Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of Public Access Defibrillation in Japan

In Japan, it has been 20 years since AEDs (Automated External Defibrillators) were approved for public use. AEDs were officially approved for use not only by medical professionals but also by ordinary citizens on July 1, 2004. This milestone marked the first major step toward the nationwide installation of AEDs.
Nihon Kohden started its AED business in 2002, prior to approval for public use, and launched Japan's first domestically-produced AEDs in Japan in 2009. Since then, in addition to developing the functions of AEDs, Nihon Kohden has continued various initiatives to promote AED awareness, ensuring that even those with no experience handling medical devices can use AEDs without hesitation in emergency situations.

■ Collaboration in AED Drone Demonstration for Remote Area Medical Support

In March 2025, Nihon Kohden collaborated in a demonstration experiment involving AED-equipped drones aimed at supporting emergency medical care in remote areas of Hokuto City, Yamanashi Prefecture. The project was conducted by Hokuto City, TOPPAN Inc., TOPPAN Digital Inc., and AERODYNE JAPAN Co., Ltd. As the sole manufacturer of domestically-produced AEDs in Japan, Nihon Kohden has been dedicated to the promotion of CPR and installation of AEDs. Through ongoing efforts, the Company strives to make AEDs accessible as quickly as possible in emergencies—ultimately aiming to help Japan become a global leader in life-saving practices.





Demonstration Experiment (courtesy of TOPPAN Inc.)

■ Full collaboration in producing the "Parent-Child AED Experience Kit," a supplement to "Kindergarten" magazine published by SHOGAKUKAN Inc.

Nihon Kohden fully collaborated in producing the "Parent-Child AED Experience Kit," a supplement to "Kindergarten" magazine for young children published by SHOGAKUKAN Inc. The kit was created to closely match the actual size of Nihon Kohden's AEDs. It faithfully reproduces key design features, such as the mechanism that opens the lid when a lever is pulled and the internal switches. Because the kit also includes voice prompts, users can practice placing electrode pads on a poster depicting the human body, delivering electrical shocks, and chest compressions. The importance of AEDs and the need to take action in life-saving situations are also conveyed in the magazine's feature article.



The October/November 2024 issue of "Kindergarten" magazine published by SHOGAKUKAN Inc.

■ Exhibited an AED Awareness Booth at the Tokorozawa Citizens Festival

In October 2024, Nihon Kohden exhibited an AED awareness booth at the Tokorozawa Citizens Festival. This was Nihon Kohden's second time exhibiting at the event, with the goals of increasing AED usage and enhancing public recognition of the Company. As 2024 marked the 20th anniversary of AEDs being approved for public use in Japan, the booth also featured a display of past AED models and introduced the history of AED development. The hands-on AED experience was a great success, attracting many participants, ranging from children to adults. Through these efforts, Nihon Kohden hopes to make AEDs feel more familiar to the public and contribute to increased usage rates.





Exhibition at the Tokorozawa Citizens Festival