

Promotion for Packaging Materials

We are committed to reducing the use of packaging materials and making improvements through such measures as the use of recycled resources for packaging.

By comprehensively reviewing the flow from packaging to distribution, we are reducing the environmental impacts caused in the process.

Environmental Measures for Packaging Materials

As a result of reviews on the composition and forms of packaging, and the strength of the products themselves, the use of inner packaging boxes was discontinued and individual packaging and outer packaging were made smaller and lighter for reducing the use of packaging materials and the amount of wasted packaging materials. Also, we promote the use of recycled paper and resin.

Reducing the total use of packaging materials

We plan to reduce the total use of packaging materials by 20% by the end of fiscal 2003 by fiscal 2003 (compared to fiscal 2000). (Total use of packaging materials: total use of plastics, polystyrene foam, paper, and cardboard)

Reducing the use of cardboard

- Discontinuing the use of inner boxes in which a small lot of individual packaging is stored, and storing individual packaging directly in outer boxes
 - Reviewing the materials used for outer boxes to make them as thin as possible
- Target: to reduce usage by 20% by the end of fiscal 2003 (compared to fiscal 2000)

Reducing the use of polystyrene foam

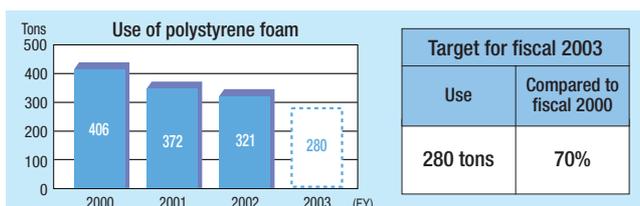
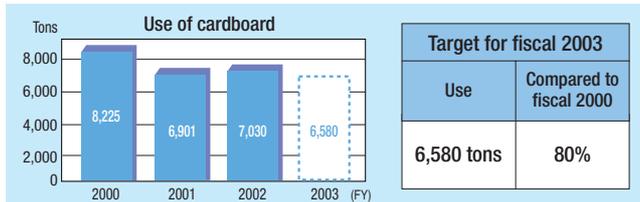
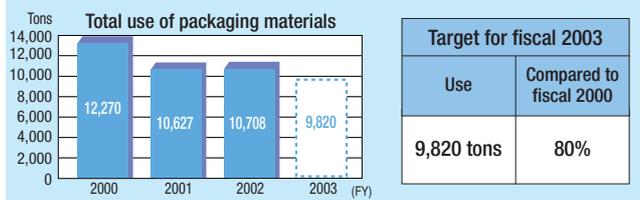
We are replacing polystyrene foam with paper-based materials. In fiscal 2002, we reduced the use of polystyrene foam by 21%. Target: to reduce usage by 30% (compared to fiscal 2000)



Cardboard protector box suitable for stacking used for business PCs with integrated LCDs



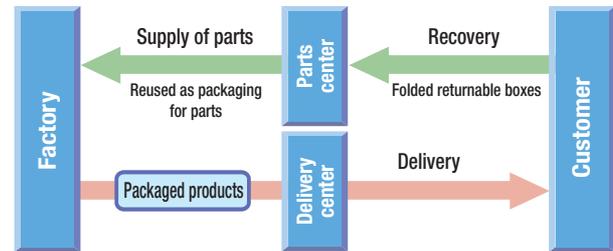
Pulp mold packaging material for electronic cash registers



Measures for Returnable Packages

Most packaging materials are eventually disposed of as waste. It is therefore effective for environmental conservation to use returnable packaging that can be used repeatedly. We have analyzed the flow from supply of parts to our factories to the distribution of products to customers. Targeting large-sized products, we are making preparations for the use of returnable packaging boxes that can be used repeatedly. We plan to start the use of these packages by the end of fiscal 2003.

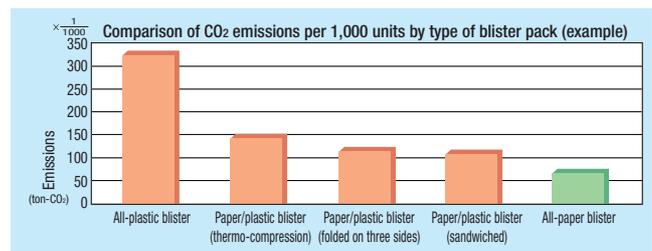
Conceptual diagram



Selection of Packaging Materials based on LCA

Based on the comparison of data on environmental impacts (in terms of CO₂ emissions) caused by each packaging material obtained based on LCA of different packaging materials, we choose environmentally friendly materials and develop new packaging methods to decrease the environmental impact caused by packaging materials as a whole.

We also developed all-paper blister packs for packaging electronic calculators. In fiscal 2003 and onwards, we will expand the use of these packs to other products.



Future Measures

We will design packaging that contributes to the reduced use of materials and to the reuse of these materials. In order to reduce environmental impacts towards the establishment of a recycling-based society.

To reduce the use of materials, efforts will be made to make packages smaller and lighter and to decrease the number of components used for products. We will design packages choosing environmentally friendly materials as standards. For the reuse of packaging materials, towards zero waste, we will clarify the flow from the procurement of materials to the marketing of products and establish an efficient system for returnable packages, targeting large-sized products.