

Following its Recognition in the Climate Change Field, KOSÉ Also Acquires CDP's Top Supplier Engagement Rating for the First Time, for its Supply Chain Climate Change Initiatives

KOSÉ Corporation (President & CEO: Kazutoshi Kobayashi; Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo) today announced it has been named on CDP's Supplier Engagement Leaderboard, which includes only the highest rated companies, for the first time. CDP is an international NGO that conducts annual surveys on actions to address climate change. CDP recognized KOSÉ Group's initiatives toward greenhouse gas emissions reduction throughout its entire supply chain, including raw material procurement, product transport, and sales, as well as its proactive information disclosure. Note that KOSÉ Group was already placed on CDP's climate change A List, the highest rating, for the first time when CDP announced the results of its survey on the entire climate change field in December 2020.*1

※1 News release issued on December 9, 2020 : <https://www.kose.co.jp/company/en/content/uploads/2020/12/20201209en.pdf>



Of the various climate change-related surveys CDP conducts targeting corporations and organizations, the Supplier Engagement Rating (SER) is made based on responses to four items (governance, target setting, management of greenhouse gas emissions throughout the entire supplier chain, and collaboration with suppliers). In the 2020 survey, we believe that KOSÉ Group's activities to more accurately assess greenhouse gas emissions throughout its entire supply chain and promote further information disclosure were particularly highly rated by CDP. Of the corporations and organizations surveyed worldwide in 2020, approximately 400 companies, accounting for the top 7%, were named on the Supplier Engagement Leaderboard, the highest honor.

Since 1991, the KOSÉ group has been promoting “Creating Beauty in a Sustainable World” as its corporate message. In April 2020, our group made promoting a sustainability strategy across the entire value chain one of the three bases in our medium-to-long-term vision, VISION 2026, and also announced the KOSÉ Sustainability Plan^{※2}, which summarizes the entire group’s sustainability-related initiatives and goals up to 2030. We consider addressing environmental and climate change problems to be an important management issue essential to our effort to simultaneously work to drive business growth and help achieve a sustainable society.

※2 News release issued on July 1, 2020: https://www.kose.co.jp/company/en/content/uploads/2020/07/20200701_Sustainabilityplan_E1.pdf

KOSÉ Group is taking initiatives toward reducing environmental impact throughout its entire supply chain. For example, we have started^{※3} the SEKKISEI Earth Beauty Program in Japan, which encourages customers to return empty plastic containers for our major skin care brand “Sekkisei” to stores. Going forward, we will accelerate a variety of initiatives throughout our entire supply chain to help mitigate climate change and actively work on reducing greenhouse gas emissions throughout the entire group. Furthermore, we plan to enthusiastically work on responding to international trends, by taking such steps as establishing Science Based Targets (SBT)^{※3} and disclosing information based on the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)^{※4}.

※3 Japanese News release issued on October 27, 2020:

<https://www.kose.co.jp/company/ja/content/uploads/2020/10/20201027.pdf>

※4 Greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets that are in line with a science-based reduction scenario toward achieving the goal of “holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels,” which the Paris Agreement aims to achieve

※5 Task force set up by the Financial Stability Board (FSB).

News release issued on October 28, 2020: https://www.kose.co.jp/company/en/content/uploads/2020/10/20201028_E.pdf

CDP

CDP is a non-government organization (NGO) whose primary activities are to request companies and municipalities to disclose information related to measures addressing environmental issues, such as climate change mitigation initiatives, based on the demands from institutional investors and main purchasing organizations worldwide that have a high level of interest in environmental issues, to encourage the implementation of environmental initiatives. In FY2020, more than 9,600 companies, which account for more than half of the leading companies worldwide in terms of aggregate market value, disclosed environmental information through CDP.

■ CDP website: <https://www.cdp.net/en>

KOSÉ’s Sustainability Initiatives

■ KOSÉ Sustainability Plan

https://www.kose.co.jp/company/en/content/uploads/2020/04/2020kose_sustainability_plan_EN_ver2.pdf

■ KOSÉ company website “Sustainability”

<https://www.kose.co.jp/company/en/sustainability/>