

S Strengthen Ties with Stakeholders— 3

Providing Safety and Security



Offering Office and Plant Tours

In fiscal 2017, more than 280 students from three elementary schools in Saitama Prefecture visited Ai-City headquarters as part of their social studies tours. In addition to a briefing on the Company, this visit included an “Ai-Museum” (Brake Museum) tour and observation of the mobile brake technology educational center as well as programs aimed at providing hands-on experience of manufacturing at the Monozukuri Center. Such tours help raise visitors’ safety awareness while facilitating their understanding of Akebono and its products.

Looking ahead, we will implement initiatives with companies and communities in regions around our domestic and overseas locations. Learning from and inspiring each other, we will grow in tandem with our stakeholders.



Elementary school students visiting Ai-City

Our Mobile Brake Technology Educational Center

More than 200 training sessions are held each year employing the “Mobile Brake Technology Educational Center,” a vehicle specially designed to display braking mechanisms in an easy to understand way to auto dealers, automobile repair shops and others nationwide to teach car salesmen and auto mechanics about the structure of disc and drum brakes.

Points about brake maintenance and market activities are explained using samples and images taken from actual vehicles. Attendees knowledge and technical skills concerning brakes are deepened and their feedback and comments are later reflected in product development. To make customer safety and comfortable driving a reality, we provide training on brake maintenance at brake servicing sites. In addition, we are also active in conducting associate training, family visits, tours for elementary school students, participating in local community events, and more.



Mobile Brake Technology Educational Center training session

Occupational Safety and Health Management

To improve its global safety and health management capability, Akebono regularly holds a Global Safety Workshop that all of its global production facilities attend.

In Japan, Akebono has established a management system centered on the Central Safety Environment Committee. Through this system, we strive to ensure the safety and health of associates with the aim of identifying and reducing various risks related to our operations, including prevention of disasters, accidents and other emergencies. Placing the utmost emphasis on securing the safety of our personnel, we have set rules that allow no newly recruited associate or contract worker to engage in actual operations unless they have undergone the required safety education beforehand. We also distribute a booklet summarizing important safety issues to all associates to raise their safety awareness, as well as provide regular opportunities to learn about safety starting from fundamentals.

Response to the Problem of Asbestos

Well ahead of other Japanese domestic companies, Akebono began the development of asbestos-free products in the 1970s. Not only did we lead the field in completing the transition to asbestos-free OEM products for new cars by 1992 and commercial vehicles by 1994, we have not manufactured service parts containing asbestos since 2000. We provide health consultations relating to asbestos and have implemented complementary health checks for neighbors who have lived near Akebono plants, ex-associates, and their family members. In total, 629 people have undergone asbestos health checks as of March 31, 2018. We plan to continue these checks in the future.

A settlement was reached on December 25, 2015 on a lawsuit filed on November 28, 2012 by former associates and bereaved relatives seeking compensation for damages for injuries to health caused by asbestos.

Breakdown of Number of Examinees

(from August 2005 to March 2018)

Figures in parentheses represent increases from the previous year

	Ex-associates	Families of ex-associates	Neighbors	Total
Asbestosis found	41	0	0	41
Pneumoconiosis found	16	0	0	16
No findings	419 (+2)	37	116 (+2)	572 (+4)
Total	476 (+2)	37	116 (+2)	629 (+4)