

Recycling of Used Products

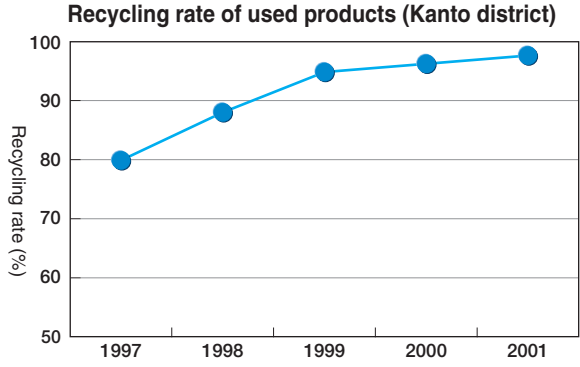
In order to create a resource recycling society, it is necessary to use resources efficiently and reduce the amount of disposed materials. Oki Electric has set the following goal and is striving for the recycling of used products.

■Goal: Achieve 96% recycling rate of used products by the end of 2002 (nationwide).

Activities for Recycling Used Products in 2001

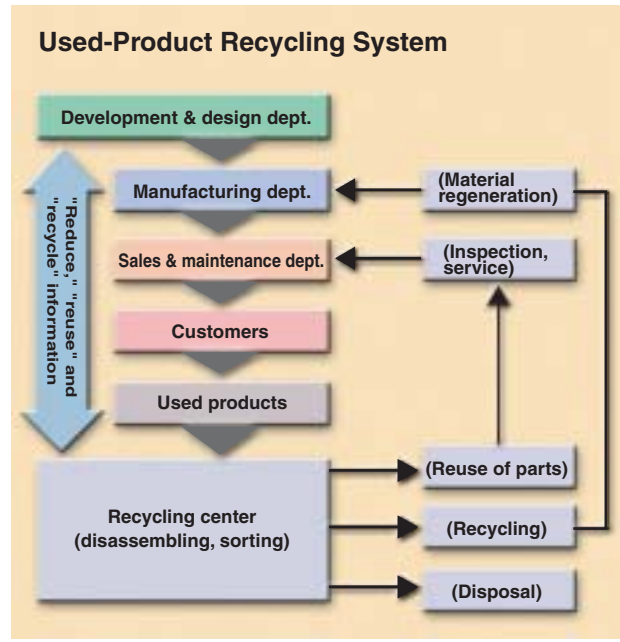
The total amount of collection of used products (mainly ATMs) in 2001 was 2265 tons, and 2167 tons was recycled. Thus the recycling rate reached 95.7% nationwide and 96.5% in the Kanto district where the recycling rate is relatively high.

Oki published on its web site that we will collect used personal computers from companies and recycle them using Oki's recycling system, in accordance with the Law for Promoting Effective Use of Resources (Revised Recycling Law). Furthermore, Oki built a recycling system for used small rechargeable batteries, and already started collection and recycling of such batteries.



Used-Product Recycling System

Oki built a used product recycling system within the Honjo district in 1999, to ensure appropriate processing of used products and to utilize the know-how in the product design process. Then the system has been improved to the current configuration shown on the right. With this configuration including a recycling center as a core component, "reduce," "reuse" and "recycle" are fully functioning.



Recycling Rate Estimate for Used products

Used product recycling rate usually includes the rate of material recycling and thermal recycling. From the perspective of environmental impact, material recycling is preferable. Therefore, we estimated only material recycling rate by pursuing the recycling process of telecommunication equipment (240kg), as a sample model, to the final stage. The following table describes the estimate result, indicating that 81 to 87% of the equipment's mass can be reused. Oki will further increase the recycling rate of used products.

	Disassembled parts/materials	Recycled material	Material recycling rate (%)	Total recycling rate (%)
Telecommunication equipment (100%)	PCBs (boards, electronic components)	Copper	2.8~7.1	81~87
		Iron	0.3~1.4	
	Metal parts (cabinet, racks, etc.)	Iron	75.4	
	Cables (copper wires, etc.)	Copper	1.8~1.9	
	Plastics (covers, etc.)	—	—	