

History

UNIQLO is the cornerstone of the business portfolio of FAST RETAILING CO., LTD., which was founded in 1963. The first UNIQLO store was opened in Hiroshima in 1984. Thereafter, UNIQLO opened a series of stores, mainly in roadside locations, and by 1997, it had become Japan's largest apparel chain store, with more than 300 outlets located throughout the country. In 1998, the Company opened its first store in the Tokyo area, and, as a result of its successful sales campaign for fleece products in October that year, a UNIQLO "boom" ensued. The Company is implementing the SPA (Specialty Store Retailer of Private Label Apparel) business model, which has enabled it to grow rapidly with high profitability. Especially in fiscal 2000 and 2001, UNIQLO reported rapid advances in performance, and sales topped ¥400 billion. Thereafter, though, the Company experienced several lean years, with

declining net sales and net income, but by shifting to expansion of its sales of women's apparel, performance recovered and the Company regained the ¥400 billion level of sales in fiscal 2006. UNIQLO began moving ahead with the opening of large-format stores with about 1,600 square meters of floor space in 2004. Overseas, following the opening of its first store in the United Kingdom in 2001, UNIQLO has since opened outlets in China (including Hong Kong), the United States, France, and Singapore.

To diversify its business base, the Company began acquisitions in 2005 and, subsequently, has acquired COMPTOIR DES COTTONIERS, a French women's apparel chain; PRINCESSE TAM.TAM, a French lingerie retailer; and companies in Japan, including CABIN, a women's fashion SPA, and footwear retailers ONEZONE and VIEWCOMPANY.

1940

1949.3

Men's Shop Ogori Shoji founded as a private enterprise in Ube City, Yamaguchi Prefecture.

1960

1963.5

Ogori Shoji Co., Ltd., established, with capital of ¥6 million, as a successor to the original business.

1980

1984.6

The first UNIQLO store specializing in casual clothing opened in Hiroshima (UNIQLO Fukuromachi store; closed in August 1991).



1985.6

The first UNIQLO roadside store opened. Following immediate success, the format was adopted as the new standard.



1990

1991.9

The Company's name changed to FAST RETAILING CO., LTD.

1994.7

The Company's stock listed on the Hiroshima Stock Exchange.

1997.4

The Company's stock listed on the Second Section of the TSE.

1998.2

The Head Office constructed in Yamaguchi Prefecture.



1998.10

The ¥1,900 fleece campaign attracted great public attention.



1998.11

The first downtown store opened in the fashionable Harajuku district of Tokyo.



1999.2

The Company's stock listed on the First Section of the TSE.

1999.4

The Shanghai Office established to further enhance production management.

2000

2000.4

The headquarters functions moved to Tokyo to promote merchandizing and marketing.

2000.10

Internet online sales business launched.

2001.9

UNIQLO's first overseas expansion began with store openings in London.



2002.4

UNIQLO Design Studio (current R&D Center) established.



2002.9

Opened first two UNIQLO stores in Shanghai, China.

2002.11

Started food business under the SKIP brand name (exited the business in April 2004).

2003.10

The cashmere campaign stimulated high consumer interest.



2004.1

Took an equity stake in Link International Co., Ltd. (now LINK THEORY HOLDINGS CO., LTD.), marketer of the Theory apparel brand.

2004.10

Opened the first large-format UNIQLO store in Shinsaibashi, Osaka.



2004.12

Established UNIQLO Design Studio, New York, Inc. design subsidiary to help strengthen the R&D function.

2005.3

Footwear retail chain ONEZONE CORPORATION (store names include FOOTPARK, etc.) became a consolidated subsidiary. (Currently GOV RETAILING)



2005.5

Obtained management control of NELSON FINANCES S.A.S., developer of the COMPTOIR DES COTTONIERS French casual clothing brand.



2005.9

Opened first UNIQLO store in South Korea (Seoul).

