



Preparation for Compliance with Automobile Recycling Law Horizontal cooperation in the company

Under Japan's Automobile Recycling Law, the recycling fees for end-of-life vehicles are deposited by customers at the time of purchasing a new vehicle, or, in the case of existing vehicles, when they are next inspected. The amounts are calculated based on equipment at the time of shipment, according to the vehicle identification number. The deposited funds are paid to companies involved in ELV recycling according to a transfer report on ELVs maintained in an IT system.

As part of efforts to comply with the requirements of the system, MFTBC must calculate costs for recycling all of its vehicles and make them available. To that end, it has done the following:

1) Calculating costs for existing vehicles

Investigated specifications at the time of shipment of vehicles manufactured by MFTBC, and calculated costs matched to models and equipment, for example, air-conditioners and airbags, according to vehicle identification numbers – a huge volume of numbers.

2) Creating a mechanism to set costs for new vehicles

Created a system to provide data on each vehicle at the time of production to dealers across the country, and to ensure that proper costs are set – again, given the range of specifications, a huge volume of numbers.

Specific departments within the company could not have handled the above activities alone, and close cooperation was required among all related departments. Sales, IT and technical departments worked closely, and enjoyed help and input from many other departments as well, and MFTBC managed to meet the requirements of the law, such a small manufacturer might have found difficult. Although unexpected problems certainly arose, they were overcome with the hard work by everyone involved, often beyond their normal responsibilities within their particular departments.



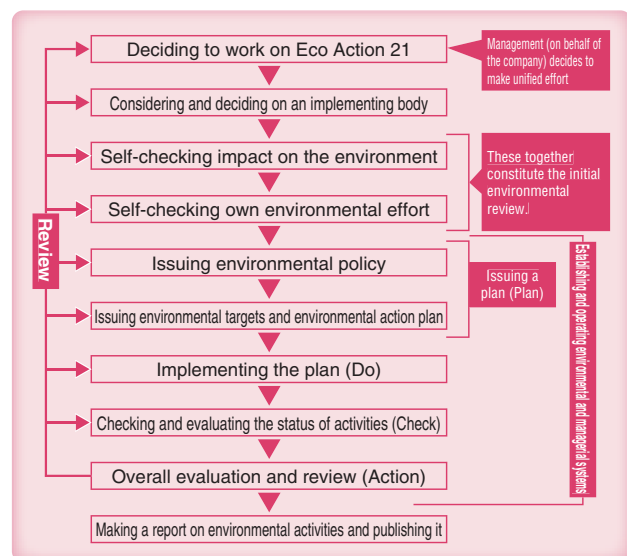
The team that established the system to comply with the Automobile Recycling Law

Related departments:

Technical Administration, Business IT, Sales Promotion & Distribution, Dealer Sales Planning, Service, Development, Finance & Treasury, Accounting, Production Control, Fuso dealers across the country, Mitsubishi Fuso Bus Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Fuso Engineering Corporation (Special Purpose Vehicle & Engineering Office) and Mitsubishi Motors Corporation.

Activities under Eco Action 21

Eco Action 21 (EA21) is a program created by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) in 1996, and has been revised several times. Established on the basis of the international standard ISO 14001, EA21 is designed so that small- and medium-size industries can effectively promote environmental management at relatively low cost and minimal man-hours. The system has not only environmental, but managerial effects, such as reducing costs and improving productivity and material yields.



"Steps in Eco Action 21 Efforts" (Source: IGES)

Since 2000, MFTBC has called on all suppliers of parts and materials to acquire ISO 14001 certification as part of its environmental activities. Based on information that a pilot project would begin in July 2003 prior to shifting EA21 to certification programs such as ISO 14001, MFTBC encouraged some of its suppliers to participate in the pilot program. Six did and all acquired EA21 certification. In FY2004 and since, five suppliers have participated. Through all these years, MFTBC has actively promoted EA21, holding meetings to explain the program, with support from MOE, to encourage participation and to report on activities, thus sharing information horizontally. We were pleased and proud when one of our suppliers, Ichijo Machinery Manufacturing Co., received an Award of Merit for its Environmental Activity Report in the Eighth Environmental Communication Grand Prize Competition.



President Horaguchi of Ichijo Machinery Manufacturing Co. receiving the Excellence Award



Environmental Communication Grand Prize Award Ceremony

Environmental Preservation Activities by Overseas Affiliated Companies

■ Mitsubishi Fuso Truck Europe (MFTE)

Measures to Reduce Environmental Impact

Energy Conservation

In order to improve insulation, an old roof (total area of 2,000 m²) was replaced with a new, asbestos-free one, thereby saving energy in winter and creating a better, more comfortable working environment in summer as well.

Reduction in Use of Water

With the new roof mentioned above, water sprinkling to cool the old roof was no longer required, and 5,000 m³ of water was saved.



Old Roof with Sprinkler System New Roof with Insulation (40mm)

Prevention of Air Pollution

An airless spray gun has been employed for painting axles, and is expected to reduce overspraying by 30%.

Prevention of Soil and Groundwater Pollution

Drainage gutters surrounding oil tanks and tanks for diesel fuel were installed.

A new space was prepared to stock dangerous substances.



Liquids Stock Area with Gutter

Reduction of Packing/Packaging Materials

In order to reduce the use of packing and packaging materials, MFTE is introducing returnable racks and boxes. In the case of engines, 136 ton/year of reduction was achieved.



Old New

EEC Regulations and ISO 14001

MFTE is proceeding with activities to obtain the "Environmental License of Factory", in accordance with EEC directives.

Activities to prepare for the new ISO14001:2004 have been started by relevant departments.

■ Mitsubishi Fuso Truck (Thailand) (MFTT)

MFTT manufactures trucks and engines. Environmentally, in order to meet the highest international standards, MFTT is making the following efforts:

1. Making its management, production and service practices as environmentally sound as possible.
2. Implementing measures to prevent environmental pollution, including waste reduction, and recycling and reuse of materials.
3. Observing environment-related laws, regulations and agreements.
4. Setting targets to continuously improve the environment.
5. Educating all employees to increase environmental consciousness and boost awareness of the need to preserve natural resources.
6. Encouraging cost-reduction activities that effectively save electricity, water and more.
7. Releasing information to the public on the company's environmental policies and environment-related issues.

■ Results of Environmental Activities

Energy Saving

As a result of energy-saving efforts, MFTT has achieved the reductions shown in the table below.

	FY2003	FY2004	Reduction
Electricity	756 kWh/unit	674 kWh/unit	82 kWh/unit
LPG gas	32 kg/unit	29 kg/unit	3 kg/unit

Treatment of Waste

Waste from plants is commissioned to contractors for management.

Paint sludge	31 tons
Glass fiber	2.3 tons
Spent gloves and waste cloth	5 tons

Recycling Resources

MFTT recycles resources, such as wood, plastics, paper and iron.

Reduction of Water Use

MFTT set a 9.4 m³/unit water usage target for FY2004 (4% below FY2003). However, the result was a 12.7 m³/unit.



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