

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP ORGANIZING CLUB

EPOC

Creating a sustainable economy and society



Message from the Chairman



Koji Arima,
Chairman of the Environmental
Partnership Organizing Club
DENSO CORPORATION

The Environmental Partnership Organizing Club (EPOC) was established in 2000 mainly by members of the industrial sector in the Chubu region with the aims of forming a world-class environmentally advanced region and building a safe, comfortable and sound material-cycle economic society.

In the quarter century since our establishment, we have faced environmental issues head-on and taken part in grass-roots efforts to popularize environmental management, share advanced initiatives and collaborate with local communities, local governments and future generations, while staying ahead of the curve with activities such as supporting the popularization of ISO14001, conducting demonstrations on resource circulation/conservation at EXPO 2005 Aichi Japan, participating in COP10's Conference on Biological Diversity and developing future generations through the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development.

The driving force behind these activities has been the practical knowledge of energy saving, waste reduction, reuse and recycling honed on-site by our member companies—their "environmental techniques," which are not just mere knowledge or philosophical ideals, but rather practical technological prowess born of repeated innovation in the field. The bonds forged through mutual improvement and the bringing together of these "environmental techniques" form EPOC's true source of strength, partnership, and EPOC's vision for 2030 is to achieve a sustainable economic society by utilizing them to the fullest.

In 2026 the world is now at a turning point with regards to sustainability management, moving from the "Era of Declaration" to the "Era of Action" and as corporate activities begin to feel the practical impact of the full-scale implementation of the EU's CBAM (Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism) and the Emissions Trading System becoming mandatory in many countries, it is sure to become a milestone year. Although many companies are already in the process of becoming carbon neutral (CN), when we look ahead to the future of a sustainable society in 2050, conservation of resources and responses to destruction of the ecosystem are essential and the importance of the circular economy (CE) and the nature-positive (NP) movement grow ever greater.

Based on this understanding, 25 years after its establishment, EPOC has positioned 2026 as "The Start of the Next Quarter Century" and is accelerating its activities. Because we believe that the integrated implementation of the trinity of CN, CE and NP is the best way for companies to guarantee true sustainability, we are further strengthening our efforts toward "Creating Opportunities" and "Fostering Co-creation" with a view to implementation of CN, CE and NP.

In order to improve the ability of companies to understand and respond to the issues facing them, we support the creation of technological breakthroughs and innovation by promoting grass-roots inspection tours and specialized seminars, forums to share the latest trends as well as case studies and study sessions by our member companies. Furthermore, we are broadening the scope of our initiatives and strengthening our bonds with local communities, local governments and future generations by participating in exchange activities such as supporting the AICHI Environmental Award and providing on-site lectures and environmental education for students.

In order to use our technology and ability to take on challenges to implement CN, CE and NP, fulfill our role in realizing a sustainable and sound material-cycle environmental society and lead the realization of a world-class environmentally advanced region, EPOC will continue to work together with our member companies on a variety of activities. I hope I can count on your continued support and active participation in our activities.

Koji Arima Chairman of the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club



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



Satoshi Yamazaki,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Toho Gas Co., Ltd.



Manabu Ishibashi,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Central Japan
Railway Company



Yoichi Miyazaki,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
TOYOTA MOTOR
CORPORATION



Kazufumi Ikeda,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
Brother Industries,
Ltd.



Toshiharu Sasaki,
EPOC Vice-Chairman
CHUBU Electric Power
Co., Inc.

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.

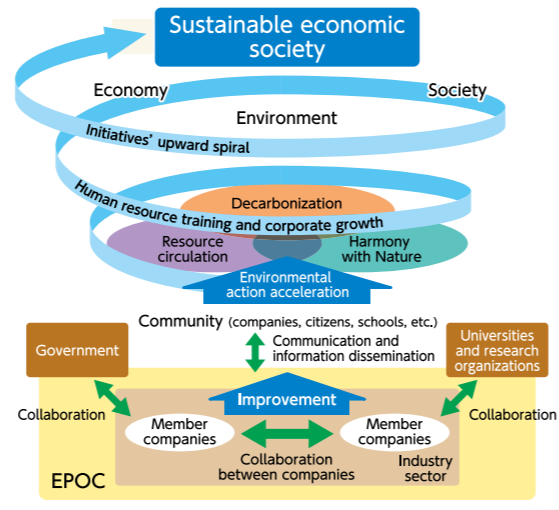
- Promotion of ecological action in society as a whole
- Enhancement of ecological awareness among the public
- Dissemination of information to encourage ecological action
- Undertaking of international exchange activities to promote ecological action

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

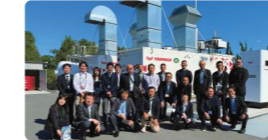
We provide member companies with information useful in their work with environmental management and administration, such as societal movements and laws and regulations related to environmental issues, technological information, and case examples from other companies through seminars and inspections.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



A study session at one of our subcommittee participant companies

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 group photo taken on an inspection tour

Resource Circulation Subcommittee

Through study sessions and inspection tours, we share the latest information on topics related to resource recycling, such as the circular economy and social trends and advancements geared towards the formation of a sound material-cycle society. EPOC and our subcommittee members also practice self and mutual improvement to further strengthen our partnerships.



