R&D and Intellectual Property Strategy

Related Materiality

- Maintain technological superiority
- Build next-generation core technologies and create new businesses
- Preserve the global environment
- Improve product value and reliability



Message from the Executive Officer in Charge of R&D

Under the Mid-term Management Plan, we are pursuing new value creation with originality and co-creation as twin drivers, drawing on our pioneering DNA that drives us to lead the way. R&D has a major role to play in achieving this goal. In terms of co-creation, we will promote strategic patent filings and secure licenses, while building strategic partnerships with companies, universities, and other organizations. Through these efforts, we will pursue commercialization through multiple avenues and at an early stage. We will also advance the digital transformation (DX) of R&D to accelerate and streamline research and development even further. In terms of originality, we will actively pursue new businesses in areas such as nucleic acid medicines and semiconductor materials, drawing, for example, on our colorant technologies and those cultivated through the development of OLED materials. These initiatives will lead us into the two-year harvest phase and enable us to achieve discontinuous growth.

Norimasa Yokoyama
Director and Managing Executive Officer

Basic strategies under CODE/CHORD 2030

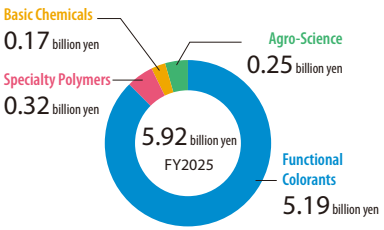
Promotion of co-creation: Accelerate execution of the "buying time" strategy through M&A and alliances, co-creation with external research institutions, patent strategies, and other initiatives
Expansion into new business domains through proprietary technologies: CDMO business for nucleic acid medicines, semiconductor materials business, and other new businesses
Further strengthening of integrated R&D, production, and sales activities: Accelerate value creation by strengthening collaboration among R&D, production, and sales

R&D and Intellectual Property Initiatives under the Mid-term Management Plan

R&D investment

The Hodogaya Chemical Group pursues cutting-edge R&D through a global R&D framework centered on the Tsukuba Research Laboratory in Japan, with the development departments at each plant working in collaboration with Group companies in South Korea. Toward 2030, drawing on the proprietary technologies and know-how we have developed primarily through our OLED materials business, we will make investments mainly in the Functional Colorants segment, particularly in high-performance colorants, oligonucleotides for nucleic acid medicines, and semiconductor materials.
In addition, we will pursue co-creation with the aim of generating new businesses and products in diverse fields that go beyond the development of our existing businesses and deliver discontinuous growth.

R&D investment amount (by segment)



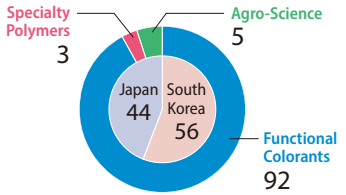
Please see this page for progress on the numerical targets.
Non-Financial Highlights ►P.48

Details can be found on our website.
https://www.hodogaya.co.jp/english/rd/rd-system/

Patent application status

By placing priority on building its development structure in South Korea, the Hodogaya Chemical Group has increased the share accounted for by its South Korean operations in both R&D investment and patent applications filed in Japan. In addition, as a result of our strategic and timely patent filings, particularly for OLED-related technologies, the Functional Colorants segment now accounts for a large share of our patent applications.

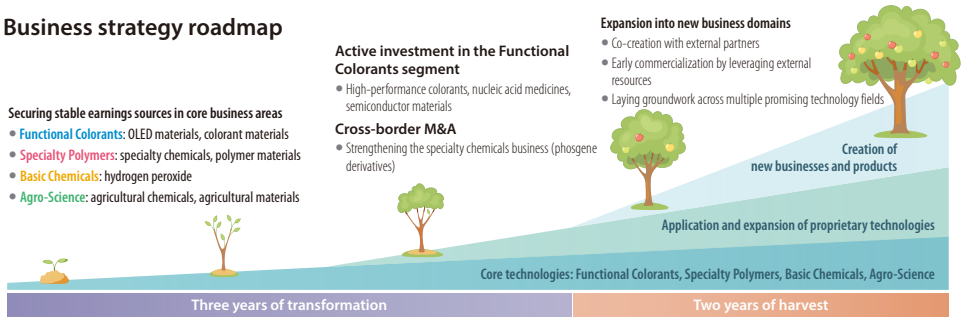
FY2023–FY2025 patent applications by country and segment (%)



Intellectual Property Strategy

Sharing with our researchers the principle that "it is important to conduct research and development with an eye toward securing rights," we are moving forward with promptly filing patent applications and securing intellectual property rights related to the results of our R&D, while keeping in mind our future business portfolio. We are also working to enhance the quality of our patents through information searches, patent analysis, intellectual property education, and other initiatives. In 2023 and 2025, our Company was included in Nikkei Business Publications' Intellectual Property Management Ranking of companies with high patent value growth. Going forward, we will also focus on strategic patent application filing, securing licenses, and DX initiatives to contribute to the creation of new businesses and products in diverse fields that can drive discontinuous growth.

Business strategy roadmap



Relevant Group company:
Hodogaya Contract Laboratory Co., Ltd.
Description of business: Contract based custom synthesis, analysis and development

Location: 45 Miyukigaoka Tsukuba City Ibaraki Pref. 305-0841 Japan
TEL: +81-29-858-6886 (Main switchboard)
Webpage: http://www.h-contractlabo.co.jp/index-e.html