### COMPANY PROFILE



2017-2018

## Delivering the blessings of probiotics to customers with sincerity

Probiotics are living microorganisms that have a beneficial effect on humans.

Since its founding, Yakult, motivated by its passion to deliver good health to as many people as possible, has been pursuing the great hidden potential of small natural life forms invisible to the eye.

As a result of that pursuit, we have created *Yakult* and a wide range of food, cosmetic and pharmaceutical products.

Today, customers around the world use our products that contribute to the health and happiness of people.

### Message from the President

## Yakult — Contributing to the Health of People Around the World

### President and Representative Director Takashige Negishi

Yakult founder Minoru Shirota, M.D., Ph.D. devoted his life to the research of preventive medicine. His goal was to contribute to the health of as many people as possible and he believed that the emphasis should be placed on preventing illnesses, rather than on treating illness once it develops. After many years of research, Dr. Shirota was successful in strengthening and culturing *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota, a strain of lactic acid bacteria that can reach the intestines alive and produce beneficial effects. This was in 1930, when the word probiotic did not yet exist.

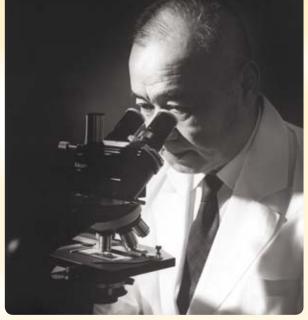
It has been about 90 years since Dr. Shirota's discovery and Yakult has continued to develop its business based on the philosophy of contributing to the health of people through pursuit of excellence in life science in general and our research and experience in microorganisms in particular. Yakult now operates in 38 countries and regions around the world, including Japan, with over 35 million of the company's dairy products consumed each day.

We treasure the passionate spirit of our founding and without compromising remain committed to developing our business with the future in mind. Our new world-class Yakult Central Institute, which serves as the base for our pursuit of excellence in life science, was completed last year after about ten years of construction work. In addition, reorganization and upgrades, as well as new construction and renovations are nearly complete at our production facilities, which form the company's foundation in safety and peace of mind.

In the food and beverages business, we continue to develop new products while diversifying our product lineup. As we further diversify operations, we are steadily strengthening our cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and baseball team businesses. We also note that management at Yakult maintains a high degree of transparency and has won strong praise for its corporate governance and stance on compliance.

Our goal is to contribute to the health of people around the world and we aim to become a well-respected and loved company that never flags in its efforts to be of benefit to people and society. We will continue in our efforts to make new breakthroughs in a variety of fields in the days and years ahead.

### 



### Minoru Shirota, M.D., Ph.D.

Former Chairman of Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd. and Director of the Yakult Central Institute

1899 Born in lida-shi, Nagano Prefecture, Japan.

- 1921 Entered the Medical School of Kyoto Imperial University.
- 1930 Received the degree of Doctor of Medicine.
- 1931 Obtained a license to practice medicine.

Dedicating his life to the study of intestinal bacteria and the promotion of preventive medicine, Dr. Shirota passed away at the age of 82 in 1982.

### Yakult created through the pursuit for a disease-resistant body

Minoru Shirota, who was the founder of Yakult and a doctor of medicine, began his medical studies at Kyoto Imperial University (now Kyoto University) in 1921. Around that time, Japan was still not prosperous, and so unsanitary conditions and malnutrition caused many people to die of infectious diseases, such as cholera and dysentery.

Disturbed by that reality, Dr. Shirota aspired to advance preventive medicine, which aims to help people avoid sickness, and started down the path of microorganism research. In his research, he discovered that lactic acid bacteria suppress harmful bacteria in the intestines. In 1930, he succeeded in strengthening and culturing a strain of lactic acid bacteria that can survive digestive juices, such as gastric fluid and bile, reach the intestines alive, and produce beneficial effects. This strain is now known as *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota.

Dr. Shirota then developed an inexpensive, good-tasting beverage, together with volunteers, so that as many people as possible could benefit from this lactobacillus, and released it under the trademark *Yakult* in 1935.

This was the beginning of the history of *Yakult*, which is now popular around the world.

### All of our business activities originate from Shirota-ism

Dr. Shirota proposed three ideas, including "preventive medicine;" "a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life," which stresses that strengthening the intestines, the place where nutrients are absorbed into the body, leads to a healthy and long life; and "a price anyone can afford."

We call these ideas Shirota-ism and they serve as the root of all our business activities.

In addition, Yakult delivers products directly to customers at their homes and other locations. This approach is rooted in Shirota's philosophy of emphasizing "sincerity" and "harmony among people." We deliver products with sincerity while conveying the ideas of "preventive medicine" and "a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life."

The passion of our founder has been handed down till today, without being swayed by the changing times.



#### Preventive medicine

Emphasis should be placed on preventing illness, rather than on treating illness once it develops.

#### A healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life

Human beings take in nutrition through their intestines. Making the intestines strong leads to healthy and long lives.

#### A price anyone can afford

The goal of providing *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota, which protects the intestines, to as many people as possible at an affordable price.

Shirota-ism, in addition to the above also includes ideas like "sincerity," "harmony among people," "honesty and kindness," "caring enough to broaden acceptance," and "caring enough to make home deliveries" as timeless and fundamental aspects of our business activities.

Yakult began with the passion of Dr. Minoru Shirota, who pursued preventive medicine.

With the passionate desire of our founder passed down into each of our businesses, we will continue to contribute to the health and happiness of people.

#### Expanding our business range and presence to help people around the world lead a healthy life

Yakult has expanded its product lineup to include fermented milk drinks and other foods and beverages, cosmetics for realizing healthy skin with the power of lactic acid bacteria, and pharmaceutical products mainly in the field of cancer. At present, we conduct research in pursuit of excellence in life science, develop products based on that research, manufacture products under advanced quality management, deliver products to customers at their homes and other locations via Yakult Ladies, and sell products at stores. These operations have expanded globally beyond the borders of Japan.

### **Corporate philosophy of Yakult**

We contribute to the health and happiness of people around the world through pursuit of excellence in life science in general and our research and experience in microorganisms in particular.



### Aiming to further microbiological research and life science, we will continue to deliver good health

Now, a look to the future. Yakult, in collaboration with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), a National Research Development Agency, is currently undertaking research on the International Space Station (ISS).

The aim of this research is to contribute to the health of astronauts and maintain and raise their performance by scientifically verifying the effects on immune function and intestinal environment of the continuous intake of probiotic (*Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota) on ISS. Another aim is to link the knowledge gained from this collaborative research to the development of probiotic research on the ground while establishing probiotics as the "ultimate preventive medicine" and contributing to the health promotion of people living on earth.

Yakult will continue to honor its roots in Shirota-ism and its corporate philosophy of "We contribute to the health and happiness of people around the world through pursuit of excellence in life science in general and our research and experience in microorganisms in particular" and deliver the irreplaceable joy of good health to people around the world.



Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota



International Space Station (ISS)

### Research and Development

## Dedicated to science — Opening up the possibilities of probiotics

Since its founding, Yakult has accumulated a vast store of knowledge on the profound world of microorganisms. In an enriched research environment, we will conduct more advanced research and create products that contribute more than ever to the health and happiness of customers.

**Cosmetics** 

Pharmaceutical

Research and development of ingredients

Produc easibili

esearc

#### Basic research Intestinal microbiota • Host defenses • Probiotics

Genomic analysis of microorganisms Discovery of yet-unknown intestinal bacteria, etc.

Yakult's research and development activities

## Linking research in life science to human health, with a focus on microorganisms

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The Yakult Central Institute is the nerve center of Yakult's R&D operations. As a leading-edge research facility in the field of probiotics<sup>\*</sup>, the Institute conducts research on beneficial microorganisms that can support and improve human health and aid in recovery, with a focus on research on intestinal microbiota that is grounded in the principles of preventive medicine and a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life.

The fruits of this research lead to the development of ingredients for food and beverages, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. In the field of food and beverages, the Institute conducts R&D for the benefit of human health, drawing on the extraordinary powers of microorganisms. In cosmetics, the Institute develops highly safe, effective ingredients based on dermatology, while in pharmaceuticals, the Institute is engaged in research to develop anticancer drugs and drugs related to cancer treatment.

\*Explanation of Terms Probiotics

Microorganisms that benefit people by improving the balance of intestinal microbiota.





Yakult Central Institute (Kunitachi, Tokyo)

## Leading in efforts to further microbiological research, and creating opportunities for communication

The Yakult Central Institute has seven buildings (Research Administration Building, Basic Research Building, Food Research Building, Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Research Building, Quality and Technical Development Building, Common Use Facility Building, and Energy Supply Building) with advanced research equipment and facilities. In addition, the Research Administration Building houses the International Conference Hall with a seating capacity of 320, and the Shirota Memorial Museum, which promotes a deeper understanding about founder Dr. Minoru Shirota and Yakult.

