

Initiatives for Environmental Conservation

As part of our responsibility to society, Sumitomo Corporation Group actively addresses environmental issues under its Activity Guidelines “to attach great importance to protecting the global environment.” Sumitomo Corporation and its group companies strictly comply with environment-related laws and regulations in their business activities, while focusing on reducing adverse impacts on the environment, based on the international standard ISO14001 Environmental Management System.

We are also involved in environment-related businesses both in Japan and overseas. These include recycling businesses and initiatives to reduce the production of greenhouse gases in order to prevent the global warming that may cause a rise in sea level.

Environmental Management System

Our Tokyo and Osaka offices were certified under ISO14001 in 1999. Through multi-site registration, 36 group companies in addition to our domestic offices have also been certified under Sumitomo Corporation’s certification as of June 2003. As required by the ISO14001 Environmental Management System, Sumitomo Corporation and its group companies are making continuous efforts to reduce environmental impacts.

Environment-related Projects

Sumitomo Corporation Group plays an important role in promoting projects around the world that reduce the potential burden on the environment, including preventing global warming.

In Japan, for example, we are developing power generation business using renewable energy source including wind power and biomass such as wood, to reduce the consumption of oil and coal that produces CO₂, a greenhouse gas.

Overseas in Asia and the Middle East, we are promoting energy-saving projects that help improve the efficiency of electric power consumption at business sites such as manufacturing plants as well as hotels and other facilities. Higher efficiency reduces the amount of fossil fuels used, helping to prevent global warming in another way.

We also promote environmentally-friendly businesses leveraging our various capabilities as an integrated trading company. The Kyoto Protocol, which Japan ratified, requires the reduction of greenhouse gases during the period from 2008 to 2012. At the same time, the Protocol allows the trade of greenhouse gas emission allowances and credits in order to facilitate international cooperation in mitigating global warming. We were one of the first among Japanese companies to purchase these gas emission allowances and credits. Additionally, we are focusing on creating new businesses such as combining gas emission allowances and credits with import contracts for coal, one of the major sources of CO₂.



A scale system installed on the basement of our headquarters building to weigh waste categorized by bar codes



Seminar on laws regarding waste disposal and container recycling, hosted by the Global Environmental Dept.