

## Responsible Care



### Business Benefits of Responsible Care

#### Reasons to Join Responsible Care

##### Background

- Global initiative for the continuous improvement in the chemical supply chain (launched 1985 in Canada).
- Almost all the world's leading chemical manufacturers have signed up to Responsible Care.
- An International initiative present in more than 50 countries throughout the world.
- In Europe, more than 300 Chemical distribution companies are already committed to Responsible Care.

##### Mission

- Responsible Care is a major contribution by the chemical industry to achieving sustainable development.
- Top management of companies to show commitment to act responsibly.
- Defines industry commitment to:
  - Improve safety, security, health, product stewardship and environmental performance of products and processes
  - Listen and engage with stakeholders
  - Contribute to sustainable development and corporate responsibility programme
- Provides companies with a management platform to:
  - Realise internal value
  - Enhance dialogue with stakeholders and international organisations.

## Reputation

- Responsible Care Logo widely recognised as sign of responsible and reliable companies.
- Government Recognition.
  - Eased permit negotiations: worldwide.
  - Agreements with regulatory agencies.
- International community and customer recognition
  - Responsible Care as a prerequisite for business relationships.
  - Recognition by the UN and EU.
- Business Recognition
  - Reduced costs through systems improvements.
  - Reduced insurance premiums.

## Performance

The implementation of Responsible Care within the company:

- Assists companies to comply with environmental, health and safety legislation
- Diminishes the risks of environmental, security, health and safety failures.
- Optimises performance by continuous improvement.
- Regular report of Performance Indicators to:
  - Measure progress
  - Benchmark with European/Global figures
  - Identify weaknesses.
- Improvement plans.

### Responsible Care and ESAD

- Third Party Verification - ESAD
- ESAD as assessment tool for all Responsible Care areas
  - ESAD provides useful findings about excellence and weaknesses
  - ESAD provides the basis to define an improvement plan.

## Responsible Care vs other Management Systems

Responsible Care offers an integrated system for managing environmental, health, safety, security, product safety, distribution, community outreach and emergency response activities.

Strategic management area	OHSAS 18001	ISO 14001:2004	ISO 9001:2008	EMAS	SA 8000	Resp. Care
Safety	█				█	█
Health	█				█	█
Environment		█		█	█	█
Product Stewardship		█	█		█	█
Social respons.	█	█	█	█	█	█

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### ▪ **Added Value**

- ✓ Improve performance and processes
  - ✓ Reduce risks and liabilities
  - ✓ Enhance reputation and license to operate
  - ✓ Improve worker, customer and environmental protection
- By doing so, you save time and money.

## **Communication**

- Improve the image and reputation of your company towards:
  - Employees
  - Authorities
  - Customers
  - General public
- Demonstrate an ongoing commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility
- Easily identifiable Responsible Care logo
  - Not permitted for product-related material
  - Advisable for company's profile
- Be perceived as a 'low-risk' company
  - Better relations with banks and insurance companies

### ***“Peace of mind”***

*The commitment to the Responsible Care Programme may be regarded as a sophisticated checklist of all activities that a chemical distributor could and should be doing. Independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party assessment confirms the procedures are in place and working.” (Source: CBA)*

### **Testimonials**

“The principles of Responsible Care have been a fundamental driver for the development of the **SAFECHEM** business model and provided guidance during the implementation.”

“More than a decade has passed by since we joined the RC program and together with SQAS we still consider it as a powerful guideline in our business model” (**Campi y Jove S.A** )

“We continually optimize our management of safety, health and environmental protection. To realise our set objectives and to comply with our obligations, **C.H. Erbslöh** has implemented the RC Programme through our management system.”

“The **Nordmann, Rassmann Group** is dedicated to the concept of „Responsible Conduct“, which is characterized by the Responsible Care principles. Consequently, in all fields of our activity as a distributor, we strive to keep economic, ecological, social and ethical objectives in balance. Today, Responsible Care’s values have become cornerstones of our business policy and we are committed to make sure that our products and activities are safe for people and environment.”

Furthermore, Responsible Care is recognised by a wide range of international organizations and bodies, not the least by the former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, who gave his personal endorsement highlighting the RC Global Charter as “an **inspiring model** of self-regulation that other industries should consider following” which is “aligned with the environmental principles of the United Nations Global Compact”.

In recent years, regulatory authorities (eg *European Commission*) as well as security authorities such as the *Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)*, the *World Customs Organisation (WCO)* and *Interpol* have recognised the significance of linking chemical security with Responsible Care - in conjunction with the introduction of dedicated Security Codes and best practice guidance.

Source: *AssICC, CBA, Fecc, VCH*