

Ricoh Group’s  
Environmental Conservation Activities

1976	Establishes Environmental Promotion Section
1978	Establishes Environment Measurement Center
1980	Starts manufacturing of aluminum ingots at Tohoku Ricoh as part of the recycling system
April 1989	Establishes the Committee to Address Chlorofluorocarbons
March 1990	Discontinues use of styrene foam plastic packaging material, including ozone-depleting substances
July 1990	Markets Shigen recycled paper in Japan
September 1990	Markets Ricoh Recycling Copy recycled paper in Germany
September 1990	Proposes used paper recovery and recycling system using Risapost (Ricoh in-house recovery system)
December 1990	Sets up Environment Administration Office
July 1991	Markets the imagio MF 530 Series copier with energy-saving features
February 1992	Establishes Ricoh’s General Principles on the Environment
March 1992	FT5570 copier awarded the BAM (initial version)
October 1992	Announces the Ricoh Environment Symbol
March 1993	Achieves total elimination of ozone-depleting substances (specific kinds of CFCs (chlorofluorocarbons), specific kinds of halon, carbon tetrachloride, etc.)
May 1993	Announces the recycled product design basic policy and implements recyclable design level 1
May 1993	Launches material labeling on plastic parts
May 1993	Ricoh UK Products’ copier photosensitive drum recycling technology receives the English Queen’s Award
September 1993	Ricoh UK Products’ Consumption Power Reduction Activities receives the Business Energy Award’s Grand Prize
December 1993	Ricoh Group achieves total elimination of ozone layer damaging substances (specific kinds of CFC, specific kinds of halon, carbon tetrachloride, etc.)
January 1994	Awarded the Kanto Trade and Industry Bureau Director’s Prize for activities to rationalize electricity use at Ricoh Gotemba
January 1994	Creates the Ricoh Environmental Management System Committee
March 1994	FT6655 copier awarded the BAM (second version)
May 1994	Copier photosensitive drum recycling technology of Ricoh UK Products receives European Better Environment Awards for Industry
August 1994	The Comet Circle concept is completed
October 1994	Presents a case of LCA of toner cartridge buffer material at RECY '94 in Germany
November 1994	Markets resource-saving and energy-saving copiers around the world (marketed as the Spirio 2700/3500 series in Japan)
November 1994	Implements labeling of materials and grade on plastic parts
November 1994	Implements recyclable design level 2
February 1995	Holds First Ricoh Company Environment Competition
February 1995	Ricoh Central Research Center receives Kanto Electricity Use Rationalization Committee Director Award for its cogeneration system
February 1995	Publishes first edition of <i>Ricoh Environmental Management System Guidelines</i>
March 1995	Ricoh environmental assessment and recyclable design promotion activities receive a Resource Recovery Development Business Commendation: the Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize
March 1995	Markets the FT4000/5000 Series resource-saving and energy-saving copier in Japan and Europe
June 1995	Holds First Tohoku Ricoh Environment Fair
August 1995	Wastewater treatment closed system starts operations at the Ricoh Yashiro Plant
October 1995	Announces International Energy Star certified products
December 1995	Ricoh Gotemba Plant acquires ISO 14001 certification
February 1996	Holds Second Ricoh Company Environment Competition
March 1996	Chemical substances management system RECSIS starts operations
June 1996	Ricoh Corporation, in the United States, wins Energy Star Office Equipment Prize
July 1996	Ricoh UK Products acquires BS 7750/ISO 14001 certification
November 1996	Implements recyclable design level 3
February 1997	Holds Third Ricoh Company Environment Competition
February 1997	Opens Ricoh Kanto Recycle Center
March 1997	Ricoh Corporation, in United States, wins Energy Star Copier Prize

Worldwide Trends

1971	Environment Agency set up / Ramsar Convention adopted
1977	United Nations Conference on Desertification held UNEP conference held
1987	Adopts Montreal Protocol
1990	London meeting (set phase-out of CFCs and HCFCs)
1991	Recycled Resource Use Promotion Law enacted
1992	UN Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) held
1993	Energy Saving Law revised
1995	The First Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP1) held Container Packaging Recycle Law implemented International Energy Star Program implemented
1996	ISO Environmental Auditing Standards of Environmental Management System established International Energy Star Award launched by EPA (United States) COP2 held
1997	COP3 held

