Initiatives for Effective Use of Resources





Basic Approach

The Minebea Group recognizes that there are limits to the availability of resources used in its products, which include metals, plastics, and other raw materials, along with oil, natural gas, and other energy sources. Additionally, with regard to rare earth elements indispensable to the manufacture of electronics, since the number of countries producing and exporting the materials is limited, they are more susceptible to export restrictions.

We believe that the effective use of resources is critical to the continuation of our business activities, and to that end we are taking various management measures.



Results of FY2012 Initiatives

In FY2012, principal raw materials used by Minebea Group included approximately 72,320 tons of steel and 5,400 tons of resin, with the total amount of materials used roughly on par with the previous fiscal year.

The amount of landfill waste generated by the Group's operations in FY2012 totaled 4,330 tons. Though the FY2011 amount of landfill waste previously reported in the FY2011 report was 4,061 tons, as a result of an error in data collection methods, the actual amount was 4,697 tons. We apologize for the error. As a result, the amount of landfill waste in FY2012 declined by 367 tons compared to the previous year.

► Waste Processed (FY2012 Actual)





Business site initiatives, Effective use of rain and river water, etc.

At our mass production plants in Thailand and China, we are recycling water inside the plants to the greatest extent possible and prevent external emissions through our "Plant Wastewater Zero System." Water emissions from Group plants in FY2012 totaled 784,000 m³, a decline of 132,000 m³ compared with FY2011.



Initiatives at Business Sites

Recycling Mobile Phones (Thailand)

From March 2012, Minebea Group subsidiaries in Thailand collaborated with Nokia to launch the "Weee Can Do Project" to collect and recycle discarded mobile phones and accessories. The project aimed at collecting a large number of discarded mobile phones and accessories within Minebea's plants in exchange for commemorative goods and presents from Nokia awarded by a lottery draw. At the Bang Pa-in and Lop Buri plants, the project was promoted through collection boxes at security gates, the cafeteria, stores and other areas, along with campaign stickers on employee buses.

The mobile phones and accessories collected were recycled by a Nokia subcontractor after removal of toxic materials. The number of mobile phones and accessories collected is as follows.

- Bang Pa-in Plant (campaign period: March 13, 2012–September 13, 2012)
 Mobile phones: 2,169 units; Accessories: 1,424 items
- Lop Buri Plant (campaign period: November 1, 2012–March 29, 2013) Mobile phones: 1,106 units; Accessories: 1,379 items



Future Issues and Goals

For FY2013, we have set a target of limiting the amount of landfill waste to 4,300 tons following recalculation of previous results. Currently, we are researching the types of landfill waste we generate and conducting market analysis in an effort to further lower waste amounts in the future.

