

Message from Management

Aiming to Make Epson an Indispensable Company for the World

The world expects companies to operate responsibly to achieve social sustainability. I am confident that Epson can contribute substantively to sustainability because the efficient, compact, and precision technologies we employ in our products reduce environmental impacts.

Epson was founded in 1942. It began as a watch manufacturer, with a factory near Lake Suwa, in Nagano prefecture. Our business activities have always been guided by the keywords “integrity and effort,” words that exemplified the character of founder Hisao Yamazaki. In the early days, we developed mechanical watches with original designs that were different from the industry standards of the day. We later went on to develop and mass-produce the world’s first quartz watches, timepieces that boasted far better accuracy than mechanical watches. Over time, this drive to innovate became a hallmark of our corporate culture. Epson’s creativeness and willingness to take on challenges have yielded a wide range of products, from printers and projectors to watches, robots, and microdevices, all of which employ the efficient, compact, and precision technologies that evolved out of watch manufacturing.

Epson has maintained a strong commitment to both local and global environmental preservation, starting with a pledge to keep Lake Suwa clean and later exemplified by Epson becoming the first company in the world to declare that it would eliminate ozone-depleting CFCs from its operations, which it did across the Epson Group in 1993. We have always sought to help solve societal challenges through our business activities. Epson joined the United Nations Global Compact in 2004, and we have aligned our business practices with the 10 principles of the compact relating to human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption. Furthermore, in 2018, we declared a commitment to contribute to the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Currently, we at Epson are looking to transform industry and drive the circular economy by innovating the office and production environments. Our printers employ Epson’s own piezoelectric inkjet technology. Unlike laser systems, piezoelectric systems do not use heat in the printing process. They also have a simpler structure and consume far less electricity. We also provide value by equipping our high-speed line inkjet multifunction printer and the printers with high-capacity ink tanks that reduce users’ environmental impacts while boosting their operational efficiency. These printers can be combined with our dry process office papermaking systems to create an in-office paper recycling loop and shrink the office’s environmental footprint. We also offer smooth, projector-based communication as value needed in offices of the future.

Meanwhile, our piezoelectric inkjet systems are driving a technology shift from analog to digital printing in the textile printing industry. On-demand digital textile printing not only allows short-run jobs of limited quantities along with faster turnaround, it also renders conventional analog printing plates and cleaning processes obsolete. Digital processes thus reduce the amount of dye wasted and the amount of water used for clean-up. This makes digital textile printing more environmentally friendly and improves the work environment.

As stated in our Management Philosophy, Epson aspires to be an indispensable company. To become indispensable, we must continue to offer products and services that benefit customers and that can help address societal challenges. We will continue to examine customer needs and honestly face and exceed their expectations by using our efficient, compact, and precision technologies to drive innovations, create the kind of new value that only Epson can, and contribute to the realization of a sustainable society.

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Minoru Usui
President
Seiko Epson Corporation

