Recognition from Outside

Queen's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development Conferred on KeyMed (Medical & Industrial Equipment) Limited

On 21 April 2004, Her Majesty The Queen approved the Prime Minister's recommendation that a Queen's Award for Enterprise be conferred on KeyMed in the category of Sustainable Development. The Award was given in recognition of the business efficiency gains arising from the company's success in combining commercial excellence with progressive social and employment policies. The Queen's Award is widely recognized as the most prestigious business award in the United Kingdom.
In a statement released to the press, the Queen's Award Office stated:
"KeyMed clearly demonstrates that integrating sustainable development into business activities can pay dividends through staff development and motivation, engagement with local communities, and mitigation of the impacts of its activities on the environment It has invested considerable effort in staff health and safety, promoting access to work for people with disabilities, and offering staff the opportunity to develop within the organization".
The company was also praised for offering local schools access to its facilities, contributing significantly to a number of charities, actively taking part in local community development projects and its Board-level commitment to reduce CO_2 emissions and adopt a wider range of environmentally-responsible approaches to its operations.
Michael Woodford (MBE☛1)) , Group Managing Director, commented: "We are extremely proud of this honor as it is the highest accolade Her Majesty can bestow on industry and places KeyMed amongst the most successful of UK businesses. Quite apart from the publicity that this Award has generated, it is rewarding that the culture and ethos of the organization, which is at the heart of our success, has been recognized in this way."

☛1) MBE: Members of the Order of British Empire

The Queen's Awards Logo

Olympus (Shenzhen) Industrial Ltd. Receiving Clean Production Firm Award

In September 2003, Olympus Shenzhen was the first Japanese affiliate to receive a Clean Production Firm Award from the Guangdong government. The award goes only to firms that meet very strict standards, including reports on contents of clean production, organization, and education, the status of activities set forth by regulations, company-wide clean production, and whether indicators for emissions, drainage, and waste satisfy standards set forth by laws and regulations. Olympus Shenzhen has focused on energy saving, recycling of household wastewater and resin material, and reducing waste. Among our efforts, waste recycling introducing leading-edge technology was especially highly evaluated, leading to this award.


"Clean Production Firm Award" Presentation Ceremony

Olympus Logitex Co., Ltd. Receiving 20th Logistics Grand Prize Recognition

Olympus Logitex received recognition at the 2003 (20th) Logistics Grand Prize, the most authoritative award in the distribution industry. Efforts that were highly evaluated included elimination of warehouse-to-warehouse transport, reduction of CO_2 emissions by modal-shift introduction, and innovative efforts in optimizing distribution bases through integration and thereby shortening delivery lead time for customers. We also reduced inventory and distribution costs. In the words of Olympus Logitex President Masatoshi Tabata, "When viewing Olympus as a whole, there is still room for improvement. In the future, we intend to undertake procurement in physical distribution to further contribute to the business of the Group as a whole."


Mikio Takagi, a Board member (L) and President Masatoshi Tabata, Olympus Logitex (R), holding award plaques

Editor's Note

This environmental report reviews the company's environmental activities over the last year, and includes site reports on "Approaches at Home and Abroad." Site reports should prove of special interest to residents in the local community. This report also contains a new section on the "Personnel System and Human Resource Development," and devotes considerable space to environmentally conscious products. It presents a new challenge for us as a manufacturer to create new value. By obtaining ISO 14001 certification for the Olympus Corporation Environmental Management System, environmental promotion by managers has become clear and easy to understand.
We hope you will find this report on realizing a sustainable society both entertaining and informative, and look forward to hearing your candid comments, impressions, and advice.

Katsuhiko Tsunefuji
General Manager,
Environmental Development Department

Photograph on the Cover:
Shot by Mr. Mitsuaki Iwago, Animal Photographer
Born in Tokyo in 1950. He has visited most of the globe alone taking pictures of nature and animals and published a number of true-to-life photographs. His works are highly regarded internationally.

Cover: King George Island, South Pole
Located 120 km off coast of Antarctica in the Southern Ocean, King George Island is the largest of the South Shetland Islands. It is home to research stations belonging to Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, South Korea, Poland, Russian and Uruguay. The South Pole region, one of the most sensitive on earth, reflects the influence of climatic change, including swiftly shrinking sea and shelf ice, dwindling populations of native species such as penguins, and the emergence of flora never before seen there.

