Sony Corporation

1. Comments on the Tokyo Electron Environmental Reports

We believe that these are comprehensive environmental reports, based on guidelines presented by the Ministry of the Environment, and providing TEL’s basic policies, efforts to reduce the environmental impact of both product and production, and important information on environmental management. We would like to see the following points clarified in the future.

① TEL shows how the energy and material flows relating to production, but we would also like to see more about the environmental burden (energy use, distribution, packing, disposal) associated with use of the products, as well as the overall burden, and the proportions of the burden between product and production.

② Under Eco Factory, the initiatives to reduce environmental burden are commendable, but the description is limited to stating what was done in general terms. We would like to see more detail about actual achievements in terms of numerical targets.

③ In terms of waste reduction, we would like to see more detail about activities such as explanations of TEL’s situation, comments on whether or not the amount is high, and information on regarding what efforts are being made to reduce amounts—particularly for the Hosaka plant, which has the highest amount of waste disposal.

④ The energy consumption per unit of sales is stated to be twice the amount it was in FY 1998, but we would like to see future target amounts are.

2. TEL’s Impression of EHS activities

We applaud the creation of the SEMI Akira Inoue EHS Award and the support for EHS activities in the global semiconductor industry. We are also strongly impressed by the company’s leadership in the industry, through active implementation of efforts such as the SEMATECH product and environment seminars.

3. Sony’s Impression of TEL

We value the presence of TEL in pioneering the development of leading-edge technologies for semiconductor production equipment and applying those results in equipment, as we have seen with the company’s research on microwave plasma.

4. Hopes and Expectations

TEL has revealed its road map for reducing the inevitable environmental impact that occurs during the use of new semiconductor production equipment and is making progress in its targets. We would also like to see attention going into upgrades that can be done on existing equipment to reduce this environmental impact.

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SEMI*1
(Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International)

Congratulations to Tokyo Electron Ltd. on Their Fourth Environmental Report

Not all the benefits and costs of operating a company appear in its traditional financial statements. Amongst the missing information are the environmental, health and safety effects of the operations of the company, and of the use of its products and services.

Responsibly caring companies are starting to provide this information voluntarily to the public, employees, customers, investors and other outside stakeholders.

TEL is amongst the leading companies in the semiconductor equipment and materials industry who are pioneering annual environmental, health and safety public reports. TEL is making their reports available freely in Japanese and English. The world-class quality of its reports is reflected by TEL’s ranking for environmental performance amongst the top 3% of all Japanese manufacturing companies in 2002 in the respected annual survey conducted by Nihon Keizai Shimbun Inc. or "Nikkei," Japan’s equivalent of the Wall Street Journal.

By preparing these reports, TEL demonstrates their commitment as a founding member of the Global Care initiative to seek excellence in measuring performance related to Global Care principles and in environmental, health and safety management practices.

As a coordinator of the Global Care initiative*2 I am pleased to congratulate TEL’s considerable efforts in preparing this informative Fourth Environmental Report.

*1SEMI is a non-profit industrial association of the world’s major manufacturers of equipment and materials for the production of semiconductors and FPDs.

*2 This consists of five basic principles that were drawn up by SEMI corporate members as an initiative of the entire industry to provide the framework to strengthen public commitments for management, leadership and innovation.

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