

Table 1

Companies with Foreign Capital in Hokkaido

Company	Nationality	Location	Primary Products
Nippon Petroleum Refining Co., Ltd.	U.S.	Muroran	Gasoline, etc.
Nippon Light Metal Co., Ltd.	Canada	Tomakomai	Aluminum
Hokkai Ford Tractor Co., Ltd.	U.S.	Okoppe	Tractors, etc.
Daikin R/M Co., Ltd.	U.S.	Chitose	Wet friction plates
Tsuchiya Demuth Inc.	U.S.	Obihiro	Agricultural machines
Nisso Master Builders Co., Ltd.	Switzerland	Naganuma Shiranuka	Chemicals for cement
Nihon Mistron Co., Ltd.	U.S.	Tomakomai	Bleaching chemicals for paper production
Sika Ltd.	Switzerland	Eniwa	Construction chemicals
New Oxychem Co., Ltd.	France	Tomakomai	Hydrogen peroxide
Isuzu Motors Ltd.	U.S.	Tomakomai	Car engines
Novo Biochemical Industry Japan Ltd.	Denmark	Ishikari	Industrial enzymes
Ciba-Geigy (Japan) Ltd.	Switzerland	Chitose	Pharmaceuticals
Gadelius K.K.	Switzerland	Tomakomai	Sodium chlorate
Grace Japan K.K.	U.S.	Kuriyama	Radio wave absorbers
Fujiya Fritolay Ltd.	U.S.	Ebetsu	Potato chips, etc.
Nippon Glaxo Ltd.	U.K.	Ishikara	Pharmaceuticals

In 1987, Hokkaido's 2 700-km coastline provided 25 per cent of Japan's total catch. That year the main processing centres at Kushiro, Hakodate, Nemuro, Abashiri, and Wakkanai handled more than 1.6 million tons (¥667 billion).

Island fishermen dominated the market for herring (97 per cent), kelp (96 per cent), mackerel (90 per cent), and scallops (87 per cent). Other important species include trout, salmon, cod, sea urchins, octopus, saury and flatfish varieties, sardine, and squid. Excellent sardine catches over the past few years have increased production of oil and animal feedstocks.

Adoption by most countries of a 200-mile national fishing zone has hurt Hokkaido's deep-sea fishing fleet. To compensate for the restriction, fishery companies are working to build up offshore fishing grounds and to make processing more efficient.

The fishing industry has also turned to aquaculture as a means of ensuring its future. Efforts are underway to farm trout, flounder, abalone, and sea urchins. Hokkaido biotechnologists are also actively researching ways to increase salmon and trout stocks and this could present the possibility of a co-operative venture with Canada.