

# Environmental Protection as one of Most Important Issues

Mitsubishi Motors (MMC) has formulated its own policy on the environment, based on the recognition that environmental protection is one of the most important issues for management. MMC is focused on continuously executing the Environmental Sustainability Plan as the cornerstone of environmental protection activities. The Environmental Council, which is chaired by the president, has overseen internal environmental programs at MMC since 1993.

## Environmental Policy

MMC formulated a specific Environmental Policy in 1999 to clarify the aims of environmental protection activities (see below). This policy affirms environmental protection as one of the most important issues for management and declares the MMC's commitment to undertake environmental protection activities on a continuous basis while adopting a proactive stance on environmental management and performance issues. MMC has also formulated the Environmental Sustainability Plan **P.13-14** to guide specific activity programs so that environmental policies are reflected in all products and services.

### Mitsubishi Motors Corporation Environmental Guidelines (formulated August 1999)

#### Basic Policy

Mitsubishi Motors recognizes that protection of the global environment is a priority for humanity and as such makes the following pledges:

1. Taking a global perspective, we are committed to harnessing all our resources to achieve continuous reductions in the environmental impact of all our corporate activities, spanning development, procurement, production, sales, and after-sales servicing of vehicles.
2. As a good corporate citizen, we are committed to take actions that protect the environment at the level of local communities and society as a whole.

#### Behavioral Standards

1. We will endeavor to protect the environment by forecasting and assessing the environmental impact of our products at all stages in their life cycle. Priority is given to the following areas:
  - Prevention of global warming by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases
  - Prevention of pollution by restricting emissions of substances harmful to the environment
  - Reduction of waste and maximizing efficient use of resources by promoting conservation of resources and recycling
2. We will endeavor to improve our environment management practices as part of ongoing efforts to ameliorate the impact on the environment.
3. We will comply with environmental regulations and agreements, and will work to protect the environment by establishing voluntary management targets.
4. We will encourage our affiliates and suppliers, both in Japan and overseas, to cooperate in working to protect the environment.
5. We will actively disclose environment-related information and will seek the understanding of local communities and of society at large.

### Specific Action Plans: Environmental Sustainability Plan **P.13-14**

MMC formulated a medium-term program of action for environmental protection activities to ensure that the environmental policy would not be a mere verbal philosophy. Covering the five years from fiscal 2002, the published plan sets out specific actions and targets for MMC's efforts as an automobile manufacturer to improve the environment. Programs are grouped under four main headings.

#### (1) Environmental management

Promotion of the DfE project, establishment of environmental management systems (notably progress in ISO 14001<sup>\*1</sup> certification) and disclosure of related information; upgrading of environmental protection systems in collaboration with affiliates, suppliers and dealers both in Japan and abroad.

#### (2) Recycling

Promotion of recycling for automobiles and related manufacturing activities to make efficient use of resources and to reduce waste.

#### (3) Prevention of global warming

Measures to improve vehicle fuel economy and also reduce emissions of greenhouse gases such as CO<sub>2</sub> and fluorocarbons, including those emissions caused by production and distribution progress.

#### (4) Prevention of environmental pollution

Measures to make the environment cleaner, such as the development and promotion of low-emission vehicles, the reduction of exhaust emissions and the restriction of emissions of substances with an adverse environmental impact.

\*1. ISO 14001 is a standard for environmental management systems that is administered by the International Organization for Standardization.

## Environmental Organization

### Environmental Council

The Environmental Council, which is chaired by the president, was established in 1993 to coordinate environmental protection activities across MMC.

The council convenes on an annual basis to determine basic policy on environmental protection activities and to discuss and decide matters related to the proposals made by its three constituent committees. Progress toward environmental performance targets is tracked and reported each quarter.

The council is composed of three standing committees (the Product Committee, the Production Committee and the Environmental Management & Recycling Committee). The Automobile Recycling Law Task Force was set up in August 2001 to coordinate preparations for the Automobile Recycling Law that came into force in Japan at the beginning of 2005. The Environmental Management & Recycling Committee has handled all related matters since the law's enforcement.

