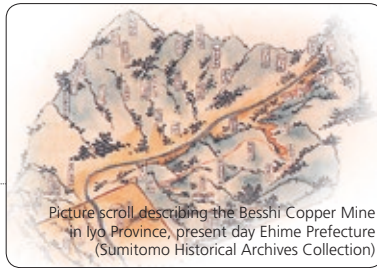


Sumitomo Forestry
founded

1691



Picture scroll describing the Besshi Copper Mine in Iyo Province, present day Ehime Prefecture (Sumitomo Historical Archives Collection)

1691

Started operations of Sumitomo family's Besshi Copper Mine and the management of the surrounding forests.



1975

Started the custom-built detached housing business

1894

Teigo Iba, the manager of the Besshi Copper Mine, creates the Large-Scale Reforestation Plan in the spirit of gratitude for nature's resources

1955

1955

Toho Norin Co., Ltd. and Shikoku Ringyo Co., Ltd. merged to form Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. and established a nationwide network to procure and sell domestic timber

1956

1970

1975

1986

2003



1956

Launched the timber import business



1970

Established PT. Kutai Timber Indonesia (KTI), in Indonesia and launched full-scale building materials manufacturing business focused on plywood



1986

Medium density fiberboard (MDF) production plant ramps up operations at Nelson Pine Industries Ltd. (NPIL), established in New Zealand



2003

Started housing business in the United States (Seattle, Washington)

Our History

The Sumitomo Forestry Group traces its origins back to the management of the forests neighboring the Besshi Copper Mine, which was opened in 1691. Over more than 320 years, the Group has expanded its scope of activities to accommodate the changing needs of the times, eventually assuming its present global business structure. Today, our pursuit of possibilities continues with trees. Based on our Corporate Philosophy and Action Guidelines, we are determined as a corporate group to be a model for sustainable growth.

The Large-Scale Reforestation Plan and the Beginnings of Sustainable Forestry

In the late 19th century, the forests surrounding the Besshi Copper Mine were in danger of being devastated after a long period of excessive logging and smoke pollution. The then manager of the mine, Teigo Iba, believed that "allowing this land to be degraded while moving forward with business made possible by its fruits runs counter to the proper course of our relationship with nature. We must return all the mountains of Besshi to their verdant state." With this belief, he launched the Great Reforestation Plan in 1894 to restore the forests that had been lost. Through a process of trial and error, and by implementing large-scale planting efforts of more than two million trees per year, the mountains were eventually returned to a state of rich greenery.



Teigo Iba
(Sumitomo Historical Archives Collection)



Mount Besshi ravaged by the impact of mining operations during the Meiji era
(Sumitomo Historical Archives Collection)



Mount Besshi today (Ehime)

2005



2005
Developed wooden beam rahmen structure method, a first in Japan (the Big-Frame construction method)



2007
Started elderly care business



2008
Started housing business in Australia



2016
Started housing business on the U.S. East Coast

2011

Started MOCCA (timber solutions) Business

➔ Page 20 Feature Story: MOCCA (Timber Solutions) Business

Started environmental energy business

Kawasaki Biomass Power Plant started operations

➔ Page 22 Feature Story: Wood Biomass Power Generation Business

2011

2016

Acquired roughly 31,000 hectares of forest in New Zealand, increasing total forest managed and owned in the country to about 36,000 hectares

➔ Page 24 Feature Story: Overseas Forestation Business

2016

2017