

Greetings

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KAWASE Masahiro*



KYB is pleased to celebrate the 90th anniversary of its founding and to publish this commemorative 70th issue of the KYB Technical Review. This is a testament to our ability to continually showcase our Group's technologies and the results of product development and manufacturing (monozukuri), and to demonstrate their evolution to our stakeholders, including customers and shareholders. For this, we would like to thank all those who have supported the Technical Review.

For this commemorative issue, we have invited professors distinguished in the field of fluid power to write the Foreword and Editorial. This issue also features a special program in which each division presents its own outlook for the future and shows how far the company's core technologies have expanded.

The origins of KYB technologies can be traced back to the Kayaba Research Center founded by the late Shiro Kayaba in 1919 and Kayaba Manufacturing Co., Ltd. established in 1935. In particular, the hydraulic technology applied to aircraft oil buffers was later used in automobiles, motorcycles, construction machinery, concrete mixer trucks, airplanes, auditorium and stage control systems, and vibration isolators. This technology helped the company expand its business¹⁾.

With these positioned as KYB's core technologies, we have continued in recent years to promote their development in step with the times to achieve electronic control and modularization of products, as well as the use of digital technology on the manufacturing floor and in the design stage (DX, AI, simulation, and other analysis technologies).

In fiscal 2025, which is the last year of the FY2023 medium-term management plan under the slogan "Mastering Quality Management - Making TQM the Basis of All Activities," we will make company-wide efforts in the following areas:

[1] Growth strategy

Promote technology development through a specialized department established to respond to the electrification (EV and systemization) of automobiles, automotive equipment, and concrete mixer trucks.

[2] Innovative manufacturing

Create a self-sustaining unmanned plant driven by digital technology (DX and AI) as part of the activity to advance manufacturing to the next generation under the name of "Ship'30 : Self-handling innovation plant 2030."

[3] Cost reduction

Promote global cost reduction activities to cope with rising raw material and energy prices and production adjustments due to semiconductor shortages.

[4] Normative awareness

Strengthen compliance within the KYB Group as a corporate group and implement measures to prevent recurrence based on "quality management" to deal with inappropriate issues.

KYB is committed to improving the quality of its work, products, and services by enhancing the quality of its human resources and information in our quest to make great strides towards our 100th anniversary 10 years from now.

The KYB Group will formulate and implement growth strategies to enter new markets and new businesses for future seeding and build an innovative manufacturing system using DX and AI technologies, while making concerted efforts to grow itself and increase corporate value to earn further trust and satisfaction from stakeholders.

Finally, I hope that the KYB Technical Review will continue to be published and serve as a valuable source of technical information for engineers around the world.

Reference

- 1) KYB 80-year History (November 2015).

* Representative Director, President and CEO, KYB