

## 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, 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 Group 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 review our basic environmental policy and apply to our business activities, which is yielding prodigious results.

One of the biggest themes for companies in the 21st century is to what degree we can implement the practice of recycling in industry. "Environmental problems" must be incorporated into future management ideas. By combining what we call our "artery and vein system" in all fields of our business activities, the YKK Group hopes to help build a recycling-oriented society by establishing an environmental management system through systematic and strategic promotion of our environmental policy. With "helping to build a recycling-oriented society" as the intermediate environmental management policy, we are carrying out our activities with the specific goals of providing goods and services that facilitate recycling, making our operations even more efficient to reduce stress on the environment, building and using a global environmental management system, and publishing environmental data.

Sustained improvement in environmental conservation will continue to be one of the most important themes for management in the future as well. We are currently doing our best to enhance our corporate value. 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.

August 2001



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tadahiro Yoshida'.

Tadahiro Yoshida  
YKK Group