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For Immediate Release

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**Notice of Commencement of Free Collection and Recycling Service for Plastic Cones as
Concrete Formwork**

Okabe Co., Ltd. ("the Company") hereby announces that it has obtained recognition for industrial waste treatment (Ministry of the Environment Recognition No. 302) from the Minister of the Environment under the wide-area waste treatment system for plastic cones as part of its effort to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the management of its businesses and it has decided to commence a service collecting and recycling waste plastic cones that are no longer needed after their use at construction sites.

Traditionally, plastic cones have been discarded as industrial waste like other materials after they are used several times. This has posed problems regarding the effective use of resources, marine plastics and the environmental impact.

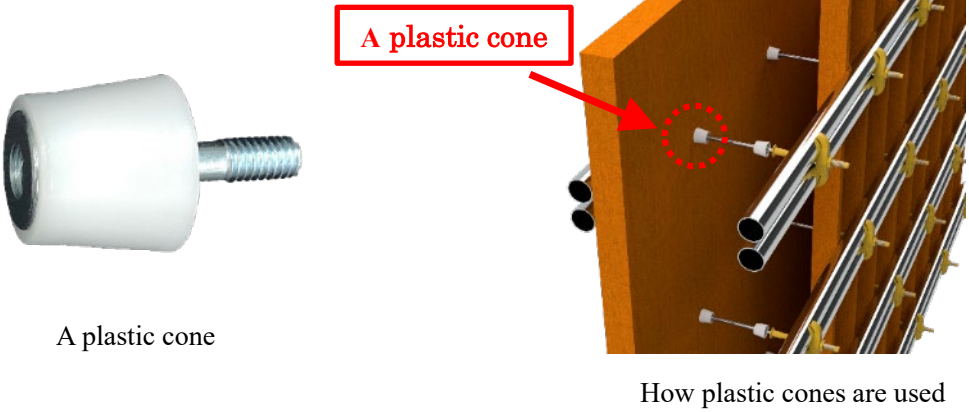
The plastic cone collection and recycling service is intended to collect waste plastic cones from business operators free of charge and for their closed-loop recycling to process them into new plastic cones. This will economically benefit both customers and the Company. It will also help address the greenhouse gas emissions from waste incineration, the outflow of waste plastics into the ocean and other environmental issues.

The Company will continue to actively work to achieve zero waste emissions from construction sites in the hope that it will lead to the decarbonization of construction sites and a sound material-recycling society.

1. Plastic cones

Plastic cones are used to secure the formworks into which concrete is poured when creating a concrete structure. It is composed of a plastic shell and a metal shaft. The Company started providing services using the form tie method at least 60 years ago. This method is still commonly used in concrete work

today. The Company has long been manufacturing and selling the plastic cones used in this method.



2. Mechanism for the collection and recycling of plastic cones

The Company will work with its partner companies to collect used plastic cones from business operators for free and to produce recycled plastic cones at its Kuki Factory. The Company designates partner companies within a wide area. It centrally manages the plastic cones to ensure that the cones discarded by business operators are properly treated.

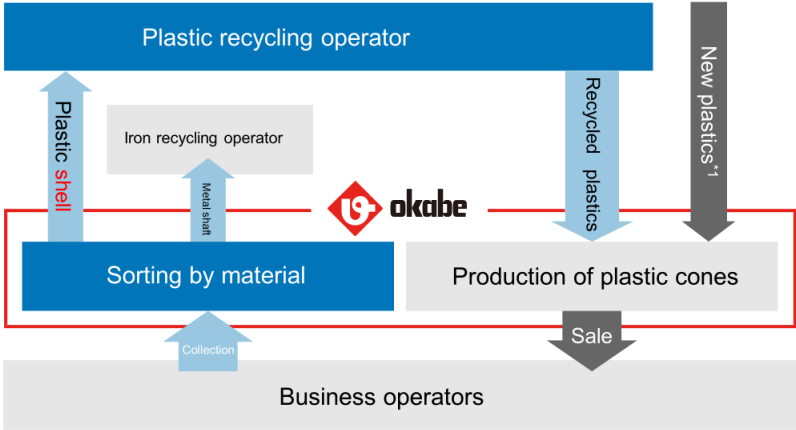


Diagram of the plastic cone collection and recycling service

*1 New plastics will be added to recycled plastics in the process of producing plastic cones to ensure strength and quality.

3. Region covered

At the time the service is launched, it will cover the area served by the Company's Tokyo branch. The Company expects to collect around 2 million plastic cones annually. Moving forward, it will develop its system of collecting plastic cones to expand it to the entire country.

4. Impact of plastic cone collection and recycling

It is thought that the plastic cone collection and recycling service will help reduce environmental impact in five ways. The Company will estimate a specific figure for its reduction of CO₂ emissions from the entire life cycle of the cones in the process of operating the service.

- Effective use of oil resources that are the raw material of plastics
- Reduction of the huge amount of greenhouse gasses emitted during the combustion of plastics
- Increased recovery of iron scrap from the community
- Extension of the remaining service life of final disposal sites by reducing the waste put in landfills
- Reducing the risk of plastics flowing into the ocean

5. Wide-area waste treatment recognition system

A special system aimed at reducing waste and ensuring proper waste treatment by exempting a party engaging in a business of manufacturing, processing or selling a specific product (such as a manufacturer*) from obtaining permissions from individual local public entities across a broad area for the treatment of products after they become waste. These permissions are at the heart of the legal system related to the waste treatment businesses.

*This system applies where the manufacturer has advantages regarding the proper treatment of waste that are not available to third parties, such as knowledge regarding the properties and structure of the product helpful in advanced recycling treatments or equivalent procedures.

(From the Ministry of the Environment website)

6. Impact on the Company's consolidated financial results

The service will have a minor impact on the Company's consolidated financial results. The launch of the service will require a capital investment of 13 million yen in the initial fiscal year and annual service operation expenses of around 5 million yen. However, the collection and recycling will bring about gains on sales of iron scrap after collection and reduces materials expenses.