

Kumamoto Prefecture

Kongo Co., Ltd. (Kumamoto City)

“Compact Shelving” that contributes to force, space, and energy saving

SKYREMOTE Kabushiki Kaisha(Kumamoto City)

Development of a kite plane with GPS locator-equipped automatic flight control

AIM TECH Co., Ltd. (Kamimashiki Gun)

Development of a gas leakage tester that automatically performs correction of temperature

“ Compact Shelving” that contributes to force, space, and energy saving.

Kongo Co., Ltd.

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Establishment: 1947
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Kunio Miyazaki
President

The company holds 55% of the domestic share of “Compact Shelving”.When a circle-shaped handle on a front surface of shelf is rotated, the chain-driven shelf moves on a rail and preserves an aisle.. .

The company that has been grown as a top maker of “Compact Shelving” in Japan

Kongo Co., Ltd.was founded by the present chairman, Genshi Taniwaki, as a trading company that sells surveying equipment in February 1947. The company was changed to a maker in 1957, and released their own products into the market such as safe, cabinet, and locker. The company holds 55% of the domestic share in regards to “Compact Shelving,” and is grown up as a maker of logistics and office security systems.

Three times more storage capacity than (that of fixed shelf,) and broad project achievement as the National Diet Library

A foundation of the growth of the company is a circle-shaped “Compact Shelving”that was released to the market in 1974. When a circle-shaped handle on a front surface of shelf is rotated, the chain-driven shelf moves on a rail and an aisle is opened. Such shelf can store three times more than the fixed shelf as far as the same floor area is concerned. Based on a rise in land prices after oil shock, many shelves of the company have been adopted by many organizations such as public offices, enterprises, and libraries including the National Diet Library.

Creation of innovation through use of intellectual properties

The patent obtained regarding the mobile shelf was broadly used for such as seismic isolation “Compact Shelving”(absorbing the quake energy), electrically-operated shelf (artificial intelligence and LCD applied), antibacterial shelf, and shelf to search for rack robo-system and medical record search shelving at hospitals, under the command of the present president, Kunio Miyazaki that was transferred from Toyota Motor Corporation in 1981. The company has received 4 Good Design Awards since 1996.



Compact Shelving of Kongo

Development of a kite plane with GPS locator-equipped automatic flight control

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Kazuo Okabe
President

In order to respond to broad needs, the company developed a kite plane that can collect information at the time of occurrence of disasters, a mobile camera that broadcasts sports and concerts, town camera, and mobile relay car.

Airborne shooting of the eruption of *Fugendake* through a vide camera mounted kite plane

In addition to management of radio control shops, using an application of a fundamental rule of kite, a kite plane with a main fabric wing and compact engine was developed. In 1992, when *Fugendake* in Nagasaki-ken was erupted, a request of cooperation by NHK was made as to whether such kite plane could be used for remote control shooting or not. And airborne shooting by a kite plane with a vide camera was successful, and such images were broadcasted all over in Japan.



Development of GPS locator-equipped kite plane

A kite plane during the initial time was limited within a visible scope concerning a flight distance because of manual flight operation. Thus, the automatic flight control through GPS locator-equipped using artificial satellite was developed. Taking advantage of such development, the control technology was established. And various remote control cameras were developed sequentially, such as a mobile camera, and town camera, and were used for J. League, Nagano Olympics, and annual NHK sponsored year-end men versus women singing contest, etc.

Expectation towards such plane as a savior at the time of frequent occurrence of natural disasters

Atrim Kabushiki Kaisha was founded in Osaka as a manufacturing and distribution maker in 2003. SKYREMOTE Kabushiki Kaisha devoted itself to product development. After that, the company developed a kite plane rescue that safely and accurately collects information from the air concerning affected areas where traffic and communications means were interrupted, and received a “Good Design Award” in 2005 in regards to an unmanned flight system to collect urgent and initial information at the time of natural disasters. In recent years, a social significance of the product as a savior at the time of frequent occurrence of natural disasters is large.



Kite plane



Kite plane rescue (received “Good Design Award” and a Special Award of Director General’s Award for Achievements from the Science and Medium Enterprise Agency in 2005)

Development of a gas leakage tester that automatically performs correction of temperature

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Shinichiro Arima
President

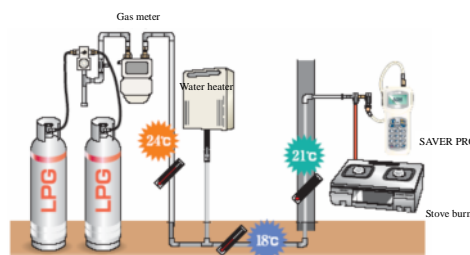
The company developed a portable high-precision gas leakage tester that automatically performs correction of temperature for the first time in the world. The product is used for a statutory testing and contributes to improvement of gas security.

Courageous challenge to his dream

The testing method for gas leakage had been conducted for few decades until then, and the influence of pressure through temperature change made the judgment of gas leakage difficult. Mr. Arima had a doubt about such testing method. And even when he made consultations about this matter with makers and company where he used to work, he could not solve this problem. Thus, he was inspired to start his own business. And he consulted with Kumamoto Engineering Center. And after he examined the patent related matters at the Intellectual Property Center, the company developed a demonstration machine. Based on this, the product was made through a joint research with Kumamoto University.

Development of a portable high-precision gas leakage tester that automatically performs correction of temperature for the first time in the world

Testing for leakage of gas piping facilities has conventionally been conducted through detection of decline in pressure within the pipes through leakage of gases where pressure is filled. However, when surrounding temperature fluctuated, changes occurred to the pressure within the pipes even without leakage, and reliable testing was impossible. The company developed a device that monitors and tests the existence of temperature change in a high precision manner for the first time in the world. Such patent technology enables automatic judgment without depending on human judgment, and accurate measurement. Due to this achievement, the company received various prizes such as the Director General's Award for Achievements of Intellectual Property from Patent Office in 2005.



Even when temperature is measured by a thermometer, temperatures are different from locations. Accurate correction of temperature was difficult. This problem was solved through the patent technology.

Improvement of gas security and future contribution to safe and peaceful daily lives in Japan

This product was accredited by Japan LP Gas Instrument Inspection Association, was used for a statutory testing conducted by companies involving gases, and the rate of dissemination was expanded. Due to improvement of accuracy and rationalization of gas leakage testing, contributions are made to improvement of gas security and safe and peaceful daily lives in Japan by extension. Moreover, in order to use such technology for large-sized gas piping facilities at hospitals and schools, the company has progressed development projects on a national basis. In 2005, the company was accredited with "new collaboration plan" subject to Law for Promotion of New Enterprises for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises. In the future, the company is scheduled to develop other fields and to penetrate its products to overseas markets.

