

The NTT Group utilizes state-of-the-art information sharing technologies to contribute to a better global environment.

A Message from the President

As symbolized by the phrase, 'IT (information technology) revolution,' society and industry are currently undergoing a major transformation. The market environment for the global information sharing industry in particular is changing more rapidly than we could possibly have anticipated. Increases in the number of mobile communications subscribers and the spread of the Internet have been nothing short of spectacular. In the midst of this unprecedented change, the NTT Group will continue our contribution to the economic and social IT revolution through our efforts to provide faster, more economical and diversified IP-based service networks, both wireless and wired.

From the standpoint of the global environment, there are two sides to the IT revolution. One is that it generates new environmental loads. To maximize the benefits of IT, we need energy and resources to install and operate new networks, servers and terminals. On the other hand, implementation of IT can enhance the efficiency of production and distribution, thus reducing the overall amount of energy and resources consumed. By sharing environmental information, we can foster a common perception of the importance of the environment through various educational and awareness-building activities. As a leading member of the global information sharing industry, we at the NTT Group consider it our social responsibility as well as our business to contribute to the widespread dissemination of environmental information.

The NTT Group has been making concentrated efforts to actively address global environmental issues. In 1991, we established the NTT Global Environment Charter, introducing measures to save paper resources and reduce CO2 emissions. To coincide with the reorganization of the NTT Group in July 1999, we established the comprehensive NTT Group Ecology Program 21, which outlines our basic policies on environmental protection. The program encompasses the NTT Global Environment Charter, targets for action plans for the entire NTT Group, the establishment of NTT Group Ecology Community Plazas, and research and development of state-of-the-art environmental technologies.

In the course of our business activities, the NTT Group consumes a great amount of paper and energy and generates a huge volume of waste. The NTT Group Ecology Program 21 establishes targets for specific action plans to address these and other pressing environmental concerns. Our NTT East Iwate Branch and NTT West Shiga Branch have established Ecology Community Plazas to work with citizens in each region in promoting environmental awareness. Each group company is also working to reduce environmental loads through effective implementation of IT. Prior to our 1999 reorganization, we established two dedicated research laboratories—the Lifestyle and Environmental Technology Laboratories and the Telecommunications Energy Laboratories—which continue to support our R&D efforts at the holding company level.

This report provides an overview of our ongoing efforts to address environmental issues, with a focus on our activities during fiscal 1999. We hope it will help you to gain a better understanding of our activities. We welcome your comments and opinions.

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