

The Sumitomo Bakelite Group is constantly striving to further improve its environmental conservation activities.

History of Activities

Year	Sumitomo Bakelite Group initiatives	Societal developments
1969	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pollution countermeasures secretariat established 	
1973	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Management Division established • Environmental auditing of domestic business sites commenced 	
1974	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental management departments established for all business sites 	
1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental auditing of domestic affiliates commenced 	
1987		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montreal Protocol on Substances That Deplete the Ozone Layer adopted
1990	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Issue Action Committee established 	
1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Technology Action Office established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act on the Rational Use of Energy enacted
1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.B. Recycle Co., Ltd., established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED or Earth Summit) generates several agreements, including the "Rio Declaration on Environment and Development" and "Agenda 21"
1993	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment and Safety Volunteer Plan drafted • Environment and safety management regulations established • Environmental audits of overseas affiliates commenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Basic Environment Law enacted
1994	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of certain CFCs and 1,1,1-trichloroethane ceased 	
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible Care Committee established • The Company joined the Japan Responsible Care Council as a founding member. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan Responsible Care Council (JRCC) established • Law for Promotion of Sorted Collection and Recycling of Containers and Packaging enacted
1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Corporate Policies for Safety, Health, and the Environment" revised • Utsunomiya Plant and Sumitomo Bakelite Singapore Pte. Ltd. acquired ISO 14001 certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto Protocol adopted by the Third Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP3)
1998	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First <i>Environmental Activities Report</i> issued 	
1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Sumitomo Bakelite plants acquired ISO 14001 certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law Concerning Reporting, Etc., of Releases to the Environment of Specific Chemical Substances and Promoting Improvements in Their Management enacted • Law Concerning Special Measures against Dioxins enacted
2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental accounting implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic Law for Establishing the Recycling-Based Society enacted
2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Environmental Report</i> issued (independent reviews conducted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law Concerning Special Measures against PCB Waste enacted
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope of <i>Environmental Report</i> expanded to include domestic affiliates • Tokyo Kakohin Co., Ltd., received an award for promoting a "3R" policy of reduce, reuse, and recycle • Risk Management Committee established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil Contamination Countermeasures Law enacted • Japan adopted COP3 Kyoto Protocol • World Summit on Sustainable Development generates Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yamaroku Kasei Industry Co., Ltd., became certified as the Company's first zero waste emissions plant • Compliance Committee established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Code revised to resolve "sick building" syndrome
2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shizuoka Plant commenced operations of a cogeneration system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Pollution Prevention Law revised to reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title of annual <i>Environmental Report</i> changed to <i>Environmental & Social Report</i> to reflect broader coverage of social initiatives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoto Protocol went into effect • Ordinance on Prevention of Health Impairment Due to Asbestos
2007		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new EU Regulation for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) came into force
2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 Sumitomo Bakelite Group domestic and overseas business sites held ISO 14001 certification as of July 31 • Start of soil and groundwater pollution remediation measures at a site owned by Sano Plastic Co., Ltd., following the dismantling of a factory building there (February) • Signed Responsible Care Global Charter (November) 	

Items in blue represent developments in international society.

Voices of the People in Charge Regarding Future Activities

Sumitomo Bakelite has adopted the management principle, "Management that is highly compatible with society and the environment." Accordingly, we are moving ahead to achieve additional reductions in the environmental impact of our business activities with respect to each stage of the product life-cycle process, which is the central focus of our Responsible Care activities.

Society is demanding that companies make progress in reducing energy consumption and CO₂ emissions while providing clear information on the energy consumption and CO₂ emissions associated

with individual products. Sumitomo Bakelite is broadly utilizing energy conservation technologies developed inside and outside the Company as it strives to realize sustained reductions in energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.

In addition, we are making effective use of our newly introduced Chemical Substance Management System as we work to provide product information based on the latest safety information and legal information.

Takamasa Akamatsu, General Manager,
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