

VI • Environmental communication

Internal environmental communication

In order to raise the environmental consciousness of our employees, we are implementing the sharing of environmental information and the holding of participatory workshops about the environment.

Environmental seminars

We held an environmental education seminar with the former mayor of Minamata, Masazumi Yoshii. Starting with his own experience with Minamata disease, he introduced many concrete examples of dealing with environmental problems and ways to handle them in the future.

He explained that, by undertaking environmental protection activities with clear principles, the small efforts of each individual can add up to big results. We were able to see how our environmental protection efforts in each area of our work have an impact.

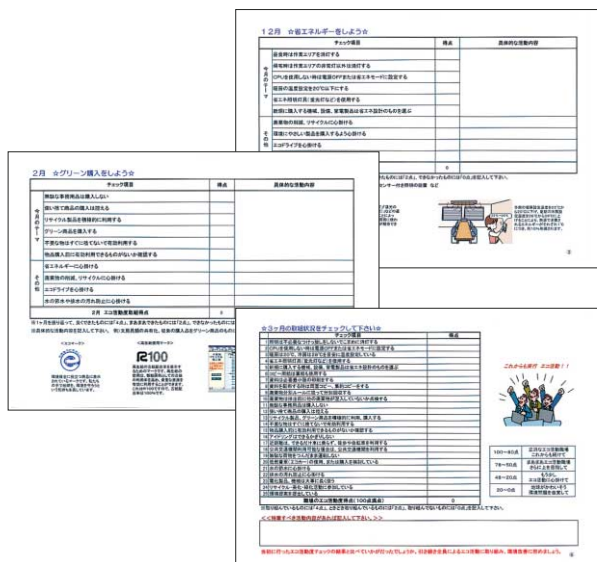


Masazumi Yoshii, the former Mayor of Minamata, gives a presentation at a seminar on the environment (September 18, 2002)

Environmental Action 25 (Workplace efforts)

Continuing from last year with the goal of raising environmental consciousness and increasing the implementation of global environmental protection efforts, we began Environmental Action 25 for all of the employees of the YKK Group.

This time we created a 25 item list of basic environmental efforts that can be made at the workplace. These were organized into monthly themes with three-month periods for scoring efforts and checking their success. Some workplaces included action goals for ISO certification and most workplaces improved their environmental efforts.



Environmental education through e-learning

For newly hired employees, we have conducted environmental education about environmental problems and the environmental protection efforts of the YKK Group. Since 2001, we have also implemented environmental education by e-learning for new hires to study before starting work.

Collection of data from YKK Group plants abroad

We have created a database by collecting environmental data from the YKK Groups plants abroad.

Along with giving us an overview of the state of environmental efforts at our facilities in every country, we intend to use this database when making policies to promote the entire Group environmental improvement.



Environmental communication with society

The YKK Group creates opportunities for employees to participate actively in environmental protection and volunteer activities. In order to make the public aware of our environmental efforts and the environmentally friendly products offered by the YKK Group, we are making environmental information broadly available.

● Coexistence with local communities

○ Environmental protection activities of YKK Do Brazil Ltda.

In Brazil, few companies have ISO certification, so YKK Do Brazil undertook the following activities to raise environmental consciousness not just in the company, but also throughout the local community.

Sponsoring environmental events

At a shopping center in the suburbs of Sorocaba, YKK Do Brazil held an event with panels covering the themes of the global environment, Brazil's nature, the company's industrial activities and environmental protection along with a children's coloring corner on environmental themes.

The main purposes of this event were to show the citizens of Sorocaba the importance of environmental protection, to promote the environmental protection efforts of YKK Do Brazil and to raise the awareness of YKK company employees.

Vegetation of the Sorocaba River watershed

As an important part of our environmental protection efforts, we proposed revegetation activities in the surrounding region. For this purpose, YKK Do Brazil planted 400 tree saplings.

Presentation of lectures about environmental protection

The YKK Do Brazil Sorocaba Plant ISO Chief gave a lecture about the global environment and the plant's production activities with the theme of environmental management at a regional work training school. The participants were ordinary citizens and it included a panel discussion. We believe that this helped contribute to raising awareness about the environment of local citizens.



● Promoting environmental information

○ Participation in exhibitions

With the concept of "providing environmentally sound products widely to society" we sponsored an exhibit at Eco Products 2002. We provided a hands-on corner for people to learn about environmentally friendly products, including insulating APSWORD Wood sashes, which are easy to disassemble and recycle when they are no longer needed, and our biodegradable Hook and Loop Fasteners which are made mainly of polylactic acid, a plant-based material with low environmental impact.



Eco Products 2002 December 5 - 7, 2002
Tokyo Big Site

○ Eco Message 2003

Continuing from last year, in February 2003, we published a catalog with detailed information about the YKK Group's environmentally friendly architectural products.



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