

Earliest surviving design of rolling bearings in Japan

Registration No.	Number 00323		
Registration Date	September 14, 2021	Registration Category	Category 2
Name (Model, etc.)	Earliest Rolling Bearing Design Drawing in Existence in Japan (Non-Separable Thrust Ball Bearing)		
Location	Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo NSK Ltd.		
Owner (Custodian)	NSK Ltd.		
Manufacturer (Company)	NSK Ltd.		
Year Manufactured	1916		
Year first appeared	1916		
Reason For Selection	<p>These drawings of the first ever non-separable thrust ball bearings in Japan were produced by NSK for the Yokosuka Naval Arsenal machinery division. The valuable experience gained through the manufacture of these high specification bearings, paved the way for bearings used in a wide range of non-military applications such as commercial spinning machines and vehicle parts for the burgeoning postwar auto industry. Thus these first bearings mark the beginning of a flourishing Japanese industry in the design and production of bearing components. As the oldest surviving design drawing of bearings in Japan today, this serves as an extremely important technical legacy illustrating the birth of the ball bearing industry in Japan.</p>		
Registration Standard	<p>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.)</p>		

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