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The 3Rs for Products and Packaging

Environmental Action Plan Achievements for Fiscal Year 2025
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Basic Approach

As the world shifts into a circular economy, companies exist as members of society expected to consider product life cycles that prevent waste generation and reduce environmental impact to the greatest extent possible.

The Nikon Environmental Policy discusses maximizing resource efficiency by optimizing raw material usage and extending product lifespan, etc., moving away from the use of virgin resources, and considering environmental friendliness throughout the product life cycle for the circular economy. Guided by this policy, the Nikon Group engages in the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) for products and packaging in the product development and design phases.

 ▶ Nikon Environmental Policy

Strategy

Risk

Many countries are tightening laws and regulations regarding the resource circulation of products and packaging (e.g., mandatory reuse of waste and taxation), and mandating the disclosure of amount information regarding plastic use. As laws and regulations are tightened, we face potential risks in procurement challenges and higher costs as recycled materials are likely to become scarce in the market. As the circular economy progresses, we also face potential risks of sales decline, a loss of social trust, and disinvestment due to slower responses to changing market and consumer preference in product choice.

Opportunities

We recognize opportunities to reduce business costs through reduced and more efficient use of plastics and other resources, to expand our business by offering technologies and products that contribute to the transition to a circular economy, and to earn the trust of our stakeholders.

The 3R Initiatives of the Nikon Group

- Reduce
 - ① Promote materials with low environmental impact, make products smaller, and reduce the number of parts
 - ② Extend product lifespan
 - ③ Reduce plastic packaging materials
 - ④ Promote the switchover of containers and packaging from plastic to paper and bio-based plastic materials
- Reuse
 - ① Pursue the reuse of products, parts, materials, and packaging
 - ② Expand sales of used products
 - ③ Decide whether to continue the sale of used equipment
- Recycle
 - ① Decide on the new adoption of recycled materials
 - ② Pursue the adoption of recycled materials (research, etc.)
 - ③ Promote the switchover from plastic packaging and containers to recycled materials

Strategy

Given our diverse range of products, the Nikon Group must base our strategies on the characteristics of each business. We organize the necessary measures to reduce, reuse, and recycle, and set appropriate targets for each business.

Nikon Long-Term Environmental Vision and Medium-Term Environmental Goals ▶ [p.030](#)

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Each business unit in the Nikon Group sets its own targets based on the Nikon Environmental Action Plan. Meetings related to product environment, organized under the Products Subcommittee, check progress, discuss, and decide on response policies. These meetings share information on product environment laws and regulations, while promoting the development of Eco-friendly Products and the 3Rs related to products and packaging materials. Results are reported semiannually in Quality Committee and Products Subcommittee meetings.

Environmental Management Promotion System ▶ [p.032](#)

Risk Management

To avoid risks related to resource recycling for products, we share the latest information on laws and regulations, as well as case studies of initiatives at other companies, with each business unit at meetings related to product environment. Each business unit conducts product and packaging assessments at the phase of product planning and development, as well as at the phase of the prototype and production. The secretariat confirm assessment results and the status of the 3Rs initiatives at these meetings.

Environment-Related Risk Management ▶ [p.035](#)

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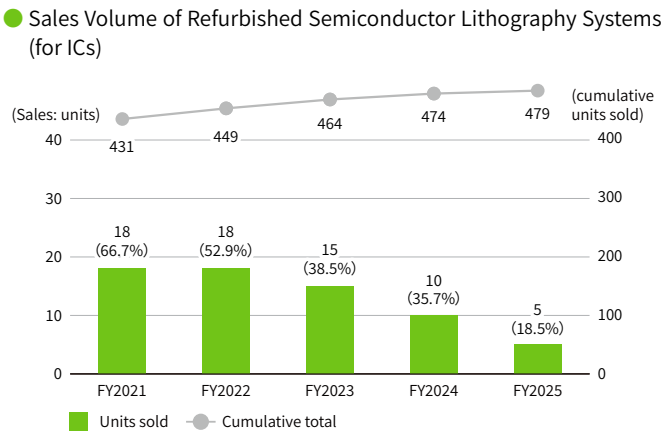
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Main Initiatives

Sales of Refurbished Semiconductor Lithography Systems and Reuse of Projection Lenses

The Nikon Group has commercialized a service for collecting and reconditioning used Nikon semiconductor lithography systems from customers, where we replace and reconfigure parts and install the refurbished systems for new customers in and outside Japan. This business activity is an example of the Nikon Group's practice of reusing our own products within the Group. As of fiscal year 2025, the Nikon Group had sold a cumulative total of 474 refurbished products. We also began services to refresh and upgrade FPD lithography systems in fiscal year 2024.

The Nikon Group is also working on extending the life of lithography systems by using Nikon's latest technology to refresh and replace projection lenses which have deteriorated from long-term use at client locations and cannot provide basic exposure performance.



Note: Figures in parentheses indicate share of total units sold

Extending Product Life

To extend product lives for our customers, Nikon offers our Plaza Inspection Pack and Periodic Maintenance inspection and cleaning services.

The Plaza Inspection Pack is a daily care service for cameras and accessories. Our Nikon Plaza service centers in Tokyo and Osaka inspect and clean cameras, lenses, and camera accessories through this service.

