

Overview

Hitachi Koki carries out its R&D activities based on the motto “Striving for the timely development of products that respond to and satisfy customers’ needs.” While respecting the creativity of individual researchers, we work toward the development of leading-edge technologies not only to expand market share for products but also to ensure that the technologies that support these products remain firmly positioned at the forefront of each respective industry.

A Review of Fiscal 2002

In fiscal 2002, Hitachi Koki invested ¥5.9 billion in R&D on new products and technologies. The Power Tools Sector developed and marketed a compact, highly functional cordless impact driver and a newly designed H45MR Hammer with excellent operability that received a 2003 German iF design award. The Life-Science Instruments Sector developed a pre-processing system for the measurement of microplate enzyme reaction, and, in the first half of the fiscal year, the Printing Systems Sector developed a laser printer with a high-speed paper feed.

R&D expenditures excluding those for printing systems totaled ¥3.1 billion.

Principal Issues in R&D

Hitachi Koki has identified four principal issues in R&D: (1) strengthening capabilities for developing strategic products, (2) further increasing the sophistication of the Company’s basic technologies and strategic core technologies, (3) developing products and technologies in new fields as well as (4) obtaining and making strategic use of intellectual property rights.

The Power Tools Sector has adopted a 3-D digital engineering system to strengthen R&D, enhance basic technologies and reduce environmental impact through noise and vibration reduction and increased recyclability.

The Life-Science Instruments Sector has also leveraged 3-D digital engineering to upgrade its R&D capabilities; increase the functionality, compactness and the standardization of controllers; and automate DNA extraction pre-processing.

Design

The revolutionary design of the H45MR Hammer has been internationally acclaimed, receiving a 2003 iF design award, which is Hitachi Koki’s first award. The iF design award originated in 1954 and is sponsored by iF International Forum Design GmbH, of Hannover, Germany. Each year, industrial designs from around the world are considered for this most prestigious award in the field of industrial design.

Looking ahead, Hitachi Koki will continue to offer innovative ergonomic designs that set its products apart from the competition.



H45MR Hammer