# **Committed Yet Flexible**

We aim to enhance corporate value and help resolve social issues through dedication to manufacturing and continuously implementing new ideas and actions.



7. Kayamoto

K. Jamamura

President & CEO and Representative Member of the Board

Chairman & Representative Member

We would like to express our gratitude to all our stakeholders, including shareholders and investors, customers, business partners, as well as community members, for their ongoing support of NHK Spring Group activities.

## **NHK Spring Group's Business Environment** and Challenges

During fiscal 2019, U.S.-China trade friction and geopolitical risk dampened growth in the worldwide economy, resulting in the lowest rate of economic growth since the Lehman Brothers collapse and associated financial crisis. In the domestic economy, robust internal demand complemented external demand weakened by the global economic slowdown. While this enabled a tenuous hold on recovery, the October consumption tax hike placed the economy at a tipping point, followed by the overpowering downward impact from the spread of COVID-19. Under the influence of such global economic

deceleration and the attendant downturn in the economic climate, automotive production volume fell year on year across the board in the previous fiscal year. The resulting impact on the automotive-related industry that comprises a key business sector for NHK Spring Group has been unavoidable.

We recognize that in such a circumstance, recovery and increase in profitability is an important issue for NHK Spring Group, and we are working toward solutions in a unified effort by our production, sales and purchasing departments, as well as corporate headquarters.

In fiscal 2020, we will continue our commitment for further growth as we work diligently to address these issues by placing boosting profitability, developing new technologies and products that become new profit sources, accelerating enhancement of our manufacturing capabilities, being a safe and secure company, and creating a fulfilling and comfortable workplace as our Group management policies.

## Becoming a Company Needed by Society through Manufacturing

In September 2019, NHK Spring Group celebrated its 80th anniversary since the founding. Our aim now is to build up our corporate value over the medium to long term through manufacturing as we work toward our goal, as a centennial company.

Based on our core technologies of metal heat treatment and plastic forming technologies, assessment technology cultivated in automotive parts manufacturing, as well as precision and micromachining technologies developed through manufacturing of telecommunications parts and metal bonding technology, we provide numerous key parts in the automotive and telecommunications fields.

Business management that considers sustainability has

#### **Guiding Principles of NHK Spring**

Continuous progress Ceaseless excellence Caring teamwork

#### Corporate Philosophy

To contribute to an affluent society through an attractive corporate identity by applying innovative ideas and practices, based on a global perspective, that bring about corporate growth.

We, the people of NHK Spring, follow our Corporate Philosophy, in the spirit of our Guiding Principles, and build a better world by building innovative products.

become widespread in recent years. Such management requires efforts to not only increase economic value, but social value of the company as well. It has become critical for us to adopt what is known as an ESG perspective on management, to resolve environmental and social issues through manufacturing, and to aim for heightened corporate governance. We aim to be a company that is needed by society, as expressed in our corporate philosophy of contributing to an affluent society through an attractive corporate identity.

## **Addressing Environmental and Social Issues**

Amid the worldwide demand for addressing environmental issues, we strongly believe that we can contribute to this matter through our main business operations in the automotive industry by developing and launching more lightweighted products to the market. We are also engaging in environmental activities across the globe from a worldwide and Group perspective based on the Environmental Activities Guidelines that we draft each year. Our effort for reducing CO<sub>2</sub> and other diverse responses to environmental issues have received Environmental Rating from the Development Bank of Japan (DBJ) in recognition of our advanced environmentally conscious undertakings.

Our employee welfare programs have also been commended, including our health promotion activities being certified under the 2020 Certified Health & Productivity Management Outstanding Organizations Recognition Program ("White 500" certification).

We also actively participate in solving social issues through a wide range of efforts including our ongoing pursuit of compliance, which we state at the start of our Group management policy, strengthening corporate governance and information disclosure as well as respecting human rights and promoting diversity in human resources, and hosting and participating events to promote coexistence with the local communities.

We sincerely hope that this report serves to foster understanding of our policies and activities regarding the role that NHK Spring Group must fulfill in the society. We would appreciate your continued support for our future growth.

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<sup>\*</sup>Reports on environmental activities not included in this report are published at our website as environmental data https://www.nhkspg.co.jp/eng/csr/env/index.html