We seek to achieve sustainable growth and a prosperous society through stronger relationships with stakeholders by providing them with appropriate information and engaging them in dialogue, and by creating new technologies and value in collaboration with stakeholders.

# Communication with Stakeholders

To share our philosophy and objective of promoting sustainability management, we place immense importance on opportunities for diverse dialogue with stakeholders.

Through dialogue, we seek to build relationships of mutual cooperation between the company and its stakeholders and among stakeholders, and to grow and develop together.

#### Communication to Deepen Connections among Stakeholders



#### Opportunities for Dialogue with Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Objectives	Main communication
Customers	<ul> <li>Collaborating to solve social issues through business</li> <li>Improving customer satisfaction by maintaining the supply of high-quality products</li> <li>Building and strengthening relationships of trust through appropriate disclosure of sustainability and other initiatives</li> </ul>	Sales and technical support, customer satisfaction surveys, acceptance of plant inspections, CSR survey responses, information disclosure on website, sustainability reports
Shareholders (Sumitomo Metal Mining and BASF)	• Be accountable to shareholders for business strategies and performance, and strengthen Group cooperation	General shareholders' meeting, acceptance of audits, and technical exchanges
Suppliers	Maintaining sound business relationships through fair and equitable transactions     Sharing procurement policies and CSR procurement guidelines, and promoting CSR procurement throughout the supply chain	Communication through purchasing activities and conduct CSR surveys
Business Partners	• Strengthening collaboration with various companies to develop products and new technologies that contribute to a sustainable society	Communication through projects, cooperative research
Employees	<ul> <li>Creating opportunities for direct dialogue between officers and employees</li> <li>Strengthening mutual trust through labor-management dialogue</li> <li>Strengthening employee engagement</li> <li>Fostering a lively work environment</li> </ul>	Employee Forum (held twice a year), labor-management council, executive blog, intranet
Schools (Universities)	• Creating new technologies and values that support a sustainable society	Acceptance of internships, cooperative research
Industry Groups	<ul> <li>Exchanging views and sharing information with chemical and catalyst- related industry groups, and with organizations working to solve social issues</li> </ul>	Membership in industry groups (JCIA, Catalyst Manufacturers Association JAPAN, Japan Hydrogen Association, and others.)
Local Communities	Contributing to local development through youth development, local environmental protection, and other social activities     Coexisting and co-prospering with local communities	Providing extracurricular classes at technical colleges and high schools, regularly engaging in dialogue with resident associations and landowners, participating in community cleanup activities, in regional chambers of commerce and environment-related councils, and in district sports competitions, and supporting AED advertising for local government community facilities

# **Local Contribution Activities**

#### Environmental Protection Activities

We participate in environmental protection programs in the areas surrounding our plants ("Clean Numazu" in Numazu, Shizuoka Prefecture, as well as "Clean Bando" in Bando, Ibaraki Prefecture) and regularly conduct cleanup activities.

We also conduct environmental protection activities through our participation in the Kano River System Water Quality Conservation Council, which works to promote water quality conservation in the Kano River water system in Numazu and ensure a pleasant living environment.



Community Cleanup Activities

#### Support for Installing AEDs in Public Facilities

N.E. CHEMCAT sponsors AED advertising to support efforts to install automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) in public facilities in Bando City, Ibaraki Prefecture.

In FY2023, we supported the installation of AEDs in five locations in four facilities: Bando City Hall, Iwai Wellness Center, Bando General Gymnasium, and Bando Civic Concert Hall.

# Support of Culture and Sports

In FY2023, we cosponsored the Shizuoka Ekiden (a long-distance relay road race) for municipalities in Shizuoka Prefecture, donated towels to cheer on the team from Numazu where our plant is located, and deepened engagement with local residents.

At the Tsukuba Plant, several of our employees took part in the Bando City Masakado Half Marathon as part of efforts to revitalize the local community.



The Numazu Team holding up the towels we donated to cheer them on

### Educational Support

As part of our educational support activities for the students who will lead the future of the region, we help create elementary school newsletters and participate in extracurricular classes at high schools.

#### **Elementary Schools**

• Support for producing newsletters: Bando municipal Kamiomi Elementary School, Numazu municipal Hara Elementary School

# High Schools/Technical High Schools

· Future Shizuoka\*:

Support for extracurricular activities at Izu Sogo High School and Yoshiwara Technical High School

\* Future Shizuoka: A project run by Shizuoka Shimbun (newspaper) that communicates the appeal of living in the community by having high school students work in local companies.



Extracurricular classes at Yoshiwara Technical High School

# Industry-Academia-Government Collaborative Activities

#### Participation in Food Waste Reduction Organizations

As a member of the No Food Waste Consortium, which aims to reduce food loss through the use of catalysts, we engage in activities that include providing products and holding discussions aimed at developing practical applications for these catalysts.

In March 2024, we cosponsored the No Food Waste Contest for high school students, which is hosted by the consortium. We gave our corporate award to the National Institute of Technology Tomakomai College team, who presented an idea for a technology to preserve food freshness using platinum catalysts.



National Institute of Technology Tomakomai College team wins the N.E. CHEMCAT Award

33 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024