FineToday Industries Environmental Initiatives

The FineToday Group's manufacturing company Fine Today Industries (FTI) is committed to reducing the environmental impact of production processes as part of its responsibility as a member of the local community.

Environmental management

Continual improvements to environmental activities based on ISO 14001

In 1997, when it was operating as the Kuki Factory of Shiseido Co., Ltd., FTI was the first facility in the cosmetics industry in Japan to earn ISO 14001 certification. By running through a plan-do-check-act (PDCA) cycle based on ISO 14001, it strives to enhance its environmental management structure and continually reduce its environmental impact.

It continues to maintain ISO 14001 certification through annual regular maintenance review and update review every three years, both conducted by external agencies.



Futa 21 hybrid wind- and solar-powered street lighting, a symbol of FTI's environmental initiatives (installed in December 2010)

Compliance with environmental laws and regulations through a periodic checking structure

The manufacturing sections, whose activities involve larger environmental impacts, play leading roles in assessment of compliance with environmental laws, regulations, etc., based on ISO 14001, to ensure thorough compliance.

Promoting education and training to raise employees' environmental consciousness

FTI provides a wide range of environmental education and training for employees. By raising the environmental awareness of each and every employee involved in diverse activities in each section, it aims to lessen its environmental impact while also maintaining and building positive relations with the local community.

Main education and training topics at FTI

Sharing results and plans for environmental management, including protection of energy sources and responding to climate change
Requests for cooperation in waste segregation, energy conservation, and paperless operations
Raising awareness of measures to prevent outflows of raw materials and chemicals off site
Requests for cooperation in refraining from idling vehicle engines

Lessening environmental impact

Reducing CO₂ emissions through systematic environmental investment

FineToday Group's medium-to-long-term vision Fine Today & Tomorrow 2030 identifies the "Planet" as one important pillar of the Group's activities. FTI too is striving to reduce CO₂ emissions through systematic investment.

Upgrading cogeneration systems

In 2012, FTI upgraded the gas-turbine generator system it had adopted in 2001 to a power-generation system based on two gas-engine generators. Waste heat generated by this system is used to produce hot water and steam for use in manufacturing areas. Stable operation of this generation system also supports manufacturing with little energy loss. It also supplies about 900 kW of electricity and makes it possible to secure power supplies even in the event of lengthy power failures or rolling blackouts due to natural disasters or other causes.

- Capital investment and measures to reduce CO₂

2012	 Upgrading from absorption chillers to heat-pump chillers Upgrading cogeneration systems (two gas-engine systems)
2015	 Upgrading brine chillers Changing method of connecting fluid supplies from semifinished-product tanks to filling lines (reducing CO₂ emissions by using less hot water, through switching from automated pipe connectors to a process under which workers connect fluid supply hoses manually)
2016	• Upgrading the electrical substation for factory building no. 4 from standard oil-immersed transformers to super-high-efficiency oil-immersed transformers (three units)
2017	• Upgrading the production chillers in factory building no. 4 and switching to LED lighting in the building
2018	Promoting use of LED lighting
2019	Switching some electricity used to hydroelectric power (3,455 MW)
2022	 Switching all electricity used to hydroelectric power (target power: 9,799 MW) Use of carbon-offset credits (J-Credits) (purchase of CO₂ emissions credits) Upgrading the electrical substation for factory building no. 5 to ultra-high-efficiency transformers Upgrading the energy building's compressor to an inverter-controlled compressor (one unit)
2023	• Updated the air conditioner systems in the filling and finishing rooms on the first floor of factory building no. 3

Focusing on waste reduction and appropriate control of chemical substances

Together with advancing efforts to reduce wastes generated in manufacturing processes and the employee dining hall, FTI also properly controls harmful chemical substances used in its operations. It also carries out periodic environmental surveys in accordance with laws, regulations, etc., to prevent soil pollution and air and water pollution.

Waste reduction

Each type of waste is treated in accordance with applicable environmental work procedures.

 Various shredders and compactors have been adopted in the Recycling Center on site, where some wastes are compacted and reduced for recycling as valuable resources.

• FTI has adopted drum washers to wash the insides of polymer drums and composite packaging, previously disposed of as waste, so they can be recycled as valuable resources.

 Food waste, produced mainly in the employee dining hall, is reduced through biotreatment in food-waste disposal equipment.

Control of hazardous wastes

• Waste batteries are disposed of properly by industrial waste processing vendors.

Ex.: Primary batteries (alkaline and manganese batteries) are disposed of properly through a process of segregation and nonferrous smelting (zinc recovery)

Control of substances subject to the PRTR Act

• Pursuant to the Act on the Assessment of Releases of Specified Chemical Substances in the Environment and the Promotion of Management Improvement (PRTR Act), the names and quantities handled of specified chemical substances produced or used are reported to the Atmospheric Environment Department of the Saitama Prefecture Environment Bureau in June of each year.

Prevention of soil pollution

• A review conducted in FY2021 showed that soil pollution levels conformed to reference values. FTI renovates facilities such as the interior and exterior drainpipes of individual buildings and underground piping on the factory site in a timely manner.

Prevention of air and water pollution

- FTI has adopted equipment and technologies to reduce atmospheric pollutants such as NOx and SOx and organic substances included in wastewater generated in manufacturing processes to within the reference values stipulated by laws and regulations and values agreed to with local governments. It measures NOx concentrations twice a year and soot and dust concentrations once every five years.
- FTI processes manufacturing wastewater through activatedsludge treatment in its wastewater treatment facilities, releasing it into the sewer system only after first treating it to conform to values specified by laws and regulations.

Prevention of noise pollution

Waste reduction

Recycling Center

- FTI thoroughly prohibits idling by delivery trucks and employees' personal vehicles on site.
- It measures noise levels on site boundary lines once a year. These measurements showed that reference levels continued to be satisfied in FY2023.

Food-waste disposal

equipment

Horizontal recycling of release paper

FTI implements extensive measures to use resources efficiently and to reduce waste. One of our environmental initiatives is working with companies to create systems for recycling the release paper for point-of-purchase (POP) labels (stickers).

FTI had been paying the processing fees for release paper remaining after the client manufacturing processes and contracted collection of the paper as industrial waste (waste plastic). The release paper was then recycled as RPF (Refuse Paper & Plastic Fuel) by compressing the waste paper and plastic into fuel pellets for industrial use. RPF combustion produces 33% less CO₂ emissions than coal.

In June 2024, we began using the Japan Earth Conscious Labeling Association's (J-ECOL) circular-use model to recycle release paper into other paper products. The high-quality pulp used to produce release paper makes it an ideal resource for paper manufacturing, but the resource has been largely untapped due to the lack of collection infrastructure. J-ECOL created a complete recycling structure in which its association member and partner companies collect and recycle the release paper into resources that paper product manufacturers and processing companies then recycle into cardboard, paper towels, and other products. FTI's initiative to shift from using recycled release paper as industrial waste mainly for RPF to using it as a resource for horizontal recycling back into paper products has not only lowered its disposal expenses but also reduced the amount of industrial waste it produces each year by close to 20 tons.

The FineToday Group is working to reduce the use of POP labels and to further reduce environmental impact.

