Open Innovation

Creating new businesses in a variety of ways, including business-accelerating partnerships.

Nikon is actively partnering with a variety of companies possessing innovative new technologies to create new businesses and expand existing ones. Between 2019 and 2020, we entered into business alliances with DMG MORI CO., LTD., a leading manufacturer of machine tools, and XTIA Ltd., the proprietary owner of "optical comb", the world’s only light source technology. By combining our core technologies with new resources, we are accelerating the launch of new businesses, including in the material processing business area. And with a view to expanding our business field, we are pursuing the creation and development of new businesses, including through the establishment of a private fund and cooperation with venture capital partners.

Nikon is building various alliances including business/capital tie-ups outside the company including universities, other companies and affiliates, cooperative research, and M&A. Through these various alliances, Nikon is leveraging its strengths to expand the scale and scope of its businesses, including extending its interests to peripheral fields in order to create new business opportunities. In recent years, by entering into business alliances in the Material Processing Business, positioned as a core pillar of new business, we are actively promoting the development of new equipment and the expansion of sales opportunities.

Nikon and SBI Investment Co., Ltd. have jointly established a private fund to invest in venture companies, using SBI Investment’s valuable expertise and investment experience in growth sectors. Nikon deploys this new fund to pursue fresh business opportunities by investing in venture companies that can potentially play a future role, with focus on Japan and North America as well as European and Asian countries.

To expand new business operations, Nikon has invested in venture companies in Japan, Europe and the United States, each of which provide Nikon with valuable transaction data and trend information as well as exchanging diverse information at regular meetings. Nikon benefits from its venture business partners’ research, comparisons, target company information and future value estimations.