An inspection tour

Harmony with Nature Subcommittee

We support future initiatives from our member companies by holding seminars, research sessions and inspection tours on initiatives such as those aimed at understanding and reducing the impact of all corporate activities on the ecosystem, as well as those related to sustainable use of the benefits to be gained from the ecosystem.



An inspection tour

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.



2026 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 are deepening our study of environmental regulations and trends overseas in order to share highly efficacious information about their impact on EPOC and beyond, as well as key points for dealing with them. Our goal is to contribute to our members' overseas activities and business development through collaboration with each subcommittee, team, activities planning division and member to plan seminars, study sessions, discussion forums, exchange meetings with overseas trainees and other such events related to overseas issues.



An exchange meeting with overseas trainees

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

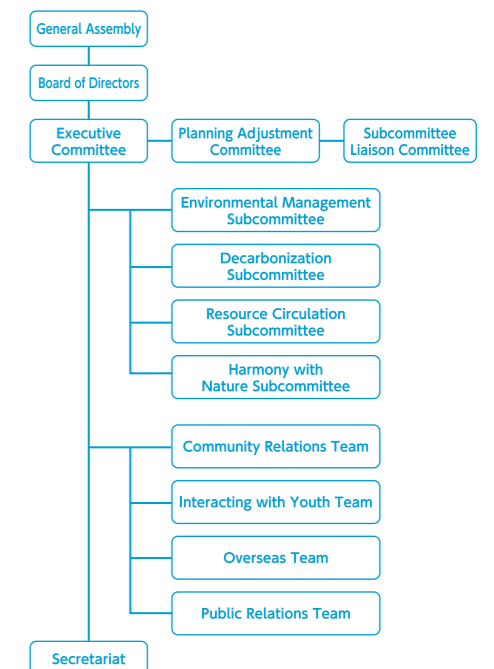
Executives and Advisors (As of April 1, 2026)

Chairman	Koji Arima	DENSO CORPORATION	Chairman
Vice-Chairmen	Shigeru Kobayashi	NGK INSULATORS, LTD.	President
	Satoshi Yamazaki	Toho Gas Co., Ltd.	President
	Manabu Ishibashi	Central Japan Railway Company	Vice President
	Yoichi Miyazaki	TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION	Executive Vice President, Member of the Board of Directors (Representative Director)
	Kazufumi Ikeda	Brother Industries, Ltd.	Representative Director & President
	Toshiharu Sasaki	Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.	Executive Vice President
Directors	Mutsuhiro Seshita	AISIN CORPORATION	Associate Officer
	Nobutaka Kashima	EBARA CORPORATION	Branch Manager
	Mikio Nakane	SINTOKOGIO, LTD.	Director/Senior Executive Officer
	Tetsuya Yamamoto	Daiseki Co., Ltd.	President
	Haruhiko Kimata	TOYOTA INDUSTRIES CORPORATION	Executive Officer
	Noriyuki Hiramitsu	NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION	Managing Executive Officer Head of Works, Nagoya Works
	Tomoaki Maeda	NORITAKE CO., LIMITED	Senior Managing Executive Officer
	Takatoshi Sasaki	Hitachi, Ltd.	Corporate Officer, General Manager, Chubu Area Operation
	Akihide Inomoto	Fujitsu Limited	Senior Director Utility Solution Division
	Koichi Wakana	MTSUI & CO., LTD.	General Manager, Chubu Office, Executive Managing Officer
	Chuji Nakashima	Rinnai Corporation	Managing Executive Officer
Auditors	Masatsugu Kasano	OKAYA & CO., LTD.	Member of the Board, Senior General Manager
	Shinichi Odo	NGK SPARK PLUG CO., LTD.	Representative Director Chairman of the Board
Advisors	Hidehiko Teramura	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	Director-General, Chubu Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry
	Yusuke Matsushita	Ministry of the Environment	Director - Regional Environmental Office in Chubu
	Hideaki Ohmura	Aichi Prefecture	Governor
	Yoshihide Esaki	Gifu Prefecture	Governor
	Katsuyuki Ichimi	Mie Prefecture	Governor
	Ichiro Hirotsawa	Nagoya City	Mayor
	Toshihiko Ota	Toyota City	Mayor
	Masanobu Hasatani	Aichi Institute of Technology	Research Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering
	Yasuo Suzuoki	Aichi Institute of Technology	Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering
	Satoru Katsuno	Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.	Chairman of the Board of Directors
Secretariat Director	Nobuyuki Kosaka	Central Japan Industries Association (ChuSanRen)	Senior Managing Director

Membership

Total: 263 corporate members as of April 1, 2026

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) 50,000 yen 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.