In this enriched environment, we conduct a wide range of research including basic research, applied research targeting food, cosmetic and pharmaceutical products, and an analysis business engaged in safety-conscious production and environmental protection. In addition, we are creating a forum for lively communication with researchers and customers from Japan and abroad and contributing to the development of science, technology, and society.



### Investigating the benefits of probiotics in Europe

The focus of research efforts at the Yakult Honsha European Research Center (YHER) in Ghent, Belgium is to determine what kind of action probiotics have on the health maintenance of people in Europe. By accumulating this data, Yakult aims to establish a research base that can deploy operations worldwide.



Yakult Honsha European Research Center for Microbiology, ESV (YHER) Research institute located in Technologiepark in Ghent, Belgium \*YHER is located on the first floor of this building.



### Effectiveness in reducing the risk of cancer and the development of infectious disease confirmed

Years of research have shown that lactic acid bacteria are beneficial in many ways. The probiotic *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota is a case in point. Intake of this strain has been demonstrated to reduce the risk of cancer by regulating immunity in the body, such as through maintenance and restoration of NK activity<sup>\*</sup>, which plays a vital role in immunity, and by ridding the body of harmful mutagens and other actions. Reductions in the risk of bladder, colon and breast cancer, among others, have been verified. *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota is also known to be effective in reducing the incidence and mitigating the symptoms of infectious diseases, such as infectious gastroenteritis caused by acute infantile diarrhea and norovirus infection.



Measuring viable bacteria counts





### Elucidation of the true state of intestinal microbiota

We have produced many results in our research on intestinal microbiota. The Institute was the first in the world to demonstrate that the bifidobacteria present in the intestines of newborns are transmitted from the mother. The Institute also demonstrated that segmented filamentous bacteria (SFB), which are intestinal bacteria present in a wide range of mammals, are involved in the induction of Th17 cells, a type of T cell that plays an important role in the immune system.

Yakult also developed YIF-SCAN<sup>®</sup>, a system that enables highly efficient analysis of intestinal microbiota<sup>\*</sup>. Based on genetic sequences unique to each species of intestinal microbiota, YIF-SCAN<sup>®</sup> selectively quantifies the bacteria, enabling rapid, highly precise analysis of a wide range of bacteria, from highly populous bacteria to those relatively few in number.

Automatic intestinal Flora Analysis System "YIF-SCAN" \*YIF-SCAN is a registered trademark.



Microorganism culture test

\*Explanation of Terms

#### NK activity

Natural killer (NK) cells work on the front line of the immune system for protecting the body from pathogens, viruses, and cancer, etc. NK activity refers to the intensity of the performance of NK cells, and it is nowadays recognized as a barometer of immunity.



### Probiotics on the front lines of medicine

One of our research accomplishments that is now utilized in the medical field is synbiotic therapy. Synbiotics combines probiotics and prebiotics<sup>\*</sup>, which function to help increase the beneficial bacteria in the intestines. Synbiotic therapy has been confirmed to inhibit postoperative infections and is attracting attention as an alternative treatment to the administration of antibiotics. Furthermore, it was found that synbiotic therapy has the effect of restoring immune functions and improving the nutritional state.



Analysis of intestinal microbiota using the multicolor FISH method

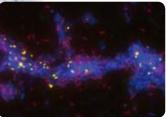


Image of bacteria(yellow) observed with the multicolor FISH method



### Efforts of the Development Division

### Linking accomplishments in basic research and commercialization research to product development

Our development division develops products by utilizing new food ingredients whose safety has been confirmed after basic and applied research. We also conduct technological development tests for actual manufacturing in the aim of establishing efficient, stable manufacturing technologies and conduct research for assuring product quality.

We are working hard to establish technology that will reduce our environmental impact by such measures as reducing usage volume and waste of packaging material for products. One example of this is our use in *New Yakult, New Yakult Calorie Half,* and *Yakult Gold* of a polystyrene shrink label of 20µm thickness that is more than 20% thinner than our previous labels.



### Contributing to the creation of high-quality products and environmental improvement by utilizing technology developed over many years

The Analytical Science Department engages in technological development for chemical analysis and microorganism analysis regarding foods, biological bodies, the environment, etc. These technologies are used for verifing safety of products, as well as environmental measurements and tests requested by outside organizations. In 1976, we received government approval as an analyzing and testing organization, and in 2016, we obtained ISO17025 ceritified testing establishment\*, an international standard that shows a laboratory's technical capability.

\*ceritification scope: VOC testing for tap water using HS-GC/MS

#### Intestinal microbiota

The complex microbial ecosystem composed of the microbes that inhabit the human intestines. The human intestinal tract harbors a thousand species of bacteria, numbering some 100 trillion individual organisms.

#### Prebiotics

- Food ingredients that satisfy each of the following conditions:
- 1) They are not broken down and absorbed in the upper digestive tract.
  - 2) They serve as a source of nutrition for beneficial bacteria living symbiotically in the intestine, promoting their proliferation.
- 3) They improve and maintain a healthy balance in the composition of intestinal microbiota in the intestine.
  - 4) They play a role in improving and maintaining human health. Some oligosaccharides and dietary fiber are known to be prebiotics.

### **Production**

## Pursuing the production of products that are safe, offer peace of mind, and are of high quality

Yakult produces dairy, cosmetic, and pharmaceutical products at our own plants. High quality is realized.

By ensuring safety, peace of mind, and high quality, we are enhancing the reliability of our products.



#### For Highly Reliable Production and Protection of the Environment

Each plant has acquired the certification or introduced the system listed below, and is working hard to improve product quality and produce products in an environmentally-friendly manner.

- ISO 9001: International product quality management system certification. A quality management system standard whose aim is to maintain and improve product quality. It specifies requirements regarding principles for the operation of an organization that conducts quality management, as well as methods for production and other tasks.
- ISO 14001: International certification for systems aimed at continuous improvement in environmental performance. An environmental management system standard whose aim is to minimize the effects of a corporation's activities on the environment. It stipulates that each organization should adopt the PDCA (Plan, Do, Check, and Act) cycle for continuous improvement and set their own goals and objectives.



HACCP food hygiene management system HACCP food ugliene and quality assurance

Yakult's own stringent quality



### Products are produced under stringent quality and hygiene control, with emphasis on preserving the health of the surrounding environment

Yakult manufactures products in an integrated production system that includes everything from ingredient preparation, cultivation, and blending to container molding, filling, packaging, and shipping.

Yakult has established its own stringent quality control standards for production. We conduct rigorous hygiene control and create products of high quality and safety. We also fully consider the health of the environment surrounding our production sites. We constantly undertake environmental conservation activities including the cleaning of nearby rivers, parks, and public roads, and reuse water discharged from factories to cool machinery.



### Daily Cleaning and Disinfecting

### Disassembling and washing parts, and checking their condition with our hands and eyes

At Yakult's plants, after being used machinery and pipes are disassembled into smaller parts and washed by hand every day. We check with our hands and eyes to ensure that everything has been washed and that there are no abnormalities such as scratches. We always clean and disinfect with meticulous care to maintain clean and hygienic conditions.



Disassembly and cleaning work



### Commitment to Quality Standards

## With meticulous checks, we provide highly reliable products to our customers

To improve product quality and ensure that customers can consume them with peace of mind, Yakult's plants have created and abide by their own unique quality control standards that integrate both HACCP and ISO 9001. In addition, safety is stringently checked with machine and human eyes.

Yakult's unique quality standards are also instituted in the production process. In the case of *Yakult 400*, they number in excess of 150 items.



Microorganism test

HACCP: Stands for Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point and is an international standard for food and pharmaceutical safety management. A hygiene management system whose aim is to ensure the safety of products by analyzing hazards, such as microbial contamination, that can potentially arise at any stage of the food production process, specifying critical control points that detail what kind of measures can be taken at what stage of the process to allow for the production of safer products, and monitoring them continuously.

\*The certification states of the plants of Yakult Honsha and Yakult Group companies are mentioned on p.35-36.



### Visual inspections by plant workers are included in the manufacturing process to produce high-quality cosmetics

Shonan Cosmetics Plant manufactures high-quality cosmetics containing moisturizing agents derived from lactic acid bacteria. We also produce our original moisturizing agents here, including S.E. (Shirota Essence) and a high molecular weight hyaluronic acid, and add them to our products. We carry out production under rigorous control while putting importance on visual inspections and adjustments by plant workers, and ship only the products whose quality and safety have been confirmed.

In the Beautiens Salon set up in the plant, we hold experiential plant tours for visitors.





