



To PharmaEngine Colleagues,

Corporate social responsibility has always been an important topic for us. In the past, PharmaEngine colleagues have been participating in volunteer activities each year such as beach cleaning, raising invoices on the streets, and other charity events hosted by social care organizations. In recent years, we turn our focus on the ecosystem of the Tamsui River. I believe many of us live by the Tamsui River but have you noticed the waste buildups and the change of scenery by the riverbank? Have you noticed the changes in the number of people fishing and the water birds? Usually the answer would be “no” and “I don’t know”. However, if we are willing, we have a chance to reverse these negative impacts and re-educate ourselves about the Tamsui River. Therefore, this year, PharmaEngine has become a partner in the “Do One Thing for Tamsui River” event!

In the 2013 documentary “Seeing Taiwan,” directed by Director Zeppelin, we saw one of our economic prides, ASE Group Kaohsiung K7 Plant, has been emitting highly polluted wastewaters into the Houjing Creek, which also polluted close to 940 hectares of farmland downstream. This “rainbow river” is the most upsetting scenery created by Taiwan’s economic success. You may not remember much about the ASE pollution, but the memory of the severe drought that saw water level of many dams in Northern Taiwan close to the bottom in April 2022 should be quite fresh in your memory. Local governments were forced to implement waste usage restrictions to combat the drought. Our neglect of nature in present time will eventually come back to haunt us. In Taiwan, we have plenty of water resources. However, many rivers and creeks have been polluted and this has contributed to Taiwan’s water shortages in recent years. When water resource is abundant, it is easy to expect water to come out just by turning on the faucet. However, with high population density and geographical disadvantages in conserving water resources, water should be something that everyone cherishes. Can you imagine Taiwanese people’s survival depends completely on imported rice and bottled water? And how much do you know about Taiwan’s water resources?



Taiwan is an island surrounded by sea with lots of water resources. The average annual rainfall is 2,500mm, that is 3.5 times more than the global average annual rainfall of 700mm. Despite this fact, Taiwan is still constantly facing water shortages and people fear of drinking water right from the tap because of water pollution. Taiwan's economy is still mainly based on manufacturing and many companies have yet to adopt proper wastewater disposal procedures, which causes pollution in our rivers. Taiwan is a small island with just a few rivers, it's a matter of time before the rivers can no longer absorb all the pollution. Tamsui River is the one of the three major rivers in Taiwan with many people and companies reside next to it. Many light and heavy industries such as plating, dyeing, chemical, ceramics, food processing, paper, leather, and mining have manufacturing facilities next to the river. There are also farming and garbage disposal along the riverbank. An analysis from 38 water quality monitoring systems, owned by Taiwan's Environmental Protection Administration, along the Tamsui River showed 5.7% of the river, that is about 18.6km long, is heavily polluted in 2020. The data is the worst since 2015. The pollution severely damaged the underwater ecosystem and made circular use of the water resources impossible.



A successful company is the fruit of the employees' labor. Nevertheless, equally important, we should understand that we are not the only factor of our success. Our interactions with other companies, organizations, and hospitals, and even the family members that support our work, are all equally important. We are a company that focuses on improving (even saving) human lives. Our core belief and inspiration are based on "giving back to society"; therefore, it is important for us to contribute back to the society.

As I have just returned to Taipei, my hometown, after many years of working and living abroad, I am happy to be a part of this society again. During the weekend, I often walk around Taipei and I have noticed the city has changed drastically compared to the 1990s scenery in my memory. For people who have been living here, the changes might not feel significant. Taipei has become a city that is more organized, modernized, and clean. Today, I cherish the chance of riding the bike or walking around Taipei's riverbank while enjoying the

skyline and observing the wildlife and ecosystem alongside the river. At the same time, the melody of a famous Mandarin song, “Tamsui Scenery”, appears in my mind that brings me romantic and nostalgic feelings for the riverbank in early years. I was a student back then, riding my secondhand scooter with my wife (girlfriend at the time) to go from Gonguang (southern part of the river) all the way to Tamsui (northern part of the river) just to catch the sunset. To me personally, Tamsui River will forever be the river with beautiful memories that takes a special place in my heart. I hope everyone and the generations to come will also be able to see the same beautiful view as me!



This year is the third consecutive year for PharmaEngine to participate in the “Do One Thing for Tamsui River”. Let us do one thing for Tamsui River and if we are willing, we can save Tamsui River as none of us wants to see the day when clean water becomes a luxury. We are also committed to continue to participate in the public management of the Tamsui River system and fulfill our corporate social responsibility. PharmaEngine is here to support!

PharmaEngine is committed to do the following for Tamsui River:

1. Re-learn about Tamsui River, take photographs of the river nearby office buildings and manufacturing facilities to pay attention to the health of the river;
2. Make sure garbage disposal companies do not litter garbage into the river;
3. Conduct green procurement including sustainability products, green energy, and low carbon products;
4. Encourage employees to actively participate in the public management of Tamsui River System to be a water-conserving enterprise citizen;
5. Suggest creative activities for #DoOneThingForTamsuiRiver

Thanks,

Hong-Ren Wang

