

A Commitment to the Environment

Shin-Etsu Chemical recognizes that preserving the global environment is the most important measure we can take to enhance the lives of people. That's why the Company contributes to the local communities associated with its global network of operating bases by means of protecting their surroundings.

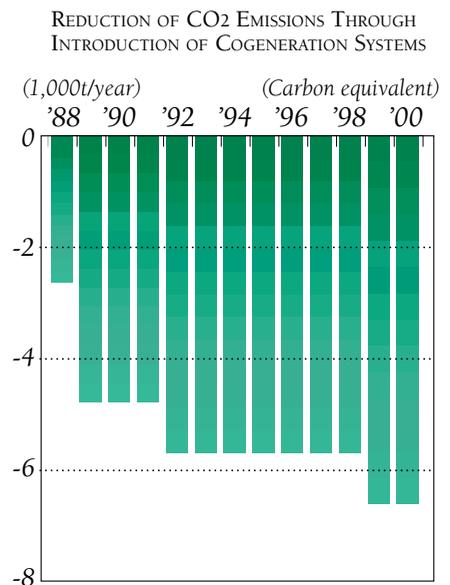
In 1998, we formulated an Environmental Charter that set out a basic philosophy and action plan for the environment. Based on this, each of our plants and research centers drafted an Environmental Policy. As one specific step, our production sites have all been working to achieve ISO 14001 qualification—the global standard for environmental management systems. Using this as a key tool, we have also launched a number of drives to contribute to society in a way that will allow for continuing development.

Every Shin-Etsu Group facility sets its own area of focus, be it minimizing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving energy, reducing waste, recycling materials and managing chemicals appropriately. Each one of our employees makes a sustained, daily effort to attenuate the load on the air, water and soil environments.

One of the critical areas that has been addressed by Shin-Etsu Chemical is energy conservation and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing energy consumption and making efficient use of electricity and steam will enable us to reduce emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide.

One highly effective way in which Shin-Etsu Chemical is achieving this goal is by the introduction of co-generation systems. These systems reuse waste heat—resulting from electricity generation—as fresh energy, to dramatically improve energy efficiency. Since 1988, we have been aggressively introducing this system whenever we expand or rebuild our boilers and electricity supply facilities. After using the high-pressure steam produced by a boiler to generate electricity, we use the steam under low pressure to provide an energy source for chemical reactions.

The results of our efforts have been reported through our Environmental Report and on the Group's website.



Shin-Etsu's Eco-Friendly Products and Materials

Shin-Etsu Chemical manufactures and sells a range of products worldwide that are vital to the wellbeing of the population and limit the environmental impact of corporate activities.

The diagram below shows the applications of Shin-Etsu Chemical's many products and materials in environmental areas.

