

## What's in a name?

### Is Mitsubishi a single company?

No. "Mitsubishi" is a community that consists of a multitude of independent companies. The names of most - but not all - of those companies contain the word "Mitsubishi." And many of the companies use the three-diamond Mitsubishi mark. But none calls itself simply "Mitsubishi."

### You say Mitsubishi is "a multitude of independent companies." How do you define Mitsubishi and how many companies are there?

Here at [mitsubishi.com](http://mitsubishi.com), we speak of "Mitsubishi" in terms of the member companies subject to the company search on this website, which counts to approximately 600. But that is not the one and only definition of Mitsubishi. Another example of definition is the 27 members of the Kinyokai, the informal group of core Mitsubishi companies.

The independence of the Mitsubishi companies makes the "Mitsubishi" all but impossible to define and thus a clear number the group consists of cannot be stated. If we simply count the number of companies with "Mitsubishi" in their names existing worldwide, that would be around 500. But there are also hundreds of Mitsubishi companies that do not have "Mitsubishi" in their names.

### Why do the Mitsubishi companies undertake joint endeavors like the "mitsubishi.com" website if they are separate and independent companies?

The companies conduct their business activities independently and even compete with each other in many fields. But as they share the same founding management philosophy, they cooperate in areas of common interest, such as sporting, cultural events and public-interest activities. The companies established a Mitsubishi portal on the Internet, "[mitsubishi.com](http://mitsubishi.com)", to provide a broad perspective on "Mitsubishi."

### Do the Mitsubishi companies have some kind of decision-making body that determines overall policy for the companies?

No. But all the companies honor the Three Principles prescribed by Koyata Iwasaki, the Fourth and final president of the old Mitsubishi organization: 1. Corporate Social Responsibility, 2. Integrity and Fairness, and 3. Global Understanding through Business.

### How did the Mitsubishi companies begin?

The companies trace their origin to a shipping company started in 1870 by a man named Yataro Iwasaki. Yataro also established businesses in mining, shipbuilding, banking and insurance. He thus laid the foundation for the subsequent growth and development of the Mitsubishi  
Are there any cultural assets related to Mitsubishi?

The founding family of the old Mitsubishi organization left an impressive legacy of architecture and landscaping. They also made a vast collection of oriental art. Yanosuke Iwasaki, the second president and his son, Koyata Iwasaki, the fourth president together established the Seikado Bunko Art Museum, a priceless collection of Japanese and Chinese books and scrolls. And Hisaya Iwasaki, the third president established the Toyo Bunko, Japan's oldest library and research institution devoted exclusively to Asian Studies.

### **How do the Mitsubishi companies approach philanthropic activities?**

The companies undertake philanthropic activities individually, such as volunteer work and corporate donations. The companies also support wide-ranging efforts together, such as establishing joint charitable foundations and research organizations.

### **Where should an inquiry concerning a Mitsubishi product be sent to?**

Please contact the companies directly in regard to their individual products and activities (including information on job offers). If you are unsure which company to contact, please refer to our company listings page. If you have a question or message concerning this website, please click here to contact the mitsubishi.com committee office.

### **How are the Mitsubishi brand name and the three-diamond mark managed?**

The Mitsubishi companies established the Mitsubishi Corporate Name and Trademark Committee and an affiliated liaison group to establish and enforce guidelines for proper use of the brand name "Mitsubishi" and its mark "", and protect them from illicit use by third parties.

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*Source: <https://www.mitsubishi.com/e/history/about.html>*