YUHO Sewing Machine Co., Ltd.: Fifty Years of History [Part 1]

Ever since YUHO was founded fifty years ago, the company has been wholeheartedly committed to spreading automatic sewing machines. During that time, the company has faced the challenges of various economic environments and industries while tapping into foresight, innovation, technology, and experience to grow to become an industry frontrunner with unparalleled development capabilities in the global arena. In addition, the company is continuing to develop and manufacture automatic machines for sewing production sites.

Below, we look back on YUHO's fifty-year history [Part 1].



Mr. Akihisa Takagi, founder of YUHO (around 1993)

1970

Akihisa Takagi founds YUHO Sewing Machine Co., Ltd. to start developing automatic sewing machines

In 1968, Akihisa Takagi established his own company Takagi Shokai and started a business centered on selling German-made automatic industrial sewing machines. In 1970, he reorganized this business into a limited liability company to found YUHO Sewing Machine Co., Ltd., which started developing *fully automatic overlock sewing machines* to automate the overlock sewing of cut edges.

At the time, because the Made-in-Japan automatic thread trimming sewing heads had not yet been developed, YUHO incorporated the sewing heads made by the German company PFAFF and the machine motors and needle control motors made by German company Efka into YUHO's automatic sewing machines.

Back then, there were still few electronic control devices available (moreover, even a single unit of the detection sensor was as large as a six-centimeter square), and there were problems with reliability and high prices. As a result, air control using compact air pilot valves developed by US company Humphrey Products—valves that were not affected by voltage, frequency, or other factors—was adopted to achieve a fully automatic control system.

1972

Exhibition of the first domestically developed sewing machine at the Nagoya Sewing Machine Show

At the Nagoya Sewing Machine Show, YUHO exhibited

its *fully automatic overlock sewing machine U-7201* as Japan's first domestically developed serging machine, and the product was extremely well-received.



Current YUHO logo





Office building photo (around 1993)

YUHO went on to introduce a number of products that would become the foundation of the company's current automatic sewing machine business, including the side pocket setter U-7404, the dart seamer U-7505, the dart & short seamer U-7505AB, and the short & edge seamer U-7905.

1977

The first export of YUHO's automatic sewing machine

In 1977, YUHO started shipping its dart & short seamer U-7505AB to South Korea, the first automatic sewing machine the company ever exported overseas.

1980

First-ever introduction of a computer sequence for a domestically developed automatic sewing machine

Around 1979, Tateishi Electric Manufacturing Company (currently OMRON Corporation) became the first Japanese manufacturer to develop a sequence controller (model SCY-P1). Based on this, YUHO announced the buttonholing Feeder U-7902/BH, the first automatic sewing machine to incorporate a control system using Tateishi's sequence controller. After that, numerous automatic sewing machines incorporating Tateishi's sequence controller were announced by YUHO, and these were then exhibited at the Central Japan Sewing Machine Show in 1982, a significant result for the company.

1981

Conclusion of a distributorship agreement related to US market with US-company COMPO

In 1981—thanks to an introduction by C. ITO TEXMAC Co., Ltd. (currently ITOCHU SysTech Corporation)— YUHO concluded a distributorship agreement for the US market with US-company COMPO Machinery Corporation. YUHO started exporting various models throughout the US





Showroom photo (around 1993)



market, including the grip seamer U-8100, shirt collar auto stitcher U-8110AP, and dart seamer U-8101.

1981 to 1988



U-7404 catalog

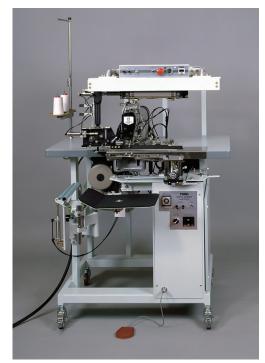


U-7505 catalog



U-8100 catalog

Exhibition of products at various trade shows around the world, including the IMB Show, Germany, as well as the Bobbin Show, USA



U-8101 product photo



U-8110 product photo



U-8103 product photo

Started in Hong Kong in 1981, YUHO exhibited products at various international sewing machine shows held worldwide, including South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the former Soviet Union. Collaborating with

U-8200 当て布付き胸ダーツが日秒/ 1本のレールで長さ調整可能な新機構付きレール採用! ■主な特長 ■主女格長 「個ポーツに必要なするの知時に行けができます。ス、含てもはなたを明た。月一方点にはい付けることができます。 空間的知識がなかため、表がは、プレートランは元を、非元さて自然はされ、取しから基からかますを自然を見します。 空心ドルスキールの表をして有効が表が、可能が正明があったがことはありません。 空心・センタイト(2回112 のなぶからに思いて、 空が一つが発展します。 空が一つが観虹がイドレールの交換により、ディヤ型ゲーツ、ペニア・ビデーンができます。 空が一つの発虹はがイドレールの交換により、ディヤ型ゲーツ、ペニア・ビデーンができます。

U-8200 catalog

■能 力 8時間で2,000シーム(1,000者)

●ガイドレールは、ご指定の型紙にて 製作いたします。

C. ITO TEXMAC Co., Ltd., YUHO also exhibited products at the shows in Sweden, Finland, Italy, Spain, and other countries. Especially, the company also repeatedly participated and exhibited its product range at the IMB Show in Cologne, Germany, and the Bobbin Show, USA.

1984

Exhibition of products at the 1984 Japan International Apparel Machinery & Textile Industry Trade Show in Nagoya

In 1984, JIAM '84 NAGOYA, Japan's first International Apparel Machinery & Textile Industry Trade Show, was held in Nagoya, and YUHO exhibited the grip seamer U-8100/54, dart seamer U-8101/PS, men's clothing breast dart seamer U-8200, and short seamer U-8103/900, all of which were extremely well-received.

1985 to 1991

From the recession caused by the strong JPYEN to the bubble economy, and the end of the bubble economy

At the time, YUHO rose with the tide, enjoying dramatically improved sales results starting in 1988, and the company recorded its highest profit growth ever during the period leading up to 1991. When the Nikkei Stock Average began to fall in 1990, it signaled the end of this booming economy, but people did not really start to feel the collapse of the so-called bubble economy until late 1991.

In 1990, YUHO participated in the US Bobbin Show a trade show in which the company exhibited products each time it was held—for the last time, and, following YUHO's peak in 1991, its results rapidly decreased.



YUHO Participation in JIAM Nagoya in 1984

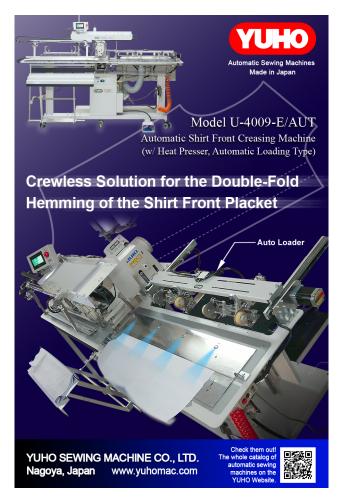
1986

Start OEM business for Brother Industries, Ltd. and Tokyo Juki Industrial Co., Ltd.

In 1986, YUHO concluded an OEM production agreement with Brother Industries, Ltd. regarding the automatic serging machine BAS-102 and with Tokyo Juki Industrial Co., Ltd. (currently JUKI Corporation) regarding the automatic dart seamer ADU-332.

YUHO produced around 600 units of the above two models during the eight years following that, making them significant hits.

(To be continued to JSN October Issue 2021)



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