Realization of a Recycling-Oriented Society

Efforts to curb consumption of natural resources and reduce waste have acquired greater social urgency, paralleling wider economic activity and population growth. Kawasaki takes great care to fully utilize and recycle the limited resources procured for our products and manufacturing processes, which consume these resources without waste. To that end, we promote waste reduction and recycling during manufacturing, and systematically treat PCB waste.

Key Strategies and Targets under Ninth Environmental Management Activities Plan (FY2017–FY2019)

Promotion of the 3Rs

	 Reduce total waste generation and maintain zero emission status Reduce total waste generation per unit of sales by at least 1% from level achieved under the Eighth Plan
Iargels	Push final disposal ratio below 1% Promote reuse and recycling → Boost recycling rate above 98%
	 Promote PCB treatment Systematically treat high- and low-concentration PCB waste

Reduction of Waste Generation

We are continuing activities to achieve our targets to reduce waste generated through our manufacturing processes on a per unit of sales basis by using resources effectively, and to achieve zero status for waste disposed into landfills through the promotion of recycling.

In fiscal 2017, waste generated per unit of sales amounted to 4.36 tons/100 million yen, a reduction of 6.2% compared to the average from fiscal 2014 to fiscal 2016. The final disposal (landfill) ratio was 0.2%, achieving the target of 1% or less. Moreover, our recycling rate was 98%, which is up from 97% in the previous year. Going forward, we will continue to pursue initiatives with a focus on the 3Rs.

Promoting PCB Treatment

The disposal of PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl) waste is proceeding through a worldwide effort, in line with the Stockholm Convention, which stipulates procedures and requirements including proper treatment of PCBs. In Japan, disposal is undertaken in a systematic manner, mainly by the Japan Environmental Storage & Safety Corporation (JESCO), which was established by the Ministry of the Environment, and we are undertaking the treatment of our PCBs with its completion targeted ahead of the national schedule.

To achieve these targets, we are steadily implementing steps to address PCB waste, including ceasing use of products and devices that contain PCBs and putting such items into storage, confirming disposal volume, and looking into providers with facilities to treat low-concentration PCB waste on our behalf. As of fiscal 2017, we had made favorable progress toward our target, with completed disposal reaching 79% on a disposal cost basis.



Figure 12: Amount of Waste Generated and Per Unit of Sales Basis

Note: Per unit of sales basis is a measurement obtained by dividing amount of waste generated by net sales.