

Nippon Closures participates in the "Vending Machine Recycling Box Foreign Matter Reduction Project 2021" initiative to promote PET bottle recycling through cross-industry cooperation.

Nippon Closures Co., Ltd. will participate in "Vending Machine Recycling Box Foreign Matter Reduction Project 2021", an initiative of Japan Soft Drink Association (Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Chairman: Taichi Yoneme). Demonstration tests of the new recycling boxes will be conducted successively in Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka, and Okazaki City, Aichi, with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and in Tsu City, Mie, on behalf of Mie Prefecture. In addition, the project will extend beyond the boundaries of the soft drink industry. In addition to our company, Japan Tobacco Inc. will cooperate in raising awareness of the project; Fuji Seal International, Inc. a label manufacturer, and Art Factory Gen Corp, a manufacturer of recycling boxes, will participate in the project; and the demonstration trial will be conducted in cooperation with Japan Automatic Merchandising Association.



■ Outline of Vending Machine Recycling Box Foreign Matter Reduction Project 2021

For soft drinks, PET-filled drinks account for 76% of the market share (in terms of production volume). The soft drinks industry has stated that it aims to use 100% of PET bottles by 2030 (November 2018) and 50% of bottles by April 2021 and is working to promote the recycling of plastic resources. To accelerate these efforts, it is important to ensure that used PET bottles are collected in a clean condition. However, approximately 30% of the bottles in a recycling box are foreign objects that are not empty soft drink containers. * Reducing foreign objects makes the sorting process at the recycling site more efficient and improves quality and quantity. In addition to the PET bottles themselves, we will also encourage the separate collection of caps and labels to achieve carbon neutrality. Based on the test results of this project, we aim to make the new functional recycling box the industry's first multipurpose recycling box with consistent industry specifications in the fall of 2022. We will strive to reduce the number of foreign objects and promote resource recycling of PET bottles from the collection point.

* Survey conducted in Tokyo in December 2018 (Japan Soft Drink Association).