

Efforts for Environmental Conservation

Environmental Impact Caused by Business Operations and Past Environmental Conservation Activities

The Nitto Denko Group mainly manufactures adhesive tapes and optical films; and in the manufacturing process, the impact the Group has on the global environment stems from its use of energy and organic solvents and its generation of industrial waste. Recognizing this fact, we have been vigorously conducting environmental conservation activities to minimize our environmental impact. These activities include energy saving activities, the promotion of a more efficient manufacturing process, and the treatment and recycling of substances of concern according to their individual nature.

1 Reducing Industrial Waste: Resource and Cost Saving

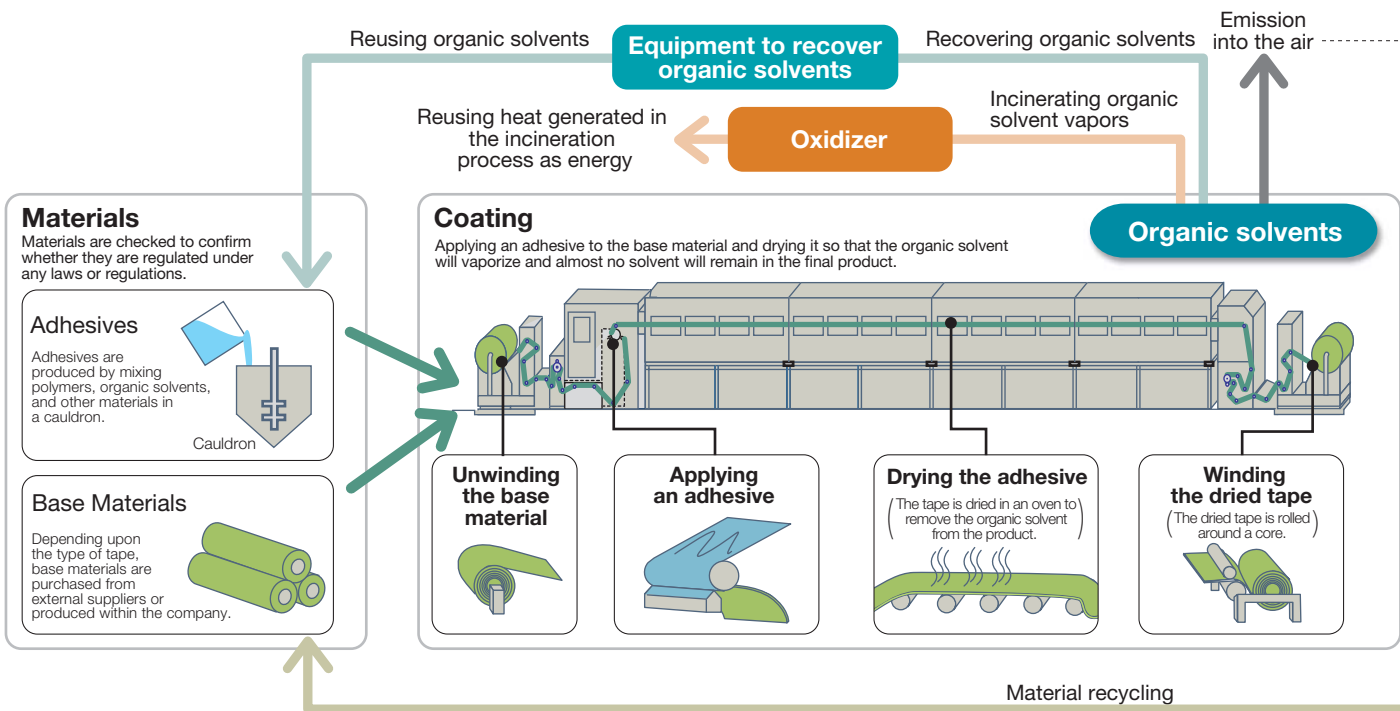
Waste generated in the manufacturing process includes waste from the tape cutting process, punching process, and defective products. We sort this waste into two categories: waste to be reused as materials (waste suitable for material recycling) and waste to be incinerated to generate usable heat (waste suitable for thermal recycling). In this way, we are able to make effective use of waste through recycling measures.

Additionally, we promote the development of manufacturing methods that will not generate waste (waste control at the source) to achieve total low-cost manufacturing.

2 Reducing CO₂ Emissions: Energy Saving and the Recovery of Waste Heat

To reduce CO₂ emissions, we are positively introducing energy-saving equipment, cogeneration systems, and solar power generation systems while replacing fuels with ones that emit less CO₂.

