CSR audit

Internal audit

We collectively refer to internal audits, such as QMS, EMS and OSHMS, that are conducted at each site of Nippon Soda as the "CSR audit." To investigate and verify whether the CSR audit is conducted appropriately, whether the level of audit quality is appropriate, and other relevant issues, a representative from each site and staff in charge at the Head Office convene once a year to hold a CSR Audit, Verification and Review Meeting. Internal audits independently performed by Nippon Soda's worksites (plants and research centers) are referred to as the CSR audit and the results of internal audits are reviewed at each worksite's Corporate Social Responsibility Administration Meeting.

Periodic CSR audit

Nippon Soda's audit team conducts regular (biennial) audits of CSR practices at Group companies.

External audit

All worksites (plants and research centers) and manufacturing group companies undergo external reviews according to ISO 14001, ISO 9001 and OHSAS 18001 and diagnosis of disaster prevention capability with emphasis on disaster prevention and occupational safety by an institute specializing in disaster prevention. Based on their results, ongoing improvement efforts are made.

We are always ready to receive audits by customers, who are our stakeholders, and make improvements in response to their feedback. We also undergo other external audits on an as-needed basis.

Special audits

A special audit is conducted, as needed, in the event of a serious non-conformity or other serious problem under an audit system that can accommodate the situation.

Audits and reviews conducted

Audits and reviews carried out at the Nippon Soda Group for fiscal 2018 (number of times)

| Sites | Internal | External | |
|--|----------|----------|-----------|
| | | Received | Conducted |
| Head Office | 4 | 0 | 43 |
| Nihongi Plant | 7 | 33 | 5 |
| Takaoka Plant | 9 | 9 | 5 |
| Mizushima Plant | 1 | 6 | 2 |
| Chiba Plant | 27 | 25 | 12 |
| Odawara Research Center | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Chiba Research Center | 13 | 3 | 0 |
| Domestic manufacturing group companies (3) | 21 | 48 | 5 |
| Total | 84 | 126 | 73 |