### Developing a system that complies with quality control standards inside and outside Japan as a global oncology company

Fuji Susono Pharmaceutical Plant produces pharmaceutical products, such as *Elplat*, which is an anticancer drug used globally for treating colon cancer, etc., and *Campto*, which is an anticancer drug developed by Yakult. This Plant, which is inspected by foreign government officials, has developed advanced production systems that follow the strict Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP = Manufacturing and quality management standards for pharmaceuticals and other products) in Japan, the U.S., and Europe, and engages in the production of safe, high-quality pharmaceutical products.



### Production sites open to the public

Under the slogan "See the safety of our plants by taking a tour!" we are accepting customer visits at our dairy and cosmetic plants. We are enhancing our tour facilities with the goal of turning them into plants where customers can see for themselves how are products are made, and we attract about 250,000 visitors each year.



### **Nationwide Plants**

With 12 plants in Japan (as of the end of June 2017), Yakult delivers safe products that offer peace of mind nationwide. Yakult's plant network comprises Honsha plants and bottling companies.

#### Honsha plants (Dairy Products: 5, Cosmetics :1, Pharmaceuticals: 1)

Manufacture fermented milk products, such as *Joie*, *Mil-Mil* and *Sofuhl*, and types of concentrated Yakult, such as *Yakult 400* and *New Yakult*. There are also plants that produce cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.

### Bottling companies (5)

Fill plastic containers with concentrated product manufactured at the Honsha plants and produce *Yakult 400, New Yakult* and other products.



(ISO9001, ISO14001, HACCP)

Fuji Susono Pharmaceutical Plant (ISO14001)

# Meeting health needs with dairy products and various beverages

Yakult offers dairy products containing probiotics, such as *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota and *Bifidobacterium breve* strain Yakult, and functional foods and beverages developed through the pursuit of health benefits.

Yakult delivers good health to customers from these two product perspectives.

### Benefits of Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota and Bifidobacterium breve strain Yakult

- Promotion of Healthier Intestinal Activity and Improvement of Stool Condition Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota produces lactic acid, while *Bifidobacterium breve* strain Yakult produces lactic and acetic acids. These acids stimulate the intestines, and enhance bowel movements. Prevention of Proliferation of Harmful Bacteria Inside the Intestines
- Lactic and acetic acids produced by *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota and *Bifidobacterium breve* strain Yakult prevent harmful bacteria from multiplying.
- **Prevention of Intestinal Putrefaction by Inhibiting Production of Harmful Substances** When the activities of harmful bacteria are curtailed, harmful substances decrease, and intestinal putrefaction can be avoided.



Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota



*Bifidobacterium breve* strain Yakult



### Dairy products

### Offering Customers a Wide Range of Dairy **Products with Proprietary Probiotics**

Based on the principles of "preventive medicine" and "a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life," Yakult offers customers fermented milk drinks and fermented milks that were developed using Yakult's unique portfolio of probiotics, including Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota and Bifidobacterium breve strain Yakult.

The concept of probiotics, or the use of microorganisms that have beneficial actions in the intestines to maintain and improve health, has gained widespread acceptance around the world in recent years. Yakult has long embodied this approach through its pursuit of "preventive medicine" and "a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life." Going forward, Yakult will continue to explore the possibilities of probiotics. Broadening our focus from the intestines to the entire body, we will continue to contribute to the health and happiness of our customers.



### Reaches the intestines alive to improve the intestinal environment

Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota reaches the intestines alive and works to improve the intestinal environment. Yakult provides a wide range of products that enable customers to consume Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota continuously and conveniently. The best known of these product lines is the Yakult series. Each member of this product line clearly indicates its properties to respond to a wide range of health needs. The Joie series offers calcium, vitamin D and protein, in addition to Lactobacillus casei strain Shirota.



### Works in the large intestine to maintain intestinal health

Bifidobacterium breve strain Yakult, which reaches the intestines alive and is particularly beneficial for the large intestine, is another one of Yakult's original probiotic strains. Leveraging the action of Bifidobacterium breve strain Yakult, the Mil-Mil series provides a convenient way to replenish bifidobacteria depleted through aging and stress. The Mil-Mil series of yogurt drinks are a favorite of many.

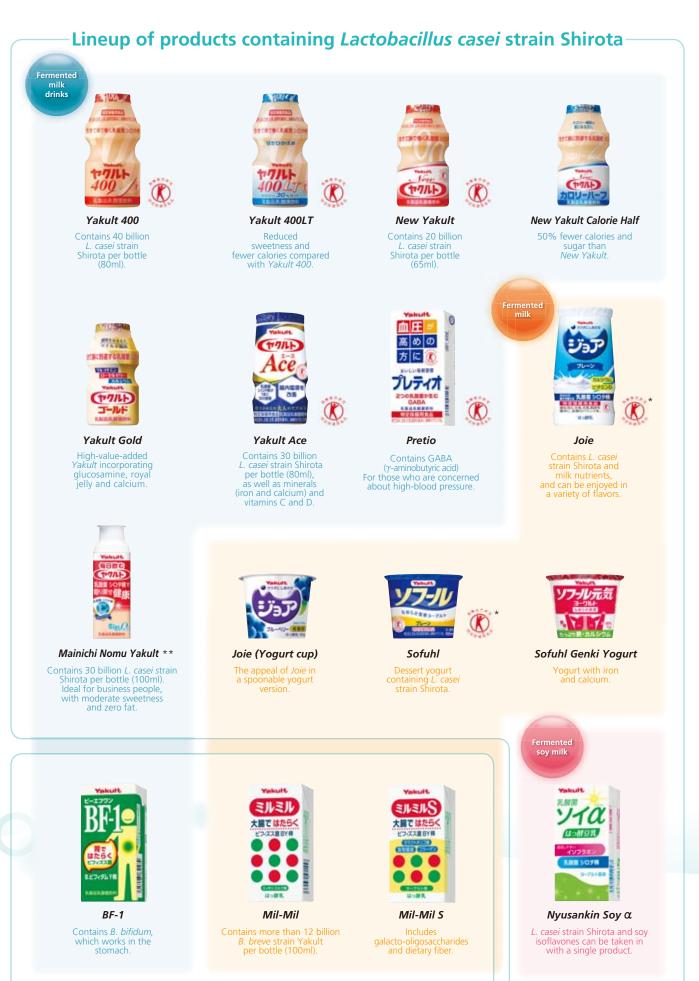
### **About Food with Health Claims**

for Specified Food products whose effects on maintaining and improving health have been scientifically verified and have been permitted to make health claims. The Japanese government evaluates the effects and safety of each product and authorizes the claims.

Food products intended for use as a nutritional supplement (vitamins, minerals, etc). As long as it is in accordance with criteria and wording specified by the government, functionality claims can be made without submitting an application.

Food products that display functionality claims based on scientific evidence and under the responsibility of the business operator. Before release, information on their safety, functionality, etc., is submitted to the government. However, they do not receive authorization from the government.





### Lineup of products containing Bifidobacteria

\*: Food for Specified Health Uses: *Joie* – plain only. *Sofuhl* – not including certain limited-time-only products. \*\*: Available at Seven & i Group stores nationwide.

### Functional beverages

### Supporting Modern People's Health with Functional Beverages



In functional beverages other than dairy products, Yakult applies the same principles of preventive medicine to develop a steady stream of products. These products respond to health concerns typical of modern consumers, such as lifestyle diseases and vegetable-poor diets. Today Yakult offers an incredible lineup of products. These include the *Toughman* series of nutritional drinks, the Food for Specified Health Uses approved *Bansoreicha* series of teas with guava-leaf polyphenols that suppress sugar absorption, and the *Milouge* series.

Yakult will continue to develop and furnish customers with products that offer good health from every angle. We are proud to offer functional beverages that closely match the needs of today's people.

### Lineup of Functional Beverages and Foods



Bansoreicha Suppresses the absorption of sugar. For those who are concerned about blood sugar levels.



*Milouge* series Lactic beverages with a refreshing flavor.



A genuine vinegar drink containing galacto-oligosaccharides.



**Toughman series** Contains Korean ginseng. An energy drink staple.



Chosei Tonyu Kokusandaizu Shiyo

Kokusandaizu Shiyo For those who are concerned about cholesterol.



Mitsuboshi Factory **CHOBI** Contains collagen and vitamin C. For women who never want to stop shining.



**Gyutto Kenko series** Delicious ways of taking ingredients that play a role in solving health issues.



Gokugoku Nomeru Omugi Wakaba A shiso leaf drink that is easy to drink with less of the characteristic grassy taste.



### Delivering products with sincerity and a smile

Yakult Ladies play a significant role for making the concepts of preventive medicine and a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life a realization.

Yakult Ladies deliver products to customers by hand in each region of Japan with the sincere wish for their good health.

