

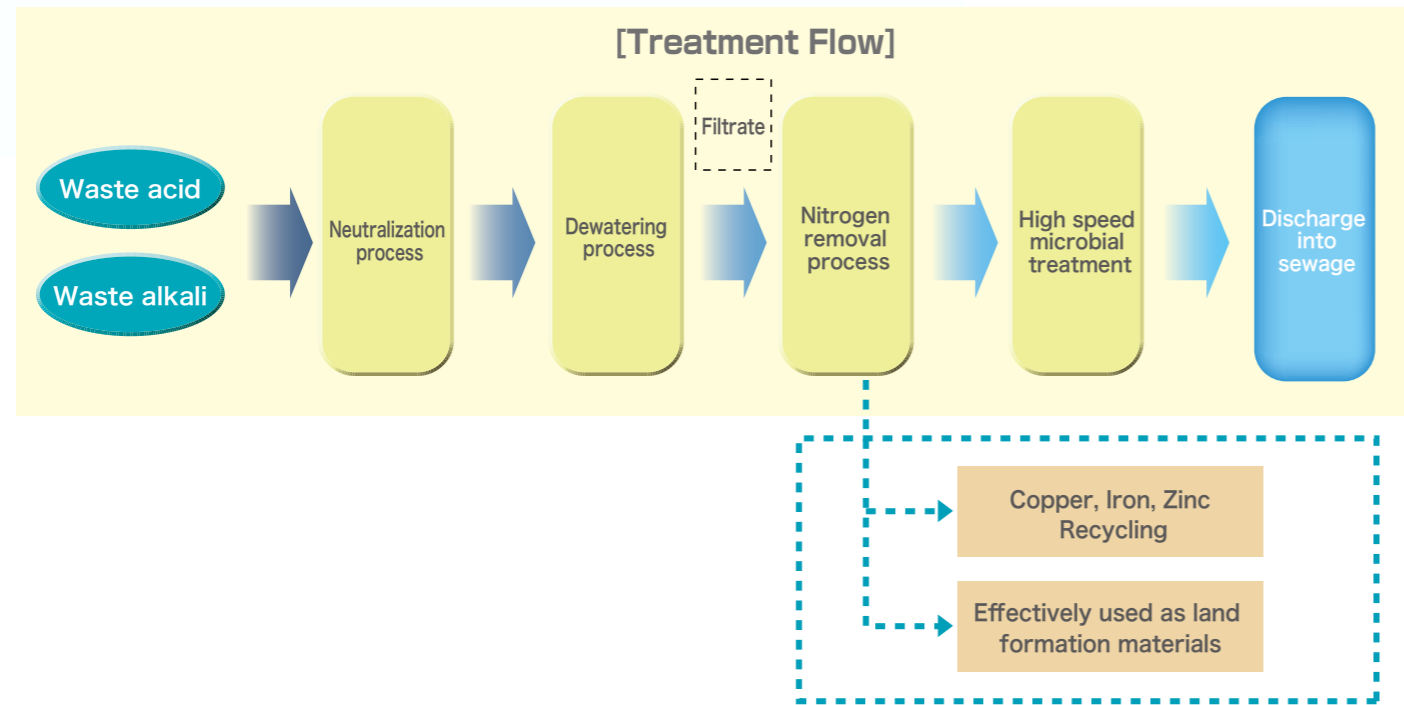
## Initiatives for Environmental Protection

### 2. Microbial treatment technology at the Kawaguchi Plant of Nihon Chemitech Co., Ltd.

The Kawaguchi Plant of Nihon Chemitech Co., Ltd. is detoxifying waste acid and alkali disposed of by various plants and business settings via its “environmentally friendly treatment system”, which is processed mainly by microbial treatment.

As shown below, high speed microbial treatment is conducted using solid bacteria carriers to decrease the carbon contents in liquid waste, which is equivalent to “carbonic dioxide” of 350 tons\*.

\* Calculated based on BOD densities gap between at the entrance and the exit of the microbial treatment process.



### 3. Theme for research & development to reduce the environmental load

The Asahi Pretec Group is working for recovering and recycling of resources centered on precious metals to reduce environmental load.

