

Group Company Initiatives

The Kikkoman Group includes 62 domestic and overseas companies, each of which is striving to contribute to society as a good corporate citizen in its particular area of operations.

Initiatives at Kikkoman Foods, Inc.

Kikkoman soy sauce has become a fixture of the diet in the United States since the Company established a sales and marketing facility in San Francisco in 1957 as the first step in an effort to enter the U.S. market in full scale. At first, soy sauce was imported from Japan, but as consumption of the product grew in the U.S. as a result of steady marketing efforts, we established Kikkoman Foods, Inc., (KFI) in Wisconsin in 1972 as our first manufacturing facility in the U.S. The soy sauce market continued to enjoy steady growth, and we opened the California Plant in 1998 as KFI's second manufacturing facility.

We've consistently emphasized coexistence with local communities as we've developed our businesses. KFI has sought to play a positive role as a good corporate citizen in the communities in which it is active by pursuing a series of programs designed to help resolve environmental problems and contribute to local employment. As an example of such initiatives, this section introduces environmental measures being undertaken at KFI's California Plant. Residents of California have a particularly pronounced awareness of environmental issues compared to other U.S. states, and KFI's California Plant is actively involved in environmental measures. The company's activities have been praised by the local community, including in the form of awards from Sacramento County, where it is located.



California Plant employees pictured with three certificates recognizing their facility's environmental programs

Environmental awards received by the California Plant in 2008

Sacramento Sustainable Business Award (SSB)

An award given to corporations by Sacramento County in recognition of praiseworthy efforts in areas including energy and water conservation, pollution prevention, and waste reduction. KFI's California Plant was recognized with this award in both 2007 and 2008.

Waste Reduction Award Program Award (WRAP)

An award given to companies that have undertaken notable activities in the area of waste reduction. KFI's California Plant has won the award a total of eight times (in 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2008).

Sacramento Environmental Commission Award (SEC)

An award given to companies that are actively involved in environmental activities by a Sacramento County-based environmental group. KFI's California Plant was recognized with this award in both 2007 and 2008.

VOICE

Feeling pride as an employee in having received these awards

We've received a number of environmental awards recognizing the environmental measures we've put in place over time. When I describe our achievements to customers, I feel pride as an employee. Thanks to initiatives such as these in my workplace, I've come to actively pursue environmental conservation at home, too.



Rebecca Philipp
Administration Supervisor

Having fun pursuing environmental conservation

The California Plant is working with local government to recycle toxic waste and other waste products as part of its environmental conservation program. Since I believe that by reducing the environmental impact of their operations companies can help enable everyone on Earth to lead happy lives, I'm enjoying being involved in these initiatives.



Mike Helmle
Maintenance worker in charge of electrical power

The California Plant has been involved in numerous environmental initiatives. This section introduces three of the facility's community-based activities.

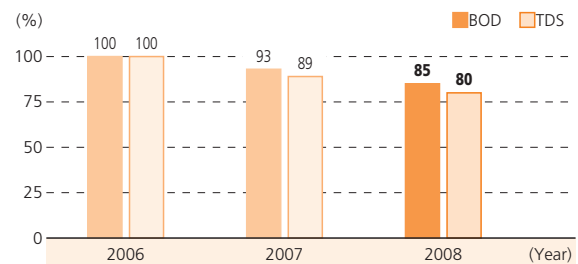
Reducing the environmental impact of operations through wastewater treatment

The California Plant is particularly cautious about managing the wastewater it produces in order to minimize the impact of its operations on the environment. In addition to reducing wastewater flows by improving work processes, the facility has been successful in aggressive efforts to reduce contamination of wastewater with pollutants by improving equipment and facilities, for example by changing the material out of which conveyor belts are made to minimize adherence of raw materials.



Conveyor belt maintenance

● Rate of reduction of environmental impact (BOD^{※1} and TDS^{※2})



Fiscal 2007: 100%

※1 BOD: Biochemical oxygen demand; higher values indicate more pollution of river water.

※2 TDS: Total dissolved solids; higher values indicate more contamination of river water.

Using renewable energy

The California Plant began participating in the Greenergy® program offered by its Sacramento County power company in order to make use of environmentally friendly renewable energy.

The California Plant has been purchasing renewable energy from sources including methane fermentation, wind power,

solar power, and hydrogen power through the program since April 2008, and 10% of its monthly power consumption now consists of renewable energy. The plant is looking for ways to further increase these purchases, including in terms of the return likely to be generated by any associated investments, as a member of the local community.

Reducing power consumption

The California Plant has been installing skylights for some time as a means of reducing power usage for lighting. During fiscal 2009, the facility installed skylights in space gained from a recent expansion, bringing the total number of power consumption-reducing skylights to 41. The plant has also sought to reduce power use by installing sensor-activated lighting in areas where work is not performed continuously. Additionally, power and water usage are monitored at all times by a process monitoring system.



Skylight installed in space gained from a recent expansion



KFI's California Plant

KIKKOMAN FOODS, INC. (KFI)

Company Overview (as of March 31, 2009)

- Established: 1972
- Head Office: N1365 Six Corners Road, Walworth, Wisconsin 53184, U.S.A.
- Plants: Wisconsin Plant, California Plant
- President: Kazuo Shimizu
- Number of Employees: 190
- Business Operation: Manufacture of soy sauce and other food products