

ESG / Environmental Activities

Interview with the Officer in charge of Safety & Environmental Affairs

We continue to take on challenges to balance environmental considerations with business growth

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Passing on This Precious Earth to the Future Generations

TAIYO YUDEN is accelerating environmental initiatives throughout the Group under the medium-term management plan 2025 that aims for greater corporate value through both economic value and social value. To hand over this precious Earth to future generations, environmental burden in every business activity in research, development and design of products, procurement of parts and materials manufacture, sales and associated services shall be reduced. We consider this not just as a slogan, but as a challenge that relates to our very reason for existence as a company. In our environmental initiatives, we are particularly focused on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promoting a circular economy.

Accelerating GHG Emission Reductions

In FY2024, our GHG emission reduction was 20.9%, significantly exceeding the target of a 16.8% reduction compared to FY2020.

For example, in our energy-saving measures, we have obtained ZEB Ready certification for a newly constructed building within our Tamamura Plant that manufactures multi-layer ceramic capacitors (MLCCs). We are achieving significant energy savings at this location through advanced architectural design and by introducing highly efficient infrastructural equipment. The design philosophy of this new plant is being rolled out to existing plants within the Group, leading to improvements through revisions from a new perspective.

Furthermore, the introduction of renewable energy is also progressing steadily. In FY2024, we started solar power generation at three new sites, and power is now generated at 13 sites throughout the Group. At the R&D Center, we have also installed power storage facilities, enabling us to achieve 100% renewable energy use by maximizing electricity generated on-site and fully transitioning to renewable sources. In FY2025, we plan to start solar power generation at the Takasaki Global Center as well, further promoting the use of renewable energy at our domestic sites.

Practicing a Circular Economy through PET Film Recycling Technology

In relation to a circular economy, we are working to conserve water resources and reduce waste. One initiative to this end is the chemical recycling of PET film discharged during the MLCC manufacturing process. In collaboration with a domestic company, we plan to introduce an initiative on a gradual basis starting in FY2026 to chemically recycle this material into high-purity monomers by removing additives and other impurities. Until now, PET film has been difficult to recycle because of the difficulty in removing additives and other impurities. However, chemical recycling allows for it to be widely used in various PET products, including PET film. We expect that we will advance the practice of a circular economy by enabling the recycling of PET film, as this accounts for a large portion of our waste.

Challenges for the Future

These initiatives are not merely environmental measures; they are directly linked to enhancing our corporate value and building a sustainable society. TAIYO YUDEN has set a GHG reduction target aligned with the SBT 1.5°C target, and also obtained Near-Term Target certification in March 2025. With the 2030 deadline for achieving our GHG emission reduction target in mind, we will continue to promote environmental measures that are integrated with our business activities while maintaining the same pace, and we will strengthen our use of renewable energy, including the introduction of off-site power purchase agreements (PPAs*). With the belief that "Responsibility for the environment is a promise to the future," we will continue to move forward toward a sustainable future.

*A system for purchasing renewable energy from a renewable energy power plant located off-site from the company's own premises