CO₂ is emitted when vapors from organic solvents used in manufacturing tapes are incinerated. In response, we have installed equipment that recovers heat generated in the incineration process in order to utilize the recovered heat energy to reduce fuel consumption.



History of the Nitto Denko Group's Environmental Conservation Activities

Nitto Denko Group's Activity	Environmental Legislation in Japan and Other Trends	Nitto Denko Group's Activity	Environmental Legislation in Japan and Other Trends	Nitto Denko Group's Activity
1960s Installed solvent vapor recovery equipment ③ Began using low-sulfur heavy oil	1967 The Basic Law for Environmental Pollution Control was enacted.	1993 Established a sector to manage environmental issues for the entire Group Formulated the Nitto Denko Environmental Conservation Activities Plan (Voluntary Environmental Plan)	1993 The Basic Environment Law was enacted.	1998 Added "acquisition of ISO 14001 certification" and "giving environmental consideration when expanding business overseas" to targets in the Voluntary Environmental Plan to incorporate the ideas described in the Keidanren Appeal on Environment Discontinued the use of trichloroethylene ④ All Nitto Denko Corporation plants acquired ISO 14001 certification.
1970s Started producing adhesive tapes without the use of solvents ③	1968 The Air Pollution Control Law was enacted.	1994 Discontinued the use of specified CFCs ④		
1980s Started the installation of a rectifier to reuse recovered solvent vapors ③ Installed an oxidizer to incinerate organic solvent vapors ③	1970 The Water Pollution Control Law and other environmental laws were enacted.	1995 Established the Regulations on the Management of Special Chemical Substances ④		
Recycled industrial waste as fuel ①	1991 The Keidanren Global Environment Charter was established.	1996 Established the Corporate Environmental Policy Built a database of materials regulated under laws and regulations ④	1996 The Keidanren Appeal on Environment was announced.	1999 Installed a cogeneration system (supplying both heat and electricity) ② Began relevant reporting under the Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) system ④
1992 Established the Environment Committee Established Nitto U-tech (present Aichi Nitto Denko) to expand the recycling business ①	The Law for the Promotion of Effective Utilites of Resources was enacted.	1997 Nitto Denko Kyushu Plant (present Nitto Electronics Kyushu) became the first site to acquire ISO 14001 certification in the Nitto Denko Group.	ISO 14001, an international standard on environmental management, was issued.	Published its first environmental report Established the Regulations on the Management of Chemicals ④

3 Preventing Emissions of Organic Solvent Vapors into the Air: Controlling Emissions at the Source and Implementing Measures to Prevent Air Pollution

We use organic solvents as solvating media in manufacturing adhesives. These solvents, if vaporized and emitted into the air, will cause air pollution.

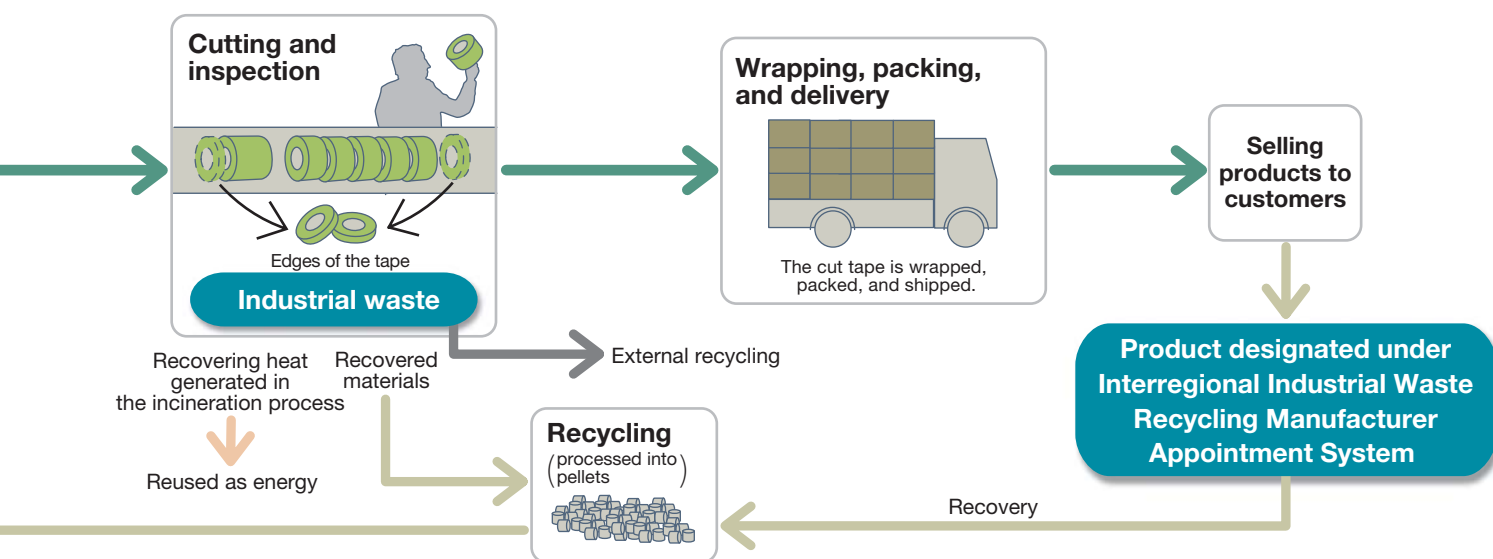
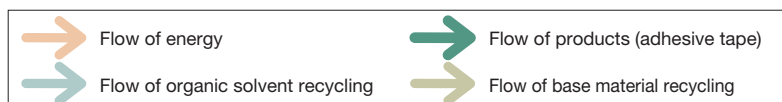
To prevent organic solvent vapors from being emitted into the air, we use equipment to recover and reuse it as organic solvents. In addition, we incinerate the vapors using an oxidizer and use the heat generated in the incineration process as thermal energy. Also, to reduce the total use of organic solvents, we are revising our manufacturing process and developing products that can be manufactured without the use of organic solvents.