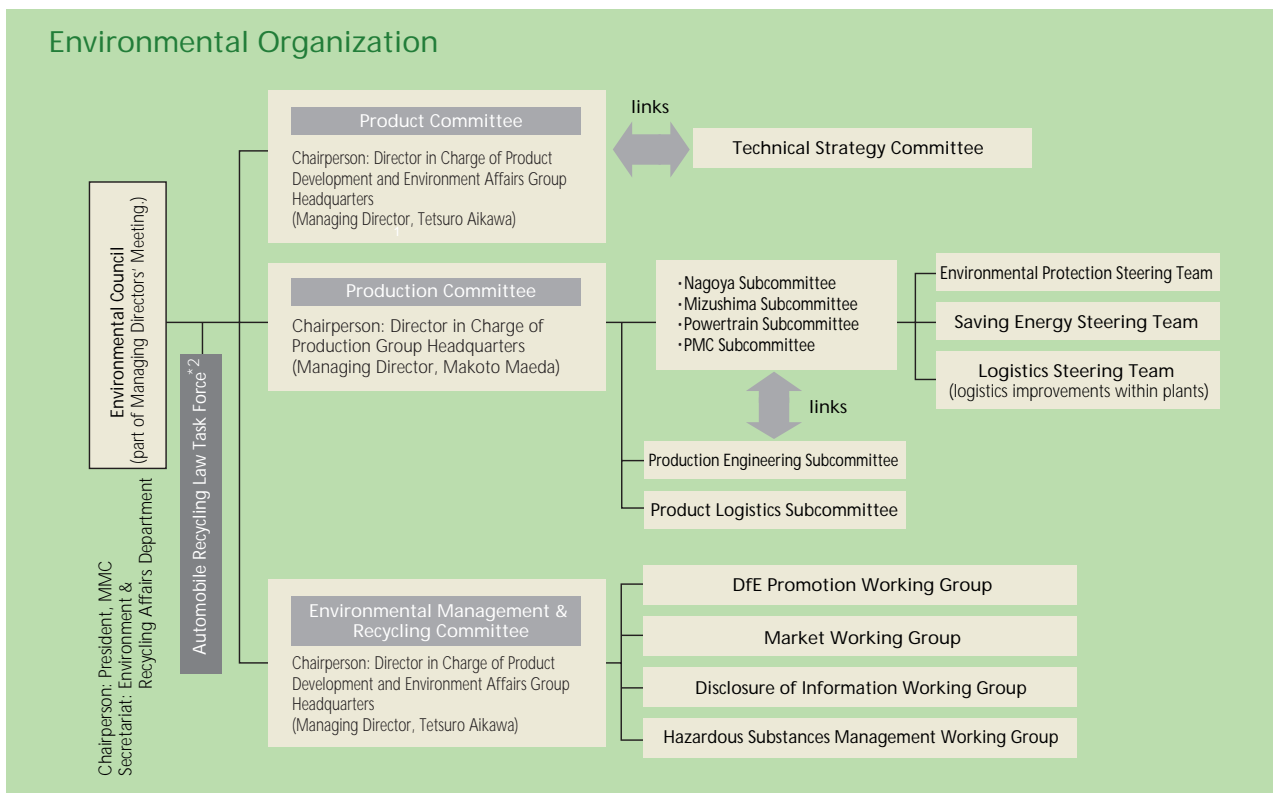
In August 2004, the Environmental Council was upgraded in status to be part of MMC's Managing

Directors' Meeting. As a result of this move, any decisions by the council now constitute formal company policy.

In fiscal 2004, to comply with fuel economy regulations in Japan, Europe and the U.S. as part of efforts to prevent global warming, the Environmental Council revised related plans to ensure that future activities in this area by MMC are in line with prevailing social trends.

### Environment & Recycling Affairs Department

MMC established the Environmental Affairs Department in May 1999 to coordinate environmental protection activities across the company. The department was increased in size and renamed the Environment & Recycling Affairs Department in April 2000. In June 2004, the department absorbed the Recycling Promotion Office, which had been established to accelerate efforts to comply with various recycling laws in Japan and overseas. Besides proposing strategies related to environmental protection for MMC, the Environment & Recycling Affairs Department also functions as the secretariat for the Environmental Council.



