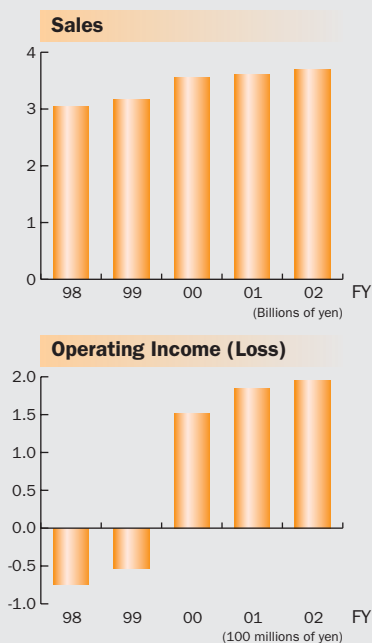


# LIFE-SCIENCE INSTRUMENTS



## Overview

The Life-Science Instruments Sector's primary focus is on applications of centrifugal force, specifically, the use of high-speed rotation to generate centrifugal forces that are effective means of quickly isolating minute quantities of various substances. The sector's mainstay line of centrifuges encompasses a broad spectrum of products ranging from the world's fastest ultracentrifuges to low-speed, compact centrifuges. These products have stimulated considerable demand both in Japan and overseas.

Hitachi Koki's centrifuges are principally used in biotechnology applications. In addition to their use in academic research in such fields as medicine, biology, agriculture and physics, these centrifuges play an important role in the isolation, concentration and refining of diverse organic materials by pharmaceutical companies. Recently, they have proven useful in research related to gene functions and protein structure analysis as well as in the research and production of vaccines.

## A Review of Fiscal 2002

Although domestic investment in biotechnology showed signs of recovery and sales of ultracentrifuges and refrigerated centrifuges were robust in the second half of the term, overall sales of the Life-Science Instruments Sector were sluggish. Meanwhile, overseas sales showed an upturn as a result of a large package order for centrifuges for vaccine production.

As a result, sector sales were ¥3.7 billion, a 2% gain compared to the previous fiscal year.

## Future Issues

To further expand business activities, the sector will develop such new products as centrifuges for vaccine production and compact centrifuges to augment and systemize its product line and increase its marketing potential through alliances with Kendro Laboratory Products, of the United States, and TECHCOMP LIMITED, of China.

## Noteworthy Product Introductions

- **Pre-processing System for Measurement of Microplate Enzyme Reaction (AP2)**  
This system automates experiments testing the rate at which the human body breaks down pharmaceuticals. It is rapidly gaining recognition as the first compact system designed for the efficient ascertainment of the effects and side effects of newly developed pharmaceuticals.



Pre-processing System for Measurement of Microplate Enzyme Reaction (AP2)