The Periodic Maintenance service is to inspect each part of the camera equipment and lenses, check accuracy, clean details, and perform other services in an environment fully equipped with inspection equipment and devices.

We also refresh and upgrade projection lenses for older FPD lithography systems to extend product lives for customers.

Furthermore, the FX-88SL FPD lithography system, for which we began accepting orders in 2025, is the first FPD lithography system to employ a UV-LED light source. The longer life expectancy compared to conventional lamps allows the equipment to be used for a longer period of time.

Increasing Productivity and Environmental Value With FPD Lithography Systems ▶ [p.027](#)

Battery Recycling

The Nikon Group works through JBRC^{*1} to recycle used digital cameras and other rechargeable batteries collected in the Japanese market.

^{*1} Japan Portable Rechargeable Battery Recycling Center (JBRC): An organization that recycles small rechargeable batteries in line with the Act on the Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources.



Battery recycling marks

Recycling and Reuse of Nikon Products

We also work to collect and recycle used electrical and electronic equipment around the world in compliance with the laws and regulations of each country, based on the latest information.

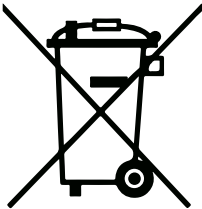
Under the WEEE Directive^{*2}, European countries in particular have been establishing national laws in relation to the collection and recycling of used electrical and electronic equipment.

In response to these laws, the Nikon Group has been working to fulfill our responsibility for the collection and recycling of Nikon digital cameras and other products. The Nikon Group has registered with local collection organizations in more than 30 countries, establishing collection and recycling networks in each country. We are also implementing product assessments at the design stage to promote easy-to-disassemble designs, reductions in the types of raw materials used, and extensive utilization of recycled resources to comply with the provisions of the Act on Promotion of Recycling of Small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment^{*3} in Japan.

As for reuse, part of our services includes accepting imaging products and healthcare products, repairing them, and then selling them as refurbished cameras in and outside Japan.

^{*2} Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive: Legislation enacted in the EU in 2003 (and amended in 2012) requiring EU Member States to collect and recycle waste electrical and electronic equipment.

^{*3} Act on Promotion of Recycling of Small Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment: Enacted on April 1, 2013. This legislation stipulates the responsibilities of various entities, including national and local public bodies, business operators and manufacturers, with respect to the promotion of recycling of small waste electrical and electronic equipment such as digital cameras and game devices.



EU recycling symbol

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Use of Recycled Plastic Materials in Products

The Nikon Group sets the use of recycled materials as an assessment item in our product assessments and promotes the active use of recycled materials from the development stage. Currently, we use recycled plastic materials in caps of digital camera, interchangeable lenses and binocular eyepiece.



Eyepiece caps for binoculars

Recycling of Packaging Materials

The Nikon Group facilitates sorted collection by providing recycling marks and material indications on product containers and packaging materials as specified in each country.

In Japan, for example, the Nikon Group promotes the recycling of packaging materials for Nikon products, including digital cameras, by outsourcing the task to the Japan Containers and Packaging Recycling Association.

In Europe, under the EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation, each country has established a packaging waste recovery and recycling system in accordance with its national laws. In the EU, the Nikon Group pays recovery and recycling fees to recycling organizations in each country, cooperating in promoting the collection and recycling of containers and packaging materials in various countries.



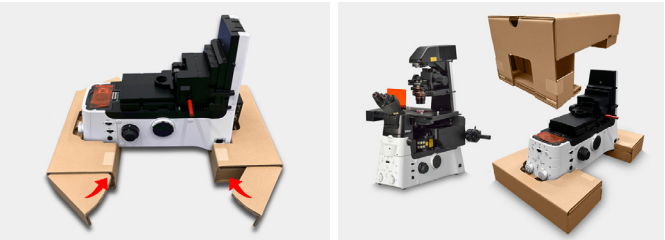
Examples of recycling marks in each country

Reducing Plastics in Packaging

The Nikon Group pursues the reduction of disposable plastics used in product packaging, not only for imaging products, but also for industrial products, as a key topic, reducing the volume of disposable plastics, switching to paper-based materials, etc.

Our packaging for the ECLIPSE Ti2-E, biological microscope (for healthcare product) uses paper as a cushioning material, completely replacing the foam plastic used previously. We also developed packaging configurations capable of withstanding the specified drop and vibration tests, reducing the weight of packaging materials by 16% and eliminating metal fasteners.

These efforts were recognized for both environmental impact reduction and product quality, receiving the Technical Packaging Award at the 2025 Japan Packaging Contest of the Japan Packaging Institute. In addition, we received the WorldStar Award, the world's most prestigious award in the packaging field, at the WorldStar Contest 2026 hosted by the World Packaging Organisation (WPO).



Packaging for ECLIPSE Ti2-E biological microscope

Using Bio-Based Plastic Packaging Materials

As a measure to reduce petroleum-based plastics, the Nikon Group is also moving forward with the switch to bio-based plastics for packaging materials. We have already switched from petroleum-based to bio-based foamed plastic cushioning materials for the package for certain healthcare products and industrial products.



Example of bio-based plastics