- Approximately 2% of the amount used is emitted into the air.
- Solvent vapors escape from gaps in the drying equipment used in the coating process
 - Solvent vapors that are unrecoverable even with the use of solvent vapor recovery equipment with 99% recovery efficiency

4 Properly Managing Chemical Substances: In Compliance with Worldwide Laws and Regulations

We have set up a chemical substance management database to properly manage chemical substances used as product materials as well as those used in some of our manufacturing processes, thereby preventing these substances from causing damage to human health, ecosystems, and the environment.

In developing a new product, all related departments and sections work together to confirm that the product can be manufactured without the use of regulated substances, referring to relevant laws and regulations implemented around the world. Additionally, we change the materials used in existing products from time to time in response to revisions to related laws and regulations of each country. For substances that are not regulated under any laws or regulations but may adversely affect the environment or human health, we look into alternatives as much as possible.



Environmental Legislation in Japan and Other Trends	Nitto Denko Group's Activity	Environmental Legislation in Japan and Other Trends	Nitto Denko Group's Activity	Environmental Legislation in Japan and Other Trends
<p>1998 The Law concerning the Promotion of Measures to Cope with Global Warming was enacted.</p> <p>1999 The Law concerning Reporting, etc. of Releases to the Environment of Specific Chemical Substances and Promoting Improvements in Their Management was enacted.</p>	<p>2000 Introduced environmental accounting to Nitto Denko Corporation on a non-consolidated basis All major domestic manufacturing companies of the Nitto Denko Group acquired ISO 14001 certification.</p> <p>2001 Established the Guidelines for Green Procurement Five of the Nitto Denko Group's domestic companies introduced environmental accounting. Abolished the Regulations on the Management of Special Chemical Substances and established the Nitto Guidelines on the Voluntary Management of Chemical Substances ④</p> <p>2002 Introduced material flow cost accounting (MFCA) on an experimental basis</p> <p>2002 Seven overseas Nitto Denko Group companies started environmental accounting.</p> <p>2003 Nitto Denko Corporation achieved a 99% or more recycling rate. ① Held the 1st Environment and Safety Global Meeting</p>	<p>2000 The Fundamental Law for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society was enacted. The Law for the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources was enacted. The Law Concerning the Promotion of Procurement of Eco-Friendly Goods and Services by the State and Other Entities (Law on Promoting Green Purchasing) was enacted.</p> <p>2001 The Law concerning Special Measures for Promotion of Proper Treatment of PCB Wastes (PCB Special Measures Law) was enacted. The Law concerning the Recovery and Destruction of Fluorocarbons (Fluorocarbons Recovery and Destruction Law) was enacted.</p>	<p>2004 Published an environmental and social report ② Discontinued the use of SF₆ (a greenhouse gas) Established an environmental management indicator Made environmental investment in the Toyohashi Plant based on MFCA The Onomichi Plant concluded an agreement with ESCO (an energy service company) as a means to save energy. ②</p> <p>2005 Published a CSR report Started the operation of a chemical substance management database for the entire Group ④ Started the full operation of a recycling center at the Toyohashi Plant ① Discontinued the use of all chlorine-based organic solvents as a result of the Toyohashi Plant discontinuing the use of dichloromethane</p>	<p>2002 The Soil Contamination Countermeasures Law was enacted.</p> <p>2005 The Kyoto Protocol was enforced.</p>