Health and Safety

We are promoting health and safety for all our stakeholders, including employees and customers, in every aspect of our business operations, believing that ensuring their health and safety is one of our social responsibilities and as a basis on which to conduct business in a smooth manner.

For the Safety of All
The Tokyo Electron Group believes that one of the Group’s corporate social responsibilities is to ensure the health and safety of all employees working for the Group, customers who use our products, and all other stakeholders in its business operations.

In FY 2007, we held safety seminars for middle-level managers, following those held for top managers in FY 2006. At the seminars for middle-level managers, the heads of each department, section, and business group learned about safety, including case studies and discussions.

Team Resources Management (TRM) training for on-site work leaders was also held consecutively from FY 2006. One of the objectives of this training is to make participants more aware of the importance of communication and teamwork, which they regard as a matter of course in their daily operations. In addition, we hold seminars to teach emergency medical care, including how to use automated external defibrillators (AED), which we have installed at our sites across Japan.

Preventing Accidents
In FY 2007, the number of occupational accidents at the Tokyo Electron Group deceased over the FY 2006 level. The work volume, however, increased in accordance with an increase in production quantities, and the number of injuries excluding minor injuries is on an upward trend.

According to the statistics created by the Group, accidents caused by ergonomic factors and accidents that took place at our offices account for approximately 30% of all the accidents occurring within the Group. From the ergonomic aspect, as equipment becomes larger and more complex, employees are forced to work in unnatural postures and they have to manhandle heavy objects, bringing new risks. To deal with this problem, we gave employees training in ergonomics in FY 2007 (see the following page).

 Frequencies of Occupational Accidents and Number of Injuries

1. We are promoting health and safety for all our stakeholders, including employees and customers, in every aspect of our business operations, believing that ensuring their health and safety is one of our social responsibilities and as a basis on which to conduct business in a smooth manner.

2. The Tokyo Electron Group believes that one of the Group’s corporate social responsibilities is to ensure the health and safety of all employees working for the Group, customers who use our products, and all other stakeholders in its business operations.

3. In FY 2007, we held safety seminars for middle-level managers, following those held for top managers in FY 2006. At the seminars for middle-level managers, the heads of each department, section, and business group learned about safety, including case studies and discussions.

4. Team Resources Management (TRM) training for on-site work leaders was also held consecutively from FY 2006. One of the objectives of this training is to make participants more aware of the importance of communication and teamwork, which they regard as a matter of course in their daily operations. In addition, we hold seminars to teach emergency medical care, including how to use automated external defibrillators (AED), which we have installed at our sites across Japan.

5. In FY 2007, the number of occupational accidents at the Tokyo Electron Group deceased over the FY 2006 level. The work volume, however, increased in accordance with an increase in production quantities, and the number of injuries excluding minor injuries is on an upward trend.

6. According to the statistics created by the Group, accidents caused by ergonomic factors and accidents that took place at our offices account for approximately 30% of all the accidents occurring within the Group. From the ergonomic aspect, as equipment becomes larger and more complex, employees are forced to work in unnatural postures and they have to manhandle heavy objects, bringing new risks. To deal with this problem, we gave employees training in ergonomics in FY 2007 (see the following page).
Taking an Ergonomic Approach

Basic Ergonomics Training

In response to an increase in the number of occupational accidents caused by ergonomic factors, we held a basic ergonomics training seminar on the Web in FY 2007.

This seminar was composed of topics on the ergonomic environment, examples of accidents caused by ergonomic factors, symptoms of musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) and their risk factors, and measures to reduce ergonomic accidents. At the end of the seminar, participants sat an examination to check their level of understanding. The seminar helped employees to learn that unnatural postures and pressure, heavy objects, and repetitive movements can cause accidents, and highlighted the things that the designers of facilities and workers must focus on to prevent accidents.

Example of Ergonomic Approach

Reducing Ergonomic Risks for Workers Dealing with Heavy Objects

As equipment becomes larger, employees are forced to handle heavier parts. The load on employees who handle these heavy objects will vary depending upon how high these objects must be lifted or where they are installed. The Tokyo Electron Group is implementing various solutions to prevent ergonomic accidents caused while handling heavy objects.

For example, for etching systems, in the past replacement chambers weighing approximately 70 kg had to be lifted into position by four employees. However, this work could lead to accidents or the chamber accidentally slipping. Also, employees might step on other parts while lifting the chamber into position. To avoid these, we designed and manufactured a special ergonomic lifter for these chambers and they are now lifted into position by the lifter and not by employees. This has reduced the ergonomic risk and also reduces the number of employees needed for installation.

Safety Education Using Virtual Reality and 3D Image Technologies

We had been providing employees with safety education and risk simulation experiences using photos and pictures showing accidents that took place in clean rooms. In addition, in cooperation with Solidray Co., Ltd., we created images of clean room accidents using virtual reality (VR) and 3D image technologies. These technologies enable us to prepare more realistic case study materials and give employees who usually have no opportunity to enter a clean room greater awareness of the situation in a clean room and the associated risks.

For the future, we are examining how to increase the sample images and introduce elements of behavioral selection and role-play to this safety education.