Olympus Environmental Activities and Awards

History

Year	Month	Major Activities
1975	March	• Pollution Prevention Committee established
1976	June	• Each facility celebrated Environment Week • Production of calendars, etc., in support of the WWF (current World Wild Life Fund) begun
1970 Latter half		• Company-wide regulations and standards related to pollution prevention, waste treatment, chemicals management, etc., arranged and upgraded
1984	April	• Pollution prevention diagnosis program began (continued through 1996)
1980 Latter half		• Each office in the Olympus Group is to prepare an annual environmental white paper summarizing environmental conservation and preservation efforts and to submit it to officials in charge of the environment.
1992	January	• Environmental Affairs Office responsible for company-wide coordination of environmental activities established
	August	• Olympus Environmental Principles created
1993	July	• Completed discontinuation of use of specified chlorofluorocarbons and 1,1,1-trichloroethane
1994	December	• Completed discontinuation of use of polystyrene foam for compact camera packaging
1995	July	• Landscaping and preservation of the Tenryu River promoted (Chubu Regional Bureau Ministry of Construction).
1996	March	• Company-wide Basic Environmental Plan 1996 instituted
	June	• Company-wide Environmental Management manual created
1997	February	• Ina Plant became first Olympus facility to obtain ISO 14001 certification. • Application of environmental assessment to products started.
1998	June	• PRTR data for fiscal 1997 gathered and announced
	October	• The Tatsuno Plant received the Japan Greenery Research and Development Center award as a 1998 Good Greening Plant.
1999	February	• Tatsuno and Ina Plant received awards for achieving 1998 Energy Management (from Chubu Bureau of International Trade and Industry).
	July	• Company-wide Basic Environmental Plan 1999 instituted
	September	• Shenzhen Plant (Shenzhen, China) obtained ISO 14001 certification
2000	February	• Hinode Plant received award for superior rationalization of energy use from the Kanto Electric Association
	March	• Technology Research Institutes (Hachioji) obtained ISO 14001 certification, completing the certification of all 12 Olympus development and manufacturing facilities in Japan
	October	• Introduced Green Procurement Guidelines, finished audit of parts suppliers • Drafted guidelines for the purchase of products for commercial use
2001	February	• Hinode Plant again received award for superior rationalization of energy use from the Kanto Electric Association
	March	• Introduced technology to eliminate trichloroethylene in the washing process • Garbage processing device introduced at Tatsuno Plant
	May	• Olympus Winter & Ibe GmbH obtained ISO 14001 certification
	June	• Garbage fermentation processing device introduced at Technology Research Institutes (Hachioji)
	August	• Olympus Logitex Co., Ltd., Tokyo Center started operation of distribution bases
2002	March	• Medical & Industrial Equipment (KeyMed) Limited obtained ISO 14001 certification • Recycling center of Technology Research Institutes (Hachioji) started • Company-wide Basic Environmental Plan 2002 designated Ecology Vision 21 established
	April	• Environmental Development Department established • Environment Committee organization arranged (Olympus Group Environmental Committee, Facility Environmental Affairs Administration Meeting, etc.) • Environment site assessment started around soil and ground water examination at domestic production sites
	September	• Internal Eco-forum held
2003	February	• Ina Plant awarded Prize of Director-General for Agency of Natural Resources and Energy
	September	• Five major development and production bases in Japan achieved Zero emissions. • Olympus Shenzhen received the Clean Production Firm Award.
	October	• Olympus Logitex received the 2003 (20th) Logistics Grand Prize from Japan Institute of Logistics Systems.
	November	• Olympus Logitex obtained ISO 14001 certification.
	December	• Products were shown at Ecoproducts 2003 Exhibition. • In-house qualification of environmentally conscious products was implemented, and the SZX7/SZ61, a stereo microscope and the E-1, a digital SLR system were designated as Olympus Eco-products. • The E-1 received the first ECOLEAF environmental label for a digital single-lens reflex camera.
2004	January	• ISO 14001 certification was obtained for the Olympus Corporation Environmental Management System. • Olympus Diagnostica GmbH (Irish Branch) obtained ISO 14001 certification.
	March	• All major offices in Japan achieved Zero emissions. • KS Olympus, a sales affiliate, obtained ISO 14001 certification.