

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZING CLUB

EPOC

**Creating a sustainable
economy and society**



www.epoc.gr.jp/

Message from the Chairman



Satoru Katsuno,
Chairman of the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club
CHUBU Electric Power Co., Inc.



Shinnosuke Hayashi,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
DENSO CORPORATION



Shigeru Kobayashi,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
NGK INSULATORS, LTD.



Nobuyuki Masuda,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Toho Gas Co., Ltd.



Manabu Ishibashi,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Central Japan
Railway Company



Yoichi Miyazaki,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
TOYOTA MOTOR
CORPORATION



Toshikazu Koike,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Brother Industries,
Ltd.

The Environmental Partnership Organizing Club (EPOC) was established in February 2000 mainly by the industrial sector in the Chubu region with the aim of building a recycling-oriented economic society by bringing together companies with a passion for environmental activities in order to conduct research, communication, implementation, and information dissemination with regard to activities that can reduce our impact on the environment beyond the boundaries of industry and business categories.

Since the establishment of EPOC, we have been involved in a wide variety of activities that include acquiring ISO 14001 certification, sharing information that contributes to environmental management, surveying advanced case studies, environmental education for future generations, and exchanging opinions with trainees from overseas. In response to social conditions such as the global warming problem and biodiversity problem that have been worsening since our establishment, we have been providing support for our members' environmental management while expanding our activities from the development of a recycling-oriented economic society to activities that aim to achieve a sustainable economic society through the concurrent achievement of decarbonization, resource recycling, and harmony with nature.

We have also been focusing on initiatives in cooperation with local governments and communities. These include providing assistance for Expo 2005 Aichi Japan, the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP10) in 2010, and the UNESCO World Conference for Sustainable Development (ESD) in 2014.

Additionally, even while in-person activities were restricted in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we continuously provided support for member companies to implement environmental management through inventive means, such as conducting activities online through the use of web-based tools, in order to keep our momentum going.

The transformation of the United States into an energy exporter and Russia's invasion of Ukraine have brought about critical changes described as "shifting fault lines" at a global scale, requiring us to face major energy-related and environmental risks that impact security and the economy. In response to these crises, Japan has been accelerating its GX (green transformation) efforts in order to achieve carbon neutrality while ensuring a stable supply of energy. Furthermore, in the area of resource recycling, we have developed a strategy to promote the transition to a circular economy that pursues the minimization of resource use, the use of recycled resources, and the maximization of product value; and in the area of harmony with nature, we have developed a strategy for advancing one step beyond preventing the loss of biodiversity to achieving nature positive (nature revitalization). Countrywide initiatives in these areas are underway.

Some of these issues cannot be resolved without reforming our society and economy as a whole, and we in the industrial world are expected to treat these reforms as opportunities for growth, to promote social implementation of innovative technologies, and to steadfastly promote transition efforts aimed at the sustainable development of our economy and society.

Going forward, EPOC will continue its efforts to promote more advanced environmental management and the training of environmental personnel among its members through collaborative activities involving members from a wide variety of industries and business categories as we work together with local communities in order to achieve a sustainable economy and society. I hope I can count on your continued support and active participation in our activities.

Satoru Katsuno Chairman of the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club

Organizational Objectives

With industry-based environmental opinion leaders at the core of its activities, EPOC will seek to realize eco-efficiency, make available information on environmental measures in central Japan, and work to create a globally outstanding environmentally advanced region and a safe and pleasant recycling society.

- Promotion of ecological action in society as a whole
- Enhancement of ecological awareness among the public
- Dissemination of information to encourage ecological action
- Undertaking of international exchange activities to promote ecological action

Vision for 2030

Toward the realization of a sustainable economic society through environmental achievements and partnership

We aim to create a sustainable economic society in harmony with Low-Carbon, resource circulation, and Harmony with Nature through environmental achievements attained by companies.

- Program Guidelines
- Environmental management practice and strengthening of collaboration between members for:
 - Further improvement of the entire industry sector
 - Promotion of resolute of environmental/societal issues, technological reform, and creation of innovation through business operations
 - Provision of environmental action opportunities through region-based communication with non-member companies, citizens, schools, etc. and information dissemination to them.