### Home Delivery Activities

### From within a relationship of trust, Yakult Ladies explain the value of lactic acid bacteria and contribute to people's health

Yakult Ladies visit customers with a smile and deliver products with sincerity. Home delivery by Yakult Ladies began in 1963 with the introduction of the Yakult Lady System, a distribution method unique to Yakult. Based at 2,500 "centers" (sales offices) across Japan, some 35,600 Yakult Ladies are active nationwide (as of March 31, 2017), building on strong roots in their respective communities.

Based on assured relationships of trust, Yakult Ladies help customers understand the value of lactic acid bacteria, ensuring their continued enjoyment of the products they deliver. In this way, they help contribute to the health of the customers in their respective regions.





## To be trusted by customers as a local health advisor

Yakult Ladies deliver not only products but health information as well, aiming to earn the trust of customers as their "local health advisors." To this end, the Yakult Ladies participate in training programs provided by staff of the Yakult Central Institute and continually improve their knowledge by reading company newsletters, magazines, and training materials.

With respect to quality control, Yakult uses special home delivery boxes that allow for rigorous temperature control. In these and other ways, Yakult works hard to provide customers with products they can use with peace of mind.





### A healthy life for as many people as possible

So that customers can have access to our products anytime and anywhere in their day-to-day life, we are expanding into various markets and provide a broad range of opportunities to deepen understanding of our products.



### **Direct Sales Activities**



### Stores, vending machines, and meal services – Delivering products through a wide range of channels

Defining all sales modes, other than home delivery, as direct sales, Yakult makes its products available through supermarkets, convenience stores, and other everyday shopping destinations that customers frequent. Yakult also commits resources to sales through vending machines. These machines provide a lineup of products that only Yakult can offer, including juices, dairy products, and other beverages.

To have people in every age group use its products, from young children to the elderly, Yakult provides products to schools as well as medical and nursing-care facilities.



### Building the Customer Base



### Implementing various promotional campaigns so that customers consume our beverages with a deep understanding

To ensure that customers continue to understand the unique benefits of Yakult and enjoy our products, Yakult field staff\* offer proposals for the creation of sales spaces at stores and provide a wide range of information. Promotional staff\* introduce our products directly to customers and provide them with information on health.

Furthermore, we hold promotional events, mainly at larger stores, using videos, quizzes, and other tools to try to deepen customers' understanding of the importance of intestinal health and the functions of lactic acid bacteria.

#### **Promotional staff**

\*Explanation of Terms Field staff

Staff who visit stores and offer proposals on introducing products and promoting sales.

Staff who promote sales through sampling activities, based on assured knowledge of Yakult products and health matters.

### Cosmetics

## Putting the power of lactic acid bacteria to work for the skin

Through its investigations of the action of lactic acid bacteria, Yakult has developed unique moisturizing ingredients that promote healthy skin.

Yakult proudly delivers cosmetics incorporating these high-quality ingredients under the Yakult Beautiens brand. We will continue working to protect the health of the skin, body,

and mind, and discover new powers of lactic acid bacteria.

The Founding Principles of Yakult's Cosmetics Business "Internal and external beauty" and "Intestinal health is a direct factor in producing beautiful, healthy skin"

Regulate the conditions of the intestinal tract and the inside of the body with Yakult fermented milk drinks

Protect the health of the skin and the outside of the body with Yakult cosmetics

\*Explanation of Terms

#### S.E. (Shirota Essence)\*

This original skincare ingredient from Yakult is obtained by fermenting ingredients using lactic acid bacteria. This extract moisturizes and maintains the skin's mild acidity.

\*Extract from the fermentation of lactic acid bacteria and milk. Ingredient name: whey (2).

#### High molecular weight hyaluronic acid

This original hyaluronic acid from Yakult is an extract from lactic acid bacteria with powerful moisturizing action. Its high molecular weight and purity enable it to capture significant volumes of moisture.

### Developing original moisturizing agents derived from lactic acid bacteria, and delivering in-house produced cosmetics to customers

Yakult's involvement with cosmetics began when the Company's founder, medical doctor Minoru Shirota, turned his attention to the action of lactic acid bacteria in protecting the skin and mucous membranes. Guided by the insight that lactic acid bacteria beneficial to the (inner) body are beneficial to the skin as well, Shirota immersed himself in research. In 1955, Shirota developed S.E. (Shirota Essence)\*\*, a fermented lactic acid bacteria extract for skincare. Later, Yakult developed other original ingredients made from lactic acid bacteria, including high molecular weight hyaluronic acid\*\* and fermented bifidobacteria extract (from soy)\*\*. Yakult has also developed lamellar particles\*\*, focusing on the structure of the skin. Through efforts such as these, Yakult continues to investigate tirelessly the properties of lactic acid bacteria and the skin.

These cosmetics are unique in that they are developed by Yakult and produced at Yakult plants. To ensure that customers understand the value of our cosmetics and choose items best suited to their skin condition, the cosmetics are delivered by Yakult Beauty Advisors and Yakult Ladies, in the same way as our drinks.

\*All moisturizing ingredients



## Along with our products, Yakult Beauty Advisors deliver careful counseling and a sincere commitment to beauty

Yakult Beauty Advisors are beauty professionals who deliver Yakult cosmetics to customers and help support the health of their skin. After listening carefully and fully to understand customers' skin conditions and concerns, Yakult Beauty Advisors propose cosmetics and offer beauty advice that meets their needs. Yakult Beauty Advisors also provide facial treatments at some 500 beauty salons throughout Japan.





### Leading Series from Yakult Beautiens



Lactdew Series

## Moisturizing skin using the power of lactic acid bacteria

This Series enables even first-time users of Yakult cosmetics to experience the moisturizing power derived from lactic acid bacteria. Customers can choose from the fresh, mild sensation of a lotion or the powerful skin moisturizing action of a hyaluron gel.



**Revecy Series** 

## For bringing out the skin's potential and maintaining its health

The *Revecy Series* was born from a desire to support healthy, trouble-free skin. In addition to three original moisturizing agents derived from lactic acid bacteria. It contains three original moisturizing agents derived from lactic acid bacteria and original moisturizing agents derived from plants. The Series serves a range of needs, from basic care to special treatments.



### Parabio Series

## Moisturized skin through aging control

This Series is a favorite with our customers for its full-fledged aging control\*. Original moisturizing ingredients include lamellar particles for tighter pores, a healthier radiance, and greater elasticity.

\*Skin care tailored to the needs of each age group.

#### Fermented bifidobacteria extract (from soy)

High-quality soy (soy milk) is fermented using bifidobacteria to create an original ingredient with activated isoflavones. For fresh, firm skin.

### Lamellar particles

Lamellar particles closely resemble the structure of the intercellular lipids in the keratinous layer of the skin. These particles give the skin tighter pores, a healthier radiance, and greater elasticity, and help keep the skin moist and healthy.

### **Pharmaceuticals**

### As a global oncology company

Yakult, which has conducted its business under the concept of preventive medicine, has expanded its business fields to include therapeutic medicine and it has received wide recognition around the world in the field of anticancer drugs. Pharmaceutical products developed by Yakult are utilized by medical professionals around the world.

## Offering prescription drugs, non-prescription drugs, quasi-drugs, and medical devices

The pharmaceutical business of Yakult began when it started producing and selling products such as enzymes for food and pharmaceuticals in 1961. In 1967, we started selling prescription drugs, and later released non-prescription drugs, quasi-drugs, medical devices, and reagents, etc. At present, we are especially concentrating on the field of oncology<sup>\*</sup>. We sell drugs that

Yakult BL Seichoyaku

positively impact the lives of patients with cancer at many medical institutions inside and outside Japan, including the anticancer drug *Elplat I.V. Infusion* (Oxaliplatin), which has been approved as a firstline treatment for colorectal cancer in over 100 countries, and *Campto Infusion Solution* (Irinotecan hydrochloride trihydrate) developed by Yakult.

As for non-prescription drugs, we handle products developed through probiotics research, including the lactobacillus preparation *Yakult BL Seichoyaku* (now a quasi-drug), which was developed using *Bifidobacterium breve* strain Yakult and *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota.

Yakult is committed to expanding its pharmaceutical business activities with a focus on cancer and related fields by developing new anticancer drugs and generic pharmaceuticals, and exploring new areas such as molecular-targeted drugs and antibody preparations. Yakult will continue to contribute to the health and happiness of people around the world from the aspect of therapeutic medicine.

\*Explanation of Terms

S Oncology

### A branch of medicine that deals with cancers.

#### Adjuvant treatment

Treatment method where anticancer drugs are administered after surgery to prevent recurrence and aims to cure the cancer.