\*2. This task force was subsumed into the Automobile Management & Recycling Committee following the enforcement of the End-of-Life Vehicle Recycling Law on January 1, 2005.

# Ongoing Progress on Environmental Activities Guided by Environmental Sustainability Plan

The Environmental Council revises the Environmental Sustainability Plan each year. In FY2004, a number of new targets were re-established in line with the Business Revitalization Plan.

## (1) Environmental management

An asterisk ( \* ) signifies revision of the medium-term target in FY2004.

Category	Item	Medium-term Target
Design for environment	Application of DfE (Design for Environment)	•Completion of DfE system, application to product development ( * 1-year deadline extension)
Environmental management systems (EMS)	ISO 14001 certification	•Expand number of ISO 14001-certified sites
	Dealer systems	•Promote certification of all existing and new suppliers ( * ongoing goal without specific deadline) •Establishment/operation of EMS by all dealers ( * 1-year deadline extension)
Collaboration with production affiliates	Japan	•Promote environmental plans through regular MMC Group meetings and internal publications
	Overseas	•Strengthen environmental collaboration with major overseas sites through mutual exchanges and assessment of regulatory trends
Disclosure	Disclosure	•Ongoing disclosure of environmental information, including publication of annual environmental sustainability report

## (2) Recycling

Category	Item	Medium-term Target
Automobile recycling	Japan	•Comply with vehicle recycling law and promote smooth processes (system development/operation, management of hazardous substances, proper processing, disclosure, etc.)
	Europe	•Achieve effective recycling rate of 95%; build mandatory collection network for end-of-life vehicles (ELV); disclose information, etc.
	Hazardous substances	•Comply with restrictions on use of lead, mercury, hexavalent chromium and cadmium (Japan/Europe)
Recycling within production processes	Landfill disposal of waste	•Maintain zero emissions of landfill waste at all manufacturing sites (internal limit of less than 0.1% of waste by weight)
	Recycling	•Achieve waste recycling rate of at least 98% (by end of FY2005)
	By-product emissions	•Reduce emissions of metal scraps and waste casting sand per unit of sales (by 1.7% relative to FY2001 by end of FY2006)
	Water resources	•Rationalize use to achieve reductions in total consumption (by 5% relative to FY2000 by end of FY2005)

## (3) Prevention of global warming

Category	Item	Medium-term Target
Improvements in vehicle fuel economy	Japan	•Early achievement of 2010 domestic fuel economy standards ( * by end of FY2007)
	Europe	•Improve fuel economy to achieve 2009 voluntary targets for Europe
Air-conditioner refrigerants	Reductions in usage of substitute freons (HFC-134a)	•Expand installation of low-refrigerant air-conditioning systems in new models (reduction of at least 20% relative to 1995 levels)
	Adoption of air-conditioning systems free of substitute freons	•Promote development of CO <sub>2</sub> -based air-conditioning system •Achieve compliance with EU standard (complete elimination of HFC-134a) [new item added in FY2005]
Production and logistics	Reductions in CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Manufacturing sites •Achieve at least 20% reduction in emissions relative to FY1990 levels by means of site-based energy-saving measures (by FY2010)
		Finished-vehicle logistics •Achieve at least 6% reduction in emissions relative to FY2000 levels through more efficient vehicle transportation (by FY2005)
	Packing/packaging materials	•Reduce usage of wooden packing cases per knockdown unit of sales relative to FY2000 levels by at least 15% (by FY2005)

