

Initiatives for Reducing Impacts on the Environment



Basic Approach

Atmospheric emissions and wastewater from plants can be a source of water, air, and soil pollution that poses a threat to local communities. At the MinebeaMitsumi Group, we believe that harmony with local communities is indispensable to our business activities, and as such, we are striving to reduce our impact on the environment.

Results of FY2017 Initiatives

The MinebeaMitsumi Group ensures compliance with the environmental laws and regulations of each country and locality. For plant wastewater and other types of waste, we have established in-house environmental standards exceeding the national and local regulations and monitor waste management on a daily basis. In FY2017, at all of our Group plants, we further strengthened daily monitoring and environmental patrols to ensure there are no leakages, foul odors, noise, vibration or other issues that could inconvenience surrounding communities.

Plant Initiatives

Plant Wastewater Purification

Prior to releasing wastewater into rivers, MinebeaMitsumi Group plants use their own processing equipment to purify it within fixed environmental standards. These plants adhere to environmental laws of the countries and localities in which they operate, and independently monitor such wastewater discharges, including regular testing for such metrics as pH¹, COD², BOD³, SS⁴, and n-hexane extracts⁵.

1. pH: A scale indicating whether substances are acidic or alkaline. pH7 is neutral. pH values below 7 indicate increasing acidity, while values above 7 indicate increasing alkalinity.
2. COD (chemical oxygen demand): The amount of oxygen consumed to oxidize organic substances (pollution) in water. COD measurement takes less time than BOD measurement, but is less reliable. COD is generally used as a metric in wastewater management for sea, lake, and marsh waters.
3. BOD (biological oxygen demand): The amount of oxygen required for bacteria to consume and decompose organic matter (pollution) in water. Higher values indicate greater degrees of pollution. Measurement takes several days. BOD is generally used to observe effluent water in rivers.
4. SS (suspended solids): The volume of substances suspended in water. The higher the number, the greater the degree of water pollution.
5. n-Hexane extracts: Substances extracted from oils and detergents that are difficult to volatilize in water using a substance called n-hexane as solvent. In this report they signify mineral oils.

Implementation of Environmental Patrols at Overseas Plants (Thailand, China, Malaysia, Cambodia)

Members of the Japanese Group Environment Management Department of the MinebeaMitsumi Group regularly visit

overseas plants to implement environmental patrols together with members of the local environment management departments.

In FY2017, we conducted joint patrols at all plants in Thailand, China, Malaysia, and Cambodia.

Minor management deficiencies were confirmed at some waste storage locations, but they were immediately improved following the patrols.



Hazardous Waste Warehouse at the Lopburi Plant (Thailand)

Observation of Waste Disposal Sites (Japan, Thailand, China, and other countries)

Some waste material generated at plants and offices can be difficult to reuse or recycle at the plant or office. This type of waste material is outsourced to waste treatment companies for processing.

The MinebeaMitsumi Group selects reliable treatment companies for outsourcing processing and periodically visits the processing sites to observe the status of processing and management. We will continue to cooperate with treatment companies and take measures to prevent environmental contamination including soil, water, and air pollution during waste processing.

In August 2017, plants in Thailand inspected GENCO's Ratchaburi Plant where sludge and other waste is disposed of in a landfill.

Future Issues and Goals

The MinebeaMitsumi Group will continue to conduct business operations in compliance with environmental laws in Japan and around the world and is implementing countermeasures in areas where it has caused environmental contamination in the past.

As we announced in a press release on July 20, 2018, the Group completed soil purification measures at the site of the former Ichinoseki Plant in Iwate Prefecture in 2011, but recent testing conducted in preparation for demolition of the factory building determined that environmental pollutants are present in part of the site. The Group immediately decided to implement countermeasures to address this issue.