



Press information

KYOCERA Receives Environment Minister's Award in Japan for Record 7th Consecutive Year

Company receives two awards for its global warming prevention activities and its development of a highly efficient SOFC system

Kyoto, Japan / Neuss, Germany, December 14, 2016. Kyocera Corporation announced that the company has received two 2016 Environment Minister's Awards: one at its Kyoto Ayabe manufacturing plant (Kyoto Pref., Japan) for Global Warming Prevention Activity (implementation of countermeasures / dissemination category), and another for its part in developing the residential-use solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) co-generation system, *ENE-FARM Type S* (technology development / product category).

This is a record seventh consecutive year that Kyocera has been a recipient of the award, and this latest one adds to many other environmental-related awards and third-party recognitions that the Kyocera Group has received worldwide, including [Mexico's highest award for Environmental Excellence](#); [the 16th consecutive annual recycling award](#) from the City of San Diego (U.S.A.); and evaluation as a ["Top Performer" in the 2016 PV Solar Module Reliability Scorecard](#).

The award, which was established in 1998 by Japan's Ministry of the Environment, is presented every year in December to coincide with Global Warming Prevention Month, and is given to individuals and groups that have shown remarkable achievements in the prevention of climate change.

For this year's award, Kyocera's Kyoto Ayabe Plant was nominated by the local township. The Plant, which manufactures organic packages and multilayer printed wiring boards for semiconductor devices, was recognized for its wide-ranging environmental activities that include use of clean energy via solar panels installed on the plant's roof, proactive introduction of highly energy-efficient machinery and equipment, utilization of waste heat recovery units, and the promotion of community-based activities such as providing "[Eco-Lessons](#)" to teach local school children about environmental and energy issues.

In addition, Kyocera also received the Minister's Award in the technology development / product category. This award was received for the residential-use solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) co-generation system, *ENE-FARM Type S*, which was jointly developed with Osaka Gas Co., Ltd, Aisin Seiki Co., Ltd., and Noritz Corporation. Kyocera developed the cell stack, which acts as the core piece of equipment in the *ENE-FARM Type S*. This product was launched by Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. in April 2016.

Kyocera was founded 57 years ago with a philosophy of "harmonious coexistence" and a commitment to social responsibility and environmental protection. The company is working to achieve the Kyocera Environment Vision 2020, which clarifies the goals to be met by 2020 relating to environmental management aimed at sustainable growth while satisfying demands of both ecology and economy. The company believes that fostering mutual understanding and awareness with the community is vital in addressing environmental issues and remains committed to local efforts.



**Solar power generation system
on the rooftop of the Kyoto
Ayabe Plant (1.6 MW)**



**Eco-Lessons at a primary
school**

Specific Environmental Programs

1. Continual improvement of energy efficiency

The Kyoto Ayabe Plant is thoroughly committed to further enhancing its energy efficiency. Recent measures include: introduction of highly energy-efficient turbo refrigerators for air conditioning, installation of a solar power generation system on the plant rooftop (some 7,400 panels with a total generation capacity of some 1.6 MW), use of compressor waste heat, and installation of inverters that control the rotations of pumps and blowers to best suit the varying load.

Yearly CO2 reductions:

- High-efficiency turbo refrigerators: approx. 2,530t
- Solar power generation system: approx. 860t
- Use of compressor waste heat: approx. 120t
- Rotation-control by inverter: approx. 100t



High-efficiency turbo refrigerators

2. Environmental awareness activities for employees

At Kyocera, the period of June through September each year is designated as the “Summer Eco-Challenge.” Every employee takes “My Eco Pledge,” stating his/her own environmental action plan in the workplace — for example, reducing usage volume of air conditioners or making sure lights are turned off when a room is not in use. Also, staff members patrol the manufacturing floor to ensure efficient use of energy, and the company periodically holds “eco-driving” seminars to increase employee awareness about car fuel efficiency.

3. Local community activities

Specially trained Kyocera employees visit primary schools and provide hands-on “[Eco-Lessons](#)” to teach school children about environmental and energy issues. In 2015, a total of 228 students at five local primary schools took part. The lessons are designed to encourage children’s interest and involvement by using original experiment kits and toys as well as fun and educational quizzes. In addition, employees conduct cleanup activities in public spaces in the neighborhood on a regular basis.

Past Environment Minister’s Awards Received by Kyocera

2010	High-output solar module awarded in the technology development / product category
2011	Shiga Gamo & Shiga Yohkaichi Plants awarded in the countermeasures category
2012	Fukushima Tanagura Plant awarded in the countermeasures category
2013	Kagoshima Sendai Plant awarded in the implementation of countermeasures / dissemination category
2014	Kagoshima Kokubu Plant awarded in the implementation of countermeasures / dissemination category
2015	Shiga Yasu Plant awarded in the implementation of countermeasures / dissemination category

For more information about Kyocera: www.kyocera.eu

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 235 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2016), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the oldest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 40 years of experience in the industry.

The company is ranked #531 on Forbes magazine's 2016 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies.

With a global workforce of over 69,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €11.59 billion in fiscal year 2015/2016. The products marketed by the company in Europe include printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, and fine ceramic products. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the Federal Republic of Germany: Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH in Neuss and Esslingen and Kyocera Document Solutions in Meerbusch.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at approximately €360,000 per prize category).

Contact

Kyocera Fineceramics GmbH
Daniela Faust
Manager Corporate Communications
Hammfelddamm 6
41460 Neuss
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 188
Fax: +49 (0)2131/16 37 – 150
Mobil: +49 (0)175/727 57 06
daniela.faust@kyocera.de
www.Kyocera.de

Grayling München
Sebastian Paulus
Landwehrstraße 61
80336 München
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)89/411 123 – 217
sebastian@paulus@grayling.com

Grayling Frankfurt
Elena Lindenzweig
Hanauer Landstraße 147-149
60314 Frankfurt
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0)69/96 2219 – 66
elena.lindenzweig@grayling.com