

# Third Party Verification of the 2006 Environmental and Social Report

## Purpose of a Third Party Verification of the Environmental & Social Report

FHI had its Environmental & Social Report verified by a third party, TÜV Rheinland Japan, Ltd., an accredited ISO14001 registrar, for the first time before the publication of the 2006 volume.

The validity\*1 of our report was assessed regarding the collection, calculation and reporting of important information and environmental data to prepare an accurate, easy-to-understand report where the transparency of information is assured, the completeness\*2 of important information cited in this report based on the assessment guidelines, as well as the accuracy\*3 in describing information.

- \*1 : Validity of the Report: A criterion to assess whether information damaging to the management and the company has been omitted intentionally, and whether the impartiality of the report (the degree or extent of the effect of such false statements or omitted information on the interested parties making judgment on the status quo of the company) has been compromised through bias in the selection of the information put in the Report.
- \*2 : Completeness of the Report: A criterion to assess whether information has been disclosed properly according to the guidelines cited in the Report.
- \*3 : Accuracy of the Report: A criterion to assess whether the reported data has been measured and calculated accurately.

## Result of the Verification (Comments from TÜV Rheinland Japan)

The verification process had been performed as planned, and it was confirmed that the corrective action requested during the verification has been properly implemented. As a result, the verification team concludes that the processes of data collection, data processing and reporting have been appropriately implemented, and that the report covers and correctly indicates important environmental information based on the Ministry of Environment's "Environmental Reporting Guidelines".

## Looking at the Assessment and Comments

FHI's unique stance and efforts towards environmental conservation, as well as its meticulous activities to prevent pollutions, were evaluated highly through the assessment. On the other hand, we also received several comments suggesting that our report could be improved further. For example, the application ranges of the data attached to some articles were unclear, achievements of FHI in respect to environment-related laws, regulations and voluntary standards were not reported, and the source of the CO<sub>2</sub> conversion factor we used was not provided. Furthermore, FHI's explanation of the efforts for waste material is vague, and it would have been better to clarify how CSR is related to FHI's corporate philosophy, policies, code of conduct, and actions. We take all this advice seriously and we will be more proactive in communication with our stakeholders and continue to improve our activities and the report even further.



About the details of the Verification Statement, please refer to the website of TÜV Rheinland Japan. <Japanese Only> (<http://www.tuv.com/id=9105019495&lang=en>)



On-site assessment at the Gunma Manufacturing Division and a hearing with the administration office in charge of the assessment.

## Editor's Note

We have been issuing our report every year since the Environmental Report was first issued in 2000. The name of the report was changed to the Environmental & Social Report in fiscal 2004, and information on FHI's social activities has been included ever since. We have received advice from our readers on the ways to utilize this report, as well as some comments pointing out that the volume is too thick, or that the data is complicated and unreadable.

We take such advice and comments seriously, and have taken such measures as issuing a supplementary volume to cover detailed data, in an effort to make the report more reader-friendly. In addition, we tried to include more personal information in the report, and introduced as many people as possible involved in the distinguishing activities of FHI and its affiliates. We also strove to disclose information faithfully, and toward this end had the report assessed by a third party.

We hope this report is of some help in communicating with our stakeholders. We would appreciate your opinions and comments on this report and have provided an attached questionnaire for your convenience.

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### Front Cover of this Report

The picture on the cover of the 2006 Environmental & Social Report shows the Pleiades star cluster, "Subaru" in Japanese, based on which our six-star mutsuraboshi corporate symbol is designed. We will remain conscious of the environment while providing products and services that contribute to society, as we recognize the need to continue protecting the irreplaceable global environment for future generations. So that all may enjoy this beautiful starry sky forever.

(The image of stars was partially processed for the cover use.  
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