History of Kubota s environmental conservation activities

Fiscal year

- 2001 • Global Environmental Charter revised, Voluntary Environmental Action Plan drafted
- 2000 • ISO14001 certificate acquired in all of our plants in Japan
  • Environmental Protection and Health and Safety Promotion Department established (consolidation of Environment Management Department, and Safety and Sanitation Promotion Department)
- 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 Shinyodogawa 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 Newapaper
- 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

Text pages 12 and 37

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.

Text pages 16 and 37

SI prefix

n (nano) : 10^{-9}, p (pico) : 10^{-12}

Text pages 16 and 37

TEQ（Toxic Equivalents）

Dioxins amount converted into the most toxic 2,3,7,8 tetrachloro-dibenzo-p-dioxins

Text page 24

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.

Text pages 25 and 37

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.

Text page 31

Zero Emission

This refers to the activities designed to completely eliminate wastes, which cannot be reused 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.

Text page 35

Green Procurement and Purchasing

Purchasing preferentially products or services with less environmental load from the vendors promoting the reduction of environmental load

Text page 39

No. 1 Control Area

Condition in which working environment management is considered to be proper

No. 2 Control Area

Condition in which working environment management is considered to have room for improvement

No. 3 Control Area

Condition in which working environment management is considered not to be proper

Text page 40

PRTR（Pollutant Release and Transfer Register）

This is a register voluntarily submitted to the government by companies that monitor emission released into the 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.