Main Activities

Environmental Management Subcommittee

We provide member companies with information useful in their work with environmental management and administration, such as societal movements and laws and regulations related to environmental issues, technological information, and case examples from other companies through seminars and inspections. Study group meetings are also held by subcommittee members at their own places of study.



Seminar on leading environmental management

Decarbonization Subcommittee

By researching current social trends toward achieving carbon-neutrality and innovative initiatives related to hydrogen and energy conservation, and by communicating wide-ranging case studies and information about innovative technology such as energy conservation technology that transcends the boundaries of business categories and industries, we aim to improve each member company and promote mutual exchange and cooperation.



A local workshop

Resource Circulation Subcommittee

Toward a circular economy and recycling oriented society, we share the latest information on resource recycling, including the latest social trends and advanced case studies. We also further strengthen self and mutual study and the partnership of EPOC and subcommittee members.



Tour to company that received an Aichi Environmental Award

Harmony with Nature Subcommittee

We support the future initiatives of our corporate members by examining case studies and offering support programs. The initiatives cover all corporate activities with a focus on understanding the impact on the ecosystem, measures for reducing that impact and other corporate initiatives that sustainably use the benefits provided by the ecosystem.



Inspection tour at a certified natural symbiosis site

Public Relations Activities

Reports on EPOC's achievements are compiled and distributed in order to promote the use and application of the information. In addition, the latest information on the environment and EPOC's activities are introduced on our website to raise environmental awareness in various business sectors and expand the scale of our activities.

EPOC
web site
www.epoc.gr.jp/



Community Relations Team

At the Aichi Environmental Award event hosted by Aichi Prefecture, Aichi Prefecture and the Chunichi Shimbun jointly presented awards for case studies of innovative and effective "technologies and projects" and "activities and education" carried out by companies and organizations. These awards provided an opportunity for environmental activities through communication and information dissemination within the community, including non-member companies.



2024 Aichi Environmental Award Ceremony

Interacting with Youth Team

In order to support environmental awareness and environmental education of youth, particularly elementary and junior high school students, we provide practical, activity-oriented environmental lectures using the educational tools and facilities of our member companies, and we engage in a wide variety of environmental awareness activities in cooperation with the government and other organizations.



Environmental talk given by corporate member at a school

Overseas Team

We continue to study and deepen our understanding of overseas environmental regulations and trends, and we disseminate highly effective information on their impact as well as preventive measures both within and outside EPOC. Our goal is to contribute to the overseas activities and business development of our members through the planning of international events (seminars, study sessions, opinion exchange meetings, and so on) in cooperation with each subcommittee/team and their planning activities.



A local workshop

Meetings

A seminar on environmental initiatives for experts environmental fields as well as other interested parties is organized as part of the annual general assembly. Mid- and long-term strategies are discussed at the semiannual board of directors meetings and executive committee meetings.



General Assembly



Lecture meeting



Exchange meeting

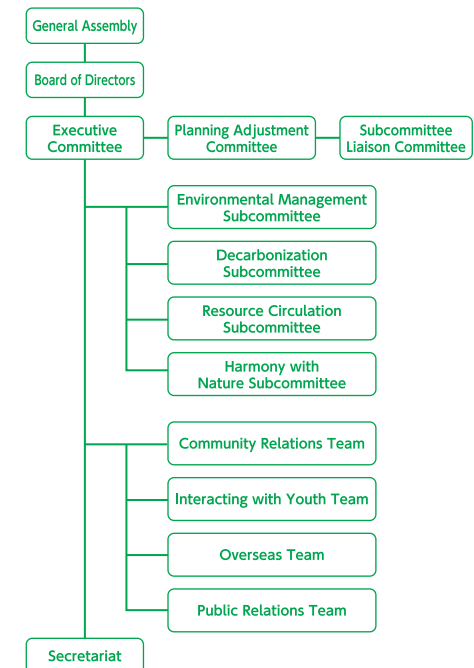
Executives and Advisors (As of July 11, 2024)