POLLEN MARIN





Efforts in the Oncology Field

Campto

Elplat

## Yakult provides comprehensive support on the front lines of cancer treatment through the provision of anticancer drugs and related pharmaceuticals

*Elplat* and *Campto* are used on the front lines of cancer treatment as anticancer drugs critical to the treatment of colon cancer. As the provider of these two drugs, Yakult has earned a sterling reputation in Japan and worldwide for its achievements in the field of gastrointestinal cancers.

*Elplat* was synthesized in Japan in 1976 and subsequently developed in Europe. In Japan, Yakult handled the development, obtaining marketing authorization in March 2005 and launching sales in Japan in April of the same year. In 2009, its use as an adjuvant treatment\* for colon cancer was added to its list of indications. We widened the application of *Elplat* in the treatment of pancreatic cancer in combination with *Campto* and other drugs in 2013. Since we obtained approval for an advanced/recurrent gastric cancer indication in March 2015 and an adjuvant treatment for stomach cancer indication in November 2015, in combination the indication became stomach cancer.

Yakult developed *Campto* as an original product in 1983. In Japan it is used widely as a treatment for colon, lung, ovarian, uterine, cervical, and gastric cancers, among others. Like *Elplat*, *Campto* was approved for use in the treatment of pancreatic cancer in combination with other drugs.

In addition, Yakult sells generic drugs including *Gemcitabine for I.V. Infusion Yakult, Cisplatin I.V. Infusion MARUKO, Imatinib Tablets Yakult,* and *Docetaxel I.V. Infusion Yakult.* Yakult also offers a range of drugs in fields associated with cancer, such as *Levofolinate for I.V. Infusion Yakult,* which reinforces the action of anticancer drugs, and *Zoledronic Acid for I.V. Infusion Yakult,* which reduces bone pain caused by the spread of cancer to the bone and multiple myeloma and also prevents fractures.



### Yakult provides a wide range of information, to spread the adoption of standard treatments that will lead to an improvement in the quality of medical care

In order for every patient to receive medical services that are fair and of higher quality, it is important to disseminate standard treatments that grow out of accumulated evidence (scientific basis). Yakult offers information to a broad range of people, including medical professionals, from various aspects.

Some 170 Yakult medical representatives (MRs), possessing high levels of specialized knowledge, visit the front lines of medicine. These MRs not only introduce Yakult products but also disseminate information on various treatments. Our Customer Service and Product Inquiries Office, opened in 2009, responds to inquiries from medical professionals and patients alike. We also sponsor symposiums, where participants can gather the latest information on the status of standard treatments around the world.

Yakult disseminates information to patients and their families to help them acquire a deeper understanding and knowledge about disease and treatment through easy-to-understand patient information pamphlets and websites.



Corporate exhibition booth at the meeting of the Japan Society of Clinical Oncology



Seminar hosted by Yakult

### International Business

## Health and happiness for people around the world

Yakult, first created in Japan, is now popular in countries and regions throughout the world. We will continue delivering good health to as many people as possible, with the basic philosophy of local production and local sales.

## Half a century has passed since we embarked on our overseas expansion, and today our network covers 38 countries and regions

Yakult began its overseas expansion in 1964, guided by founder Minoru Shirota's vision of "protecting the health of people around the world." Beginning with Yakult Taiwan Co., Ltd., Yakult soon expanded its network throughout Asia, Oceania, the Americas and Europe. Today Yakult conducts sales in 38 countries and regions including Japan, and operates 28 overseas business locations. Outside Japan, over 45,800 Yakult Ladies deliver products to customers, some 639,600 stores handle our products, and approximately 28 million Yakult dairy products are consumed per day. (As of December 31, 2016. Number of Yakult dairy products consumed per day: Average for 2016)

Going forward, Yakult will continue to work to convey the value of Yakult probiotic drinks to people around the world. We are steadily widening the ring of Yakult consumers, continually pursuing the achievement of our mission to contribute to the health and happiness of people around the world.



## Aiming to contribute to better health as a leader in probiotics

We believe that people worldwide have a common desire for good health. We also believe that preventive medicine and a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life are ideas that resonate around the world.

Yakult aims to deepen people's understanding of *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota, with which we aim to make the concepts of preventive medicine and a healthy intestinal tract leads to a long life a realization, and have as many people as possible continue to regularly consume it. With that hope, we are conducting activities to convey its value through home delivery, store sales, and other channels where we can come in contact with customers. We also actively gather evidence of the action of probiotics in supporting people's health, and provide health information according to the lifestyles and dietary habits of each country and region.





### Becoming a company that is loved and trusted irrespective of national borders

Yakult aims to be loved in the local community and to bring high-quality products to customers everywhere.

Yakult is proud of its local focus, creating production and sales environments and training personnel with strong roots in each community. This principle guides us as we establish plants and offices around the world. We also deploy our unique sales system of home delivery by Yakult Ladies to countries and regions worldwide.



June 2015: Wuxi Plant in China.



California Plant, USA



Wuxi Plant, China

## Yakult, a Global **Brand That is Loved** Worldwide

Under the slogan of "Propagate the message of Yakult, and spread the joy of health," Yakult is actively working to convey the value of probiotics to people around the world and advance the globalization of its operations.

The Americas



Mexico



Brazil



USA











The Americas

Belgium



Ireland



Germany



Austria

UK



Italy



country and region.

Indonesia

3.20

Australia

India



UAE



China (Guangzhou)



Malaysia



China (Shanghai)



Vietnam



China (Beijing)

Yakult COMPANY PROFILE 2017-2018

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Yakult, which hopes for the health of people as well as the earth, promotes a broad range of activities for fulfilling CSR (corporate social responsibilities), with the basic policy of "All of us in the Yakult Group will strive through corporate activities based on our corporate philosophy to earn the trust of all the Group's stakeholders and promote mutually beneficial relationships with all stakeholders."

### Measures to Ensure Trust To Promote Transparent, Sound Corporate Management

#### Corporate Governance

2 0

The Yakult Group's basic approach to corporate governance is "devote thorough efforts to steady business development centered on core business operations and strive to maintain a sound financial position by promoting highly transparent management functions." Our aim is to enhance society's trust in us as a business and bolster the value of our brand, gaining the high regard of all stakeholders and developing in a sustainable manner.

We have taken a number of specific measures to improve our corporate governance functions still further. First, we have strengthened the decision-making and supervisory functions of the Board of Directors. Second, we have clarified the lines of responsibility in the execution of business matters. Finally, to raise the efficiency of each of these functions, Yakult has introduced a system of executive officers. To raise the efficiency of management activities and speed up decision-making processes, Yakult has established a Management Policy Council. This council is composed of representative directors, division heads and statutory auditors. We have also created an Executive Officers Committee, composed of executive officers and statutory auditors.

### Compliance

To provide criteria for correct action in business activities, Yakult has established the Yakult Ethical Principles and Code of Conduct. Yakult continually updates them to ensure their effectiveness with the changing times, and circulates them actively among all employees of the Yakult Group.

In organizational terms, a compliance officer is appointed for each department and business location. This officer is tasked with verifying that daily operations are conducted in an appropriate manner.

Yakult has established other bodies for specific purposes. A Compliance Committee, composed of outside experts, surveys overall corporate activities from a compliance perspective, offering opinions and suggestions on a wide range of issues. In addition, a Corporate Ethics Committee, composed of mainly outside experts, strengthens activities to eliminate influences from antisocial forces and reinforces monitoring for that purpose.



### Communication activities Introducing the Current Situation of Yakult to Stakeholders

### For Shareholders and Investors

In investor-relations (IR) activities, Yakult publishes the information investors need to make informed investment decisions in a timely, fair and continuous manner.

In addition to holding briefings on our financial results and businesses for analysts, Yakult promotes understanding of its operations through tours and individual interviews. Our website is filled with useful IR information. In addition to annual reports and shareholder bulletins, the Yakult website offers long-term financial data. Yakult works hard to provide shareholders and investors with the vital information they need.

#### IR information http://www.yakult.co.jp/english/ir/



Annual Report

#### For Customers and Employees

Yakult disseminates information on its operations through a wide range of media, including the Yakult CSR Report, our website, and various company and Group newsletters, among others. We strive to keep customers and employees alike apprised of the current state of Yakult at all times.

Yakult CSR Report 2016 received the Excellence Award in the Environmental Report Category at the 20th Environmental Communication Awards.



Yakult CSR Report



Personnel training and working environment improvement Realizing Comfortable Workplaces

### where Employees can Excel

### Personnel Training

Group employees benefit from a wide range of training programs. We have employees think about "the spirit of our founding-Shirota-ism" and undergo initiative training. In addition, we provide employees with group training and correspondence training opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills required for particular roles at each job level.

### Improving the Workplace Environment

In 2012, Yakult was recognized as a company supporting child raising by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and is therefore permitted to use the "Kurumin Mark." Yakult supports employees who are raising children, through measures such as promoting the taking of childcare leave by male and female employees and the introduction of shorter work hours for employees with small children.

