

# The Ricoh Group's Environmental Conservation Activities (1976–March 1999)

	The Ricoh Group's Activities	Society's Recognition of Ricoh's Activities	Worldwide Trends
1976	Establishes Environmental Promotion Section		1971 Environment Agency set up Ramsar Convention adopted
1978	Establishes Environment Measurement Center		1977 United Nations Conference on Desertification held UNEP conference held
1980	Starts manufacturing aluminum ingots at Tohoku Ricoh as part of its recycling system		1987 Adopts Montreal Protocol
1989 April	Establishes the Committee to Address Chlorofluorocarbons		1990 London meeting (set phase-out of CFCs and HCFCs)
1990 March	Discontinues use of styrene foam plastic packaging material that contains ozone-depleting substances		
July	Markets Shigen recycled paper in Japan		
September	Markets Ricoh Recycling Copy recycled paper in Germany		
September	Proposes used paper collection and recycling system using Risapost (Ricoh in-house collection system)		
December	Sets up Environment Administration Office		1991 Recovered Resource Use Promotion Law enacted
1991 July	Markets the imagio MF 530 Series copier with energy-saving features		
1992 February	Establishes Ricoh's General Principles on the Environment		1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) held
March	FT5570 copier awarded the BAM (initial version)		
October	Announces the Ricoh Environment Symbol		
1993 March	Achieves total elimination of ozone-depleting substances (specific kinds of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), specific kinds of halon, carbon tetrachloride, etc.)		
May	Announces the recycled product design basic policy and implements recyclable design level 1	1993 May Ricoh UK Products' copier photo-sensitive drum recycling technology receives the Queen's Award in the U.K.	
May	Launches material labeling on plastic parts	September Ricoh UK Products' Power Consumption Reduction Activities receives the Business Energy Award's Grand Prize.	
December	The Ricoh Group achieves total elimination of ozone-depleting substances (specific kinds of CFCs, specific kinds of halon, carbon tetrachloride, etc.).	1994 January Awarded the Kanto Trade and Industry Bureau Director's Prize for activities to rationalize electricity use at Ricoh Gotemba	
1994 January	Creates the Ricoh Environmental Management System Committee	May Copier photosensitive drum recycling technology of Ricoh UK Products receives European Better Environment Awards for Industry.	
March	FT6655 copier awarded the BAM (second version)		
August	The Comet Circle concept is completed.		
October	Presents a case of LCA of toner cartridge buffer material at RECY '94 in Germany		
November	Markets resource-saving and energy-saving copiers around the world (marketed as the spirio 2700/3500 series in Japan)		
November	Implements labeling of materials and grade on plastic parts		
November	Implements recyclable design level 2		
1995 February	Holds First Ricoh Company Environment Competition	1995 February Ricoh Central Research Center receives Kanto Electricity Use Rationalization Committee Director Award for its cogeneration system.	1995 The First Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP1) held
February	Publishes first edition of <i>Ricoh Environmental Management System Guidelines</i>	March Ricoh product environmental assessment and recyclable design promotion activities receive a Resource Recovery Development Business Commendation: the Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize.	Container Packaging Recycle Law implemented
March	Markets the FT4000/5000 Series resource-saving and energy-saving copier in Japan and Europe		International Energy Star Program implemented
June	Holds First Tohoku Ricoh Environment Fair		
August	Wastewater treatment closed system starts operations at Ricoh Yashiro.		
October	Announces International Energy Star certified products		
December	Ricoh Gotemba acquires ISO 14001 certification (the first certification given by a Japanese certification organization).		

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1996 February	Holds Second Ricoh Company Environment Competition
March	Chemical substances management system RECSIS starts operations.
July	Ricoh UK Products acquires BS 7750/ISO 14001 certification.
November	Implements recyclable design level 3
1997 February	Holds Third Ricoh Company Environment Competition
February	Opens Ricoh Kanto Recycling Center
March	Sets 79 types of management chemical substances
September	Announces eco-packaging LCA case at the Eco-Material International Symposium
October	Six copier models awarded the Nordic Swan Mark (Scandinavian environmental label)
1998 March	Holds Fourth Ricoh Company Environment Competition
March	Draws Ricoh Environmental Action Plan
April	Reorganizes Environment Administration Office to Corporate Environment Office
April	Ricoh establishes the Recycling Division.
April	Revises Ricoh's General Principles on the Environment
May	Issues <i>Ricoh Group Green Procurement Guidelines</i>
September	Ricoh Omori's Noise Testing Center receives first NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) international certification in Japan.
October	Ricoh Fukui achieves a 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
October	Starts Ricoh Recycle Label System
October	Holds European Environment Conference sponsored by European region unification company Ricoh Europe B.V.
October	Announces external cabinet plastic material recycling case at the Eco Balance International Symposium
December	Holds the 1st Global Warming Prevention Business Workshop, organized by WWF Japan, at Ricoh Aoyama Head Office
1999 January	Issues the <i>Ricoh Group Environment Report 1998</i>
January	Holds the Fifth Ricoh Company Environment Competition
February	Ricoh Numazu achieves a 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).

## Society's Recognition of Ricoh's Activities

1996 June	Ricoh Corporation (United States) wins Energy Star Office Equipment Prize.
1997 March	Ricoh Corporation wins Energy Star Copier Prize.
June	Ricoh UK Products receives UK BSI-QA Prize.
1998 February	Combined copier/facsimile device RIFAX BL110 acclaimed as a "superior device for saving energy" and received the Chairman's Prize of the Japan Machinery Federation
March	Ricoh Corporation wins Energy Star Imaging Device Prize.
June	Ricoh Atsugi recognized for its environmental conservation activities in Kanagawa Prefecture
October	Ricoh Numazu toner cartridge recycling system receives Westec Award Environment Agency Director-General Prize.
October	Ricoh Microelectronics awarded 1998 Best Green Plant Award
November	Ricoh ranked top of the electric and electronics industry by German environmental survey specialist company Ökom GmbH
December	Evaluated as number one in Second Corporate Environmental Management Level Survey by the <i>Nippon Keizai Shimbun</i> newspaper
1999 February	Ricoh Gotemba receives the Director-General of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy Award from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry for promoting office energy savings.
March	Ricoh and Tohoku Ricoh recognized by the director-general of the Industrial Location and Environmental Protection Bureau, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, for their development of a copier remanufacturing system
March	Ricoh Fukui receives the Best Experience Prize for its 100% waste-recycling presentation at the QC Circle National Contest.

## Worldwide Trends

1996	ISO Environmental Auditing Standards of Environmental Management System established
	International Energy Star Award launched by EPA
	COP2 held
1997	COP3 held
1998	COP4 held
	Eco Partnership Tokyo Conference held
	Law Promoting Counter-measures against Global Warming established
1999	Revised Energy Saving Law enforced
	PRTR Law established
	Special Law on Counter-measures against Dioxin established
	COP5 held