Yokogawa was founded in Japan in 1915 and its initial focus was on electric metering. Based on its avionics and control expertise, Yokogawa began researching flowmeter technology in 1933.

The year 1968 marked the first milestone in this undertaking with Yokogawa’s development of a vortex flowmeter and its success in bringing this product to market. At the core of this product concept was Yokogawa’s reliable metering technology for a wide application range. These design fundamentals are still valid today.

During the 1970s, Yokogawa responded to huge process industry demand for reliable flowmeters of various types. In 1983, Yokogawa concluded a strategic merger with Japan’s Hokushin Electric Works, a flowmeter manufacturer. Combining their respective strengths in vortex and magnetic flowmeter technology, the two companies formed Yokogawa Hokushin Electric and went on to focus on flowmeter development, with an uncompromising commitment to quality and reliability. The first milestone after the merger was the release of ADMAG series with dual frequency excitation in 1988.
In the 1990s, Yokogawa strengthened its focus on flowmeters through cooperation with and the eventual acquisition of the German flowmeter manufacturer ROTA. In so doing Yokogawa gained access to 100 years of flowmeter expertise and completed its flowmeter portfolio by adding the Rotameter (variable area) and Rotamass (Coriolis) product lines.

Although a truly global enterprise, a dominant portion of Yokogawa’s business is still in Japan, where it maintains 24 branch offices and has 17 Group companies, 109 representative offices, and 160 service offices providing products, solutions, and services to its Japanese client base.

To limit product lead times, the company has manufacturing operations in numerous countries. These are as follows:

- Asia Pacific: China, India, Japan, Korea, Singapore
- Europe: Germany, the Netherlands
- Americas: USA, Brazil

Yokogawa maintains Global Response Centers in Bahrain, Brazil, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Taiwan, Singapore, and the United States, providing around the clock support 365 days a year, for the entire range of Yokogawa products.

Yokogawa’s businesses are as follows:
- Production control systems, field instruments and recorders, solution systems, semiconductor testers, test and measurement products, optical communication equipment, life science systems, and aviation equipment.