

■ Stakeholders »»» P. 10

“Stakeholders” mean interested parties. This covers not only customers and shareholders with monetary interest but also all persons concerned about the execution of corporate activities (regional residents, government and municipal officials, researchers, bankers, suppliers, and employees).

■ CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) »»» P. 10

This is based on the idea that a company has a social responsibility and should act not only for profit or economic gratification but must also take the total interest of the stakeholders into consideration. A company should also be responsible for social aspects such as legal compliance, environmental preservation, human rights awareness, and consumer protection.

■ Corporate Governance »»» P. 12

The objective of corporate governance is to ensure the sound management of the company. Corporate governance achieves this by avoiding the adverse effects from the concentration of authority, preventing organization-wide illegal activity, and ensuring the correct direction of business activities in order to carry out the corporate rationale.

■ Compliance »»» P. 14

The original meaning of this word is “to strictly observe ... and comply with.” In Japan, “compliance” came to mean not only strict observance of laws and regulations, but also social norms including the rules, ethics and morality of a company.

■ Risk Management »»» P. 14

This is the framework constructed to deal with any risk that could hinder the achievement of a business goal.

■ Universal Design »»» P. 38

This is a concept by which you design a city or living environment so that a diverse range of people will be able to easily use it regardless of handicap, age or sex.

■ A Balance of Work and Life »»» P. 41

This describes a corporate system that supports employees in achieving both a worthwhile job and a fulfilling life. The system applies not only to working mothers, but all employees.

■ Environmental Accounting »»» P. 58

Environmental Accounting ensures the efficient and effective promotion of environmental preservation activities and good relationships with society in order to achieve sustainable development. The environmental accounting system identifies the cost of environmental preservation in business activities as well as the benefits from it. It includes measures and reports that show the costs and benefits quantitatively (indicated as a monetary unit or physical unit) as much as possible.

■ Green Procurement »»» P. 68

Green procurement means the green purchase of raw materials, components, and others materials used for products.

■ REACH »»» P. 69

“REACH” stands for “Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals.” REACH is a comprehensive system of evaluation put into effect by the EU (European Union) on June 1, 2007.

■ Green Electricity »»» P. 73

This is a program in which consumers (businesses, citizens/residents) can participate in by paying additional fees for natural energy power generation programs mainly offered by electric power companies.

■ PRTR Law »»» P. 79

PRTR stands for Pollutant Release and Transfer Register. The PRTR Law concerns the discharge of specified chemical substances into the environment and the improvement of their management. Companies are required to report the release and transfer of certain chemical substances (Class 1 designated chemical substances as specified by PRTR Law) to the national government through prefectures. The government then calculates and releases the statistics.

■ VOC »»» P. 79

“VOC” stands for “volatile organic compound.” This compound easily volatilizes into the air at normal temperature and normal pressure. It has a specific gravity heavier than water and is low in viscosity and often persistent. It infiltrates grains in the layer of the earth to contaminate soil and groundwater when it is released into the air and is said to be related to the generation of oxidant due to photochemical reaction and suspended particulate matter.

Source: Environmental White Paper, Environmental Information and Communication Network, Japanese Industrial Standards, and Financial Services Agency's White Paper