

Environment

■ Reducing and Innovating Packaging and Containers

□ Basic Policy Regarding Packaging and Containers

Seven & i Holdings has made a commitment to “make our product packaging and containers lighter and thinner while introducing new materials with a lower environmental impact.” This is part of our Fundamental Policies relating to Measures to Contribute to the Prevention of Global Warming, stated under “II-1. Reducing CO2 emissions from product development and manufacturing activities.”

□ Reducing Use of Containers and Packaging

【Reducing Plastic Bag Consumption】

Seven & i Holdings promotes the reduced use of disposable plastic bags by posting posters and POP signs, and by holding other events to encourage customers to bring their own shopping bags when shopping at stores. We have ceased free distribution of plastic bags at food sales areas of Ito-Yokado stores and all sales areas of approximately 90% of York Benimaru stores.

【Plastic Bag consumption】

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2015 Target
• Plastic bag consumption per Seven-Eleven Japan store (by weight)	0.92t	0.94t	0.94t	0.95t	0.93t
• Plastic bag consumption (turndown rate) at the Ito-Yokado food section	2,725t (43.3%)	2,274t (47.6%)	1,321t (67.5%)	1,268t (70.2%)	—
• Plastic bag consumption (turndown rate) at the York-Benimaru food section	370t (70.8%)	392t (70.2%)	364t (69.9%)	350t (70.6%)	—

【Reducing Use of Containers】

At Ito-Yokado, York Benimaru, and York-Mart supermarkets, we have devised sales methods for fresh food and delicatessen items that reduce the use of containers and packaging, such as selling by weight or selling individual loose items. At our delicatessen sales areas, we are increasingly using paper bags rather than plastic containers for selling items such as croquettes and fried chicken. In addition, some fresh meat sales areas have adopted the method of packing meat for sale in plastic bags without a polystyrene tray.

【Food Container Consumption at Ito-Yokado】

	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015
Food container consumption (t)	2,183	2,104	2,095	2,081
Consumption per 10,000 products (t)	16.1	16.0	16.5	16.3

□Change to Recyclable Packaging Materials

In mid-July 2015, we changed the paper packaging used for Seven Premium alcohol products from the previous aluminum pack material to a non-aluminum pack material. This change enables the packs to be recycled as paper. Moreover, the volume of CO₂ emissions per pack from the raw material procurement and manufacturing process is around 12% lower compared with the aluminum packs. Furthermore, the CO₂ reduction effect from this initiative is projected to be 170 tons per year, the equivalent of the CO₂ absorbed by approximately 12,000 cedar trees.



□Introduction of Biodegradable Materials

Moreover, the original “Salad Cup Container” sold in the chilled cases of Seven-Eleven Japan stores is being replaced with containers that use environmental PET made from recycled or biomass PET rather than oil-based PET. The changeover is scheduled to be completed within the fiscal year ending February 29, 2016. The CO₂ emission reduction resulting from the change is expected to be 1,790 tons in the fiscal year ending February 29, 2016.



□Introduction of Recycled Materials

【Recycled Trays】

Ito-Yokado is introducing recyclable trays. In the fiscal year ended February 28, 2015, approximately 500 types of recyclable tray were introduced (an increase of 6% year on year by weight). The reduction in CO₂ emissions from the introduction of recyclable trays was approximately 2,699 tons. Moreover, the containers for cut fruit and boxed lunches are made from bioplastic, which partially uses plant-derived material.



【Use of Forest Thinning Material】

We are promoting the use of forest thinning materials for containers of Seven & i Holdings Seven Premium private brand products as a way of helping to cultivate healthy forests in Japan and prevent global warming. As of February 28, 2015, nine of our products are using forest thinning materials. Moreover, at Seven-Eleven Japan, thinning materials are used as material for the paper coffee cups provided in stores. All of the product packages are printed with a message explaining that they are made using forest thinning materials.



These efforts to make use of collected PET bottles and forest thinning materials have been recognized with the following awards.

2015	Award sponsor	Award name
January	Japan Federation of Printing Industries	2015 Japan Packaging Competition “Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Manufacturing Industries Bureau Prize”
February	Fujisankei Communications Group	24th Grand Prize for the Global Environment Award “Fujisankei Communications Group Prize”
August	Japan Packaging Institute	Japan Packaging Contest 2015 “Good Packaging Prize”

□Recovery and Use of PET Bottles

Ito-Yokado, York Benimaru, and York-Mart have installed automatic PET bottle recovery machines as part of a program in Japan for recycling old PET bottles into new PET bottles and other items. PET bottles inserted into the automatic recovery machines in the stores are automatically cleansed of foreign matter and compressed or crushed. This enables recycled PET manufacturers to obtain high-quality PET bottle chips, and means that the transportation companies can transport a large volume of plastic from the store to the recycling plant in a single trip, reducing the number of delivery vehicles. As of February 28, 2015, a total of 276 of these automatic recovery machines have been installed in 250 stores throughout the three companies, and have collected approximately 3,746 tons of PET bottles. We plan to increase the number of installations by 60 by February 29, 2016.

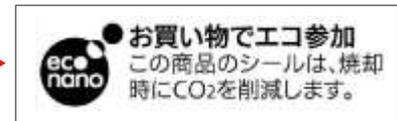


We are promoting an initiative to recycle collected PET bottles and use them in packaging for Seven Premium private brand products. Moreover, we have printed a note explaining the process from collection to recycling on the product packaging.



Change to Eco Materials for Product Labels

The Seven & i Group private brand Seven Premium Select Fresh Eggs package label includes CO2-adsorbing material. By using this CO2 adsorbent, consisting of nanovesicle capsules which capture the carbon emitted during combustion as ash, CO2 emissions can be reduced by approximately 20% compared with ordinary labels.



Example of product labels using CO2 absorbing agents