

Leading the Green Initiative

綠色先鋒

Hotel Nikko Hongkong is an industry leader in raising general awareness of the most pressing issue facing us all: environmental protection. 環境保護是港人面對的最迫切議題，香港日航酒店在提升員工對環保的普遍意識方面，可算是業界先鋒。

Hotel Nikko was recently awarded the Clean Air Charter Certificate of Compliance, the latest in a long list of environmental accolades that the hotel has received over the years.

Alison Lam, Director of Human Resources and EMS Manager, explained that the hotel has been something of a pioneer in developing initiatives to minimize its unintended impact on the environment, and was awarded ISO 14001 certification as early as 1999.

From reducing water usage to adopting energy-efficient electrical systems, the hotel tries to minimize waste, and recycles what it can.

"Of course being a five-star hotel, we have to be careful that guests do not think we are cutting corners, but on the whole, they understand that climate change requires that we all contribute to solving the problem, in every little way

possible, such as by not requiring new towels every day," she said.

Frankie Wong, Chief Engineer at the hotel, who has led many of the measures to reduce resources and minimize waste, said the hotel has been so successful in its environmental initiatives because it has been driven by the top management.

"When I explain to the boss how an investment to retrofit an environmental services equipment or system will reap an annual return of x-percent per year and the investment will pay back after a reasonable time, invariably they are very supportive," he said. "Luckily, everyone in our hotel, from the general manager to the cleaners understand our environmental objectives, which really contributes to making the whole scheme the success it has been."

For the Chamber's Clean Air Charter Certificate of Compliance, which

recently came into effect, Hotel Nikko showed its efficient use of energy. Energy efficient bulbs, motors, air-conditioning units, and elevators are fitted throughout the hotel, and staff are encouraged to share their green ideas.

Besides being energy efficient, the hotel tries not to waste anything. From donating used cooking oil to a charity that turns it into soap, to using the hotel restaurant's old furniture in the staff canteen, it is also limiting its impact on Hong Kong's landfills.

"We have many recycling programs in which we work closely with other hotels, and we also share our expertise and experiences with each other," said Mr Wong. "Everyone feels this is a win-win-win situation: the environment wins, the hotel wins, and guests win and feel good because they know they are staying at an environmentally friendly hotel." ❀



(L-R) Hotel Nikko's Jason Lo, Alison Lam, and Frankie Wong in the staff canteen. When the hotel underwent a renovation a few years ago, the management decided that instead of throwing mirrors from rooms, and tables and chairs from its cafe in landfills, it could recycle them to create a nice environment in the staff canteen.

(左至右) 日航酒店代表羅國章、林雪娟及黃經緯身處員工餐廳。日航酒店數年前進行裝修工程時，管理層決定循環再用客房的鏡子和餐廳的桌椅，為員工餐廳締造一個舒適的環境，有別於把廢物棄置堆填區的做法。



日航酒店最近獲頒《清新空氣約章》合格證書，這是該酒店歷年來所奪得的眾多環保殊榮之一。

日航酒店人力資源部總監兼環保經理林雪娟解釋，該酒店一直致力開發措施來盡量減少業務對環境的影響，並早於1999年已取得ISO 14001 環境管理體系認證，在推動環保方面可謂業界先鋒。

該酒店嘗試透過節約用水和採用節能電子系統等措施，以盡量減少浪費，並循環再用資源。

她說：「作為一間五星級酒店，我們在推行環境措施時當然會很小心，以免顧客誤以為我們是想省錢，但整體而言，他們都明白氣候轉變的問題需要我們同心協力去解決，並透過日常生活中的每個細節實踐環保，例如不再提出每天更換新毛巾的要求。」

