Message from the President

Profile

Kazuaki Tokiwa

Kazuaki Tokiwa was born in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1961. He graduated from the Faculty of Engineering at the Chiba Institute of Technology in 1983, and joined RIKEN VINYL INDUSTRY CO., LTD. (now RIKEN TECHNOS CORPORATION) in the same year.

He was appointed Managing Director of RIKEN ELASTOMERS CORPORATION (U.S.A.) in 2007; appointed Assistant General Manager of the Compound Division and General Manager of Compound Sales in 2011; appointed Director and General Manager of the Corporate Planning Office in June 2013; then appointed Representative Director, President & COO in April 2016.

Battling COVID-19

In 2020, our expectations of everyone splendidly welcoming the Olympic Games—which were going to be held in Tokyo after half a century were put to one side. What awaited us was the novel coronavirus COVID-19. Here, I wish to express our heartfelt condolences to all who have passed away due to COVID-19 as well as wish for the speedy recovery of those who are still undergoing treatment. I also wish to give our deepest appreciation to all medical workers and relevant parties fighting against the disease each day while facing its risks.

Providing Fundamental Value Under Crisis

The way we work at the RIKEN TECHNOS GROUP has also changed significantly due to the spread of COVID-19. The routines we have taken for granted all over the world were completely overturned, and I think many people felt worried and confused at first. However, the extending battle against COVID-19 has forced us to review what we have taken for granted so far and think about what is really essential, which we are probably still continuing to guestion today. Achieving "More Value to All 2021: Generating Greater Value Together!"-the management policy of the RIKEN TECHNOS GROUP's three-year mid-term business plan—is even more required by society, and now is the time for all employees to keep this firmly in mind as we go on with our daily work. Each employee will rethink fundamental value and properly provide it to everyone.

Blue Challenge Contributing to Sustainable Societies

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the major task "Contributing to Sustainable Societies" set by the RIKEN TECHNOS GROUP is becoming even more important. At the same time, we are required to take on new challenges without being bounded by the common sense of the past. Starting from April 2020, we have been using "Blue Challenge" as the term to refer to such actions in general, and we have been strengthening them. Therefore, this report has also been issued under the name Blue Challenge Report. As specific actions to fulfill our responsibility as a chemical manufacturer while keeping the SDGs in mind, first, regarding the high-functionality plastic products being produced by the RIKEN TECHNOS GROUP, we are actively developing products with disposal and recycling in mind, as well as products that place a reduced burden on the environment through fuel efficiency improvements. In addition, even as society changes, we will develop products that provide comfort for all living spaces. The featured article in this report introduces RIKEGUARD, a series of products against infectious diseases. We hope that RIKEGUARD will be of some use to your living spaces.

Together with All Our Stakeholders

Besides COVID-19, damage from natural disasters continue to occur year after year. Our partnerships with all stakeholders, including customers, business partners, shareholders, employees, and people from local communities, have been essential to overcoming these difficulties and maintaining a rewarding and affluent society into the future. By having moved forward together with our stakeholders, the RIKEN TECHNOS GROUP has established mutual trust and existed till today, continuing to provide various plastic products. Going forward, we will build even stronger partnerships with our stakeholders and contribute to sustainable societies.

We are aiming to become the leading provider of comfort for all living spaces and we will continue to move forward together with our stakeholders. I hope you will continue to give us your support in the future.

> Kazuaki Tokiwa RIKEN TECHNOS CORP. Representative Director, President & CEO