

Corporate Social Responsibility Based on the YKK Philosophy

The YKK Group strives to contribute to a sustainable society through its core businesses by implementation of the YKK Philosophy "Cycle of Goodness," and its Management Principle "YKK seeks corporate value of higher significance."

Fundamental Approach

Ever since YKK's founding, the spiritual pillar of all YKK Group business operations has been the Cycle of Goodness Philosophy which embodies our belief that no one prospers without rendering benefit to others. An enterprise is an important member of society, and as such it must coexist with other elements of society. The value of its existence will be recognized by the benefits it shares with society. In pursuing our business, YKK has devoted great attention to the way in which we can realize such mutual prosperity—that this can be best achieved by the continual creation of new value through innovative ideas and inventions. This would result in business expansion for the YKK Group, which in turn would bring prosperity to consumers and trading partners, and thus benefit all of society. All YKK Group companies based in 71 countries/regions around the world share the Cycle of Goodness Philosophy and the Management Principle "YKK seeks corporate value of higher significance." Fairness is the standard on which we base our conduct.

The YKK Group's Corporate Social Responsibility

We do not take lightly our responsibilities as a good corporate citizen, not only towards society but also in the execution of fair business management. Significant changes are taking place in the environments that surround the YKK Group. Whether in Japan or abroad, it is our duty to respect diversity—of cultures, customs, and viewpoints—and play a role in the development of society through our business operations. The YKK Group is committed to helping build a more sustainable society through its main businesses. The YKK Group promotes initiatives aimed at realization of a sustainable society through its core businesses by implementation of the YKK Philosophy Cycle of Goodness, and its Management Principle "YKK seeks corporate value of higher significance."

Promotion Structure

The YKK Group supports the activities of responsible divisions in each region with a Group-wide perspective in the light of the seven core subjects of ISO 26000. We established an Investigation Committee in April 2014 to be able to grasp Group-wide activities in more detail.

The Investigation Committee convened three times during FY2016 (June, October, and March).



Investigation Committee

Structure of the Investigation Committee



Area of Activities



Message from Committee Chairman

These activities have entered their third year, and we have established structures to steadily deal with the themes and issues which have become apparent in each field. Considered from a global perspective, the YKK Group as a whole must increase the speed at which it tackles the question of how it will respond to issues by business, market, and region and to the diverse expectations of stakeholders.

The YKK Group already has its YKK Philosophy "Cycle of Goodness" as its foundation, but we believe that we must leverage this strength to help further bolster our actions, while also continuing to link this to the resolution of society's problems through our core businesses and to the provision of new value to society.



Satoshi Honda
Investigation Committee Chairman
Vice President of Corporate Planning
YKK Corporation

Activity Aims and Results

We established key themes and measures for each core subjects of ISO 26000, and are driving activities with goals set for each fiscal year. Below, we introduce notable activities for FY2016 together with future goals.

Notable Activities in FY2016 and Goals for FY2017

| Core Subjects | Key Themes and Measures | Notable Activities in FY2016 | Goals for FY2017 |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Organizational Governance | Establishment of management structure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting of the Investigation Committee (3 times/year) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting of the Investigation Committee (3 times/year) |
| Human Rights | Companywide promotion of the Human Right Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shared the content and intent of the Policy with YKK Group employees worldwide (All employees in Japan; limited to certain members of management in other countries) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish governance structure pertaining to human rights and labor practices Add items pertaining to human rights and labor legislation in Quarterly Report Review progress with HR division in each region quarterly |
| Labor Practices | Non-discriminatory provision of opportunities for nurturing talent | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefed HR representatives from each region at global meeting of personnel management officers Deliberated and prepared for launch of Quarterly Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine reporting standards Review progress with HR division in each region quarterly |
| | Establishment of safe and secure working environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented health and safety support at overseas bases (4 companies) Communicated and reinforced YKK Safety and Health Standards (throughout YKK Group) Established rules for gathering information on industrial accidents | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement health and safety support at overseas bases Confirm state of compliance with YKK Safety and Health Standards |
| Environment | Strengthening of overseas governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performed environmental management auditing overseas (16 companies) Prepared draft for environmental management review system, and test implementation (2 companies) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued performance of environmental management auditing overseas (16 companies) Operate environmental management review system |
| | Sustainable procurement and adaptations to climate change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed and identified climate change risks for each base | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce environmental impact through cooperation with supply chain Survey to understand natural disaster risks |
| Fair Operating Practices | Drive compliance based upon YKK Group Compliance Standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented assessment in YKK Group companies in Japan and abroad (107 companies) Established and distributed new standards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement external audit for businesses in China and the Asia region (9 companies) Support establishment of system that can be administered independently in each region Revise standards |
| | Reinforcement of socially responsible procurement (YKK) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented supplier survey (feedback from 103 companies, audit of 4 companies) Implemented follow-up with trading partners who failed to achieve expected level (8 companies) China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions with general manager Prepared trading partner list for implementation of supplier survey at each company Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented supplier survey in Taiwan (4 companies) Implemented business survey and audit in Taiwan (3 companies) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement supplier survey (106 companies) and feedback audit China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement supplier business survey and audit (5 companies) Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement supplier business survey and audit, and briefing of businesses |
| Consumer Issues | Improvement of Traceability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established traceability system that can ensure accountability and transparency regarding product safety and reliability (YKK) Revised retaining period for records of production processes pertaining to traceability information management (YKK AP) Participated in events organized by the relevant authorities (2 times) (YKK AP) Distributed information through industry groups (1 case) (YKK AP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce Guidelines for Implementing Inspection of Materials Received (audit implementation) (YKK) Investigate creation of information management system related to traceability (YKK AP) Participate events organized by the relevant authorities and industry bodies (YKK AP) Expand activities for exchanging information with other industries (YKK AP) |
| | Promotion of the elimination of harmful substances (YKK) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Switch-over from one-sided transparent film and VS thermal transfer film manufactured in Taiwan (Organotin) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote switch-over from two targeted materials (3 items) Organotin compounds (2), naphthalene (1) |
| | Creation of a system to protect consumer rights (YKK AP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidebook for Use and Maintenance (28 cases) Expanded QR code compatibility (5 items) Provided safety information on website (2 cases) Launched Customer Center website and provision of information (6 cases) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued provision of various information (new and revised) Expand products offering information via QR code Provide safety information on website, etc. Expand Customer Center activities |
| | Development and promotion of products that consider the entire life-cycle and the 3R's (YKK AP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of products developed were eco-friendly Received external awards (2 cases) Calculated contribution made to CO₂ reduction by products in FY2015 Distributed information regarding lifecycle CO₂ reduction (2 cases) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of products developed are eco-friendly Prepare product lifecycle third party assessment standards Distribute information regarding lifecycle CO₂ reduction (2 cases) |
| Community Involvement and Development | Enhancement of stakeholder dialogue | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented management dialogue (2 times) Implemented regional community dialogue (Kurobe, Toyama Prefecture) (1 time) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement management dialogue (1 time) Implement regional community dialogue (Kurobe, Toyama Prefecture) (1 time) |
| | Reinforcement of external information disclosure regarding Corporate Social Responsibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Released distribution and independent data collection (7 times) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release distribution and independent data collection (8 times) |