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June 1997	Ricoh UK Products receives UK BSI-Innovation in Environmental Management
June 1997	Sets 79 types of management chemical substances
September 1997	Announces eco-packaging LCA case at the Eco-Material International Symposium
October 1997	Six copier models awarded the Nordic Swan Mark (Scandinavian environmental label)
February 1998	Combined copier/facsimile device, RIFAX BL110 was acclaimed as a “superior device for saving energy” and received the Chairman’s Prize of the Japan Machinery Federation
March 1998	Ricoh Corporation wins Energy Star Imaging Device Prize
March 1998	Holds Fourth Ricoh Company Environment Competition
March 1998	Draws Ricoh Environmental Action Plan
April 1998	Reorganizes Environment Administration Office to Corporate Environment Office
April 1998	Ricoh establishes the Recycling Division
April 1998	Revises Ricoh’s General Principles on the Environment
May 1998	Issues <i>Ricoh Group Green Procurement Guidelines</i>
June 1998	Ricoh Atsugi recognized for its environmental conservation activities in Kanagawa Prefecture by Kanagawa Prefectural Environmental Conservation Council
September 1998	Ricoh Omori’s Noise Testing Center receives first NIST international certification in Japan
October 1998	Ricoh Fukui achieves 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste)
October 1998	Ricoh Numazu toner cartridge recycling system receives Westec Award Environment Agency Director-General Prize
October 1998	Starts Ricoh Recycle Label System
October 1998	Holds European Environment Conference sponsored by European region unification company Ricoh Europe B.V.
October 1998	Ricoh Microelectronics awarded 1998 Best Green Plant Award by Japan Greenery Research & Development Center
October 1998	Announces external cabinet plastic material recycling case
November 1998	Ricoh ranked top of the electric and electronics industry by German environmental survey specialist company Ökom GmbH
December 1998	Evaluated as number one in Second Corporate Environmental Management Level Survey by the <i>Nippon Keizai Shimbun</i> newspaper
January 1999	Issues the <i>Ricoh Group Environmental Report 1998</i>
January 1999	Holds the Fifth Ricoh Group Environment Competition
February 1999	Ricoh Gotemba receives the Director-General of the Agency of Natural Resources and Energy Award from the Minister of International Trade and Industry for promoting office energy savings
February 1999	Ricoh Numazu achieves a 100% resource recovery rate (zero waste)
March 1999	Ricoh and Tohoku Ricoh recognized by the director-general of the Industrial Location and Environmental Protection Bureau, Ministry of International Trade and Industry, for their development of a copier remanufacturing system
March 1999	Ricoh Fukui receives the Best Experience Prize for its 100% waste-recycling presentation at the QC Circle National Contest
April 1999	Ricoh Corporation receives the Energy Star Prize for the fourth consecutive year from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
April 1999	The <i>Ricoh Environmental Report 1998</i> receives the top Environmental Report Award
May 1999	Ricoh Fukui receives the Fukui Environmental Activity Promotion Council’s Chairman Prize for environmental conservation promotion activities
May 1999	Receives the Environmental Protection Prize in the Ninth Corporate Contribution to the Society Survey held by the Asahi Shimbun Cultural Foundation
May 1999	Receives the Minister of International Trade and Industry Prize at the Eighth Global Environmental Awards held by the Japan Industrial Journal
June 1999	Implements recyclable design level 4
June 1999	The Ricoh Group hosts the America Environmental Convention
June 1999	Ricoh introduces its environmental volunteer leader training program
June 1999	Ricoh is awarded the superior prize for the Green Procurement Award organized by the Green Procurement Network
July 1999	Ricoh Hadano recognized by Kanagawa Prefecture as a superior plant with self-regulation for pollution prevention

Worldwide Trends

1998	COP4 held Eco Partnership Tokyo Convention held Law Promoting Countermeasures against Global Warming established
1999	Revised Energy Saving Law Enforced PRTR Law established