

Group companies use and manage responsibly the chemicals we handle in the course of business.

Our Approach

Konica Minolta employs a variety of chemicals in manufacturing film, photographic paper, developer and other products, and so we follow chemical industry standards in managing chemical substances. For example, even for the electronics and optics businesses in charge of cameras, lenses, and other devices, we practice voluntary controls in line with our chemical division's in-house standards throughout the entire Group.

Results and Future Goals

We introduce as many as several hundred new chemical substances into our business every year. We employ in-house specialists who carry out risk assessments to determine the safety of these chemicals from the product development phase. Assessment results are shared with all companies on a database, and the appropriate way to use these chemicals is implemented in every possible setting. In future we will continue to improve our way of managing chemical substances by applying the latest knowledge in chemistry.

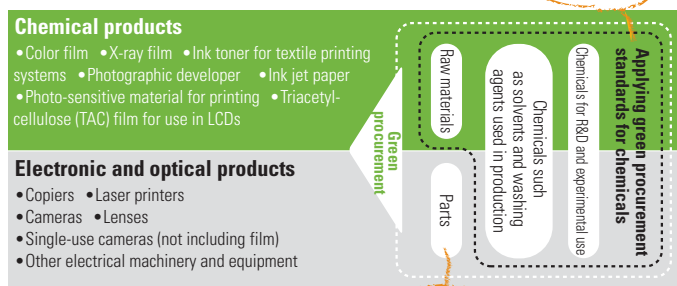
Konica Minolta's approach Apply rigorous standards to eliminate hazardous chemicals through all phases of product development.

1 We supplement green procurement of chemicals with safety verification testing

We have established a set of green procurement standards for purchasing chemicals materials that is separate from the one for purchasing parts. We have created rigorous sets of standards applicable not only to chemical raw materials used in producing film, photographic paper, developers, toner, but also for other chemicals used as solvents and washing agents. We take into consideration both the safety of the manufacturing process and the safety of the product itself.

Substances listed in the database
About 20,000 substances
 (Green procurement of chemicals)

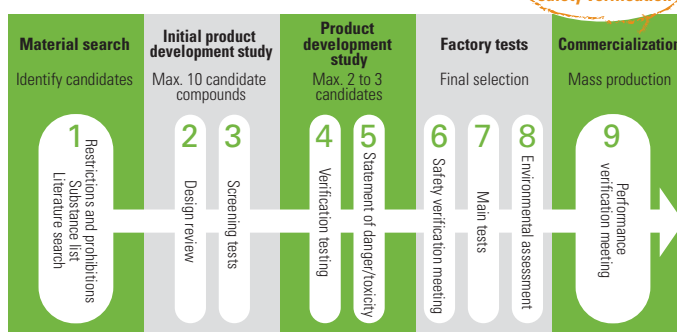
System for Green Procurement Including Chemicals



2 To ensure product safety, we are building a system for eliminating hazardous chemical substances from our products

We perform risk assessment of chemical substances using our Safety Verification System, an original Konica Minolta system that has been incorporated into the product assessment process. Before we introduce a new substance into a product, we make sure that it is not on our list of approximately 1,500 prohibited or restricted substances, and continue to reject any dangerous or hazardous substances through repeated safety testing undertaken at every stage of the process. Only substances that satisfy risk assessment standards are utilized.

Safety Verification System



Voluntary Reduction of Hazardous Chemical Use

To enhance safety management, we prioritize certain substances for reduction.

Among the chemicals used in the entire Group, we assign priority to reduce certain substances that have been judged as being high risk, based on their toxicity and the volumes being used. Since 1997 we have voluntarily set numerical targets for these priority substances, and with the cooperation of those actually working in product development, process design and manufacturing, we are acting to reduce the use of these substances.

The Master Plan for Safe Management of Chemical Substances

Reduced use targets		Reduction goals for atmospheric emissions	
Benzene	Completely phased out in FY2003	Dichloromethane	Total emissions in FY2006: 120t
Formalin	Complete phase-out in FY2004	Ethyl acetate	Total emissions in FY2006: 165.5t
Heavy metals subject to RoHS directive (EU) (Pb, CrIII, Cd, Hg)	Complete phase-out by FY2005	Methanol	Total emissions in FY2006: 50t
Chloroform	Complete phase-out by FY2010	Methylethylene ketones	Total emissions in FY2005: 22t
1,2-Dichloroethane	Complete phase-out by FY2010	DMF	Complete phase-out in FY2004