## (4) Prevention of environmental pollution

Category	Item	Medium-term Target
Low-emission vehicles (LEVs)	Original technology vehicles (MIEV technology)	MIEV-related R&D •Conduct R&D into application of in-wheel motors to electric vehicles [new item added in FY2005]
		Electric vehicles (EVs) •Undertake R&D on EVs and hybrid EVs (HEVs); conduct road trials ( * plans revised in part)
		Fuel-cell vehicles (FCVs) •Introduce next-generation FCVs ( * plans revised in part)
	Other clean-energy vehicles	•Pursue further research into commercial application of idling stop technologies
Fuel-efficient LEVs		•Boost ratio of vehicles sales in Japan qualifying for tax incentives Registered vehicles: at least 75%; minicars: at least 55% (by FY2005) •Achieve ratio of registered vehicles (non-minicar) sold in Japan with certified LEV status (new ULEV <sup>*2</sup> or SULEV <sup>*3</sup> ) of 85% (by FY2005)
Cabin environment	Emissions of VOCs (volatile organic compounds)	•Reduce cabin VOC emissions
Reduction of use of hazardous substances during production	VOC emissions	•Restrict average emissions across company to maximum of 42g/m <sup>2</sup> (by end of FY2009) [ * performance criterion changed to company-wide average]
	Dioxin emissions	Item removed from Environmental Sustainability Plan following successive years of regulatory compliance; now subject to normal management controls

Evaluation of FY2004 results: circle = target achieved; triangle = achievement of target imminent despite delay; cross = target not achieved, prompting revision of the Plan.

FY2004 Result	Evaluation	FY2005 Target	Page Ref.
•Revisions required to promotional framework due to more detailed study of environmental factors	×	•Complete system by the end of FY2005, start applying to product development	P.20,25
•Systems revised (all company plants and plants of affiliates worldwide already certified)		•Update certifications to revised 2004 standard; obtain certification for MMC Product Development Group Headquarters	P.15
•Certification ratio: 93.6% (379/405 firms)	×	•Promote certification of all existing and new suppliers	P.27
•Industrial waste processing guidance given at meetings; systems revised	×	•Re-establish/operate EMS	P.34
•Environmental plans promoted through regular MMC Group meetings and internal publications		•Promote environmental plans through regular MMC Group meetings and internal publications	P.18
•Status of major overseas sites assessed; support given for establishment of energy-saving targets		•Assess status of major overseas sites; propose CO <sub>2</sub> emission-reduction targets	P.56
•English/Japanese versions of annual environmental sustainability report published (August 2004); pamphlets published; web site updated (June 2004)		•Change name to Social and Environmental Report; improve content and ease of comprehension	P.17

FY2004 Result	Evaluation	FY2005 Target	Page Ref.
•Legal compliance achieved (system development, dissemination of recycling fees, development of processing systems for received items, etc.)		•Develop recycling system; release more data, including other information related to recycling	P.35-38
•Mandatory collection network constructed		•Improve ASR <sup>*1</sup> recycling rate and other recycling processes	
•Followed revised directives for ELVs; disassembly data provided; recycling information disclosed		•Confirm achievement of effective recycling rate of 85%	P.36-37
•Survey of hazardous substance usage in new Japan market models initiated (completion postponed due to delays in data collection)		•Follow revised directives for ELVs; provide disassembly data; release recycling information	
•Conformity with EU regulations achieved; internal management systems operational		•Complete survey of hazardous substance usage in new Japan market models	P.26-27
•Zero emissions of landfill waste maintained at all sites		•Promote compliance with all EU regulations; propose alternatives for hexavalent chromium	
•Maintained waste recycling rate of at least 98%		•Maintain zero emissions of landfill waste at all sites	P.29
•Emissions per unit of sales increased 0.7% relative to FY2001		•Maintain waste recycling rate of at least 98%	P.29,53
•Maintained reduction of more than 5% relative to FY2000		•Continue activities to achieve medium-term target	P.29
		•Continue to achieve reduction of at least 5% relative to FY2000 usage	P.30,53

