

The Ricoh Group's Environmental Conservation Activities (1976–March 2000)

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

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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).
April	Constructs Kyushu Recycle Tech, the new Kyushu Recycling Center
May	Opens Green Cycle Systems, Northern Kanto Recycling Center

Society's Recognition of Ricoh Group'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 newspaper</i>
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.
April	Ricoh Corporation receives the Energy Star Award.
April	<i>Ricoh Group Environmental Report 1998</i> receives the Second Prize at the Green Reporting Awards.
May	Fukui Plant receives the Fukui Environmental Activity Promotion Council's Chairman Prize for environmental conservation promotion activities.

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 Countermeasures against Global Warming established
1999	Revised Energy Saving Law enforced
	PRTR Law established
	Special Law on Countermeasures against Dioxin established
	COP5 held

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- 1999 June Implements recyclable design level 4
- June Ricoh introduces its environmental volunteer leader training program.
- June Holds First Ricoh Nature Seminar
- July Holds Environmental Management System Screening Standards Seminar pursuant to the Ricoh Group's green procurement guidelines
- August Ricoh Aoyama Head Office is listed in the Eco-Improvement Office Tokyo Declaration (Type I).
- September Ricoh announces results of its first environmental accounting.
- September Gotemba Plant achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
- October Opens Northern Kansai and Southern Kansai recycling centers
- October Ricoh discloses information on the environmental impact of the imagio MF6550 through Type III Environmental Labels.
- November Ricoh Unitechno achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
- December Ricoh enters one of its machines in Eco-Products 1999, Japan's first comprehensive exhibition for environment-friendly products.
- December Holds First Company Meeting for Environmental Volunteer Leaders
- December Hatano Plant achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
- 2000 January Ricoh acquires Eco-Mark certification for 28 copier models.
- January Atsugi Plant achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
- February Ricoh's digital multifunctional copier, the imagio MF6550, acquires Type III Environmental Impact Disclosure from BVQI (Sweden).
- March Holds Sixth Ricoh Company Environment Competition.
- March Sagamino Plant Part Component System achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste).
- March Holds Five-Party Environment Meeting
- March Holds First Global Recycling Conference

Society's Recognition of Ricoh Group's Activities

- 1999 May Ricoh receives the Environmental Protection Prize in the Ninth Corporate Contribution to the Society Survey held by the Asahi Shimbun Cultural Foundation.
- May Ricoh receives the Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize at the Eighth Global Environmental Awards held by the *Japan Industrial Journal*.
- June Ricoh is awarded the grand prize at the Green Procurement Awards organized by Green Procurement Networks.
- July Hatano Plant is recognized by Kanagawa Prefecture as a superior plant in terms of self-regulation activities in the area of pollution prevention.
- August Fukui Plant is recognized for its contributions to the promotion of recycling by the governor of Fukui Prefecture for fiscal 1999.
- September Ricoh Electronics is declared WRAP Winner by the California state government.
- September Atsugi Plant receives Type 5 certification for its accident-free operations.
- October Ricoh Italy receives the Ecohitech Award (an environmental conservation award).
- October The Spirio 5000RM copier receives the Fiscal 1999 G Mark for its ecological design.
- October Numazu Plant receives the Japan Recycling Promotion Council Chairman Award.
- October Taiwan Ricoh wins the 1999 Superior Plant in Equipment Operations Award for the Promotion of Pollution Prevention by the Taiwanese government.
- October Numazu Plant receives the 1999 Most Technologically Advanced Office Award.
- November Ricoh wins the IEA's Demand-Side Management Award of Excellence in the recently created Copier of the Future Division for its energy-saving technology.
- November *Ricoh Group Environmental Report 1999* wins the Global Environmental Forum President's Prize at the Environmental Report Awards.
- December Evaluated as No. 1 in the Third Corporate Environmental Management Level Survey by *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* for the second consecutive year
- 2000 February Ricoh Unitechno receives Fiscal 1999 Kanto Trade and Industry Bureau Director's Prize for its superiority in energy management.
- February Numazu Plant receives the Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize for its energy conservation activities.
- February Ricoh receives the Energy-Saving Award's Energy Conservation Center Chairman's Prize (Special Corporate Prize).
- February Ricoh is given a "B" by Ökom, making Ricoh the top ranking company in the IT & Appliance Division.
- February Ricoh Optical Industries' Sweet Pea Circle receives Grand Prize in the Corporate Division of the Iwate Prefecture Recycling Competition.
- March Ricoh Corporation receives three awards from the Energy Star Program: 1) 2000 Energy Star Excellence in Consumer Education Award, 2) Labeling Partners of the Year Award, and 3) Office Equipment Partner of the Year Award (for the fifth consecutive year, the Energy Star Award).

Worldwide Trends

- 2000 Law Concerning the Promotion of the Procurement of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services by the State and Other Entities promulgated Basic Law on Establishing a Recycling-Based Society established Waste Disposal and Public Cleansing Law revised Law Concerning the Promotion of the Utilization of Resources for Recycling established Law on Promoting Green Purchasing established Food Waste Recycling Law established COP6 held
- 2001 Ministry of the Environment established The first Conference on the Creation of Wa no Kuni held