



YAZAKI HELPS TO ENHANCE RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN SAMOA

13th November, 2024 By: Jasmine Netzler-lose

A significant milestone in the ongoing efforts of the Samoa Recycling and Waste Management Association (SRWMA) in enhancing recycling and waste management practices across the country has been bolstered today.

Thanks to a grant from the Yazaki Kizuna Foundation enabling the purchase of a van worth \$120,000 from Asco Motors that was handed over to the Association outside their office today at Tafaiata.

The vehicle will serve the purpose of transporting staff to and from the locations of their recycling work including the execution of their awareness and promotional activities for a greener and waste free Samoa.

Vice President of the Association Eka Hunt Arp said the presence of those attending the ceremony reflected a shared commitment to building a stronger more sustainable future for Samoa.

“Today’s ceremony although modest in size symbolises something much larger,” she said. And referred to united actions as a means that can be created across the community and country that will work towards executing essential steps to invest in an environment free of challenges.

She believes the ceremony is a demonstration of what can be achieved when diverse groups come together around a common purpose.

“I hope this event serves as a reminder of the power of unity and the incredible potential that lays ahead.”

Together we are taking the essential steps to raise awareness and inspire others to join in the fight to safeguarding Samoa’s beautiful natural environment she said.

President Le'iu Silafau Ioane Sio extended his and the members of the Association's appreciation to the Managing Director of Yazaki Kizuna Foundation Junichi Kitami for this essential assistance.

"I would like to say on behalf of SRWMA, thank you very much to Yazaki Kizuna Foundation for the generous contribution to SRWMA."

Reiterating that the vehicle will allow staff and their team to deliver essential environmental services to our community and Samoa.

Explaining also that the vehicle will be very useful given that their plant is 'quite far' from town.

"Thank you very much, faafetai, faafetai tele lava," he said before assuring the Managing Director that they are excited to be putting this magnificent gift to good use.

YAZAKI KIZUNA FOUNDATION

Managing Director of the Foundation Kitami San pointed out that although SRWMA has international support it was important that the foundation provided them with a hand in their important work in waste management to ensure the conservation of Samoa's beautiful natural environment.

Also confirming in an interview with the media that the foundation has provided many assistance to other non-profit organisations in Samoa including, scholarships to students at the National University of Samoa and the University of the South Pacific at the Alafua campus, as well as Lakapi Samoa, the Samoa Conservation Society and the Women in Business Development Inc. (WIBDI).

The Yazaki Kizuna foundation was established in 2018 to give back to the Samoan people for their support to Yazaki Eds Samoa for the 26 years it operated in Samoa he said. The foundation is funded by donations from the Yazaki Cooperation.

BACKGROUND

Yazaki Kizuna is a non-profit general incorporated foundation dedicated to contributing to the development of overseas developing regions.

It provides scholarships and supports job creation by subsidizing small businesses. Since the Foundation's establishment in January 2018, it has specifically focused its activities in the Independent State of Samoa ("Samoa").

Yazaki Corporation, the founder of the foundation, was an auto parts manufacturer in Samoa for a quarter of a century.

Changes in the business environment forced the company to close its operations and withdraw from Samoa.

However, the company still values its ties to Samoa and established the foundation to give back to the people for the support the company.

According to the foundation's website, they hope these activities will contribute to the sustainable development of Samoa and continue to deepen the company's ties with the people.



Photos: Taunuuga Toatasi Savali Newspaper

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