

# Environmental Management Information System

## ◎Environmental Management Information System

Information technology is indispensable in identifying the environmental impact of overall business activities, in reducing environmental impact effectively, and in conducting economically efficient environmental conservation activities. The Ricoh Group has established a variety of information systems, including an environmental impact information system and an environmental accounting information system, to be used for its innovative environmental activities.

### Goals and Progress

- Construct an environmental impact information system for copiers, facsimiles, and laser printers by the end of fiscal 2000 (by the end of fiscal 2001 for other product lines).
- ▶ An environmental impact database and a waste measuring system are already in operation for the manufacturing processes at some business sites. A power monitoring system is currently being tested. A product information system on product use is in operation. An environmental impact database for maintenance was also started. Test operations for similar systems for design and procurement processes have started.
- Construct a system to collect and provide information on environmental accounting, environmental improvement activities, regulations, environmental labels, and customers by the end of fiscal 2000.
- ▶ The establishment of a cost accumulation system was completed in fiscal 1999 as part of the environmental accounting information system. The cost accumulation system was in operation at Ricoh from the second half of fiscal 1999.
- ▶ As of fiscal 1999, Ricoh's internal IT system includes databases on environmental laws and revisions, product recycling/energy conservation measures, external queries, World Wide Web inquiries, and the kinds of waste generated at business sites as well as information from environmental label forums, forums on the business environment surrounding sales, and the CO<sub>2</sub> Forum.

### Environmental Impact Information System

Based on Eco Balance<sup>1</sup>, the environmental impact information system identifies and analyzes environmental impact at all stages, from materials procurement, manufacturing, logistics, and use to maintenance, collection, and recycling. Using a product's design data and information from the Ricoh Group network as well as from its suppliers, the environmental impact of a product throughout its life cycle is identified. Moreover, identifying environmental impact per division or per product makes decision making in management and product development more prompt and effectively reduces the environmental impact of business activities and products. This system gives us such progressive means of disclosing information as Type III Environmental Impact Disclosure<sup>2</sup>.

### Environmental Accounting System

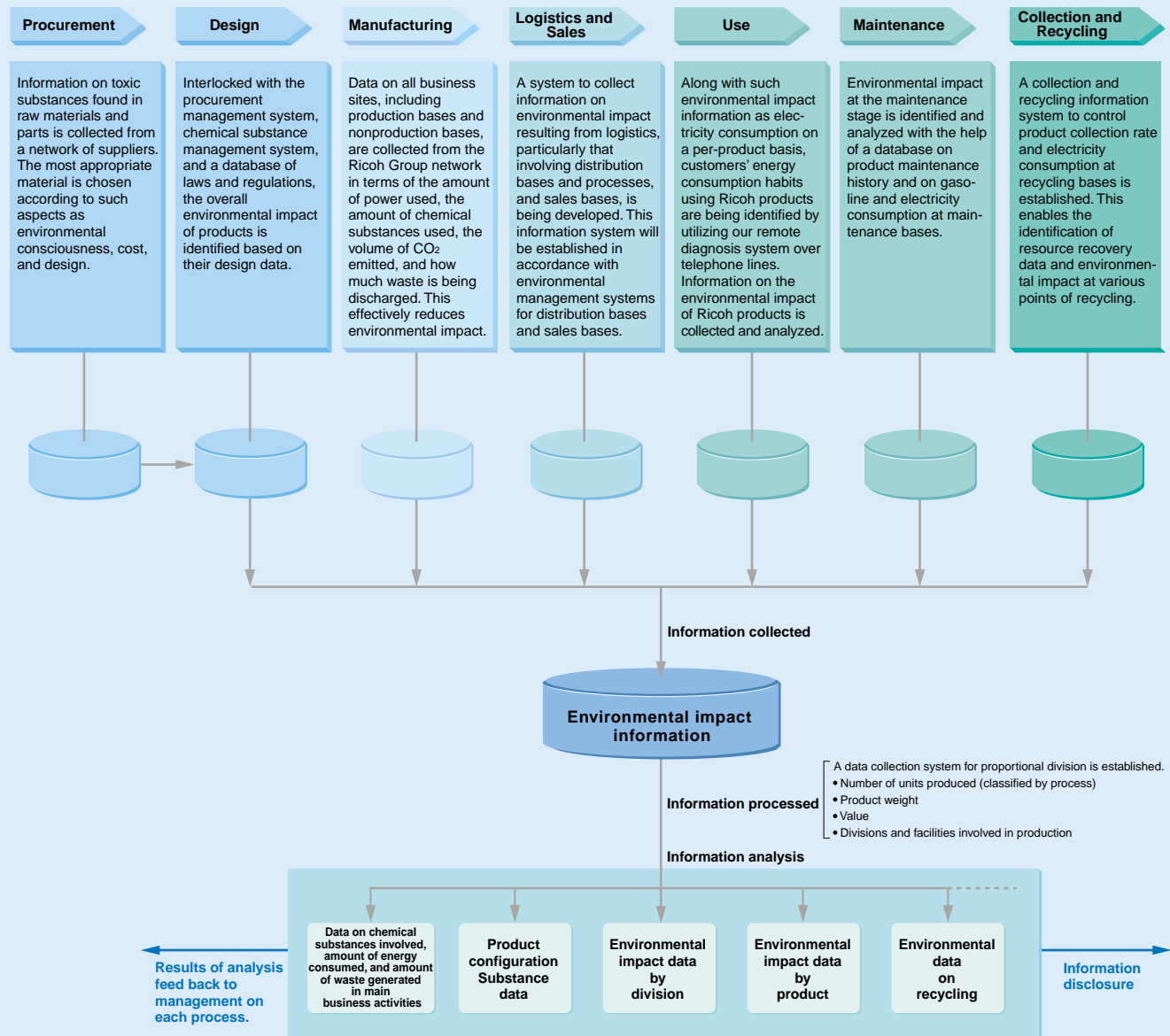
This system is a part of Ricoh's regular accounting system and is designed to ensure the efficient use of management resources for environmental conservation activities. In the future, we shall endeavor to use Eco Balance to identify all corresponding effects and economic benefits of our investments in all Groupwide environmental conservation activities.



Screen shot of a program used in the Environmental Impact Information System

1. See page 11.  
2. See page 35.

### Environmental Impact Information System (Tentative)



### Horizontal Development of Environmental Improvement Activities

Various and unique environmental conservation activities are being implemented at the business bases of the Ricoh Group. We are developing a database to share with Group members this know-how and the achievements that were made and to disseminate and use such information in an efficient manner. In the future, we will extensively disclose publicly the Ricoh Group's activities stored in this database.

### Sharing Information on Laws and Regulations as well as on Environment Labels

This database allows Group companies to share requirements and information on the latest revisions in domestic and overseas environmental laws and regulations as well as information on environment labeling standards. The Ricoh Group will make use of this database to develop the latest environment-friendly products and to run business sites more efficiently in the future.

### Social Communications Information Database

We receive numerous inquiries on our environmental conservation activities from customers and various organizations in Japan and overseas. Therefore, a database is being developed for the sole purpose of responding promptly to such inquiries. We incorporate many of the opinions of our customers and those of the general public into our business management.