

The Ricoh Group receives a third-party review of its environmental performance data and collection/aggregation system (Sustainable Environmental Management Information System). The related information is provided to stakeholders in the sustainability report (Environment). Furthermore, the results of this review are used to improve and advance sustainable environmental management. In fiscal 2004, the concept of system verification was introduced. System verification checks for consistency between data and whether the system effectively functions to collect/aggregate highly reliable data. The Ricoh Group continues to promote sustainable environmental management by using third-party reviews more effectively.

Reference View

BUREAU VERITAS has reported many findings and opinions through the data verification process at the head office and site level. BV has concluded as follows:



1. Positive Findings
- Data aggregation systems for new sites that have been included as part of this year's scope of reporting and verification are seen to be as reliable as those for sites previously covered, and adequate for the management of data for the Report. This in turn indicates the adequacy and effectiveness of the entire aggregation system of the Ricoh group (including that for human resources).

- Ricoh has taken prompt action to meet the change of requirements for Blue Angel for its products and has addressed this in a consistent manner. With regard to energy consumption of copier machines, Ricoh promotes the evaluation of existing user needs in relation to actual usage, and is incorporating this information into design improvement, based on Ricoh's QSU (Quick Start Up) concept.

- Ricoh has taken appropriate action for soil contamination identified during its reconstruction work, already known through an investigation conducted at the Ikeda Plant five years ago, for substances related to the manufacturing process. Since then Ricoh has implemented appropriate risk management and prevention measures across the group including soil contamination investigations at production and non-production sites.

■ List of Figures Verified by BV

Page	Number	Title	Verification No.
21	—	The Ricoh Group's Environmental Action Plan (FY 2005–2007)/Progress (fiscal 2006 performance)	(1)
25	①	<Japan> Changes in Energy Consumption—Black-and-White Copiers and Multifunctional Copiers	(2)
	②	<Japan> Changes in Energy Consumption—Color Copiers and Multifunctional Copiers	(3)
	③	<Japan> Changes in Recovery Time from Energy-Saving Mode—Color Copiers and Multifunctional Copiers	(4)
	④	<Global> Reduction in CO ₂ Emissions through the Use of QSU Technology	(5)
28	①	<Global> Collection Results and Resource Recovery Rate—Copiers and Toner Cartridges	(6)
	②	<Global> Changes in the Amount of Recovered Resources Used	(7)
29	①	LCA Comparison Between a New Machine and a Recycled Copier (CO ₂ Emissions)	(8)
31	①	<Global> Achievement of Standards for Environmentally-sensitive Chemical Substances	(9)
36	①	<Japan> Energy Consumption—The Ricoh Group (production)	(10)
	②	<Japan> Energy Consumption—The Ricoh Group (non-production)	(11)
	③	<Japan> Breakdown of Major Energy Consumption—The Ricoh Group (production)	(12)
	④	<Outside Japan> Energy Consumption—The Ricoh Group (production)	(13)
	⑤	<The Entire Ricoh Group> Greenhouse Gas Emissions other than CO ₂ (CO ₂ conversion)—The Ricoh Group (production)	(14)
40	①	CO ₂ , NO _x , and SO _x Emissions in Transportation by Ricoh Logistics System	(15)
42	①	<The Entire Ricoh Group> Total Amount of Waste Generated—The Ricoh Group (production)	(16)
	②	<The Entire Ricoh Group> Volume of Industrial Water Used—The Ricoh Group (production)	(17)
	③	<Japan> Resource Recovery Rate of Waste/Total Amount of Waste Generated/Total Amount of Waste Discharged/Amount of Waste Finally Disposed of—The Ricoh Group (production)	(18)
	④	<Japan> Resource Recovery Rate of Waste/Total Amount of Waste Generated/Total Amount of Waste Discharged/Amount of Waste Finally Disposed of—The Ricoh Group (non-production)	(19)
	⑤	<Outside Japan> Resource Recovery Rate of Waste/Total Amount of Waste Generated/Total Amount of Waste Discharged/Amount of Waste Finally Disposed of—The Ricoh Group (production)	(20)
45	①	<The Entire Ricoh Group> Changes in the Amount Used and Discharged of Ricoh Target Substances for Reduction—The Ricoh Group (production)	(21)
	②	<The Entire Ricoh Group> Changes in the Amount of No _x , SO _x and BOD—The Ricoh Group (production)	(22)
48	①	Survey Results of Underground Water Pollution and Purification Efforts at the Ricoh Group's Manufacturing Subsidiaries (As of March 2007)	(23)
55	—	Eco Balance of Overall Business Activities	(24)
57	—	Ricoh Group's Corporate Environmental Accounting in fiscal 2006	(25)
77	—	Business Site Data	(26)

2. Opportunities for Improvement

- Fuel use of company-owned cars is included in the inventory data, however fuel use for rental cars is not included. Ricoh should consider including this fuel use in order to better manage and reduce this emissions source in future.
- CO₂ emissions from steam used in SRF and SRD in China is not included in the inventory data due to a lack of an appropriate CO₂ emission factor. In the absence of a definitive figure, Ricoh should consider using a best estimate that would provide the reader with an indication of impact in this area.
- Bureau Veritas is identifying and reporting on improvement items that have previously been identified for other sites. For example, recommendations for data input error prevention systems and chemical substances transfer measures have been made in relation to more than one site in previous reporting. An enhancement of internal communications could be made more effective in order to share improvement issues across sites; this will ensure that duplication of findings is avoided and that all sites benefit from best practice measures.

The English versions of the Independent Verification Report and Reference View from BV are translated from the original Japanese versions. The Japanese versions shall be the sole official texts in case of discrepancy.