

Private Sector Platform

A monthly highlight of companies' innovative initiatives in plastic waste reduction.

Company Highlight









In 1977, Pana-Chemical responded to the challenge of addressing Styrofoam waste at the Tsukiji Fish Market in Tokyo, leading to the development of the "J-EPS Recycling" system—a method that involves the compression of expanded polystyrene (EPS) into ingots. Pana-Chemical now dominates 80% of the Japanese EPS recycling market and supports over 2,000 companies, recycling approximately 3,000 tons of Styrofoam monthly. What began as a local solution has evolved into a widely acknowledged contribution to reducing plastic waste. With a history spanning over four decades, it has established itself as a reliable player in the field of plastic recycling. The company's journey underscores its enduring commitment to environmental sustainability and the principles of a circular economy.

Pana-Chemical has a network of 2,000 suppliers, and the company consistently purchases 7,000 metric tons of plastic monthly, ensuring a stable supply of resource plastic. Operating in countries such as Japan, Turkey, Spain, and the USA. Pana-Chemical manages 13 warehouses and collaborates with over 100 processing centers. This robust supply chain solidifies the company's standing as a reliable entity in the plastic recycling sector. The company maintains stringent control over processed resource plastic until it reaches the customer, emphasizing quality assurance.

Not only does Pana-Chemical sell plastic recycling machines, but it also engages in the sale of recycled raw materials, creating a comprehensive approach aligned with the principles of a circular economy. Beyond being a supplier, Pana-Chemical actively engages with customers, industry specialists, and the public to promote responsible plastic recycling. Through seminars, websites, and a database management program, the company disseminates reliable information, advocating for the proper execution of recycling operations. This educational commitment aligns with the company's broader philosophy of providing information alongside products and technology, fostering an industry-wide commitment to sustainable practices.

Underscoring its commitment to reducing plastic waste, Pana-Chemical's CEO, Mr. Kentaro Inukai, remarked, "Our recycling system, born out of the necessity to address the Styrofoam waste issue at the Tsukiji Fish Market, has not only supported thousands of businesses in Japan but has also contributed to recycling a significant volume of Styrofoam monthly. Through our technology, we have successfully reused 1 million tons of used Styrofoam, making a substantial contribution to reducing plastic waste globally. Our commitment extends to the reduction of plastic waste internationally, as evidenced by our participation in the Regional Knowledge Centre for Marine Plastic Debris' Private Sector Platform."

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About Private Sector Platform

The Private Sector Platform promotes good practices and innovative actions taken by private sector actors in the ASEAN+3 region. Businesses can utilise the PSP to showcase the products, services and technologies that are helping reduce plastic waste.

Many companies – big and small – are growing concerned about the future of our planet. The sight of plastic waste scattered across beautiful landscapes, oceans and beaches has motivated many to take affirmative action. These innovations cover everything from plastic usage reductions and alternative materials, to recycling and waste management - to name just a few. Our platform offers a way to honour, highlight and promote these efforts.