Yakult strives in other ways to create an environment that is easy to work in, in consideration of employees' wide range of lifestyles. For example, employees can take leave to celebrate their anniversaries, or to pursue volunteer activities.



### Promoting the Further Career Advancement of Female Employees

Yakult considers the career advancement of female employees an important issue in its human resource strategy. We drafted an action plan in accordance with the Act on Promotion of Women's Participation and Advancement in the Workplace (enforced in April 2016) and have summarized our basic approach as follows.

- 1. Promote optimal human resource allocation based on ability, ambition and aptitude, regardless of gender
- 2. Improve the workplace environment so that career-oriented women can maintain a balance between work and family

3. Establish clear numerical targets and draft an action plan The percentage of women in management positions was 6% (as of March 2017, 44 women among a total of 730 people in management) and has recently been trending upward. Going forward, we will expand and enhance our systems offering a sustainable balance between work and home life not only for existing female managers but also to increase the number of women at the assistant manager level who are candidates for managerial positions. We will also promote use of a shortened work hour system for employees with small children as well as the Career Course Switch System to achieve this goal.

### Round-table Meetings for Childcare Leave Takers Prior to Returning to Workplaces

Yakult holds round-table meetings for employees who take childcare leave so that those who have completed their leave can return to work with peace of mind and fulfill their potential while balancing work and childcare. The round-table meetings serve as a platform for the Human Resources Department to provide diverse kinds of information and to exchange ideas with employees who have already achieved a good balance between work and childcare, and encourages the realization of an efficient style of work.

In addition, Yakult has introduced a shortened working hour system for when childcare leave takers return to work, and allows the system to be used up until the child reaches the fourth year of elementary school, which is above and beyond the legal requirement of cutoff when the child turns three. This has helped facilitate an environment that enables employees to balance work and childcare with peace of mind over the long term.





### The Yakult Basic Policy on the Environment

Yakult Honsha established an organization for environmental measures in 1991, and enacted the Yakult Basic Policy on the Environment for the entire Yakult Group in 1997. We have also set forth our environmental philosophy, which reads, "Yakult understands that protecting the earth's environment is one of the most important aspects of coexistence with society and it is committed to considering the need to protect the environment in all of its corporate activities," and have specified an environmental action agenda made up of 7 provisions, including "We shall promote the reduction of environmental burdens considering not only the environment but also biodiversity, for all business activities."

In accordance with the Basic Policy on the Environment, we have drafted new versions of the "Yakult Environmental Action Plan" at three-year intervals since fiscal 2001, and all the Yakult Group's business units have been moving ahead with measures to reduce the Group's environmental impact.

#### Yakult Sustainable Ecology 2020

Yakult has framed its image for the environment it aims to achieve over the long term in the form of Yakult Sustainable Ecology 2020. It describes the future vision of Yakult with 3 elements, including the realization of a low-carbon society, and emphasizes coexistence with stakeholders and the development of a sustainable society.

#### Efforts to Preserve the Earth's Environment

On May 22, 2017, proclaimed the "International Day for Biological Diversity" by the United Nations, the Yakult Group participated in Green Wave 2017, a worldwide tree-planting campaign. The Group planted trees in 14 locations throughout Japan.

Since fiscal 2008, Yakult has supported the Children's Forest Program of The Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement-International (OISCA). OISCA is an international NGO working to promote rural development, human resource development, and environmental conservation mainly in the Asia-Pacific region. The Children's Forest Program is for promoting the greening of the earth while cultivating a feeling of affinity for nature and a desire to treasure the environment through activities that involve the children themselves in the planting and nurturing of seedlings at school grounds and adjacent land. The program was started in 1991 and has spread to 4,891 school in 36 countries and regions as of March 31, 2017.





### Provision of health-related information Delivering Good Health along with Knowledge Unique to Yakult

Yakult publishes health information through a wide range of media. In addition to the health information journal *HEALTHIST* (launched in 1976) and the Yakult website, Yakult publishes videos and printed matter to generate interest in and inform the public about probiotics. Through our video library on health matters, we provide information on health to a broad audience, spreading the availability of accurate health information.



Health information journal HEALTHIST



### Promotion of science and technology Advancing Research on Intestinal Flora

#### Symposium on Intestinal Flora -

In 1992, we established the Yalult Bio-Science Foundation (a public interest incorporated foundation since 2014) for actively promoting and supporting research on the relationships between intestinal flora and human health. Its activities consist of support for intestinal flora research, and it also holds the annual Symposium on Intestinal Flora, inviting the most advanced researchers from in and outside the country, in an effort to spread and promote intestinal flora research.



International Yakult Symposium -

From 1996, we have held the International Yakult Symposium hosted by Yakult Europe. The symposium is attended by a wide range of researchers, from basic researchers to medical researchers in clinical settings, from countries around the world, especially Europe. At sessions, lectures are presented from diverse viewpoints about intestinal bacteria and probiotics. Many reports have been presented about the effectiveness of *Lactobacillus casei* strain Shirota for various symptoms.

Yakult holds these kinds of academic symposiums all over the world and supports research activities that contribute to people's health.



(Photo provided by Andreas Franke - panabild.de)

### Relations with local communities To Deliver Health, and Watch over Local Community

### **Courtesy Visit Activities**

In addition to delivering products, Yakult Ladies check up on elderly persons living alone to confirm their well-being and spend some time chatting with them. The Yakult Group has been conducting this activity since 1972. A voluntary action of a single Yakult Lady led to this activity, inspiring retailers, local social workers, and even municipalities, and now these Courtesy Visit Activities have spread nationwide. At the request of about 130 municipalities across Japan, about 3,000 Yakult Ladies visit the homes of approximately 41,000 elderly people. Since September 2005 we have presented flowers and a message card to elderly people on Respect for the Aged Day as part of our "Courtesy Visit Activities."

Overseas, Korea Yakult Co., Ltd. has been conducting checks to confirm the well-being of some 30,000-elderly people living alone.



### Community Safety Watch and Crime Prevention Activities

Being well positioned to observe every corner of their sales areas during daily delivery rounds, Yakult Ladies contribute to communities' safety and peace of mind by participating in crime watch and other activities undertaken in cooperation with approximately 800 local governments and police units as well as other local organizations around Japan.

As a result of these community safety watch and crime prevention activities, there have been cases in which a Yakult Lady felt something abnormal at a customer's house and reported it to the police, which led to the customer's rescue. These activities are firmly rooted in each community, and as of March 2017, about 25,000 Yakult Ladies contribute to the safety and peace of mind of communities.



### Establishment of Daycare Centers for Yakult Ladies that are Open to the Public ———

The Yakult Group supports women's advancement in society and supports the creation of a pleasant working environment for Yakult Ladies from diverse perspectives. One of these is the running of daycare centers that have been set up inside marketing companies nationwide, a program that began in the 1970s. Approximately 7,900 children were using approximately 1,200 daycare centers as of the end of March 2017. In addition, 59 of the daycare centers in certain regions are open to the public so that children from surrounding areas can also attend.



### Dispatching Lecturers

Since 2008, Yakult has been dispatching lecturers, primarily to elementary schools, to give lectures on the topic of "early to bed, early to rise, eating breakfast and emptying your bowels in the morning" as part of food and nutrition education. Using models and picture cards, employees of Yakult Honsha branches and Yakult sales companies provide the lessons, explaining the importance of the intestines in absorbing nutrients from food, discerning intestinal conditions from stool, and the action of lactic acid bacteria in the intestines. More than 200,000 people participated in approximately 3,000 lecturers in fiscal 2016. For this activity, we received an Honorable Mention from the Judging Committee of the "Awards for Companies Promoting Experience-based Learning Activities for Youth" sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Technology in 2015. We also offer these lessons overseas in eight countries and regions.



#### **Plant Tours**

In order for people to gain a better understanding of Yakult and its products, each of Yakult's plants accept tours. In fiscal 2016, about 250,000 people visited our dairy product and cosmetic plants in Japan. Overseas, many of our plants offer tours and about 490,000 people visited those plants.



### Running a Pavillion at KidZania

Yakult Indonesia has been running a pavilion at KidZania Jakarta, a vocational experience theme park for children, since it opened in 2008. The purpose of KidZania is to have children to experience the work of researching lactic acid bacteria and get them interested in science to promote people's health. At present, about 120 children visit the Yakult Pavilion



each day. KidZania pavilions are also being run in Japan, Brazil, and Singapore.



