

Selection as a “2017 Certified Health and Productivity Management Organization”

~High Appraisal for Corporate Philosophy~

Sumitomo Forestry Co. Ltd. (President and Representative Director: Akira Ichikawa; Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) was selected as a “2017 Certified Health and Productivity Management Organization” on February 21, 2017.



The Certified Health and Productivity Management Organization Recognition Program was established this fiscal year by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) together with Nippon Kenko Kaigi as one aspect of initiatives to promote better health. The program endeavors to highlight outstanding enterprises and medical corporations engaged in efforts to advance health and productivity management.

In contrast to the Health & Productivity Stock Selection program overseen by METI together with the Tokyo Stock Exchange, which is limited to listed companies, the Certified Health and Productivity Management Organization (White 500) program recognizes large enterprises, not solely listed companies, and aims to certify 500 companies by 2020. This fiscal year, 235 organizations were recognized in the large enterprise category.

Five standards are in place for assessing recognition: Corporate Philosophy; Organizational System, Implementation of Systems and Initiatives; Evaluation and Reform; and Legal Compliance and Risk Management. Sumitomo Forestry received high appraisal for its Corporate Philosophy.

Sumitomo Forestry Group is promoting diversity management, as Respect for Humanity is one of the company’s Action Guidelines. The company advocates “The importance of family: Valuing oneself and one’s family to build an abundant future,” and strives to maintain and improve the health of each employee, promoting the creation of a work environment where everybody can work happily.

Systems are in place to achieve a balance between work and life, including working from home, shorter work hours for employees raising children or caring for family members, and flexible starting and finishing times. Sumitomo Forestry has initiatives to help employees engage energetically in their jobs with a healthy body and mind, and employees are encouraged to take at least 10 consecutive days of paid “refresh leave” in addition to the summer holidays. At housing business branches, which are regularly closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, employees may take Family Friendly Day leave on one Saturday or one Sunday each month to spend with family or on a chosen pursuit.

Management aimed at maintaining and improving the health of employees includes initiatives to reduce long work hours and to ensure that employees take health checkups. Systems are also in place that allow employees easy access to the in-house health nurse and clinical psychologist for discussion.

The in-house counselor (clinical psychologist) provides an education program for staff in managerial positions, and the company conducts Mental Health Checkups (self-evaluation) through the intranet. The company will continue with these efforts to ensure that all employees

understand the importance of mental health, and will implement appropriate preventative measures in each workplace.

In March 2015, Sumitomo Forestry Group established its Mid-Term CSR Management Plan, set for completion in fiscal 2020, including specific goals to promote a work-life balance. Through these initiatives, the company will promote creation of a workplace where a diversity of people can thrive, and will continue to contribute to the realization of a sustainable society.