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# NEWS RELEASE

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June 11, 2025  
Refinverse Group, Inc.

## **Fishing Net Collection and Recycling Project Held in Izu Inatori** **Student and Corporate Volunteers Team Up to Recycle Snapper and Tuna** **Nets**



Refinverse Group, Inc. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President: Akira Ochi) hosted its third Fishing Net Collection and Recycling Project on Sunday, June 1, 2025, at the Inatori Marine Sports Center in Higashi-Izu Town, Shizuoka Prefecture. The event was part of “Zero Marine Debris Week,” which ran from May 30 to June 8.

A total of 27 students and corporate volunteers participated, sorting discarded nets used for snapper and tuna fishing. The recovered nets will be upcycled into REAMIDE®, high-quality recycled nylon pellets produced at Refinverse’s own facility. These pellets are later used in apparel, interior materials, and a range of other applications.

### ■ Background and Objectives

Marine plastic pollution has become a pressing global issue in recent years. “Ghost

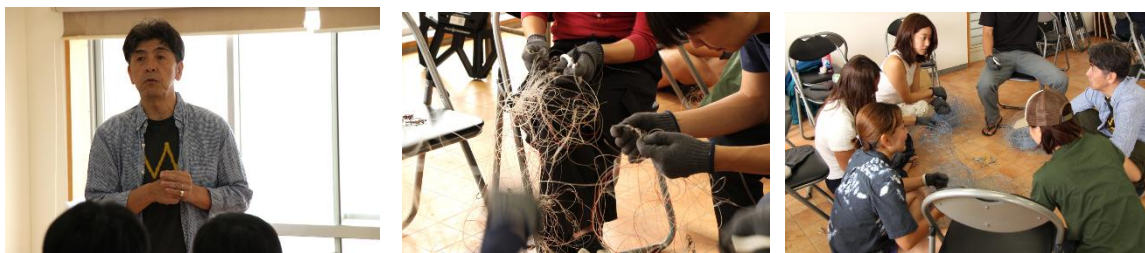
gear”—abandoned fishing nets, lines, and ropes—poses a significant threat to marine ecosystems. In response, PADI Japan, which works to address ghost gear, and Refinverse Group, known for its expertise in recycling discarded fishing nets, have partnered to promote marine conservation and support local fishing communities in areas such as Izu Inatori.

Recycling fishing nets involves recovering only the nylon components, which requires meticulous removal of hooks and metal fittings by hand. Since around 2023, PADI Japan and Refinverse Group have been offering these hands-on sorting experiences to students and corporate volunteers to raise awareness of ghost gear and the importance of resource recycling.

### ■ Project Report

This third session kicked off with opening remarks from Mr. Yoshihisa Suzuki, Vice Mayor of Higashi-Izu Town. Volunteers included students from Doshisha University, members of the University of Tokyo Marine Exploration Club, and employees from apparel companies. The event was lively and collaborative.

This time, nets from both snapper and tuna fisheries were sorted. Students expressed surprise at the variety and complexity of the nets, saying, “I didn’t realise how many types of fittings there are,” and “I never knew nets came in so many kinds!” The experience offered a tangible look at real-world recycling.



Over two hours were spent carefully removing metal fittings with scissors. More nets were sorted than anticipated, and many participants said it was their first time ever handling fishing nets. The event highlighted both the physical effort required and the potential value of waste materials.

After the sorting activity, participants received novelties made from REAMIDE®, a recycled nylon pellet derived from fishing nets. Reactions like “I’m amazed that nets can become such a solid product!” reflected increased awareness of circular design and sustainability.



## ■ High-Quality Nylon Pellet “REAMIDE®” Reborn from Discarded Fishing Nets

REAMIDE® is a high-quality recycled nylon pellet made by removing metal and other impurities from used fishing nets. Production takes place at Refinverse Group’s own plant in Ichinomiya City, Aichi Prefecture, which processes fishing nets and end-of-life vehicle airbags collected from across Honshu.

REAMIDE® is used in a variety of products, including building materials, home appliances, apparel, and office furniture. The fishing nets collected in this project will also be recycled into REAMIDE® and reintroduced into society as valuable raw material. Participants also received novelty “glue tape” with REAMIDE® used in the casing as part of this project.



High quality nylon pellets “REAMIDE®”.



“Glue Tape” Novelty



Image of “REAMIDE®” product

### ■ About Refinverse Group, Inc.

For over two decades, Refinverse Group has been committed to the principles of a circular economy. We focus on reclaiming and developing sustainable materials, including Refine Powder, a recycled material for horizontal recycling of carpet tiles, and REAMIDE®, a high-quality nylon pellet recycled from waste fishing nets and car airbags. In 2023, we expanded our efforts by launching a new biomaterial, ReFEZER®, developed from bird feathers.

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