#### (1) Environmental impact reduction

- ① Energy cost reduction by improving efficiency during precious metal refining.
- ② Energy cost reduction by improving efficiency during silver recovery.
- ③ Treatment cost reduction by improving efficiency during waste liquid treatment process.

#### (2) Recycling of resources

- ① Technological development to recover pure ruthenium (platinum group precious metal)
- ② Effective use utilization of high calorie food waste.

#### (3) Electrolyzed water business

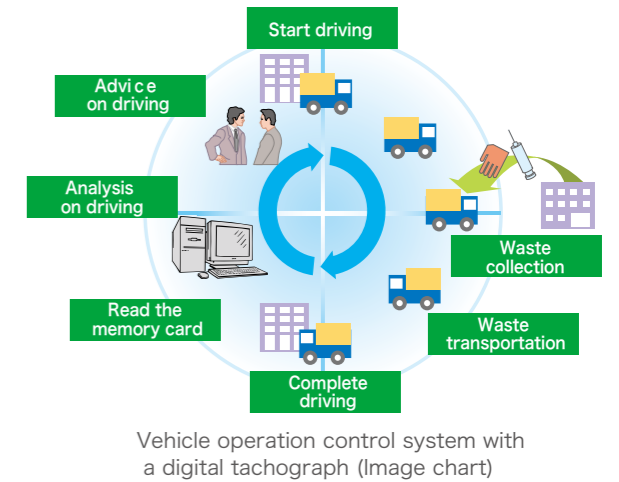
Asahi Pretec is manufacturing and marketing “eco-friendly neutral electrolyzed water generator”. The water can be used for sterilizing and washing, and contains no harmful chemical substances, such as surfactants.

The company has newly designed and small high performance piece of equipment, “AP Aqua NeoEX”, which will be launched in the first half of FY2007.

## Promotion of Saving Energy and Resources at Sites

### Promotion of an eco-friendly drive via the introduction of a digital tachograph

In order to enhance energy saving and systematically and continuously implement eco-friendly driving, we are working on fitting a digital tachograph (controlled terminal vehicle operations) to each of the waste collection and transportation vehicles. The digital tachograph provides the driver with verbal alarms to signal excess driving speeds, abrupt acceleration or deceleration, long hours driving, idling, etc., which reduces the fuel consumption. The device is also said to prevent accidents and traffic violations. Using the conventional analog type tachograph, managers used to visually check excess speed and non-operation period of time over 30 minutes. Now, the digital model allows managers to check those records quickly in the form of a table, and understand each drivers skill and features so as to ensure all drivers’ safer driving and provide individual instruction guidance to defective drivers.



Vehicle operation control system with a digital tachograph (Image chart)

### Green purchasing

When purchasing office supplies etc., we ensure sufficient consideration of the environment. We are engaged in green purchasing by carefully reflecting on the necessity of purchase and buying only those items that minimize the environmental load generated. This green purchasing not only ensures the purchaser’s activities are environmentally friendly but also encourages suppliers to develop environmentally friendly products, meaning it has the potential to fundamentally change economic activities. In April 2001, the Law on Promoting Green Purchasing came into force. Utilizing a web net purchasing system that provides an abundant variety of “green products”, we are prioritizing environmentally friendly choices for purchasing office supplies, sanitary goods, and printed matter etc. In 2005, we participated in the “Team Minus 6%”, and with the motto, “Select eco-goods with the priority for purchasing office supplies etc.”, we have continued promoting the activities this fiscal year, too. We will step up further efforts.

### Environmental initiatives in the office

We are implementing various activities to reduce the environmental loads caused by our office activities. We have introduced a Document Filing Control System to computerize as many paper documents as possible to reduce paper waste. We are also minimizing the number of trash boxes supplied at plants and offices, and, at the common waste dump site, waste sorting is strictly imposed to minimize the volume nonrecyclable wastes generated at the offices. Participating a nation-wide project “Team Minus 6%” since FY2005, we have been implementing “Cool Biz/Warm Biz” and other such actions to prevent global warming.



Sorted waste recycling box(Fukuoka Office)

