



Japan Society for Tobacco Control

日本禁煙学会

<http://www.jstc.or.jp/> E-mail desk@nosmoke55.jp
〒162-0063 東京都新宿区市谷薬王寺町 30-5-201
Tel 03-5360-8233 FAX 03-5360-6736

Letter of thanks

No. 8, Nibancho 8, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102 - 8455

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Mr. Kazuki Furuya, President, Seven-Eleven Japan

General incorporated association Japan Society for Tobacco Control
Sakuta Manabu, Chairperson

According to newspaper reports and the Tokyo Olympic-Paralympic Games, your company was requested to remove ashtrays from storefronts at franchised stores in Tokyo as a preventative measure against passive smoking. I think that this will significantly help to prevent passive smoking. Therefore, I would like to show my gratitude for this action.

I hope that expanding this action at stores throughout Japan will help to relieve people who currently suffer from passive smoking and will help to prevent diseases from passive smoking.

The views of the Japan Society for Tobacco Control for the prevention of passive smoking outdoors are as follows.

1. Under an ideal condition of no wind, smoke from one cigarette smoker extends in a circle with a diameter of 14 m¹⁾. If more than one cigarette smoker smokes at a time, the affected diameter will be 2 to 3 times as large.
2. Even outdoors, unless measures according to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare indoor standards²⁾ are followed, compliance can not be guaranteed. These environmental standards applied outdoors are similar to those issued by the Ministry of the Environment³⁾.
3. Regulations stipulate that ashtrays may not be installed outdoors except if non-smoker traffic is not exposed to smoke within a circular area with a diameter of at least 14 m.
4. Regulations also stipulate that when installing an outdoor smoking room that is enclosed by walls and a ceiling, the room must be regularly decontaminated and sufficiently ventilated from tobacco smoke. Compliance generally involves a large investment.
5. Based on conclusions from previous scientific studies, the most effective and least costly measure to prevent passive smoking outdoors is to eliminate completely active smoking from sidewalks, other pedestrian areas and premises around buildings.

¹⁾ James Repace: Measurements of outdoor air pollution from secondhand smoke on the UMBC campus.

<http://www.repace.com/pdf/outdoorair.pdf>

²⁾ 2002, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, "New criteria for determining the effect of separated smoking areas"

<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/houdou/2002/06/h0607-3.html>

³⁾ PM 2.5 standards from the Ministry of the Environment <http://www.env.go.jp/air/osen/pm/info.html#STANDARD>