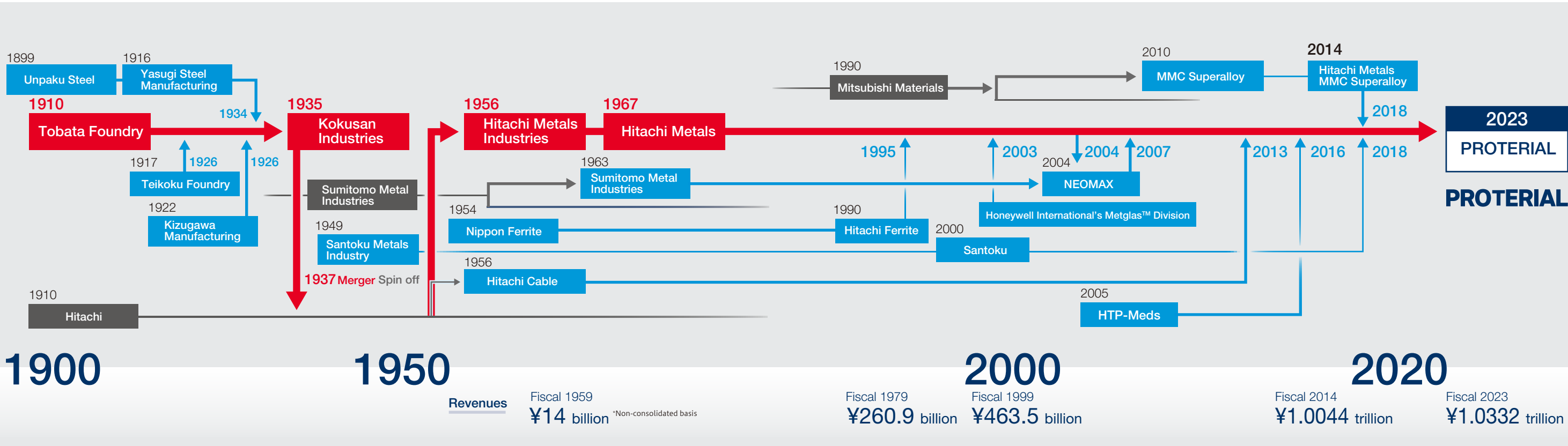


Milestones in Creating Value

Since the founding of Tobata Foundry in 1910, Proterial has unwaveringly “made the best quality available to everyone” through quality mass production in accordance with the needs of our customers. The Group’s orientation for selected high-quality products has been passed down for over 100 years, and from very early on, we expanded into the global market with the goal of manufacturing a wide range of products, which are favored by our customers. These achievements allow us to continue to make the best quality available to everyone to this day and build a brand that has gained currency around the world. Our extreme pursuit of quality is passed down not only through the development of original products that form the essence of Proterial, but also through the development of our valuable human resources. By providing high-quality products and services to people around the world, the Group is contributing to the creation of a prosperous society.



1910 Tobata Foundry

At a time when a modernizing Japan relied on imports for almost all of its industrial goods, Yoshisuke Ayukawa acquired malleable cast iron manufacturing technology and established Tobata Foundry, the predecessor of Hitachi Metals. In 1912, the company began manufacturing Gourd brand-black heart malleable cast iron pipe joints. The company later began to make products for other uses including shipbuilding, railways, and spinning machines, and orders grew steadily as the superior quality of these products was recognized. Business areas were diversified through mergers with Teikoku Foundry, which at the time was producing steel for steel rolling, Kizugawa Manufacturing, a producer of fittings, and steelmaker Yasugi Steel Manufacturing.

1935 Kokusan Industries

As the business expanded to cover heavy industries in general, Tobata Foundry changed its name to Kokusan Industries.

1956 Hitachi Metals Industries

Hitachi transferred its metals business with five originally Tobata Foundry plants (Tobata, Fukagawa, Kuwana, Wakamatsu, and Yasugi) to establish Hitachi Metals Industries.

1967 Hitachi Metals

Hitachi Metals Industries changed its name to Hitachi Metals. Through creative monozukuri and proactive mergers and acquisitions, the company went through a succession of changes and grew to become one of the world's leading materials manufacturers.

1995 Hitachi Ferrite

Merged with Hitachi Ferrite in 1995 to strengthen the soft magnetic materials business in response to increased demand for noise reduction in automobiles and electronics.

2003 Honeywell International's Metglas™ Division

Acquired the Metglas™ (amorphous metal materials) Division of Honeywell International of the United States. Strengthened the soft magnetic materials division as demand in the electronics segment grew for size and weight reductions, energy conservation, and electromagnetic noise reduction.

2007 NEOMAX

Established through the merger of the magnetic materials and applications operations of Hitachi Metals and Sumitomo Special Metals to manufacture high-performance neodymium magnets and ferrite magnets widely used in motors for automotive equipment and home appliances. With demand for automotive-use motors expected to grow, the merger was carried out in 2007 to integrate the magnetic materials businesses and to increase synergies.

2013 Hitachi Cable

Merged with Hitachi Cable, the Hitachi Group's electric wires and cable business, in 2013. As the pace of movement toward a low-carbon society accelerated, the merger was intended to create synergies in terms of technologies and sales in the automotive, electronics, and industrial infrastructure segments.

2014 Hitachi Metals MMC Superalloy

Made MMC Superalloy, with extensive experience and technological capabilities in aircraft parts, a subsidiary with a view toward global growth in core industries including aircraft and energy. Hitachi Metals' Okegawa Works established in April 2018.

2018 Santoku Corporation

Made a subsidiary to strengthen the production system for neodymium magnets and to optimize the material flow from raw materials to finished products.

2023 Proterial, Ltd.

In January 2023, the Company's name was changed from Hitachi Metals, Ltd. to Proterial, Ltd. Moving forward, Proterial will continue to contribute to the realization of a sustainable society by providing high-quality products and services.