FY2004 Result	Evaluation	FY2005 Target	Page Ref.
•Gasoline passenger cars: compliant in 4/7 categories Gasoline commercial vehicles: compliant in 10/15 categories	×	•Propose measures to achieve targets prior to revised FY2007 deadline	P.21,57
•Fuel economy targets revised due to business reforms; deadlines pushed back by two years			
•Plans revised due to business reforms	×	•Propose realistic commercial technology-based measures	P.21
•Launched <i>CoIt</i> model with low-refrigerant air-conditioning system		•Install low-refrigerant air-conditioning systems in new 2005 models	P.22
•Plans delayed due to temporary stoppage of basic research program		•Evaluate and improve CO <sub>2</sub> -based air-conditioning system	P.22
•N/A: target only adopted in FY2005	-	•Formulate legal compliance and system introduction plans	P.28,53
•Maintained reduction of at least 20% relative to FY1990 levels		•Maintain at least 20% reduction in emissions relative to FY1990 levels	P.33
•Emissions reduction of at least 6% relative to FY2000 levels achieved		•Maintain at least 6% reduction in emissions relative to FY2000 levels	P.33
•Usage per unit of sales still on par with FY2000 levels due to lower number of returnable rack shipments caused by reduced production volumes		•Achieve medium-term target through shift to non-wooden materials and expansion of returnable rack usage	P.33

FY2004 Result	Evaluation	FY2005 Target	Page Ref.
•N/A: goal introduced in FY2005	-	•Undertake R&D on proprietary systems; conduct basic performance evaluation	P.24
•EV/HEV strategy revised in line with the Business Revitalization Plan	×	•Evaluate performance of MIEV prototype	P.23
•Development plans for next-generation FCVs revised		•Rearrange development plans for next-generation FCVs	P.23
•Development plans for idling stop technology revised	×	•Complete development of idling stop system	
•Ratio of vehicles sold qualifying for tax incentives Registered vehicles: 49.5% (FY2004 target: 65%) Minicars: 30.7% (FY2004 target: 20%)	×	•Achieve medium-term target for ratio of vehicles sold qualifying for tax incentives Registered vehicles: at least 75%; minicars: at least 55%	P.22,57
•Ratio of vehicles sold with certified LEV status New vehicle registrations: 58.3% (FY2004 target: 75%)	×	•Achieve target of ratio of registered vehicles sold in Japan with certified LEV status of 85%	
•Low-VOC materials developed and applied to new models		•Promote VOC-reduction technology; apply to new models	P.22
•Year-on-year reduction of 11% achieved due to partial introduction of water-based paint production lines		•Revise long-term plans to achieve maximum company-wide average emissions of 42g/m <sup>2</sup>	P.30,32
See left	-	-	P.32

\*1. ASR: Automotive Shredder Residue

\*2. New ULEV: vehicle with exhaust emissions at least 50% less than 2005 Japanese standards

\*3. New SULEV: vehicle with exhaust emissions at least 75% less than 2005 Japanese standards

# ISO 14001 Certification and Environmental Education & Awareness Activities

All MMC manufacturing sites undergo regular environmental audits to the ISO 14001 and other standards. Internal education programs and related activities boost awareness of the importance of environmental activities. MMC also has representatives for environmental affairs in different departments and at each operating site.

## ISO 14001 Program

### ISO 14001 Certification Program

All MMC manufacturing sites in Japan and major affiliates worldwide have obtained ISO 14001 certification for the environmental management systems used at each site.

<b>Japan</b>	
•Nagoya Plant	Nov. 1998
•Powertrain Plant	Nov. 1998
•Mizushima Plant	Dec. 1998
<b>Domestic Affiliates</b>	
•Pajero Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	Jul. 1999
•Mitsubishi Automotive Engineering Co., Ltd.	Feb. 2000
•Mizushima Industries Co., Ltd.	Oct. 2001
•Suiryo Plastics Co., Ltd.	Jun. 2002
•Mitsubishi Automotive Logistics Co., Ltd.	Nov. 2003
<b>Overseas Affiliates</b>	
•Netherlands Car B.V. (NedCar)	Sep. 1999
•Mitsubishi Motors North America, Inc. (MMNA)	Mar. 2001
•Mitsubishi Motors (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (MMTh)	Jun. 2001
•Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp. (MMPC)	Jul. 2001
•Mitsubishi Motors Australia, Ltd. (MMAL)	Mar. 2003

### Environmental Audits

Internal auditors undergo internal and external training in line with MMC's accreditation scheme for internal auditing qualifications. Once accredited, auditors check the environmental operations of sites against checklists of about 700 items. Any items designated as requiring further investigation are submitted for checking and review by a senior authority. Appropriate corrective measures are implemented if this review identifies such a need.

