

Responsibilities to the environment

As can be seen with global warming, waste issues, harmful chemical substance pollution and other current environmental problems, various aspects of the environment have been worsening because of the expansion of economic activities. Various problems occur because the environmental impacts that result from the daily lifestyles and ordinary business activities of every person have become too great.

As the YKK Group expands its business globally, we believe that it is necessary to fulfill our corporate responsibilities related to these types of environmental problems by making our own independent efforts and by actively participating in the creation of sustainable economic and social systems that have few environmental impacts in every country and region.

We recognize that the effects of business activities on the environment are global in scale and consider the management of environmental problems to be one of our most important tasks. In September 1994, we established the YKK Group Environmental Charter and the entire Group has been working since then to implement measures to protect the environment.

Since it is our responsibility as a manufacturer for as long as we conduct business on this earth, we are promoting global environmental management in every area of our business activities by executing environmental policies and conducting thorough auditing of our environmental management. We pay attention to environmental issues at every stage of a product's life, from its design and manufacture to its disposal, collection and recycling.

In order to fulfill our responsibilities to society, the key issue is that we develop and provide products that are thoroughly considerate of the environment while staying conscious of innovation, which creates both corporate value and value to society as a manufacturer.

At the YKK Group, in our fastening business, we are working to develop fasteners that promote recycling and reuse, biodegradable fasteners that are carbon neutral and other environmental products. In our window business, through the materials, structures and construction of glass and sashes, we are developing windows with high energy conservation performance that contribute to the creation of comfortable interior environments.

By increasing the heat-shielding, insulation and ventilation management performance of windows, we not only promote the comfort of residences, we also reduce energy consumption from air-conditioning in residences and buildings, greatly contributing to greenhouse gas reduction.

If all the homes in Japan used high performance windows with high insulation capabilities, it is said that annual CO₂ emissions could be suppressed by 17,000,000 tons.

Responsibilities to society

In the corporate social responsibility efforts of the YKK Group, "localism" is the first principle that we consider.

When we expand our business overseas, our business expansion is not based on concern about labor costs, rather it is our response to demands from the market and from local communities. In every country, we seek to "become a local" and expand our business by being rooted in each place.

Our second principle is putting "quality first" on a global level. With our total vertically-integrated manufacturing system, we even develop our own unique YKK production equipment so that we can transplant every aspect of our production system and handle every aspect of development and production processes, from the procurement of raw materials to the manufacture of products, in-house. By providing uniform quality worldwide, we have received orders from numerous global customers and the YKK brand has earned a reputation for providing goods that are consistently reliable no matter where in the world they were produced.

Our third principle is to "solve environmental problems from a global perspective."

We start from the compliance with international standards, set targets at even higher levels and then base our efforts to achieve them on policies and actions that are thoroughly unified throughout the entire YKK Group.

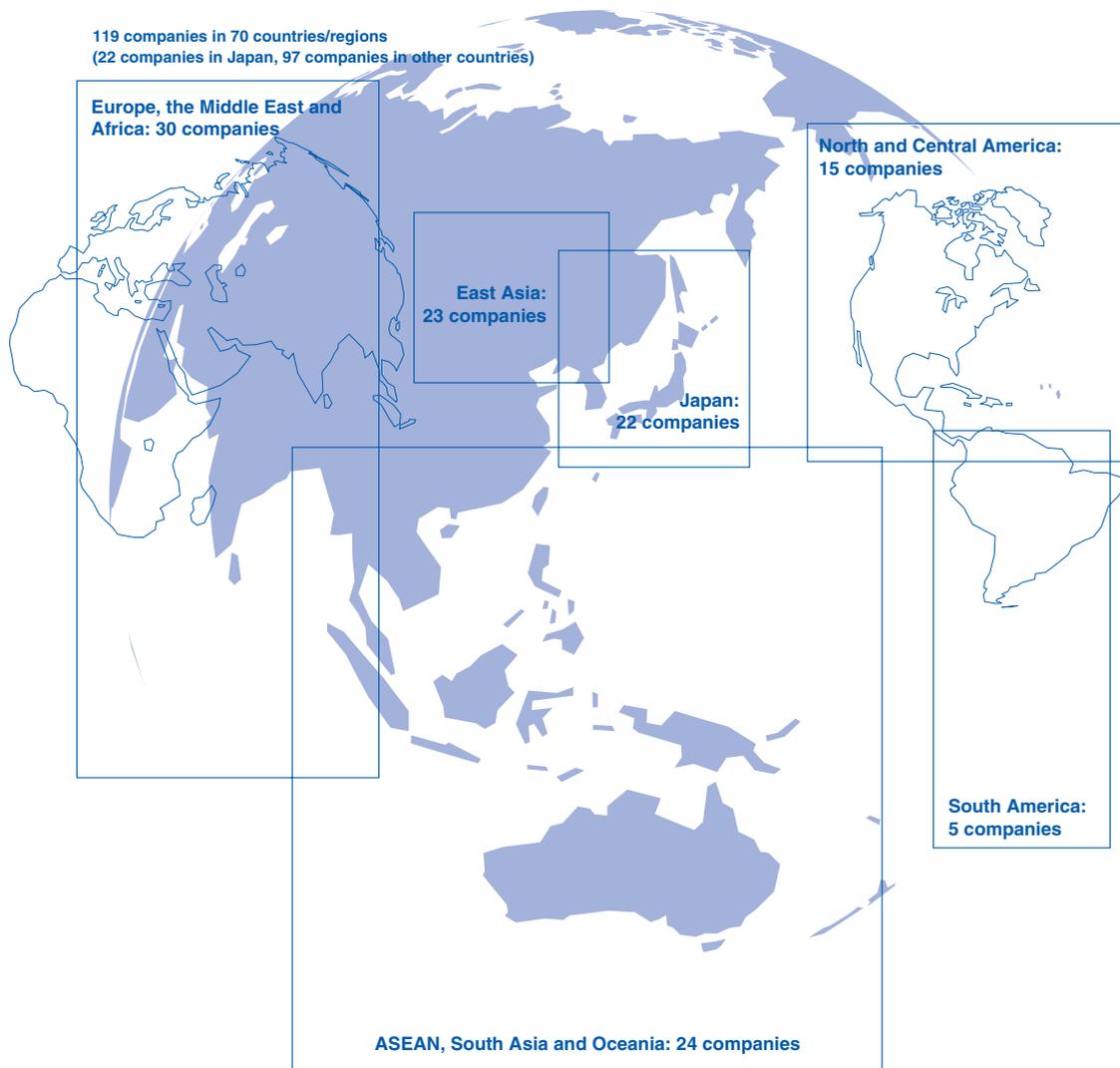
Using this approach, based on compliance with local laws, we support and are actively involved in diverse efforts that include the employment, cultivation and promotion of local human resources, participation in projects and other contributions to communities using corporate business resources, education, regional vitalization and international exchange.

For the YKK Group to continue to be an enterprise that is loved by communities and by society, we believe that we must diligently continue to create both corporate and social value.



YKK Group
Environmental Policy Committee Chairman
YKK Corporation Representative Director
and Vice Chairman

Kiyoshi Taie



Overseas recognition of the corporate value of the YKK Group

Our top-down facade re-cladding method received a Construction Best Practice Award from the government of Singapore.

The YKK AP window series received the Architecture Energy-Saving Window Housing Industry Contribution Gold Award from the Chinese Ministry of Construction.

<Detailed information (in Japanese)>

<http://www.ykkap.co.jp/news/2006/20060501.asp>

<http://www.ykkap.co.jp/news/2006/20060925.asp>