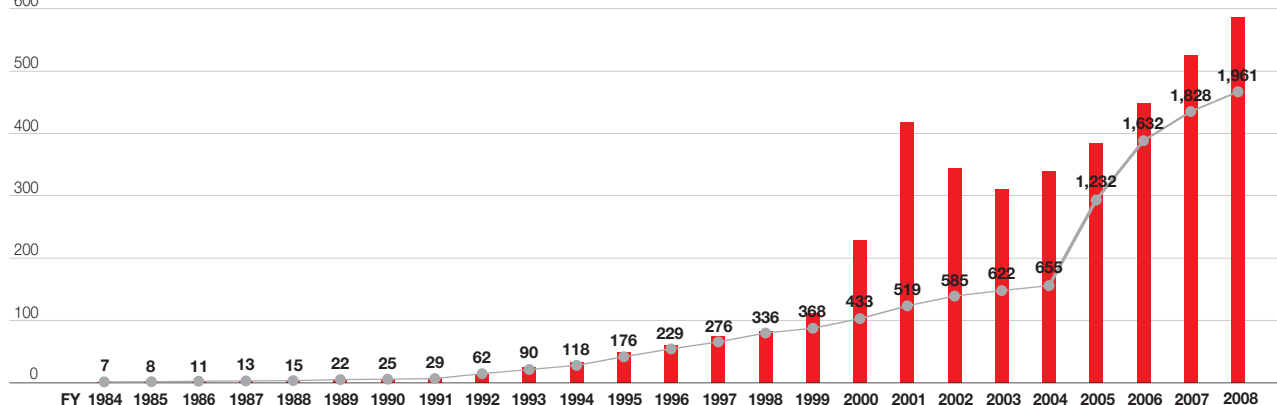
2005.9

Opened first store in United States (New Jersey).

Sales and Stores of FAST RETAILING Group

● Stores (including franchise stores) ■ Sales

(Billions of yen)
600



Note: On a consolidated basis from fiscal 2002.

2005.9

Opened first store in Hong Kong (Tsim Sha Tsui shopping district).

2005.9

Opened first women's inner wear specialty store, BODY by UNIQLO, in Tokyo's Ginza shopping district.



2005.9

Opened UNIQLO store in Ginza, Tokyo.



2005.10

Opened first UNIQLO KIDS store.

2005.11

Shifted to a holding company structure to strengthen UNIQLO operations and drive new business expansion.

2006.2

PETIT VEHICULE S.A.S. becomes a consolidated subsidiary developing the PRINCESSE TAM.TAM brand in France and other parts of Europe.



2006.3

Established G.U. CO., LTD. to develop low-priced casual clothing g.u. brand stores. (Currently GOV RETAILING)

2006.4

Invested in CABIN CO., LTD. to develop, design, and retail women's clothing (store names include ZAZIE, enraciné, etc.). (Became a consolidated subsidiary in August 2006)



2006.6

UNIQLO CO., LTD. formed a business tie-up to create a strategic partnership with TORAY INDUSTRIES, INC.

2006.9

Commenced UNIQLO All-Product Recycling.



2006.10

The first g.u. store opened in Ichikawa City, Chiba Prefecture.



2006.11

Invested in ladies' shoe specialty chain retailer VIEWCOMPANY CO.,LTD., which became a wholly owned subsidiary in February 2008. (Currently GOV RETAILING)



2006.11

UNIQLO New York Soho store opened in New York City as the first global flagship store, with 3,300 square meters of sales floor space.



2007.3

Opened the Kobe Harborland store, the largest UNIQLO store in Japan, with over 3,300 square meters of floor space.

2007.4

Opened T-shirt specialty store UT STORE HARAJUKU.



2007.10

First HEATTECH campaign spurred a huge surge in sales.

2007.11

Opened a global flagship store on London's Oxford Street.



2007.12

First UNIQLO store in France opened in Paris suburb, La Defense.

2008.8

Entry into Singapore in joint venture with Wing Tai Retail for UNIQLO business.

2008.9

Subsidiaries G.U., VIEWCOMPANY, and ONEZONE merged into newly formed GOV RETAILING CO., LTD.

2008.11

Conducted global sales campaigns for HEATTECH in five major cities overseas.



2008.11

Invested in joint venture CPAT (SINGAPORE) PRIVATE LTD., with the aim of developing a production base in Bangladesh.