

Reports on Ecological Activities at JR East Group Companies

Case 1: East Japan Amenitec Co., Ltd.

“For cleaning windows on the Shinkansen, chemical detergent was replaced with a solution of effective microorganism (EM) cultures”

East Japan Amenitec Co., Ltd., is engaged in activities related to railway transport, including inspection, repair, cleaning and maintenance of railcars, and building-maintenance activities. In the cleaning of cars in particular, we have adopted new cleaning methods and maintenance technology, and make perpetual efforts to identify even better ones, so that we can always offer our customers clean and pleasant cars.

To keep the cleaning friendly to the environment, we have changed from chemical detergent, which we had been using to clean Shinkansen train windows, to effective microorganisms (EM*) activated solutions harmless to both people and the environment. EM solutions are also effective in deodorizing waste treatment sites.

***EM**

Solutions containing cultures of multiple effective microorganisms - primarily lactic bacteria, yeasts and photosynthesis bacteria - harmless to both people and the environment.



Voice



Ritsuko Sakamoto
East Japan Amenitec Co., Ltd.
Shinkansen Morioka Office
Supervisor

We use several kinds of detergents to clean railcars. Being a woman, I am much concerned about effects on the skin. When I used EM activated solution, which was already being used as a deodorant at waste treatment sites, to clean windows and mirrors, I found it just as effective as chemical detergents. We are now using it with confidence for its deodorizing effect as well as for the lack of harm to people and the environment.

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**Case 2: JR East Building Co., Ltd.
“Rooftop Gardens Add New Value to Station and Office Buildings”**

In April 2009, JR East Building Co., Ltd., opened the “Ebisu Green Garden” on the roof of the JR Ebisu Building, and continues to operate and manage it.

The garden is highly appreciated by visitors, primarily those who work in the local and surrounding areas and shoppers at Atré Ebisu, for its environmental considerations - for example, its utilizing of recycled wood and arrangements of diversified types of colorful flowers. The greenery also absorbs CO₂, and, with the efficient use of energy for air conditioning, helps reduce the “heat island” effect.

This fall, a rental vegetable garden called “soradofarm” will open. The rooftop of the JR Ebisu Building will become even more friendly to the environment and to people.



Voice



Hiroshi Kodama
JR East Building Co., Ltd.
South Tower Office
(previously at the JR Building
Office Department)

We get a lot of visitors every day. We inspect facilities to make sure they are functioning properly and look around the garden to check the conditions of the flowers daily, so that visitors can spend a pleasant time. Staff stationed there regularly ask visitors if they have any suggestions or requests. Since it opened, various media have taken it up, and it is drawing more attention. The company, together with the staff there, are happy and proud to be part of managing and operating a facility that is “in the spotlight.”