# The Philosophy of YKK's Founder, Tadao Yoshida

From the CYCLE OF GOODNESS® to a Sustainable Future



YKK is constantly pursuing contributing to a sustainable society through its core business. The foundation of all such corporate activities is the CYCLE OF GOODNESS corporate philosophy of YKK founder Tadao Yoshida. This philosophy, "No one prospers without rendering benefit to others," clearly expresses YKK's spirit of continuing to prosper together with society, customers, related industries, and employees. It is a concept that is highly compatible with sustainability. The founder repeatedly conveyed the essence of this corporate philosophy to employees, speaking of it in various ways.

A philosophy that is highly compatible with sustainability has been at the core of YKK's management since the time of the founder. It continues to be inherited at the company even today, 90 years after it was founded.



**July 1965** 

I don't think that a business will prosper unless it is both profitable and also contributes to the world and is useful to human society. Nothing brings more happiness than when we can contribute to the local industry and the local economy, thereby enriching the lives of local people. YKK's "bridges" that bring abundant civilization to developing countries and new affluence to developed countries will continue in the future.



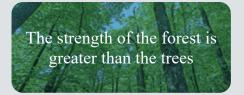
January 1984

Like a wonderful fountain, it bubbles forth, rich and authentic. This is true abundance. The important thing is not to waste valuable resources. Then it will be a great product.

If we make use of our ingenuity, even our waste can be a great resource

January 1971

The first thing we should do is think about how to better deal with waste from our own neighborhoods and implement those ideas together. If we continue digging for underground resources, cutting down trees, catching fish, and increasing oceans where fish can't live as we are doing now, it will mean the destruction of humanity.



**July 1970** 

Some trees are thick with experience and age, others are young and thin. There are tall trees and short trees. We work well together, not under the control of anyone, using our strengths and abilities according to our individuality.

Aiming for Climate Neutrality, Co-Existence, and Co-Prosperity as a Company that Co-exists and Co-prospers with Society and the Natural Environment

# YKK sustainability vision 2050

Achievement of Climate Neutrality and Co-existence with Nature



## Climate change

# Develop business activities that are adapted to climate change and curb its effects

In order to combat global climate change, YKK commits to greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets that are required to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – to limit global warming to below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels – and we will work to reduce GHG emissions with the aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2050. Furthermore, we will adapt to climate change and develop stable business activities.



### Material resources

#### Achieve monozukuri to boost sustainable use of material resources

By reducing the environmental impact of products manufactured by the Fastening Business and in the packaging materials used, and by shifting to sustainable materials, we aim to reduce waste generated through the life cycle of products, reduce the use of petroleum-derived materials, and contribute to the realization of a circular society, while protecting ecosystems and expanding activities to enrich them.



#### Water resources

#### Implement sustainable water use

For sustainable water use, we will work to reduce the burden on local communities and ecosystems by reducing water intake and strengthening wastewater management according to local conditions.



# Chemical management

#### Manage and reduce chemical usage

In order to ensure a healthy environment for future generations, we will work to minimize the impact of chemical substances on the natural environment and people through appropriate management and by reducing the amount used.



## Respect people

#### Uphold human rights and ensure fair, safe work environments

YKK believes in the universal philosophy of respecting the dignity and rights of all human beings and is committed to contributing to a diverse and sustainable society.