

Waste Reduction and Recycling

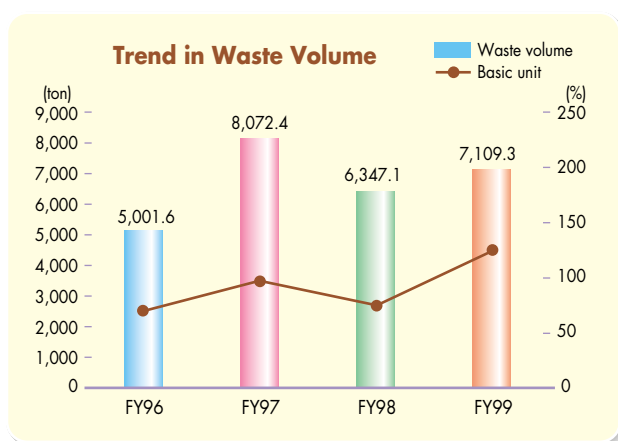


Waste reduction is an important issue in terms of both preserving the global environment and alleviating the burden on incinerators and other waste disposal facilities.

Our philosophy is, “Minimize waste generation, maximize recycling of wastes that are generated, and properly dispose of wastes that cannot be recycled.” In accordance with this philosophy, every TEL Group plant reduces the amount of waste it generates and sorts wastes to facilitate recycling.

■ Total Waste Volume

In fiscal year 1999, we started keeping a tally of the amount of waste generated by our non-manufacturing facilities in addition to our manufacturing plants. At manufacturing plants and research facilities, waste volume grew in tandem with a substantial rise in production and capacity utilization. In fiscal year 1999, the TEL Group’s total waste volume increased on a year-over-year basis. For reference, the graph below includes fiscal year 1996 data for certain manufacturing plants.

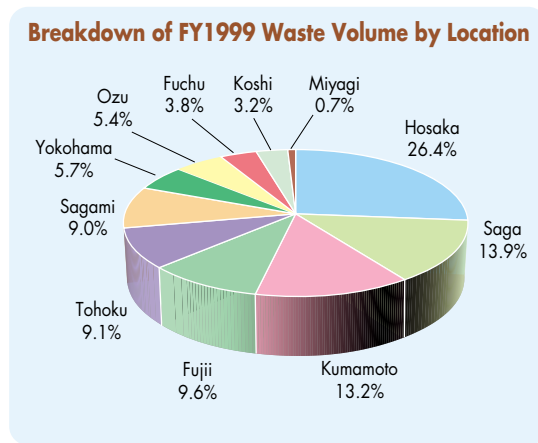
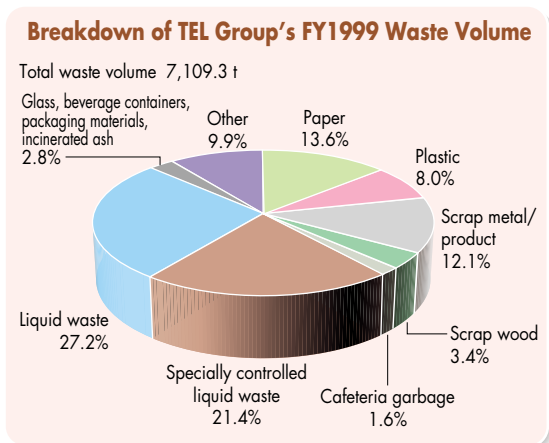


$$\text{Basic unit} = \frac{\text{Waste volume}}{\text{Sales}}$$

(FY1997 = 100%)

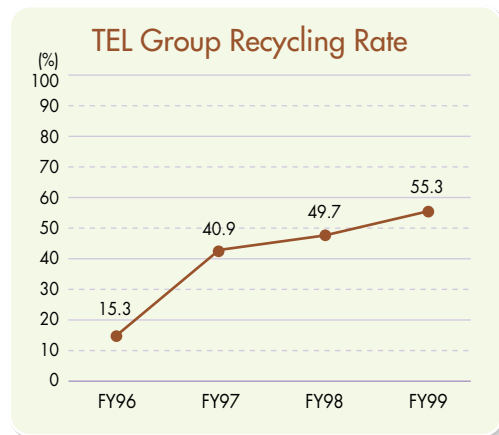
■ Breakdown of Waste Volume

Liquid wastes (including liquids classified as specially controlled industrial wastes) account for some 48.6% of waste volume, followed in order by paper, scrap metal/product, and plastic waste. All liquid wastes that cannot be disposed of in-house are collected and properly disposed of by outside contractors.



■ Recycling

We mainly recycle paper, beverage containers, scrap wood, glass, plastic waste, and metal. Over the past four years, the TEL Group's aggregate recycling rate progressively increased from 15.3% to 40.9%, 49.7%, and 55.3%, respectively.



■ Examples of Recycling Programs at Offices

At the Akasaka Headquarters and Fuchu Technology Center, we are now recycling even confidential documents that were previously shredded or incinerated. To do so, we have teamed up with a recycling contractor to implement a box shuttling system that maintains complete confidentiality.

■ Sorting

Sorting is essential for recycling to work. At every plant, we collect wastes sorted by their physical properties into 26–46 different classifications.



Waste storage facility (Tohoku Plant)

■ Supervision of Waste Treatment Plants and Contractors

At each of our facilities, we certify and oversee contractors that handle interim treatment and final disposal of wastes. Before contracting with a new contractor for waste disposal services, we conduct a certification check, including verification of its license status and on-site inspection of its facilities. We thus make sure that the contractor has the capability to properly and lawfully process and/or dispose of our wastes. Even after a contractor is certified, we conduct periodic on-site inspections to ascertain the status of its operations.