November 20, 2024

Toda Corporation Receives the MLIT Minister's Prize at the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) Promotion Merit Awards

Toda Corporation (Head Office: Chuo-ku, Tokyo; President: Otani Seisuke) is pleased to announce that it has been awarded the MLIT Minister's Prize at the FY2024 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) Promotion Merit Awards. The award was given for the activities undertaken jointly by two construction sites for the "Joso IC Area Land Readjustment Project, Block 2 Distribution Facility Construction" and the "Block 4 Distribution Facility Construction."

The 3Rs Promotion Council recognizes organizations and individuals who are actively working to promote the 3Rs. Out of 74 total applicants this fiscal year, 14 were recognized with awards, with 8 winning the respective Minister's Prizes and 6 winning the 3Rs Promotion Council President's Prize.

1. Activities at the Award-Winning Construction Sites

The construction sites in question are engaged in a project to build two large distribution centers in Joso City, Ibaraki Prefecture. Large distribution centers cover a wide construction area* and generate more waste than ordinary buildings, making it important to engage in the 3Rs. In addition, the Plastic Resource Circulation Act that came into effect in 2022 requires businesses that produce waste from using plastic products (hereinafter, waste plastic) to reduce the amount of plastic they use and to recycle the plastic they do use.

At these construction sites, we undertook initiatives to reduce the volume of waste plastic generated by construction work and recycled waste through advanced sorting methods. We used compression bags and automatic compressors to reduce the volume of said waste. The compression bags work by putting soft plastics into a bag and sucking the air out with a vacuum cleaner, in the same way as bags used to compress futon beddings at home. Automatic compressors are machines used to compress soft plastics. Equipped with solar panels on top, the compressors generate their own power and are just beginning to come into widespread use at construction sites in Japan.

Reduction of waste volumes with compression bags

Waste plastic automatic compressor

Waste plastic sorting box
(from left, PVC-free rigid plastic, PVC-free soft plastic, chlorinated plastic)

These measures allowed us to reduce the volume of soft plastics by 266 m^3 and dispose of the waste efficiently. We used sophisticated methods to sort the waste plastics into three categories (Waste Plastic A: PVC-free rigid plastic; Waste Plastic B: PVC-free soft plastic; Waste Plastic C: chlorinated plastic).

By reducing the volume of waste plastic, we were able to lower our transportation-related CO_2 emissions by 2.5 tons (or 58%) compared to previous methods of waste removal. In addition to these activities, we have also reduced CO_2 emissions by 547 tons by using environmentally friendly fuels and renewable energy.

*Total floor area of the Block 2 Distribution Facility: 200,000 m^2; Total floor area of the Block 4 Distribution Facility: 160,000 m^2

2. Award Ceremony

At the award ceremony, Koyari Takashi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, presented a certificate of commendation to Project Manager Takada on behalf of the two construction sites.

At the award ceremony, from left: Project Manager Ichinose, Chief Shinohara from the Environment Control Department and Project Manager Takada from the Kanto Branch

We will strive to optimize our business portfolio by promoting strategic investments in priority management businesses and intangible assets that will drive future growth, and to achieve our mid- to long-term goal of 8% ROE, as well as to further enhance corporate value.

Build the Culture.
Creation from ideas, rooted in passion