

# Local Symbiosis Activities

## Holding Wakko Marche with Vegetables and Fruits from Local Farmers

On October 15, 2023, we held Wakko Marche at our group's recycling facility, ECONECOL Plaza Azumino (Azumino City, Nagano Prefecture). As part of ASTOCO Inc.'s continued employment support for people with disabilities, we are focusing on the "Agriculture-Welfare Collaboration", which connects people seeking a place to work with agriculture. In addition to selling sweet potatoes and cucumbers grown by the users, we also sold vegetables and fruits from farmers who take care of ASTOCO. In addition, the Econecol Inc. Matsumoto branch office set up a collection booth for a used picture book fair with Mama Fes Matsumoto, and people brought in 442 picture books in one day. The picture books collected were distributed at a later date at a Mama Fes Matsumoto booth. In addition, by holding events such as opening booths of neighboring welfare facilities, bringing in oversize trash, playing booths for children, and screenings with readings of picture books, we attracted more than 300 visitors. We will continue to expand our connection with the community and spread smiles to more people.



## VOLTA Inc. Certified as a Fuji City Universal Employment Cooperation Company

On August 7, 2023, VOLTA Inc., which recycles lithium-ion batteries, was certified as a universal employment cooperation company by Fuji City, Shizuoka Prefecture, where its head office is located. The purpose is to popularize and promote universal employment which is promoted by Fuji City. Among companies with a base of activities in the city, this certification is given to companies that meet all the requirements, such as being prepared to provide work experience or employment in a universal employment environment, and having an understanding and consideration for universal employment throughout the workplace.



**What is Universal Employment?**  
 Universal employment is an initiative to create a society where "all citizens" who want to work but find it difficult to do so can work and feel "worth living and working".  
 The City of Fuji enacted the first "Regulation on Promotion of Universal Employment" in Japan, which came into force in April 2017.

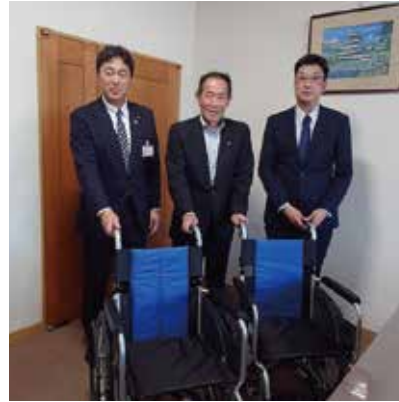
## Holding a "Mottainai BOX" Collaboration Station

The ECONECOL Inc. Matsumoto Branch (formerly: SYN ECO Inc.) has installed and operated the "Mottainai BOX", which functions as an unmanned resource recovery station, and in April 2024 we started a station in collaboration with the Shinshu Environmental Education Network. A portion of the proceeds from the resources collected at this station will be used to fund environmental learning activities in Chushin District, Nagano Prefecture. In addition, as support for the local J-League team "Matsumoto Yamaga FC" and a donation to Nagano Children's Hospital, we are building a circular economy model that returns a portion of the revenue obtained from "Mottainai BOX" to the community.



### Donation of Two Wheelchairs to the Social Welfare Council - Nagano Bank and Aluminum Can Recycling -

On May 21, 2024, the ECONECOL Inc. Matsumoto Branch (formerly: SYN ECO Inc.) of the ENVIPRO Group donated two wheelchairs to the Matsumoto City Social Welfare Council jointly with the Nagano Bank Co., Ltd. Since August 2023, Nagano Bank has installed collection boxes for aluminum cans in three branches, and employees have collected aluminum cans. The collected aluminum cans were properly recycled by the ENVIPRO Group. The donated wheelchairs were purchased from Jujiya Lease Co., Ltd. by adding donations from both companies to the aluminum cans collected.



### Cleaning the Numazu Coast and Holding a Social Gathering

On November 5, 2023, the ECONECOL Inc. Shizuoka Branch held a coastal cleaning and social gathering at Numazu. About 100 employees and family members cleaned the coast of Numazu. On the day, we were blessed with good weather, and we had a refreshing experience cleaning in the autumn sunshine. There was a lot of trash, including plastic bottles, glass bottles, metals and other things cast adrift. Even tiny pieces of garbage can accidentally be ingested by marine organisms or, as they are broken down, turn into microplastics, affecting fish, people, and many ecosystems. We will continue to conduct awareness-raising activities for employees through cleaning activities.



### Participated in Sagami River Beautification Campaign

Employees and family members of the Nitto Kako Co., Ltd. Head Office and Shonan Plant (Samukawa-machi, Koza-gun, Kanagawa Prefecture) participated in the Sagami River beautification campaign hosted by Samukawa-machi on May 26, 2024. This is held in conjunction with the "Zero Waste Day" on May 30 every year, with more than 600 people participating in the entire campaign, and the total amount of garbage collected reached 0.54 tons. We will continue to actively participate in local initiatives.



### Welcoming Children to Tour Our Plants

ECONECOL Inc. Matsumoto Branch welcomes children to tour its plant. We put a lot of effort into each event so that students can continue to learn through lectures and tours. With the increasing interest in recycling around the world, children have a high interest in recycling and ask many questions, making these tours a meaningful use of time. We will continue to carry out activities that lead to a bright future.



Matsumoto City Meizen Elementary School, 4th grade

