



Environmental Protection and Safety



Guidelines for Responsible Care in Environmental Protection, Health Protection and Safety

Bayer 

Mission statement: Expertise with responsibility

Bayer is a diversified, international chemicals and health care group. We offer our customers a wide variety of products and services in areas ranging from pharmaceuticals and crop protection to plastics and specialty chemicals.

Bayer is research-based and aims for technological leadership in its core activities. Our goals are to steadily increase corporate value and generate a high value added for the benefit of our stockholders, our employees and the community in every country in which we operate.

We believe that our technical and commercial expertise involves a responsibility to work for the common good and contribute to sustainable development.

Bayer: Success through expertise with responsibility.

What is Responsible Care?

Responsible Care is a worldwide initiative by the chemical industry for the chemical industry. It means all employees acting in line with corporate environmental protection and safety objectives and implementing innovative solutions, with the aim of achieving continual improvements in health care, safety and environmental protection.

In line with the Responsible Care initiative Bayer is committed

- to implementing sustainable development concepts aimed at conserving natural resources for the benefit of future generations,
- to operating a management system that, of its own accord, sets, reviews and continues to develop targets for improvement in the areas of product stewardship, environmental protection, plant safety, emergency response, occupational safety and health,
- to reporting to all employees and to the public on the current status, targets and results,
- to pursuing a dialog with employees, customers, shareholders and the public, actively responding to their opinions and requests and taking these into account in developing future corporate objectives.

What does Responsible Care mean for Bayer?

Bayer is committed to conserving natural resources, operating its facilities safely and minimizing the environmental impact of its activities.

Comprehensive environmental protection, maximum safety, high product quality and optimum commercial efficiency are factors of equal importance for achieving our corporate objectives. The same standards apply at Bayer's subsidiaries throughout the world as at Bayer AG.

Success in the areas of environmental protection and safety requires a commitment by all the company's employees to apply their expertise responsibly in line with the principles of the international Responsible Care initiative. Appropriate training and continued instruction are provided for the employees, each of whom must set an example by his or her behavior in regard to environmental protection and safety. Responsible Care makes it the duty of each employee to use his or her expertise for the benefit of humanity and the environment.

The Responsible Care initiative takes in the Bayer principle of "Expertise with Responsibility." It embraces the "Policy Guidelines for Environmental Protection and Safety at Bayer" issued in 1986 and the company's long-standing commitment to product stewardship and dialog.

Product stewardship

- Every Bayer employee should promote health, safety and environmental considerations within his or her area of activity. Bayer products, after proper use, should be safe in recycling or disposal and exert no adverse effect on the environment. Employees should be receptive to new information and carefully consider its significance.

- Identified or possible risks connected with the handling of a product – even in combination with another product – must be reported immediately to the departments responsible for product monitoring within the business groups.

- Distributors and customers must be given the necessary information and advice to enable them to transport, store, handle, use and dispose of our products safely. For every product, the purchaser must be informed of the risks accompanying its use. Every product must be labeled with the necessary warnings.

- Bayer actively develops and markets products that are environmentally sound. Recycling is to be encouraged to conserve natural resources.

- If based on scientific evidence it becomes necessary to avert a potential health or environmental hazard, Bayer will promptly inform customers and the public and take appropriate action up to and including production curtailment.

Dialog

- The concerns of employees and the public are to be taken seriously and allowance must be made for those concerns when developing corporate objectives.
- Employees and the public are to be kept regularly informed about current safety and environmental trends and developments at Bayer.
- Responsible Care objectives should be developed through a process of dialog. Opportunities for the necessary discussions must be created.
- Responsible Care objectives should, wherever possible, be formulated in measurable terms so that their achievement can be verified.
- All employees are called upon to do their part to ensure that corporate objectives and achievements are communicated accurately to society.

Environmental protection

Bayer has voluntarily committed itself, in line with the rules of the Responsible Care initiative, to continuously improve its performance.

- Authorized environmentally relevant thresholds must not be exceeded and any release of substances must be minimized.
- Maximum safety must be observed when handling raw materials and end products that could have an impact on the environment – e.g. during transport, loading and unloading, storage and chemical conversion.
- Should, despite the necessary precautions having been taken, an inadvertent release or incident occur, the departments in the company responsible for environmental protection must be informed immediately so that they can respond or provide support as necessary without delay.
- All employees bear responsibility for ensuring that the company's environmental protection objectives are achieved.
- Environmental protection not only means complying with laws and regulations. All employees are therefore called on to take supplementary measures on their own initiative.

Production facilities must be operated in such a way as to ensure the safe handling of products and wastes.

Production processes must

- be constantly reviewed and, where possible, improved to minimize raw material and energy inputs, emissions and waste generation,
- be designed so that they generate waste materials that are reusable, recyclable or at least capable of environmentally safe disposal,
- give preference to in-process waste reduction methods over end-of process treatment or disposal.

Health protection

- The basis for the continual improvement of health protection is that every employee should have a keen awareness of health matters. To support this and to prevent work-related illnesses effectively, the right conditions must be created for preventive health promotion by making suitable technical provision and arranging appropriate training programs.

- Qualified occupational medicine facilities must be provided for all employees.

Occupational safety

- Every employee shares responsibility for occupational safety in his or her place of work. All employees share responsibility for safety wherever they work within the company. They are obligated to adhere strictly to regulations and instructions. In addition, they must take the necessary precautions to protect themselves and their colleagues against risk. This includes the immediate reporting of accidents, injuries, unsafe processes and conditions.
- Every employee must make his or her personal contribution to improving safety in his or her working environment.
- Employees must never arrive at their place of work under the influence of substances that could prevent them from performing their work safely and effectively.
- Occupational safety training programs must place special emphasis on the interface between humans and technology.
- Chemical exposure and all accident risks are to be identified early and controlled through appropriate steps.

Plant safety and hazard prevention

- Plant safety must be continually improved. Every employee is called upon to participate actively in this process, contributing ideas and suggestions.
- Existing facilities must be adapted as necessary in line with technical advances.
- Technical equipment must be designed for safe operation. Processes must be selected so as to minimize hazard potentials and risks.
- Technical equipment must be maintained carefully.
- Safety concepts must be drawn up for all technical equipment. These must include regular inspections.
- In addition to the installations required for safe operation, technical measures must be taken to ensure that any malfunctions can be properly dealt with and their effects localized.
- Detailed emergency response plans must be drawn up for all plant units. These plans are to be incorporated into the safety concepts agreed with the authorities.

Safety in logistics

- Risks during the transport, handling and storage of goods must be reduced to a minimum. To do this, it is essential to select suitable logistics partners, carriers, transport routes, means of transport and packaging, and to ensure that the warehousing facilities are appropriate for the respective products.
- Hazardous substances must be stored in properly labeled containers and only in authorized warehouses. Unauthorized persons must be prevented from gaining access. When handling hazardous substances, the relevant regulations must be adhered to.

Safety in technology transfer

- Know-how is transferred to Bayer AG's subsidiaries to enable them to develop and implement environmental protection, occupational safety and plant safety measures according to the same principles and standards as Bayer AG.
- Third parties' process know-how or technical equipment may only be used after thorough safety testing.

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