No third-party environmental audit conducted at an MMC manufacturing site in fiscal 2004 discovered any compliance problem, serious or minor. Corrective measures were applied immediately in the cases of four identified systems-related issues.

### Emergency Response

MMC has established proper operating and work procedures at all plants to ensure the safety of all production personnel and to reduce environmental impact where possible. Emergency response procedures have also been established for natural disasters and for various situations that could arise during everyday operations. Emergency training drills are conducted on a regular basis.

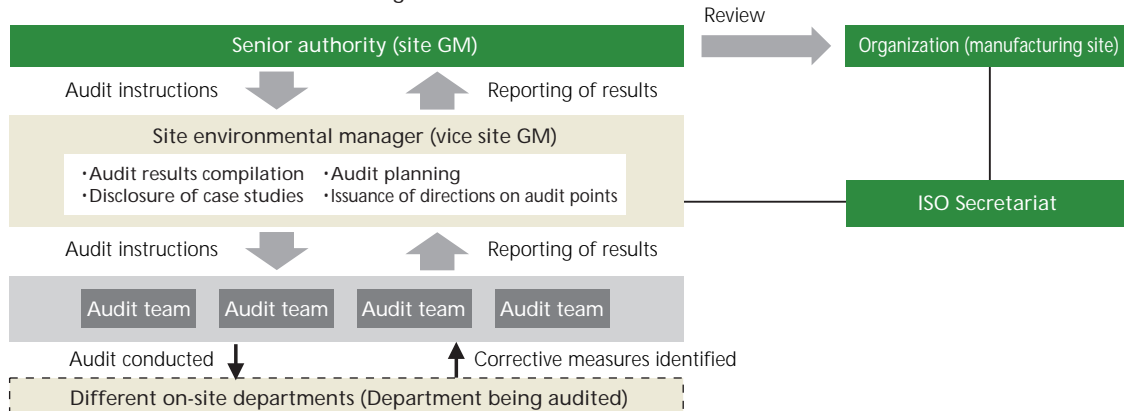
### Environmental Incidents, Complaints and Litigation

There were no environmental incidents at MMC sites during fiscal 2004. There were 10 cases of complaints being made by local residents, in the majority of cases due to noise or odorous emissions. In each case, MMC identified the causes of the problem and instituted immediate measures to improve the situation. MMC also undertakes inspections in the vicinity of each site to identify and correct such problems at an early stage.

A lower court ruling was handed down on October 29, 2002 in the first of a series of cases relating to automobile exhaust emissions in Tokyo. This ruling is currently on appeal. Four similar cases are currently before the Tokyo District Court.

Four of the recalls notified by MMC to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport during fiscal 2004 were environment-related. One of these related to a malfunctioning of the diesel particulate filter (DPF), where it was suspected that the problem could result in emissions of particulates exceeding legal limits. The other three cases concerned a risk of cracks developing in the front main muffler exhaust pipe which could increase noise pollution. MMC replaced the faulty units in all vehicles in each of these cases.

Internal Audit Process at Manufacturing Sites



## Internal Education & Awareness Activities

### Employee Training

Training on environmental activities is a component of a number of training courses for new recruits, engineers and other employees. In addition, the ISO Secretariat organizes educational activities on an ongoing basis, mainly for employees at MMC manufacturing sites. These courses help employees to better appreciate the importance of environmental protection activities.



Seminar on environmental activities

### Environmental Affairs Representatives

Due to their multifaceted nature, environmental activities tend to transcend functional roles. Recognizing this fact, MMC has appointed environmental affairs representatives in each region and department to provide leadership in related activities and to promote internal communications on environmental matters. Most representatives are selected from managerial ranks. To promote deeper understanding of environmental issues, MMC organizes seminars on environmental regulatory trends and on related matters on a region-by-region basis for these representatives. About 270 representatives attended such training events in fiscal 2004.