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman | Satoru Katsuno | Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. | Chairman of the Board of Directors |
| Vice-Chairmen | Shinnosuke Hayashi Shigeru Kobayashi Nobuyuki Masuda Manabu Ishibashi Yoichi Miyazaki Toshikazu Koike | DENSO CORPORATION NGK INSULATORS, LTD. Toho Gas Co., Ltd. Central Japan Railway Company TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION Brother Industries, Ltd. | President President President Vice President Member of the Board of Directors, Executive Vice President Director and Chairman |
| Directors | Mutsuhiro Seshita Nobutaka Kashima Mikio Nakane Tetsuya Yamamoto Haruhiko Kimata Noriyuki Hiramitsu Hiroshi Yorita Yoshimaro Yusuki Toshiaki Kumagai Takashi Yamamura Chuji Nakashima | ASIN CORPORATION EBARA CORPORATION SINTOKOGIO, LTD. Daiseki Co., Ltd. TOYOTA INDUSTRIES CORPORATION NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION NORITAKE CO., LIMITED Hitachi, Ltd. Fujitsu Limited MITSUI & CO., LTD. Rinnai Corporation | Associate Officer Branch Manager Director/Senior Executive Officer President Executive Officer Managing Executive Officer Head of Works, Nagoya Works Managing Executive Officer Corporate Officer General Manager Hitachi, Ltd., Chubu Area Operation Utility Solution Division Senior Director Associate Officer, General Manager, Chubu Office Managing Executive Officer |
| Auditors | Masatsugu Kasano Shinichi Odo | OKAYA & CO., LTD. NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD. | Member of the Board, Senior General Manager Representative Director Chairman of the Board |
| Advisors | Hideonobu Teramura Shigeru Komori Hideaki Ohmura Hajime Furuta Katsuyuki Ichimi Takashi Kawamura Toshihiko Ota Masanobu Hasatani Yasuo Suzuoki | Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry Ministry of the Environment Aichi Prefecture Gifu Prefecture Mie Prefecture Nagoya City Toyota City Aichi Institute of Technology Aichi Institute of Technology | Director-General, Chubu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry Director General, Chubu Regional Environment Office Governor Governor Governor Mayor Mayor Research Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering |
| Secretariat Director | Nobuyuki Kosaka | Central Japan Industries Association (ChuSanRen) | Senior Managing Director |

Membership

Total: 253 corporate members as of July 11, 2024

Organization



Invitation to Join EPOC

Benefits

- Members can get firsthand knowledge of environmental initiatives through exchanges with companies in other fields as well as through exchanges that bring together the business, academic, and public sectors. They can specifically learn what other companies and organizations are doing to reduce the environmental impact of their operations and the success they have achieved.
- Members gain access to the latest information on the environment through lectures, seminars, and symposiums.
- Members can take part in surveys, studies, and other activities related to the creation of a recycling-oriented socioeconomic system.

Eligibility (for regular and special members)

- 1. ISO14000 series certification
- 2. Other certification under another global environmental standard
- 3. Recommendation by other EPOC members based on:
 - a. Efforts to acquire the ISO 14000 series certification or other global environmental standard
 - b. Support for a company seeking to acquire certification for a global environmental standard
 - c. Recognized commitment to activities aimed at reducing the environmental impact

Application

- Download the application form from our Web site, complete it, and send it to the EPOC Secretariat by mail. Applicants will be notified of a decision from the Secretariat after the application has been screened.

Membership Fees

- 1. Annual dues
Regular members (corporations and organizations) 50,000yen per share (excluding tax)
Regular members must in principle purchase at least two shares. However, smaller enterprises (those that qualify as such under the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Basic Act) can purchase a minimum of one share.
Special members (scholars, specialists, and public organizations) : Free
- 2. Initial admission fee : 50,000yen (including tax)
 - a. EPOC will issue a membership certificate upon admission.
 - b. Requests for admission and withdrawal will be granted in accordance with EPOC rules.