

Why?

Why does Yazaki pursue sustainability?

At the root of Yazaki's corporate personality lies in the strong desire of our founder: "Let's become a company needed by the society. The world is our ally, so let's help one another." This conviction has been passed down through generations of colleagues, and in the course of being acknowledged and supported by customers and the local community, it has formed the corporate personality of Yazaki. This philosophy has been articulated in our Corporate Policy, to be "A Corporation in Step with the World" and "A Corporation Needed by Society."

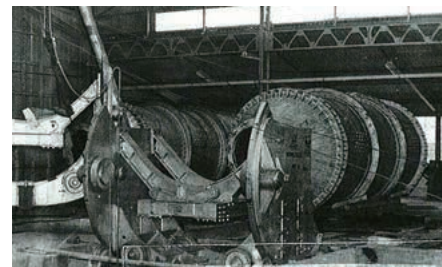
This corporate personality also expresses Yazaki's stance of pursuing sustainable development in step with communities. It is our fervent desire to proceed forward with local residents, enlivening those local communities and putting smiles on their faces.

Since long before the concept of "sustainability" became widespread, Yazaki has believed that its own existence and activities should be sustainable in nature.

Episode 1

The Installation of the Resource Utilizing "Thomas" Furnace (1957)

When Yazaki's founder Sadami Yazaki went to the factory, he would go straight to the incinerator and pick up discarded electric wire off-cuttings and insulation, telling management, "We must not use things in this wasteful way." To put these words into practice, in 1957 Sadami installed Japan's first rotary "Thomas" furnace. A Thomas furnace, which is able to use scrap copper as a raw material, was a revolutionary contraption that was able to recycle used electric wires. From that point on, Yazaki has focused on business development with a focus on the global environment, particularly the utilization of recycling and renewable energy.



The Thomas furnace installed at the Numazu Factory

Episode 3

In Step with the World (The Dawn of Overseas Expansion) (1962)

In 1962, Yazaki established its first overseas site with Thai Yazaki Electric Wire Co., Ltd. It was a time when it was still rare for Japanese companies to set up production sites overseas. The Yazaki Group chose Thailand as its first overseas site out of a desire to contribute to the Thai economy and industry, and serve as a bridge of friendship between Japan and Thailand. Having started with a little over 60 workers, Thai Yazaki Electric Wire Co., Ltd. has today grown into a group of six companies employing over 10,000 people, contributing to the development of the region.



The foray into Thailand marked the opening chapter of Yazaki's overseas expansion

Episode 2

Supplying Products That are Useful to Society (Domestic Production of Tachographs) (1960)

In the late 1950s, the number of traffic accidents increased due to the advance of motorization, and reckless trucks and taxis had become a social problem. To meet the transportation industry's desire to prevent accidents by managing the operation of drivers, and the government's request to ensure the safety of commercial vehicles, in 1960 Yazaki achieved the domestic production of tachographs (vehicle driving recorders). This made it possible to ensure safe driving management, manage the driving workforce and improve fuel efficiency, contributing to the development of a sustainable transportation industry. In 1962 legislation concerning tachographs was introduced, requiring their installation in chartered buses and trucks, and even today they remain an essential product for society.



TCO-8 tachograph produced in 1960

Corporate Policy

A Corporation in Step with the World

A Corporation Needed by Society

Episode 5

New Approaches to Solving Social Issues (2000-)

With the globalization of the automotive industry advancing, the Yazaki Group was forced to reduce the scale of operations in Japan as a result of increasingly shifting wire harness production sites overseas. To protect regional employment due to this situation while solving the issues facing each local community, such as declining birthrates, aging populations and depopulation, Yazaki embarked on proactive efforts to develop new businesses able to contribute to local communities and environmental conservation in the areas of nursing care, agriculture, environment and recycling.



"Kami Fusen" Yazaki Nursing Care Center, part of Yazaki's nursing care business

Episode 4

Pursuing Community-based Business Expansion (Expansion into Mexico) (1983)

It is not rare for the Yazaki Group's overseas sites to be set up in remote areas, 200 or 300 km from the capital. Behind this approach is a desire to expand into regions where employment is truly needed, considering in all sincerity what we can do as the Yazaki Group, and putting that into practice. In 1983, we established a wire harness factory in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, a location close to the US border. Over the next decade we set up 19 factories all over Mexico. When expanding factories further inland from Ciudad Juárez, our employees stayed at the homes of local residents to gather feedback from the local community and build the factories in partnership with them. This was part of our aim to develop in step with local communities alongside local residents.



The Ciudad Juárez Factory, the first site of Yazaki's expansion into Mexico