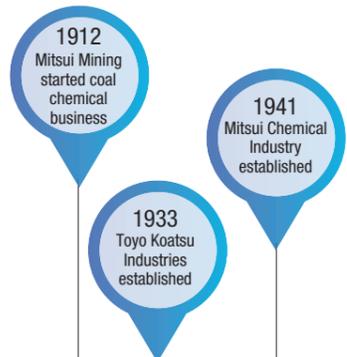
### 2010 —

In the wake of the global financial crisis that started in 2008, demand stagnated worldwide, and the Company recorded losses for the three consecutive periods of loss from fiscal 2011 to 2013. In light of this, we worked diligently to reinforce our financial and operating position under the 2014 Mid-Term Business Plan by expanding targeted business domains to drive growth and restructuring our bulk and commodity product operations in the Basic Materials business.

We are now heading toward a growth stage. We aim to become a corporate group with undisputed global presence by pursuing growth through ceaseless innovation aimed at achieving the targets set out in the 2025 Long-Term Management Plan, which was formulated in 2016.

In 1892, Mitsui Mining launched the full-scale coke operations that set us on the road to launching a coal chemical business at the Omuta Works in 1912, a turning point now over 100 years behind us. The Mitsui Chemicals Group has always striven to provide innovative technological solutions and products to meet the needs of the times.

Going forward, we aim to ensure sustainable growth by using the power of chemistry to help solve various global issues, including those related to the environment, energy, food, and water.



Kicked off our 2025 Long-Term Business Plan for sustainable growth