

## Facing the Next Fifty Years



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HORIBA reached the fiftieth anniversary of its founding in January of this year. To mark this occasion, and to start the next fifty years, we are delighted to publish this global edition of HORIBA's technical reports "Readout".

HORIBA's analysis and measurement business started with the pH meters developed by the Chairman, Dr. Masao Horiba. It went on to grow with non-dispersive infrared gas analyzers and X-ray analysis systems. HORIBA has achieved major growth through recognizing the changing needs of the market and swiftly incorporating application technology. Meanwhile, over the last ten years Jobin Yvon S.A.S., ABX S.A. and other companies with unique and outstanding technology and products have joined the HORIBA Group and the scope of the business has expanded.

Now the HORIBA Group is the world's leading business group for analysis and measurement equipment and can utilize resources in all technical fields. We must now share these rich resources across the HORIBA Group and develop synergetic effect so that we can build a structure that will deliver speedy business development.

First, we plan to construct a communication network that will enable research and development units to work closely together, maximizing resources through exchange of results. Also, we will press forward to develop alliances with universities and research institutions to establish an environment in which the process, from initial research to application and product, can be quicker and more effective.

Furthermore, we want to start a global research and development function for the twenty-first century. This will have not just an ordinary research and development structure: we would like to involve customers and to strengthen a research and development team that embraces challenge, turning ideas about new markets into actual products. This function will sometimes involve marketing in regard to participation in existing business segments, as well as research and development of new methods for the enhancement of corporate brand image and product concepts, together with the engineering technology to put these into effect. We want to establish a cross-border environment, in which people of different cultures can apply themselves to research and development with shared will and dream.

We very much hope that this journal will enable our customers as well as Horibarians now spread around the world, to appreciate how outstanding HORIBA Group products and technology are, and we hope that it will help to facilitate further progress for our customers and HORIBA alike.