

Press Information

Green Curtains Combat Summer Heat

With plants acting as Green Curtains along the exterior walls of the company buildings, Kyocera creates a cooler temperature in office spaces and simultaneously lowers climate-damaging CO₂ levels.

Kyoto/London – 02. August 2017. Every spring, Kyocera Corporation employees at numerous company locations, in different parts plant Green Curtains at their offices, and in doing so set an example in sustainability and climate protection. In the run up to the hot summer months, the young plants grow to become thick, green curtains of leaves running up the trellises on the exterior walls. The Green Curtains screen the building from the sun's rays thereby providing shade indoors and thus reducing the reliance on air conditioning which consequently contributes significantly to climate protection.

Advantage	In figures	Environmental Effect
reduction of room temperature	room temperature cooler by up to 2 degrees Celsius	reduced energy consumption through air conditioning systems
Reduction in CO ₂ emission	1 square meter neutralises 3.5 kilograms of CO ₂ every year	reduction of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere

Advantages and Effects of Green Curtains



Green Curtain seedlings at Kyoto Ayabe Plant



Green Curtains at Nagano Okaya Plant

In the last ten years Kyocera has been able to neutralise 90,300 kilograms of CO₂ using these plant curtains - equivalent to the amount that 6,450 cedar trees would.¹ Last year, the company's Green Curtains were already measured 710 metres in total, and covered a surface area of 2,900 square metres (about 12 tennis courts!), absorbing approximately 10,000 kilograms of CO₂.

Green Curtains are a Tradition at Kyocera

As early as 2007, Kyocera, together with the local government and an NGO, began to plant Green Curtains at one of the factories in Japan's Nagano Prefecture. The goal was to further reduce the environmental pollution caused by the factory. These activities have been expanded to a further 27 company locations so far. Through the provision of seeds and DIY guides for Green Curtains, Kyocera encourages private residents as well as their employees to spread this initiative to their own homes.

Company internal vegetable cultivation through Green Curtains

The planting of green curtains is not just for the benefit of environment, but also contributes to a balanced diet: Although Green Curtains are mostly made up of Goya and morning glory plants, other plants such as passion fruit, beans, climbing okra and Japanese baby pumpkins

¹ A cedar binds 14 kg of CO₂ in a year. (Source: Forestry Agency of Japan)

(Cucurbita Pepo) are also used. The freshly harvested vegetables end up on employees' plates in the canteens of the Japanese company. Where Goya is often eaten as tempura with Japanese udon noodles or prepared as Onigirazu, a Japanese rice sandwich that has become enormously popular in the last few years in Japan.

Kyocera encourages companies and private households alike to get planting

On the website² for the Green Curtain activities, Kyocera offers a comprehensive overview and explanation of the environmental initiative, and in this way encourages the movement to spread. Illustrations, in a step-by-step guide show what materials are required for a Green Curtain, and how planting works. The facades of commercially used buildings or residences are protected by plant trellises with the plants adding aesthetic value, as demonstrated at the Kyocera company locations. Kyocera is very keen for other world-wide companies to follow suit and use the power of the Green Curtains, for the sake of the environment and their employees.

² <http://global.kyocera.com/ecology/greencurtains/>



For more information on Kyocera: www.kyocera.co.uk

About Kyocera

Headquartered in Kyoto, Japan, Kyocera Corporation is one of the world's leading manufacturers of fine ceramic components for the technology industry. The strategically important divisions in the Kyocera Group, which is comprised of 231 subsidiaries (as of March 31, 2017), are information and communications technologies, products which increase quality of life, and environmentally friendly products. The technology group is also one of the oldest producers of solar energy systems worldwide, with more than 40 years of experience in the industry.

The company is ranked #522 on Forbes magazine's 2017 "Global 2000" listing of the world's largest publicly traded companies. With a global workforce of over 70,000 employees, Kyocera posted net sales of approximately €11.86 billion in fiscal year 2016/2017. The products marketed by the company in Europe include printers, digital copying systems, microelectronic components, and fine ceramic products. The Kyocera Group has two independent companies in the United Kingdom: Kyocera Fineceramics Ltd. and Kyocera Document Solutions.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation — established by Kyocera founder Dr. Kazuo Inamori — to individuals and groups worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind (converted at approximately €400,000 per prize category).

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