### Promotion of sports

### Spreading the Appeal of Sports to Many People

### Contributing to Society Through Baseball

Games played by the Tokyo Yakult Swallows are enjoyed by many fans. Through their games, we are working to invigorate professional baseball and help promote sports in Japan. In the offseason, the Tokyo Yakult Swallows hold baseball clinics at various locations in cooperation with the nationwide marketing companies. These clinics are for primary and junior high school aged children with the aim of getting them to experience the enjoyment of sports and the preciousness of good health through exchanges with professional baseball players. The Tsubame Sports Promotion Association also holds baseball clinics led by former members of the Swallows.



Tokyo Yakult Swallows baseball clinic

### Other Contributions to Society Through Sports

Yakult also has track and field and rugby teams. Yakult employees are enthusiastically engaged in a wide range of sports.

Yakult's track and field team made excellent showings in longdistance relay races and marathons. In the 2016 season, our rugby team finished in 8th place in the Top East League Division 1.

Yakult also supports and promotes bound tennis, a sport invented in Japan, as part of its efforts to encourage lifelong sporting activity. Yakult is also an ardent supporter of aquatic sporting events. Since 2005, Yakult has been sponsoring the FINA World Championships and the FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) as an official partner of the International Swimming Association (FINA: Fédération Internationale de Natation).

In Japan, as an official partner of the Japan synchronized swimming team since 2006, and as an official sponsor of the Japan swimming team since 2014, Yakult has been providing its drinks at competitions and training camps. In 2017, Yakult became an official partner of the Japan swimming team and has contributed to the further spread and development of swimming competition through its support for all five sports of water polo, diving, long-distance swimming, in addition to synchronized swimming and competitive swimming.



13th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) Windsor 2016

Overseas, Yakult S/A Ind. E Com. (Brazil) has supported the promotion of baseball. The company manages a baseball stadium in the suburbs of São Paulo and, in cooperation with the Brazil Baseball Federation, supports the Baseball Academy, which is managed by the Federation. Also, Yakult has sponsored the Yakult Cup Youth Baseball Tournament, as an activity to spread baseball. During the tournament, Yakult products are provided and the importance of training the body through baseball and maintaining a healthy intestinal environment are conveyed.

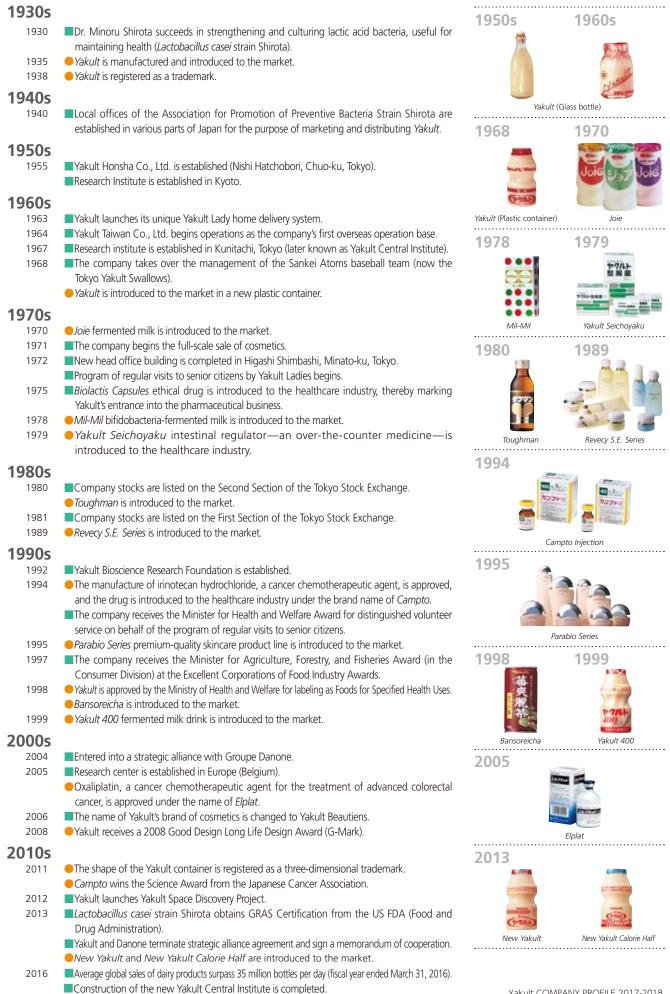
In addition, Yakult Deutschland GmbH, as an official partner and supplier of the Olympic Training Centre Bavaria, Germany's largest Olympic training facility for athletes, began supplying *Yakult* from September 2011. In 2015, we also started to collaborate with the Olympic Training Centre Hessen.



Yakult Cup Youth Baseball Tournament sponsored by Yakult S/A Ind. E Com. (Brazil)

## **History**

\*The products, companies, organizations, etc., listed in this company history have been displayed using the names that they had at the time.



## **Profile**



#### **Overview of Yakult Honsha**

Corporate name:	Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd.	
Date founded:	1935	
Date incorporated:	April 9, 1955	
Head office:	1-19 Higashi-Shimbashi, 1-chome, Minato-ki	
	Tokyo 105-8660, Japan	
	Telephone: 03-3574-8960	
Paid-in capital:	¥31,117.65 million	
Annual account settlement date:	March 31	
No. of employees:	2,860 303 employees temporarily assigned and 133 contract employees (as of March 31, 2017)	
Main banks:	Mizuho Bank, Resona Bank,	
	Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ	

#### **Principal Business Activities**

Manufacturing and marketing of food and beverage products, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and others

**Principal Subsidiaries**  Yakult Food Industry Co., Ltd. Yakult Materials Co., Ltd. YBC Co., Ltd. Yakult Kyudan Co., Ltd.

Yakult Health Foods Co., Ltd. Yakult Pharmaceutical Industry Co., Ltd. Yakult Support Business Co., Ltd. Yakult Life Service Co., Ltd.

Yakult Corporation Co., Ltd. Yakult Asset Management, Co., Ltd. Yakult Logistics Co., Ltd. Yakult Management Service Co., Ltd.

#### **Business** Performance

Net Sales and Income (Consolidated)	March 2013	March 2014	March 2015	March 2016	March 2017
Net Sales	319,193	350,322	367,980	390,412	378,307
Operating Income	23,068	32,026	34,898	40,057	37,281
Ordinary Income	29,424	39,535	45,608	50,629	49,370
Net Income attributable to owners of the parent	16,379	22,543	25,056	28,843	30,154

(Unit: million yen)

Branches

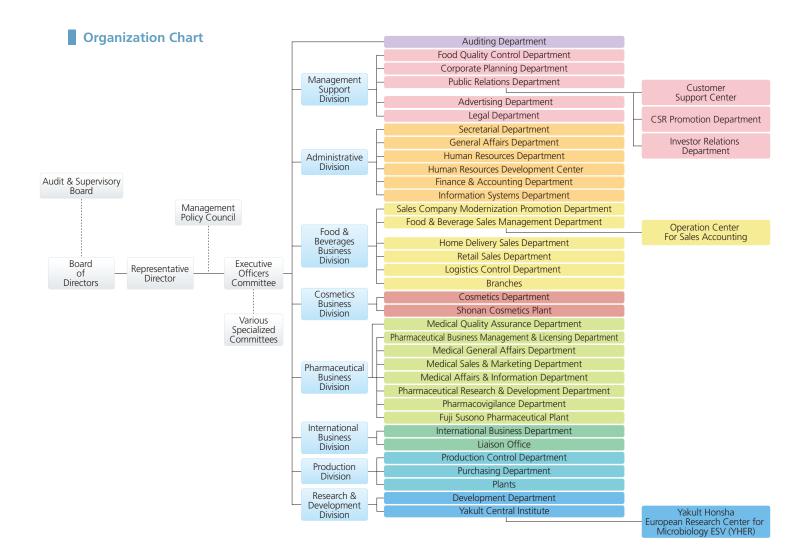
Hokkaido Branch East Japan Branch Metropolitan Branch Central Japan Branch West Japan Branch

NBF Hibiya Bldg. 1F, 1-1-7, Uchisaiwai-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-0011 Sendai Office, East Japan Branch Tokyo Tatemono Sendai Bldg. 6F, 1-6-35, Chuo, Aoba-ku, Sendai-shi, Miyagi 980-0021 TEL: 022-713-8960 Ginza Nomura Fudosan Ginza Bldg. 10F, 6-18-2, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061 Uemura Nissei Bldg. 7F, 3-3-31, Miyahara, Yodogawa-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka 532-0003 TEL: 06-6392-8960 Denki Bldg. Kitakan 4F, 2-1-82, Watanabe-dori, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka-shi, Fukuoka 810-0004

Odori Koen Bldg. 6F, 6-10-10, Odori Nishi, Chuo-ku, Sapporo-shi, Hokkaido 060-0042 TEL: 011-231-8960 TEL: 03-5962-8960 TEL: 03-5148-8960 TEL: 092-711-8960

