

Message

Conservation of the global environment is currently the most important theme for mankind. Efforts are being made in various countries to help realize both economic development and environmental conservation.

With the environmental charter being enacted in 1992, the year "The Rio Declaration (on Environment and Development)" was announced at the Earth Summit, YKK Corporation and the YKK Group declared that we would "do everything we could to make activities in harmony with the environment our top priority theme" in 1994.

Taking up environmental problems on a global scale, YKK decided to adopt "sustainable development" as our keyword. Settling upon action targets, we decided to work to preserve and improve the environment in all of our activities, not just in area of countermeasures against pollution and ways to conserve energy. Since then, every year we decide upon a basic environmental policy which we apply to our business activities, and this has yielded prodigious results.

With "helping to build a recycling-oriented society" as the intermediate period basic environmental policy for the YKK group in 2000, we have carried out our global activities geared toward achieving the specific targets of providing recyclable products, making our operations even more efficient to reduce stress on the environment, coping with globalization, and publishing environmental data.

In more specific terms, this means using a single material, designing products so they can be taken apart or dismantled easily, and developing products that are easy to recycle. It also means promoting recycling of resources among different projects for "zero emission" and cutting back on use of toxic chemical substances. It furthermore means providing support for the world's most important base by the end of FY 2003 in order to acquire ISO14001 certification. And it means publishing environmental reports.

This is the report of what we are doing about environmental conservation. The themes contained herein are presented as a single management theme of sustainable improvement with the intention of striving to enhance the worth of our business.

We hope this report will serve to enlighten you concerning our activities and philosophy toward environmental conservation. If you have any opinions or advice, we'd love to hear from you.

October 2000



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadahiro Yoshida', written in a cursive style.

Tadahiro Yoshida
President Chief Executive Officer