Separately, MMC also distributes summary environmental reports to all employees in conjunction with explanatory presentations by environmental affairs representatives. Plans call for this to be done once a year going forward to aid greater workforce understanding of environmental issues.

In December 2004, the Environment & Recycling Affairs Department sent out the inaugural edition of a newsletter designed to improve interdivisional environmental communications. The publication also covers social contribution activities, compliance-related issues and a wide range of other information. It is distributed by internal e-mail to save paper.

### Promotion of Idling Prevention<sup>\*1</sup>

MMC provides employees with guidance on preventing engine idling. Similarly, requests are made to visiting customers and companies delivering supplies to save energy by restricting engine idling.

### Workforce Environmental Qualifications

Employees with Major Qualifications

Qualification type	No. of people	
Pollution prevention management	Chief	4
	Air quality	16
	Dioxins	4
	Water quality	23
	Noise	12
	Vibration	6
	Total	65
Energy management	Heat	15
	Electricity	14
	Total	29

### Environment Month Activities

Environment Month Activities (June 2004)

Item	Details
Awareness activities	Environment Month posters displayed PR activities by signboard Newspaper on different region activities Information posted on intranet
Implementation	Environmental facility inspections and measurements Survey of waste disposal and treatment contractors Local vicinity clean-up campaigns Site inspections by site environmental manager
Other	Idling prevention internal checking campaign Inspection and pruning of trees onsite Participation in various events

### Environment Month 2005 Activities

In June 2005, activities took place across MMC rather than being organized purely on a regional basis. Employees were encouraged to dress in lighter clothing and thermostat settings were raised to 28°C. Each site checked whether lighting could be turned off to save energy. These and other initiatives helped to raise environmental awareness. During July 2005, MMC employees also participated in "Team Minus 6%" events.

\*1. Engine idling while a vehicle is stationary wastes fuel and is also a source of atmospheric pollution. These prevention activities aim to minimize unnecessary engine idling.

# Emphasizing Communication With Stakeholders

MMC uses various means to release environment-related information. Besides environmental reports, the company also publishes information on its web site. MMC also actively cooperates with production affiliates in Japan to promote environmental protection activities.

## Communication

### Publication of Environmental Reports and Site Reports

MMC has published annual environmental reports in English and Japanese since September 1999. The reports are available in printed form or can be accessed online through the company's web site.

Separately, for the purpose of promoting communications with the respective local communities, MMC also publishes environmental activity reports in cooperation with three domestic production sites.

Publication History for MMC Environmental Reports

1st issue (1999)	Sep. 1999
2nd issue (2000)	Aug. 2000
3rd issue (2001)	Sep. 2001
4th issue (2002)	Oct. 2002
5th issue (2003)	Jul. 2003
6th issue (2004)	Aug. 2004
7th issue (2005)	Oct. 2005

Note: 2005 issue renamed Social and Environmental Report

### Publication of Educational Booklet

In June 2004, MMC published a booklet targeted at elementary schoolchildren entitled *The Environment and Manufacturing Automobiles* that contains information on the company's environmental activities. This booklet is distributed on plant tours and in classes on the environment, and is also available through dealers.

### Online Information

The Environment section of MMC's web site provides download access to past editions of the company's environmental report. It also contains details of the Environmental Sustainability Plan and other related information.

MMC also publishes details of the environmental performance of its leading models as a reference to aid customers in making eco-friendly purchasing decisions.

The web site also contains a special section for children (Kids' Square) to introduce the relationship between automobiles and the environment. There is also a telephone information service for schoolchildren.



Web <http://www.mitsubishi-motors.com/corporate/environment/e/index.html>

## Participation in External Events

MMC displays various LEV models at exhibitions and other events to publicize low-emission vehicles. The table below lists the main events in which MMC participated in fiscal 2004.

