

## Message

Environmental problems, including the increasing difficulties of waste disposal and the deepening threat of global warming that may even endanger the continued survival of humanity, are serious issues. We must confront them in order to build a new society and economy in the 21st century.

In June 2002 Japan ratified the Kyoto Protocol. In order to promote measures against global warming, the YKK Group has promoted both energy conservation within the group and the reduction of energy use by our customers through the development of energy conserving products.

Consideration of environmental problems must be woven into management principles from now on. The YKK Group makes dealing with environmental problems one of our most important management goals. For this reason, we have taken an environmental management stance that promotes systematically and strategically environmental policies for every aspect of all of our undertakings, whether large or small. By continuously raising the level of our efficiency in respect to both the environment and business management, we can contribute to the creation of a sustainable economy and society. We want to raise the value of our endeavors by fulfilling the social responsibilities that our business bears.

For this purpose we have established Contribution to the Creation of a Sustainable Society as the theme of our intermediate term environmental objectives, defined by four fundamental environmental policies that guide us toward specific goals. With these objectives we are making progress in our endeavors.

### **Promotion of the development and provision of eco products**

- By developing environmentally friendly products from the design stage we are striving to provide products to customers that have less impact on the environment during use and at time of disposal.

### **Renewed thoroughness of environmental impact reduction management**

- Beyond just compliance with laws and regulations, we are pursuing increased reduction of global warming gases and waste materials with our own even stricter standards.

### **Creation and application of a global environmental management system**

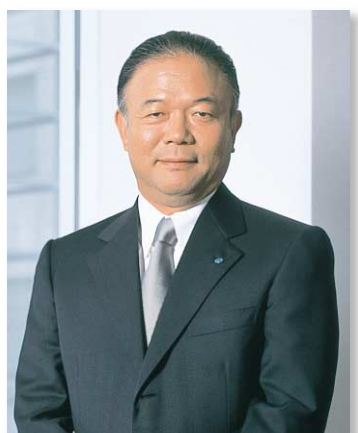
- All of the YKK Group is striving to achieve the same environmental goals and pursue continuous reform.

### **Promotion of environmental communication**

- We strive to assure our customers by promoting accountability to society.

Sustained improvement of environmental preservation will continue to be one of our management tasks. We believe that this effort will also raise the value of the company. We hope that this report will help you to understand our philosophy and the efforts the YKK Group is making toward environmental preservation. We would also be delighted to have you share your frank opinions and advice with us.

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YKK Group

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