

# Alps Electric


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Alps Electric Co., Ltd.  
アルプス電気株式会社



<b>Type</b>	<a href="#">Public (K.K)</a>
<b>Traded as</b>	<a href="#">TYO: 6770</a> <a href="#">Nikkei 225 Component</a>
<b>ISIN</b>	<a href="#">JP3126400005</a> 
<b>Industry</b>	<a href="#">Electronics</a>
<b>Founded</b>	1 November 1948; 71 years ago (as Kataoka Electric Co., Ltd.)
<b>Headquarters</b>	1-7 Yukigaya-otsuka-machi, <a href="#">Ota</a> , <a href="#">Tokyo</a> 145-8501, <a href="#">Japan</a>
<b>Key people</b>	Toshihiro Kuriyama, ( <a href="#">President</a> ) Masataka Kataoka, ( <a href="#">Chairman</a> )
<b>Products</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Electronic components</a></li><li><a href="#">Automotive infotainment systems</a></li></ul>

- [Logistic services](#)

**Revenue** [US\\$5.806 billion \(FY 2012\)](#) ([¥ 546.423 billion](#)) (FY 2012)

**[Net income](#)** [US\\$75.18 million \(FY 2012\)](#) ([¥ -7.075 billion](#)) (FY 2012)

**Number of employees** 36,199 (as of the end of March 2013)

**[Subsidiaries](#)** [Alpine Electronics](#)  
[Cirque Corporation](#)  
[Alps Logistics](#)  
[Alps Green Devices](#)

**Website** [www.alps.com](http://www.alps.com)

#### Footnotes / references

[\[1\]\[2\]](#)

**Alps Electric Co., Ltd.** ([Japanese](#): アルプス電気株式会社, [Hepburn](#): *Arupusu Denki Kabushiki-gaisha*) is a Japanese [multinational corporation](#), headquartered in [Tokyo, Japan](#), producing [electronic devices](#), including [switches](#), [potentiometers](#), [sensors](#), encoders and [touchpads](#).<sup>[3]</sup>

The company was established in 1948 as Kataoka Electric Co., Ltd. and changed its name to Alps Electric Co., Ltd. in December 1964. Since June 22, 2012, the President has been Toshihiro Kuriyama and Chairman is Masataka Kataoka.<sup>[4]</sup> Alps is also well known for the [Alpine](#) brand of [car audio](#).

The Alps Electric Group has R&D, production and sales bases located in Japan and around the globe—in the Americas, Europe, Southeast Asia, Korea, and Greater China.<sup>[4]</sup> Since its founding, Alps Electric has supplied around 40,000 types of electronic components to over 2,000 manufacturers of home appliances, mobile devices, automobiles and industrial equipment worldwide.<sup>[5]</sup>

Alps Group comprises 84 [subsidiary](#) companies, 25 through Alps Electric, 32 through Alpine Electronics and 27 through Alps Logistics.<sup>[6]</sup>

The company is listed on the [Tokyo Stock Exchange](#) and a constituent of the [Nikkei 225 stock index](#).<sup>[7]</sup>

This company changed company name to Alps Alpine Co., Ltd. in January 2019.<sup>[8]</sup>



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## Business divisions

**Alps Automotive** division focuses on provision of custom products and modules, including control panels and steering modules, for specific vehicle models, and components compatible with any vehicle.<sup>[9]</sup>

**Alps Home and Mobile** divisions focuses on provision of switches, potentiometers, sensors, and other components through to multi-input devices like touch panels and GlidePoint™ to home, mobile and PC markets. Alps Electric focuses on human-machine and machine-machine interfaces for home appliances, mobile devices and PCs.<sup>[9]</sup>

**Alps Industry, Healthcare & Energy** divisions focuses on provision of a wide variety of products, including sensors, power inductors, switches and communication modules, to industry, healthcare and energy markets.<sup>[9]</sup>

Alps touchpad hardware is developed and manufactured by the [Cirque Corporation](#), which they acquired in 2003,<sup>[10]</sup> however, the parent company continues to write their own drivers. Their drivers are [Windows](#) certified. They are mostly found in [Sony](#), [Toshiba](#) and [Dell notebooks](#), as well as the [OLPC XO-1](#). They also manufacture keyboards for Apple computers, including the original Macintosh and the first [iMac](#).

## Gallery



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Alps taxi yellow switch in an [Apple IIc](#) keyboard



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Alps SKBM Grey switch



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Alps SKBM Grey switch backside with old logo



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Alps SKBM Grey — upper shell with simplified mould numbering and more rounded, more heavily embossed Alps logo



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Alps SKCM Orange switch, completely disassembled