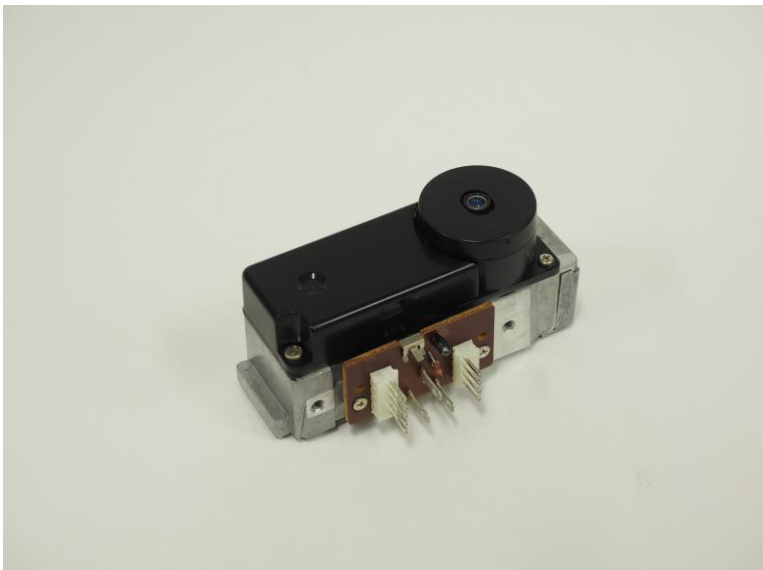


Revolutionary CD player optical head drive

Registration No.	Number 00320		
Registration Date	September 14, 2021	Registration Category	Category 1

Name (Model, etc.)	Optical Head System "TAOHS-L"
Location	Hachioji-shi, Tokyo
	Olympus Museum
Owner (Custodian)	Olympus Corporation
Manufacturer (Company)	Olympus Optical Co., Ltd. (now Olympus Corporation)
Year Manufactured	1982
Year first appeared	1982
Reason For Selection	The optical head drive, the key component of the optical disc system, features two independent axes in a single unit. The compact disc (CD) format marked a spectacular improvement in performance when it appeared in the early 1980s, combining advanced electronics with precision mechanics. The key component was the optical head, the component tasked with accurately extracting information from the high-density microscopic signal pits embedded in the disc. The optical system was required to stay in perfect alignment with the pits in two orientations: focus and tracking. Whereas conventional optical systems at the time used separate mechanisms for each axis, this one was the first to combine movement on two axes into a single structure. This compact and mechanically less complex invention had a significant impact on the optical disc industry for many years.
Registration Standard	1-A (Show an important aspect or stage of the development of science and technology.) 1-B (Show a uniquely Japanese scientific or technological development from an international perspective.)

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