Main events in FY2004	Main event sponsor	Date (FY2004)	Locality/region
2004 JSAE Automotive Engineering Exposition	The Society of Automotive Engineers of Japan (JSAE)	5/19-21	Yokohama
Eco Car World 2004	Ministry of the Environment, etc.	6/5-6	Yokohama
15th World Hydrogen Energy Conference	Hydrogen Energy Systems Society of Japan, New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO)	6/28-30	Yokohama
2004 Clean Energy Vehicles Fair in Osaka	Osaka Prefecture, City of Osaka	9/17-19	Osaka
All Eco-Car Festival in Wakayama Marina City	City of Wakayama	10/21-23	Wakayama
Eco-Car Prototype Fair in Odawara	City of Odawara	10/31	Odawara
10th Japan EV Festival	Japan Electric Vehicle Club	11/3	Tsukuba
Kyoto Prefecture LEV Fair in Keihanna	Kyoto Prefecture	11/14	Kyoto
2nd Hiroshima LEV Test Drive Exhibition	Hiroshima Prefecture, City of Hiroshima	11/26	Hiroshima
Kyoto Environment Festival 2004	Kyoto Prefecture	12/11-12	Kyoto
The 29th Energy & Environment Exhibition (ENEX 2005)	The Energy Conservation Center, Japan	2/9-11	Tokyo
FY2004 JHFC Seminar	Japan Hydrogen & Fuel Cell Demonstration Project (JHFC)	3/10-11	Yokohama

## Environmental Activities at MMC Affiliates

### Cooperation With Domestic Production Affiliates

As a major domestic production company, Pajero Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (PMC) is a member of the Production Committee of the Mitsubishi Motors Environmental Council (the PMC Subcommittee). PMC collaborates with MMC on environmental activities and exchanges information with other MMC manufacturing sites. **P.28**

Cooperation with other domestic production affiliates on environmental activities is guided by the meetings of the Mitsubishi Motors Group Plant Environment Liaison Council, which are held twice a year.

Starting in fiscal 2004, meetings were also held in July and December 2004 at two other affiliates, Mizushima Industries Co., Ltd. and Suiryo Plastics Co., Ltd., respectively. These events provided opportunities to discuss technical environmental management issues and for MMC Group member companies to exchange information on environmental activities.

MMC publishes Plant Environmental Topics twice a year for its 65 affiliated suppliers in Japan. This publication provides information on regulatory trends and various

environmental issues. The 15th edition gave details of regulatory trends in the area of VOC emission limits (an aspect of Japanese legislation on atmospheric pollution) and tackled the question of how to manage low-level PCB contamination. Another topic covered was the End-of-Life Vehicle Recycling Law, which came into force in January 2005.



Plant Environmental Topics (#15)

### Pajero Manufacturing Co., Ltd. (PMC)

PMC has upgraded the level of its environmental activities significantly over the past decade, gaining ISO 14001 certification in July 1999. PMC has its own medium-term environmental action plan, which is based on the MMC Environmental Sustainability Plan. The PMC Environmental Council, which comprises the Environmental Protection Committee and the Energy Conservation Committee, guides efforts to lower the environmental impact of operations. PMC is acknowledged as an "eco-friendly site" by the local prefectural authority of Gifu. PMC has set performance goals for all its major eco-impact reduction initiatives, which include programs to eliminate landfill disposal of waste, to conserve energy and to promote recycling.



### Mizushima Industries Co., Ltd.

MIC obtained ISO 14001 certification in October 2001 and passed its first renewal audit in 2004. MIC creates an environmental management program each fiscal year based on its medium-term business plan, setting specific targets for improvements in performance. The MIC Environmental Council, which is chaired by MIC's president, monitors progress on environmental issues and oversees efforts to reduce the firm's environmental impact.

### Suiryo Plastics Co., Ltd.

SPC gained ISO 14001 certification in June 2002. Three internal committees (environmental management, resource conservation/recycling, prevention of global warming) oversee the setting of performance targets. Major areas of focus within the SPC environmental protection program include upgrading of environmental management systems, promotion of office-based environmental protection activities, resource conservation and recycling, elimination of waste sent to landfill, restriction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and efforts to reduce emissions of hazardous substances.