

# Brief History

## 1919

- Established as Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Ltd.

## 1941

- At the start of the Pacific War, owned 36 ships, 260,108 deadweight tons.

## 1945

- At the end of World War II, owned 12 ships, 31,111 deadweight tons.

## 1948

- The rebuilding of the company fleet began with the refloating of the KIYOKAWA MARU, sunk during the war.



## 1951

- The Japan/Bangkok liner route was established as the first step toward resumption of service. Other principal liner routes were reopened or established later.

## 1957

- Work on developing an oil tanker fleet was begun with the building of the FUJIKAWA MARU.

## 1960

- Work on developing a specialized carrier fleet was begun with the building of the ore carrier FUKUKAWA MARU.

## 1964

- Merged with Iino Kisen Kaisha to become the core company of the Kawasaki Kisen group, capitalized at 9 billion yen.

## 1968

- “K” Line’s 1st full containership GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE put into the Japan/California service route.
- Started the Japan-Far East/Europe liner route with Maersk Lines of Denmark.
- Work on developing a specialized car carrier fleet was begun with the car/bulk carrier TOYOTA MARU NO. 1.



## 1969

- Service with containerships began on Japan/East Australia route.

## 1970

- Service with containerships began on Japan/Pacific Northwest Coast routes.
- Japan’s first PCC (Pure Car Carrier) TOYOTA MARU NO.10 was completed.

## 1971

- International Transportation Service, Inc. was established as the company’s overseas container terminal in Long Beach, California.

## 1972

- Service with containerships began on the Japan-Far East/New York route.

## 1974

- Joined the Far Eastern Freight Conference.

## 1975

- The ACE Group established as a consortium for the joint operations of containerships on the Japan-Far East/Europe route.

## 1983

- Became the ship managing company of Japan’s first LNG carrier BISHU MARU.



## 1986

- Began operation of an exclusive Double-Stack Train (DST) linking Long Beach, Chicago and New York.

## 1988

- Established “K” Line (Europe) Ltd. as a general agency in Europe.

## 1989

- Reorganized the ACE Group on the European route, and switched to a consortium with two overseas shipping companies.

## 1991

- In conjunction with the establishment of a dedicated DST network in North America, the Japan-Far East/New York all-water service was suspended.

## 1993

- “K” LINE Re-engineering Program started.
- “K” Line Maritime Training Corporation established in Manila.
- Contracts signed for building and chartering seven LNG carriers under the Qatar gas project.

## 1994

- Newly-built wide-beam/shallow-draft coal carrier CORONA ACE put into service.

## 1995

- Listing of Kawasaki Kinkai Kisen Kaisha, a subsidiary, on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

## 1996

- Joint ship assignment with Yang Ming Line of Taiwan started on the Japan-Far East/North America and Japan-Far East/Europe routes.
- “K” LINE Re-engineering Phase II started with a two-year period of 1996/97.

## 1997

- Trans-Atlantic Container Service (TASCO) jointly established with COSCO, with the participation of Yang Ming Line.
- The SR (System Re-engineering) project finished. The mainframe was replaced by PCs.

## 1998

- 5-year management plan New “K” LINE Spirit for 21 (New K-21) adopted.

## 1999

- Car Carrier Department receives ISO9002.

## 2000

- New Containership services, Asia/US East coast (via Panama), Asia/Mediterranean and Mediterranean/US East Coast, commenced, which completed our trunk service routes linking west and east.
- “K” Line Logistics Holdings, Inc. was founded. A first step for restructuring efforts of logistics business determined in New K-21.

## 2001

- Established “K” Line Group’s Environmental Policy.
- “K” Line Pte Ltd, Singapore, started business as shipping company.
- 1st over-Panamax containership GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE was built at Hyundai Heavy Industries, Ulsan.
- “K” Line, COSCON, Yang Ming and Hanjin (Senator) agreed to establish an alliance.

## 2002

- Launched Europe/Asia/U.S. West Coast Service with 5,500-TEU containerships.
- Acquisition ISO 14001 in recognition of Environmental Management System.
- Founded a new company “K” Line Total Logistics, LLC (KLTL) to promote “K” Line group companies logistics capabilities.
- Started a new 3-year management plan named “KV-Plan.”
- Established “K” Line (Japan) Ltd. for strengthening containership business activities in Japan.



## 2003

- Decided to place new orders for four 8,000-TEU containerships and five 5,500-TEU containerships.
- Founded a new company named Orient Sea Highway Services Co., Ltd. to participate in marine transport of cars in China.

## 2004

- Launched new management plan, “K” LINE Vision 2008.
- Ordered three new 300,000 deadweight ton super large ore carriers.
- Decided to place new orders for 145,000m<sup>3</sup> LNG carrier under a time-charter agreement with J&S Cheniere. The vessel will be our first solely owned and operated LNG carrier.
- Decided to place new orders for two 38,000m<sup>3</sup> fully refrigerated Ammonia/LPG carriers under a long-term time-charter agreement with Yara. These are our first contracts for this type of Gas carrier.

## 2005

- Concluded 20-year time charter agreement for three new LNG carriers for Tangguh LNG Project.
- A car carrier M/V Shanghai Highway with a capacity of 5,000 units of vehicles was completed at NACKS. This is our first shipbuilding project in China.
- KYH (“K” Line, Yang Ming, Hanjin) & PSA HNN set up a joint venture company, Antwerp International Terminal NV, to operate multiple berths at Deurgank Terminal, Antwerp. The opening was January 2006.
- Concluded a time-charter contract with Exxon-Mobil, the world’s biggest oil major, for a VLCC scheduled for completion in June 2007.

## 2006

- Delivery of a brand new 140,000 m<sup>3</sup> LNG carrier ARCTIC DISCOVERER for the Snøhvit Project.
- Started a revised interim management plan “K” LINE Vision 2008<sup>+</sup>.
- Foundation of “K” Line Logistics, Ltd. by merger of “K” Line Air Service, Ltd. and “K” Logistics, Ltd.
- Delivery of a new 8,000-TEU container vessel HUMBER BRIDGE which is the largest containership ever built in Japan.