**Research & Development Institute** Yakult Central Institute

5-11, Izumi, Kunitachi-shi, Tokyo 186-8650



### **Directors · Corporate Auditor**

President and Representative Director Takashige Negishi

Director Yoshihiro Kawabata Hiroshi Narita Hiroshi Wakabayashi Fumiyasu Ishikawa Masaki Tanaka Masanori Ito Akifumi Doi Tetsuya Hayashida **Richard Hall** 

Directors (Part-time) Ryuji Yasuda (Outside Director) Masayuki Fukuoka (Outside Director) Bertrand Austruy (Outside Director) Filip Kegels (Outside Director) Norihito Maeda

Senior Audit & Supervisory Board Members Akinori Abe Hiroshi Yamakami

Audit & Supervisory Board Members (Outside Auditors) Akihiko Okudaira Seijuro Tanigawa Setsuko Kobayashi Koichi Yoshida Seno Tezuka

(as of June 21, 2017)

#### **Honsha Plants**

Fukushima Plant Ibaraki Plant Shonan Cosmetics Plant Fuji Susono Plant Hyogo Miki Plant Saga Plant

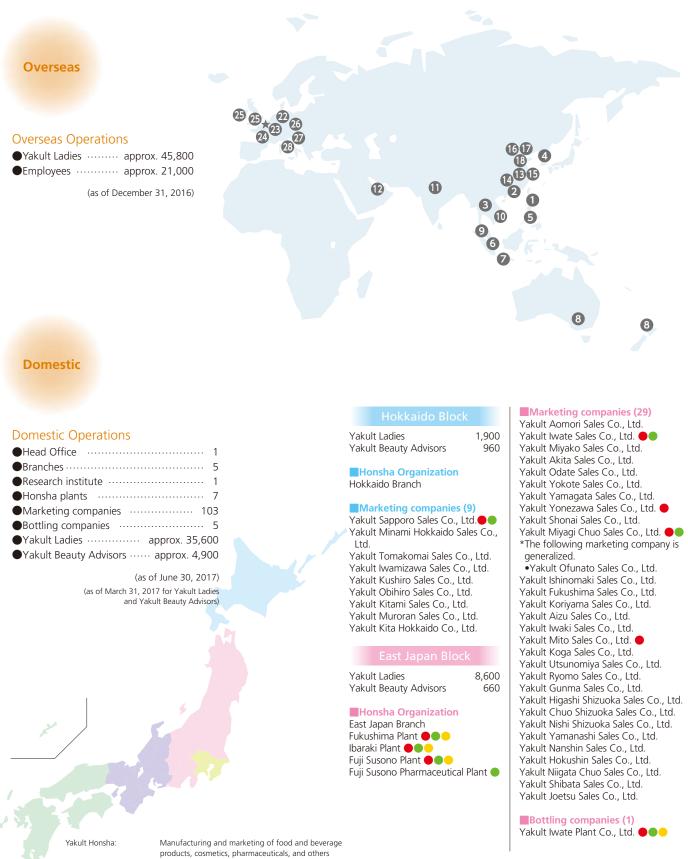
10-1, Aza Tooki, Kuroiwa, Fukushima-shi, Fukushima 960-8520 1232-2, Oaza Kawatsuma, Goka-machi, Sashima-gun, Ibaraki 306-0314 2-5-10, Kugenumashinmei, Fujisawa-shi, Kanagawa 251-0021 653-1, Aza Juzaburo, Shimowada, Susono-shi, Shizuoka 410-1105 Fuji Susono Pharmaceutical Plant 653-1, Aza Juzaburo, Shimowada, Susono-shi, Shizuoka 410-1105 1838-266 Aza Nakao, Toda, Shijimi-cho, Miki-shi, Hyogo 673-0514 2300, Tamichigari, Kanzaki-machi, Kanzaki-shi, Saga 842-0002

TEL: 024-546-8960 TEL: 0280-84-2121 TEL: 0466-25-8960 TEL: 055-997-3311 TEL: 055-997-4417 TEL: 0794-89-8960 TEL: 0952-52-8960

## Network

### **Promoting Better Health through Domestic and International Networks**

The Yakult Group comprises nearly 140 companies (approximately 170 counting overseas operations), including Yakult Honsha Co., Ltd., marketing companies that distribute Yakult's products to customers throughout Japan, bottling companies that manufacture containers and bottle Yakult's products, and other affiliates.



Marketing companies: Bottling companies: Manufacturing and marketing of tood and beverage products, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, and others Distribution of Yakult's products Bottling, commercialization, and container production \*ISO22000, FSSC22000, SQF: International standards for food safety management systems \*GMP: Good Manufacturing Practice. Facilities that employ GMPs for food. \*Symbols are shown next to facilities when at least one of their offices or factories has gained the relevant certification When multiple offices or factories have gained a particular certification, each will have done so under conditions unique to the office or factory.



🜒 Yakult Taiwan Co., Ltd. 🔵 2Hong Kong Yakult Co., Ltd. 🜒 Yakult (Thailand) Co., Ltd. 🛛 🗨 🗨 4 Korea Yakult Co., Ltd. Syakult Philippines, Inc. 🖉 P.T. Yakult Indonesia Persada 🌘 8Yakult Australia Pty. Ltd. (New Zealand Branch) 🕑Yakult (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. 😑 OYakult Vietnam Co., Ltd. 🜒Yakult Danone India Pvt. Ltd. 🛛 🔴 🕘 Yakult Middle East FZCO (BYakult (China) Corporation Oguangzhou Yakult Co., Ltd.



Countries where test and other sales are conducted Brunei, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Uruguay, Canada, Belize, France, Luxembourg, Spain, Malta and Switzerland

### **Metropolitan Block**

Yakult Ladies	7,900
Yakult Beauty Advisors	740

#### Honsha Organization

Head Office Metropolitan Branch Yakult Central Institute 🔴 Shonan Cosmetics Plant

#### Marketing companies (16)

Yakult Saitama Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Saitama Tobu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kazo Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Saitama Nishi Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Saitama Hokubu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Chiba Ken Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Johoku Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Katsushika Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Seito Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Musashino Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Tokyo Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 🌗 \*The following marketing company is generalized. •Yakult Keihoku Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kanagawa Chuo Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kanagawa Tobu Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Shonan Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Odawara Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Atsugi Sales Co., Ltd.

Bottling companies (1) Yakult Chiba Plant Co., Ltd. 🔴

Central Japan	Block
Yakult Ladies	9,000
Yakult Beauty Advisors	1,030

#### Honsha Organization Central Japan Branch Hyogo Miki Plant

### Marketing companies (19)

Yakult Tokai Co., Ltd. \*The following four marketing companies are generalized. Yakult Nagoya Sales Co., Ltd. •Yakult Aichi Chuo Sales Co., Ltd. •Yakult Mie Sales Co., Ltd. •Yakult Gifu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Owari Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Higashi Mikawa Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Toyama Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Hokuriku Co., Ltd. \*The following marketing company is generalized. •Yakult Fukui Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Nanao Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Keiji Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kinki Chuo Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Osaka Hokubu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Sennari Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Sakai Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Osaka Tobu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Minami Osaka Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Nara Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Wakayama Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kobe Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Hyogo Sales Co., Ltd. 🔵

Yakult Himeji Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Awaji Sales Co., Ltd.

#### Bottling companies (1) Yakult Aichi Plant Co., Ltd.

8,200 Yakult Ladies Yakult Beauty Advisors 1,510

#### Honsha Organization West Japan Branch Saga Plant

Marketing companies (30) Yakult Tottori Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Sanin Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Okayama Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Tsuyama Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Okayama Seibu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Sanyo Co., Ltd. \*The following two marketing companies are generalized. •Yakult Shin Hiroshima Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 •Yakult Yamaguchi Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Hiroshima Chuo Sales Co., Ltd. •• Yakult Yamaguchi Ken Tobu Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kagawa Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Tokushima Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Kochi Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Matsuyama Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Saga Ken Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Nagasaki Co., Ltd. Yakult Sasebo Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Goto Sales Co., Ltd. Yakult Kumamoto Co., Ltd. Yakult Miyazaki Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Miyakonojo Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Sendai Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Kagoshima Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Kagoshima Tobu Sales Co., Ltd. 🔴 Yakult Okinawa Co., Ltd. Bottling companies (2) Yakult Okayama Wake Plant Co., Ltd. 🔴 🌒 🕘

Yakult Fukuoka Plant Co., Ltd. 🔴 🌑 🥚

Yakult Ehime Tobu Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Kitakyushu Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Fukuoka Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Kurume Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Oita Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Ehime Nanbu Sales Co., Ltd.

Yakult Chuo Fukuoka Sales Co., Ltd.

The numbers of Yakult Ladies and Yakult Beauty Advisors are given in round numbers.



•Please visit Yakult's Website at http://www.yakult.co.jp http://www.yakult.co.jp/english/ for more information on our company.



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