



YKK's Founder, Tadao Yoshida

## The Philosophy of YKK's Founder, Tadao Yoshida

YKK is constantly pursuing contributing to a sustainable society through its core business. The foundation of all such corporate activities is the Cycle of Goodness® corporate philosophy of YKK founder Tadao Yoshida. This philosophy clearly expresses YKK's spirit of continuing to prosper together with society, customers, related industries, and employees. It is a concept that is highly compatible with sustainability. The founder repeatedly conveyed the essence of this corporate philosophy to employees, speaking of it in various ways.

Tadao Yoshida's words, "business is like building a bridge," which are connected to the Cycle of Goodness, can be understood in terms of sustainability, as he

believed that unless we benefit society as a whole, we will not be able to prosper ourselves.

The words "manufacturing like clear spring water" and "trash can be a great resource if it is utilized with ingenuity" are linked to environmental consideration, and the words "the strength of a forest is better than a big tree" are linked to respect for human rights and individuality.

A philosophy that is highly compatible with sustainability has been at the core of YKK's management since the time of the founder. It continues to be inherited at the company even today, more than 80 years later.

## Business is like building a bridge



**(July 1965)**

I don't think that a business will prosper unless it is both profitable and also contributes to the world and is useful to human society. Nothing brings more happiness than when we can contribute to the local industry and the local economy, thereby enriching the lives of local people. YKK's "bridges" that bring abundant civilization to developing countries and new affluence to developed countries will continue in the future.

## If we make use of our ingenuity, even our waste can be a great resource



**(January 1971)**

The first thing we should do is think about how to better deal with waste from our own neighborhoods and implement those ideas together. If we continue digging for underground resources, cutting down trees, catching fish, and increasing oceans where fish can't live as we are doing now, it will mean the destruction of humanity.

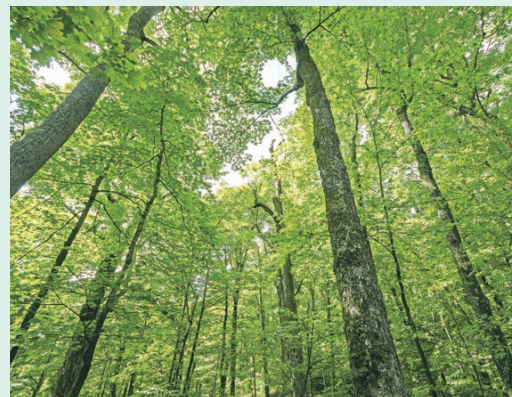
## Manufacturing like clear spring water



**(January 1984)**

Like a wonderful fountain, it bubbles forth, rich and authentic. This is true abundance. The important thing is not to waste valuable resources. Then it will be a great product.

## The strength of the forest is greater than the trees



**(July 1970)**

Some trees are thick with experience and age, others are young and thin. There are tall trees and short trees. We work well together, not under the control of anyone, using our strengths and abilities according to our individuality.

# From the Cycle of Goodness<sup>®</sup> to a Sustainable Future

## YKK sustainability vision 2050

YKK's action plan for a sustainable future



### climate change

- Tackle GHG emissions
- Increase use of renewable energy

In order to combat global climate change, YKK commits to greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets that are required to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement - to limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C.



### material resources

- Increase use of sustainable materials

YKK will reduce waste and the use of petroleum derived materials throughout the lifecycle of our fastening products. We will contribute to the transition to a circular society by eliminating production and plastic waste and developing products designed for circularity.



### water resources

- Reduce water use and manage wastewater

To combat serious water resource depletion and degradation, YKK will reduce its water intakes and strictly manage wastewater.



### chemical management

- Manage and reduce chemical usage

To ensure a healthy environment for future generations, YKK will reduce the environmental impact caused by chemicals used in the manufacture of our products.



### respect people

- Uphold human rights and ensure fair, safe work environments

YKK believes in the universal philosophy of respecting the dignity and rights of all human beings and is committed to contributing to a diverse and sustainable society.

# Aiming for Climate Neutrality as a Company that Co-exists and Co-prospers with Society and the Natural Environment

## SDGs

