

Featured News NEWS

The opening of a new plant in Seto - Building an environmentally friendly plant -

The Aichi Expo held in 2005 presented us with new possibilities and suggested a lifestyle for harmonious coexistence with the global environment. Our newly opened Seto plant was constructed by reusing the steel materials that were used to build the pavilions at the Aichi Expo. State-of-the-art manufacturing technologies are utilized in the manufacture of interior and exterior car parts at the Seto plant. The plant is situated at a convenient location near the Tokai-Kanjo Expressway and the Seto Akatsu Interchange, which is expected to contribute to: (1) securing the required production capabilities; (2) improving the efficiency of logistics; and (3) reorganizing the production system. We uphold *coexistence with society and harmony with the environment* as vital parts of our corporate philosophy. To meet our goal of building an *environmentally friendly plant* we actively employed various environmental technologies including the reuse of construction materials that were used to build the Expo pavilions. We proceeded with construction of the new plant while always being careful to preserve the beautiful scenery and nature surrounding it. In the future, we aim to continue to adopt the latest technologies so as to maintain our position as a role model for other Toyota Gosei plants.



DATA

- Plant Name: Seto Plant, of Toyota Gosei Co., Ltd.
- Began Production: April 2007
- Location: Sosaku-cho, Seto City, Aichi Prefecture
- Main Products: Interior and exterior car parts
(instrument panels, center console armrests, glove compartments, etc.)
- Land: Approx. 45,500 m² Indoors: Approx. 7,200 m² (First term)

Aiming to become a factory that serves as the face of the local community and of Toyota Gosei

Akira Suzuki
Plant Manager at the Seto Plant of
Toyota Gosei Co., Ltd.
(the Interior and Exterior Parts Business Unit)



Toyota Gosei began operations at Seto Plant, its tenth domestic production base, in April of 2007. With consideration for the environment as our top priority, plant construction took place in a hilly, nature-rich area of Seto City.

We aimed to establish a "Green Factory", amid calls in recent years for the importance of environmental conservation. We have succeeded in establishing an environmentally-friendly plant that

has minimal impact on the environment by, in addition to reusing the construction materials used to build the Aichi Expo pavilions, utilizing state-of-the-art environmental technologies and know-how in all aspects of the plant's construction and operation, including: (1) reducing use of solvents, waste water and waste materials in the manufacturing process (thereby reducing the environmental impact of the process), and (2) making the area around the plant "greener".

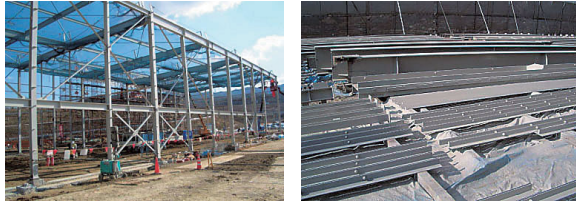
We frequently held seminars regarding environmental impact, the distribution system and plant layout even prior to its construction in order to gain the understanding and support of local residents. In the future, we will actively conduct local community activities, including participating in joint fire drills with local fire departments by making use of the plant's firefighting equipment.

We are determined to continue tackling new challenges while maintaining harmony with the local community in order to become a model interior/exterior car parts manufacturing plant as well as to preserve the environment.

Topic 1

Reusing the construction materials from the Aichi Expo to construct the plant building

The plant building was constructed by reusing the steel originally used in the construction of six pavilions that were featured at the Aichi Expo. The amount of reused steel was around 495 tons, accounting for 90% of the total amount of steel used in the construction of the plant building.



■ The 6 pavilions whose steel was reused to build the Seto Plant



Topic 2

Environmentally friendly production processes

We are introducing state-of-the-art technologies in order to achieve our goal of establishing an "environmentally friendly" plant. In order to minimize environmental impact (from air pollution, in this case) on the area surrounding the plant, we have adopted water-based paints for the painting of resin-molded parts. We have adopted a closed water treatment system for the painting process to prevent discharge of waste water from this process into the river; and other types of waste water discharge are also being cleaned through our highly advanced water treatment system.

In addition, we have installed comprehensive monitoring equipment to prevent water pollution in the rare event of a treatment system failure.



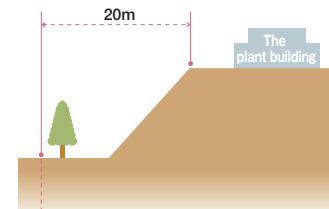
Waste water discharge treatment facility



A river that runs near the factory



A belt of green around the factory



Site boundary

"Greening" the area within 20 meters of the site boundary to preserve the landscape and control noise pollution

	Production process	Buildings and facilities
Water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted a closed water treatment system to prevent waste water from the painting process from being discharged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General waste water discharge treatment facility Continuously monitoring waste water discharge
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppress VOCs*1 by increasing use of water-based paint, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a kerosene that emits only small amounts of NOx*2 and SOx*3 as boiler fuel
Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieved zero landfill waste Recycling waste materials internally and externally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopted a construction method that doesn't use wooden frames to lay the foundation of the building Reused the building materials from the Aichi Expo
Global warming (energy saving, CO2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced an all-electric injection molding machine Reduced CO2 emissions from distribution by locating production sites near primary delivery destinations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced a high-efficiency inverter air compressor Introduced high-efficiency lighting
Ground pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Took countermeasures against leakage of oil and grease into the ground 	

*1 Volatile Organic Compounds *2 Nitrogen oxides *3 Sulfur oxides