

Public recognition

We got a presidential award of promotion conference in a commendation ceremony of a man of merit promoted reduce-reuse-recycle for our Ohama plant. (October 2003)

Our three workplaces, Hanshin plant Amagasaki, Marushima factory, and Hanshin branch office in Head office, were awarded by the city of Amagasaki for the excellent workplaces in controlling wastewater. (October 2003)

A letter of appreciation was given to our Tokyo head office by Chuo-ku of Tokyo metropolis for our recycle promoting activities. (November 2003)

We got a minister award of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry in the eighth new energy commendation ceremony for our biomass fuel production system “ Membrane-type methane fermentation system.” (January 2004)

We got a minister award of Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (in an area of heat) for our Keiyo plant (Funabashi), a chief award of Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry (in an area of electricity) for our Sakai plant respectively in a commendation ceremony of excellent plant in controlling energy. (February 2004)



History of Kubota's environmental conservation activities

Fiscal year

- 2003 * Environment promotion mid-term plan drew up
- 2002 * Environmental audit system revised and its resumption (including our main affiliates)
- 2001 * Global Environmental Charter revised, Voluntary Environmental Action Plan drew up
- 2000 * ISO14001 certificate acquired in all of our plants in Japan
- 1999 * Publishing the first environmental report
- 1998 * Environmental awareness questionnaire distributed to all Kubota employees
 - * Environmental household accounting program initiated
- 1997 * ISO 14001 certificate acquired (in Tsukuba plant and Shin-yodogawa Environmental plant center)
- 1996 * Environmental home page up loaded
- 1995 * Environmental management regulations revised
- 1994 * Environmental audit system reviewed and supplemented
- 1993 * Voluntary Plan on Environment drafted
- 1992 * Global Environmental Charter drafted
 - * Global Environmental Committee established
 - * The first Global Environmental Prize awarded by Sankei Newspaper
- 1991 * In-house Environmental Achievement Award established
 - * Ranked the first place in Nikkei Business Environment rankings
- 1990 * Kubota's second-century-from-foundation vision “Company contributing global environmental conservation”, and company slogan “Let us make beautiful Japan” drafted
- 1984 * Managerial organization of working environment reinforced
- 1978 * Pollution Management Department renamed the Environmental Protection Department
- 1973 * Central Pollution Patrol (Audit) set up
- 1972 * Pollution Management Department set up at head office; Pollution Management Sections set up in all plants

Glossary of Terminology

- LCA (Life Cycle Assessment)**

This refers to quantitatively analyzing the load to environment by a product over its entire life cycle, starting with the resources used for the product, and continuing through the manufacturing, processing, marketing, using, recycling, and disposal stages. It is used as an approach to improve environment.
- Zero Emission**

This refers to the activities designed to completely eliminate wastes, which cannot be re-used as resources. Actually, the total elimination of wastes is impossible, so many companies are aiming at the elimination of the wastes which are dumped into landfills.
- Green Procurement and Purchasing**

Purchasing preferentially products or services with less environmental load from the vendors promoting the reduction of environmental load
- SI prefix**

n (nano): 10⁻⁹, p (pico): 10⁻¹², M (mega): 10⁶, G (giga): 10⁹, P (peta): 10¹⁵
- TEQ (Toxic Equivalents)**

Dioxins amount converted into the most toxic 2,3,7,8 tetrachloro-dibenzo-p-dioxins
- BOD (Biochemical Oxygen Demand)**

BOD is an index used to define water pollution by organic substances. It is calculated based on the amount of oxygen required for oxidized decomposition, by microorganisms, of organic substances in the water.
- COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand)**

COD is an index used to define water pollution by organic substances. It is calculated based on the amount of oxygen required for oxidized decomposition of organic substances in the water.
- PRTR (Pollutant Release and Transfer Register)**

This is a register voluntarily submitted to the government by companies that monitor emission released into environment (air, water or soil) by plants operations, and the amount of substances transferred as wastes. The government compiles data on the amount of emission, and organizes it for public disclosure.