

ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

As a pioneering global manufacturer of vital machinery components, the THK Group has made an economic and social contribution via the development of linear motion systems such as LM guides. At the same time, we recognize our corporate social responsibility in terms of contributing to global environmental preservation efforts so that future generations can inherit a healthy planet. To this end, we are engaged in various activities aimed at continuously reducing the impact on the environment as well as trying to maintain and improve the natural environment.

THK Group’s Basic Policy Regarding the Environment

1. Conservation of the environment is considered a major management concern, and we are striving to accurately grasp the impact on the environment produced by the Group’s business activities, products, and services. Every division participates by setting relevant environmental goals.
2. In addition to following environmental laws, we set self-imposed standards for Group companies and regularly review them to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our environmental management.
3. We will continually promote the development of products that help reduce environmental burdens.
4. We will continually promote conservation and recycling of resources, with particular attention to reducing and recycling waste from our manufacturing divisions.
5. To promote greater unity in our environmental activities, we will provide guidance and support to our affiliates and business partners, and strive to work in cooperation and harmony with local communities.
6. This basic policy regarding the environment shall be disseminated to all divisions in the Group through education, training, and activities designed to improve awareness. We will disclose information concerning the environment to parties within and outside the Group in a timely manner.

Environmental activities and targets

Area	Objectives and goals	Main activities
Energy conservation	Cut greenhouse gas emissions	(1) Energy diagnostics (2) Energy conservation (3) Use of clean energy
Material conservation, zero emissions	Reduce environmental impact; achieve zero emissions	(1) Input controls (materials, parts and by-products) to reduce usage and boost per-unit yields (2) Controls on emissions and final waste disposal (3) Material re-use/recycling
Harmful substance controls	Eliminate and control harmful substances in THK Group production/distribution activities	(1) Substitution of PRTR-designated substances (2) Green procurement and purchasing
Environment-friendly products and services	Develop products and supply services using LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) methods	(1) Cage-embedded product series development (2) Extension of service life and maintenance-free periods

New initiatives

A program of office-based environmental preservation activities commenced during the year. Special teams were formed at THK's head office and inside engineering and development divisions to promote environmental measures such as energy-saving initiatives and efforts to reduce the amounts of waste emitted or water used. THK Group companies outside Japan began collecting accurate environmental performance data, including energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.



The Company's Mie Plant has adopted energy-saving lighting fixtures that employ high-frequency inverters.

Prevention of global warming

THK Group facilities consume energy in machinery fabrication and grinding processes and in the operation of systems such as air conditioning, lighting and compressed air lines. We are trying to cut CO₂ emissions at our facilities by replacing equipment with more energy-efficient versions and by operating and managing equipment more efficiently. Alongside these efforts, the TAP-2 (THK Advantage Program 2) initiative, which targets our production division, involves ongoing activities aimed at conserving energy through improvements in productivity.



Employees attend a lecture on environmental issues at our Kofu Plant.

Reducing waste

THK Group facilities try to minimize waste generation through the appropriate management of the timing and volume of material input purchases. We also apply strict waste separation policies to promote the recycling of materials into metals, fuel oil, other fuels, raw materials for cement or asphalt, and plastics. Currently we recycle nearly all of the waste materials that we generate.

Management of environmental risk substances

The THK Group is promoting green procurement (initiatives and systems to facilitate preferential purchasing of products with low environmental impact from suppliers that are actively involved in environmental preservation efforts) based on cooperation with suppliers. These activities are aimed at ensuring compliance with the EU's RoHS and REACH directives, while also curtailing the use in production processes of those chemical substances regulated under Japan's Pollutant Release and Transfer Registry (PRTR) legislation.

Notes: 1. The EU directive on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) places strict limits on use of certain designated substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

2. The REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals) directive mandates the safety evaluation and registration of data on virtually all chemical substances sold in the EU.



Employees at our Yamagata Plant participate in a contingency drill based on a waste liquid pollution scenario.

Green logistics

Our logistics division is applying a total environmental management approach based on the "green logistics" concept. This involves measures to reduce energy used in transportation, save energy at distribution centers, and reduce waste. Specific initiatives to lower CO₂ emissions include modal shifts to distribution by rail and efforts to make truck haulage more energy efficient by increasing vehicle loading ratios or consolidating trucking routes.