事實上，該酒店總工程師黃經緯引入了許多措施來盡量減少使用和浪費資源。他表示，酒店的環保行動非常成功，原因是有關措施是由高級管理層牽頭推動。

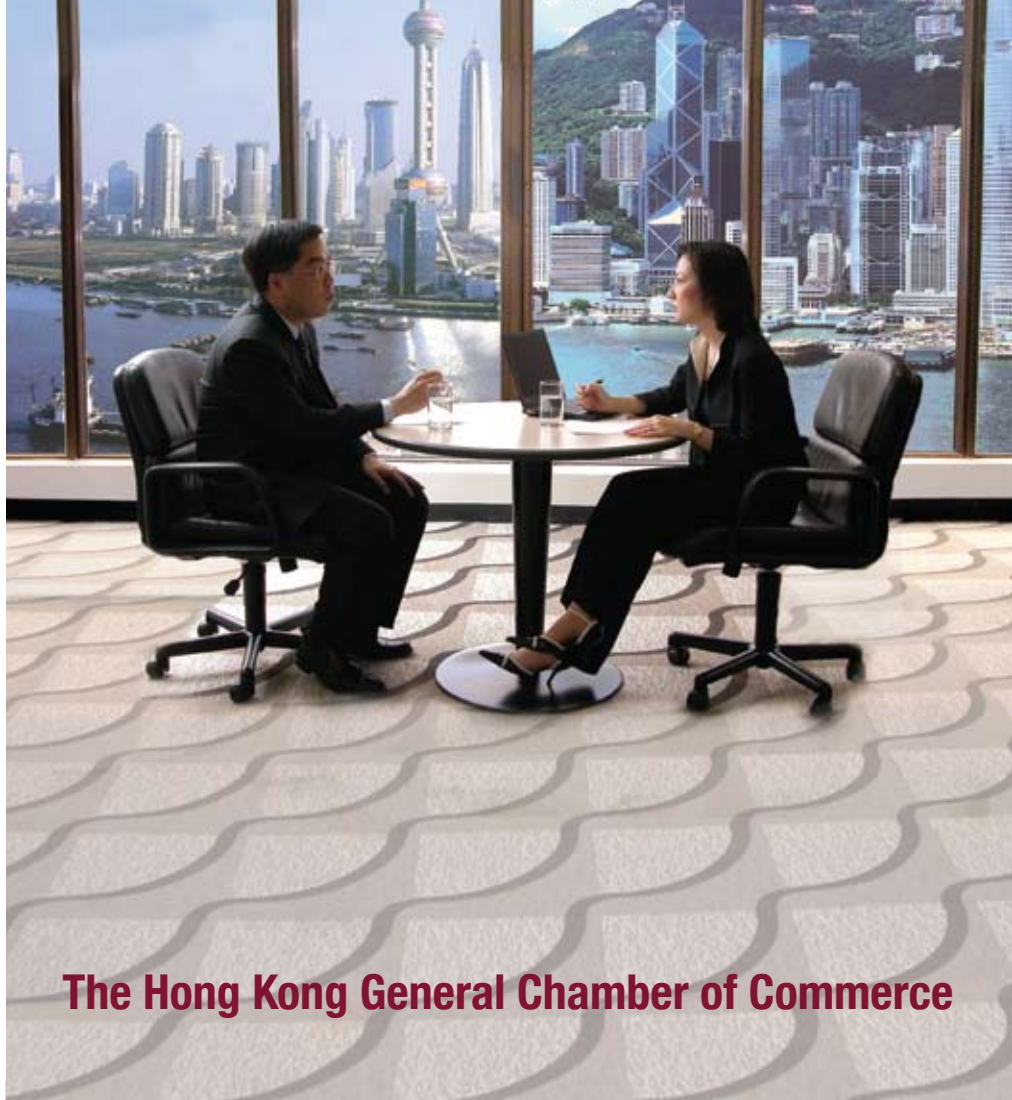
他說：「當我向老闆解釋環境服務設備或系統的投資長遠可增加酒店的全年回報時，他們都十分支持。幸好，酒店上下由總經理到清潔工人都理解我們的環保目標，促使整個計劃能夠取得成功。」

由於日航酒店的能源效益措施成效顯著，故最近獲總商會頒授《清新空氣約章》合格證書。酒店內所用的燈泡、發電機、冷氣系統和升降機等，全都是節能裝置，而員工也樂於分享他們的綠色概念。

除了提高能源效益之外，酒店也嘗試減少浪費資源，例如向慈善組織捐出已使用的煮食油，用以製造肥皂，以及在員工餐廳循環再用酒店餐廳的舊傢具，以減少對本港堆填區的影響。

黃先生說：「我們與其他酒店緊密合作，共同推行了很多循環再用計劃，也會互相交流專業技術和經驗。各方都認為，這是一個環境、酒店和顧客三方都能受惠的三贏局面，顧客亦會因為光顧了一間環保酒店而感到高興。」

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