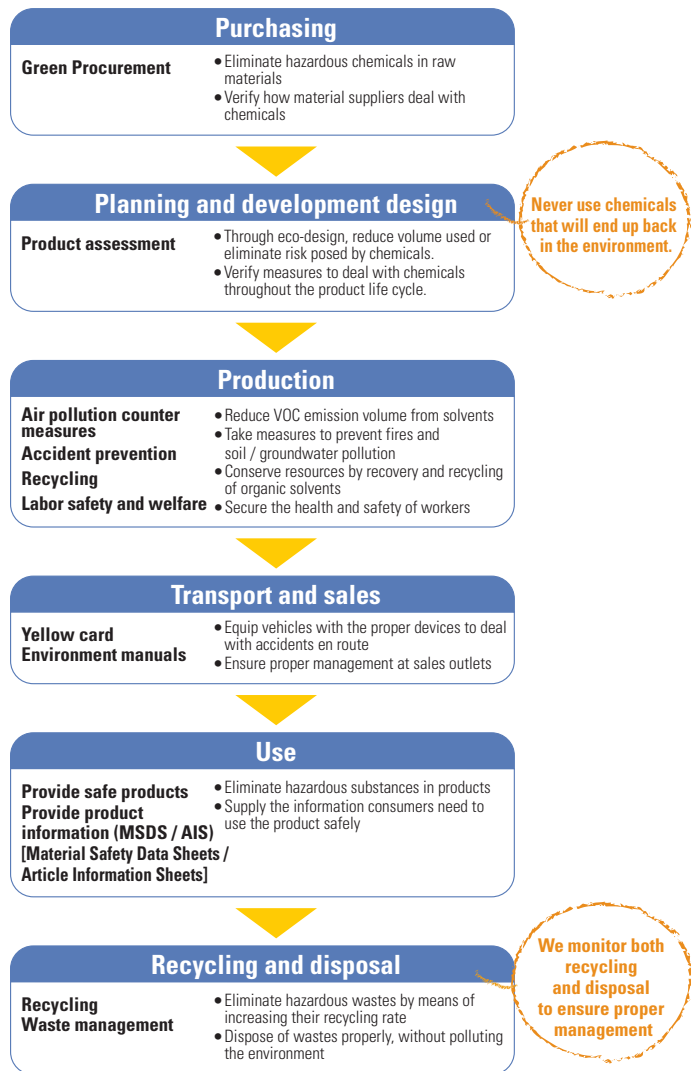
Our Approach Based on Responsible Care

We conduct integrated management of chemical substances throughout the product life cycle.

In our management of chemical substances, Konica Minolta applies the chemical industry's concept of Responsible Care.* At sites where many chemical products are used, we give top priority to preventing chemical accidents and air and water pollution through every aspect of operations. Also, to ensure that our products are used properly, we take care to provide the relevant information to customers, including film developing labs and hospitals that develop X-ray film.

* "Responsible Care" indicates the commitment by manufacturers to take voluntary action to maintain safety, health and a clean environment throughout the entire life cycle of chemical products.

Konica Minolta's Measures to Deal with Chemicals at Each Stage of the Product Life Cycle

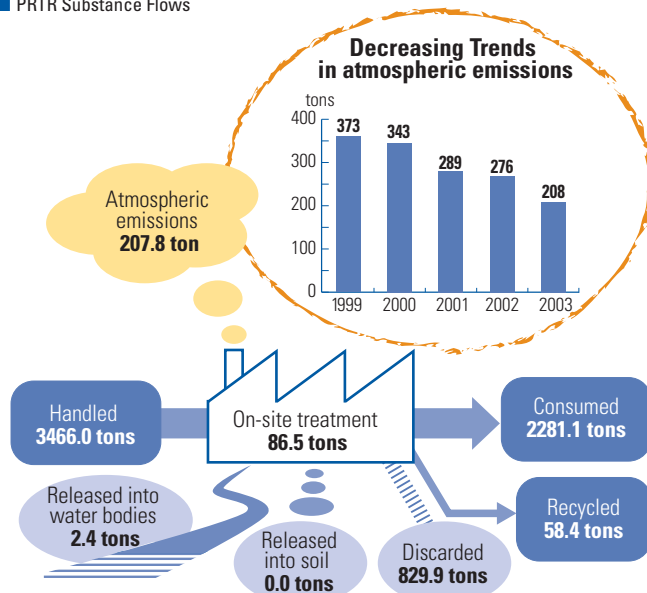


PRTR Initiatives

In dealing with chemicals, we put protection of the local environment first

A pollution release and transfer register (PRTR) system is a mechanism through which governments require the listing and publication of releases into the environment by businesses of chemical substances that might pollute the environment, as well as transfers of these substances off-site in the form of waste materials. As Konica Minolta works to reduce use of substances controlled under PRTR regulations, we are giving particular attention to reducing the atmospheric releases of such substances.

PRTR Substance Flows



For details, see p. 35

Our Approach to Soil and Groundwater Pollution

We have a system to perform soil and groundwater surveys and take swift measures to deal with pollution if problems are identified.

Since 1996, we have performed voluntary soil and groundwater surveys at sites that have utilized substances that could pollute the soil or groundwater. Though there were no new incidents of pollution or pollutant release in fiscal 2003, monitoring and cleanup activities continue at sites where such pollution has been reported previously.

Sites and affiliates where cleanup and monitoring continue

Tokyo site (Hachioji block), Itami site, Sakai site, Osakasayama site, Nankai Optical Co., Ltd., Toyohashi Precision Products Co., Ltd., Konica Minolta Opto Products Co., Ltd., Konica Minolta Supplies Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Okayama Minolta Seimitsu Co., Ltd.

Other measures

Supplying Information through MSDS and AIS

We provide customers with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) containing information about hazardous or toxic properties of our chemical products as well as information on first aid treatment. We also offer information by providing Article Information Sheets(AIS) for non-chemical supply products such as photographic film.

Supplying Information Pertinent to Transport and other Accidents

Trucks that transport film developer and other chemical products carry a yellow card, which provides information about the appropriate steps to take in case of an accident en route, as well as information about first aid measures and a 24-hour emergency hot line contact number.

Managing PCBs

PCB waste materials and items containing PCBs such as ballasts for fluorescent lights, etc., are stored under strict controls, and clear records are kept of the storage manager, the types and number of stored items and conditions of storage for each site.

*Stored PCB waste materials originating from the dismantled factory of Konica Gelatin Corp. have been transferred to the Odawara industrial site



VOICE

Qualification to Deal with Poisonous and Deleterious Substances
 My main jobs are to manage sales office and to ship high-quality products with the cooperation of a related company located at the same site. Although I had to prepare for the test of this qualification during intervals in my regular work, and I had experienced some setbacks, I have finally passed the test to acquire the qualification from my efforts. I hope to put the qualification and confidence I have gained to work on a daily basis in my job.

(Kazuo Hirai, Niigata Branch, Konica Minolta Photo Solutions Co., Ltd.)