

Environmental and Safety Initiatives - Responsible Care - - ISO 26000: Environment -

► Basic approach

The Hodogaya Chemical Group conducts its operation based on the principle that ensuring environmental conservation, health and safety, and product quality is fundamental to corporate management and the basis for all business activities.

The Group has formulated its Responsible Care Rules to assess the overall business activities, and declares the Basic Philosophy of RC and the Basic Policies of RC as its management goals and initiatives for the total safety control of chemical substances, while educating all employees on the importance of the Basic Philosophy of RC and the Basic Policies of RC.

► About Responsible Care (RC)

Responsible care (RC) is a voluntary management initiative intended for companies involved in the production and handling of chemical substances to implement and improve their environmental, health and safety measures across the product lifecycle, from development to disposal.

Hodogaya Chemical became a member of the Japan Responsible Care Council (JRCC) in 1997, declaring engagement in responsible care and establishing the Basic Philosophy of RC and the Basic Policies of RC.

The Basic Policies of RC outlines our approach to conducting a sound business, in accordance with the Basic Philosophy of RC, by actively protecting the environment, ensuring safety, health and quality, and making continual improvement to coexist with society.

Since then, annual objectives based on the Basic Policies of RC are created every year, and every member of our organization is actively involved in the efforts to promote the RC initiatives to improve our performance with regard to the environment, safety, health and quality which are the bedrock of our business activities.

[Declaration of Responsible Care]

Hodogaya Chemical hereby sets forth the basic philosophy of Responsible Care (RC) to protect the environment and ensure the safety and health of people, and declares its engagement in the practice of Responsible Care through its ordinary business activities.
June 23, 1997



► Basic Philosophy of Responsible Care (RC)

1. Ensuring environmental conservation, health and safety, and product quality are fundamental to its management and the basis for all business activities.
2. Ensuring environmental conservation, health and safety, and product quality can be achieved when each and every employee acts with constant awareness and responsibility in their respective capacity.
3. Ensuring environmental conservation, health and safety, and product quality leads to greater trust of society and the well-being of employees.

► Basic Policy of Responsible Care (RC)

1. Each and every employee will act according to the RC basic philosophy with awareness and responsibility.
2. We will abide by the laws and regulations pertaining to our business activities as well as the requirements of the local communities and partner companies as agreed to by the Company.
3. We will ensure the safety and health of employees and local residents by controlling the safety of our operation.
4. We will provide highly functional products and services with high added value.
5. We will be environmentally conscious in the development, manufacturing, transportation, use, and disposal of our products, and strive to preserve the environment by implementing measures to prevent pollution and reduce environmental impact.
6. We will gather information on the safety of chemical substances, and will ensure the safety and health of our employees, partner companies, and suppliers by providing education and offering such information.
7. We will maintain close contact with the administrative authorities and industry groups to ensure environmental conservation, safety, health and quality.



► RC implementation system

In carrying out the RC activities, the Group structures the RC & QM Subcommittee within the CSR Committee as advisory body to the President. The Executive Officer overseeing the Environment·Safety & Quality Assurance Department is in charge of implementing RC initiatives.

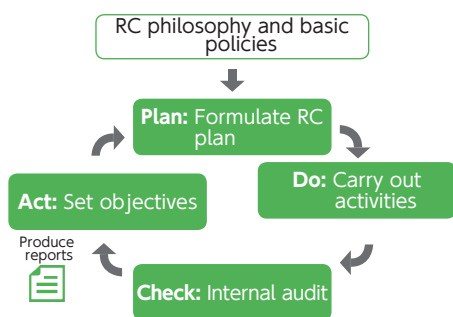
The progress of the annual activity objectives are reported at the subcommittee meetings held regularly, four times a year. At the year-end subcommittee meeting, the Company RC/QM/ISO Execution Plan, which consists of a summary of the company-wide activities and the RC objectives for the following fiscal year, are deliberated and determined. The RC objectives for the following fiscal year are placed before the Management Committee, then presented to the President for final decision and approval. Based on the Company RC/QM/ISO Execution Plan, each office develops its own Office RC/QM/ISO Execution Plan, then the plan is further broken down to each business unit and executed under the leadership of the occupational safety and health promoter in each business unit.

► Systems for RC initiatives

To ensure consistent implementation of RC initiatives, all plants and research laboratories utilize the ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems (QMS) and ISO 14001 Environment Management Systems (EMS) as means (tools) to manage the chemicals and product safety and to protect the environment. The Group adopts the PDCA cycle model to manage objectives and continually improve.

The PDCA cycle is a continuous flow used to create the yearly RC plan (Plan), carry out the RC initiatives (Do), review the progress by RC internal audit (Check), and set objectives based on the progress (Act). The entire process is executed in accordance with the RC philosophy and basic policies.

The RC internal audit is conducted twice a year in April and October by the leader and members of the RC & QM Subcommittee to assess the effectiveness of the management systems.



► RC education

In order to gain understanding on RC initiatives and to ensure steady implementation, the Hodogaya Chemical Group provides new employees and transferees with structured education on the Seven codes of Responsible Care (management system, environmental conservation, security and disaster prevention, occupational safety and health, logistic safety, chemicals and product safety, and dialogue with society) as well as on quality assurance.

We also provide regular training sessions every year to develop human resources for ISO management system internal auditors.

[Seven codes of Responsible Care]

① Management system	Carry out each of the 6 activities systematically in a unified manner.
② Environmental conservation	Protect people's health and global environment.
③ Security and disaster prevention	Prevent disasters at facilities and minimize damage in the event of a fire.
④ Workplace safety and health	Protect the safety and health of workers.
⑤ Logistic safety	Prevent accidents or disasters during distribution until delivery to customers and protect safety, health and the environment.
⑥ Chemicals and product safety	Clearly identify the properties and handling of chemicals and protect the safety, health and the environment of all stakeholders including customers.
⑦ Dialogue with society	Respond appropriately to the concerns of the general public.

Voice



Tsukuba Research Laboratory
Yamato Shima

As an occupational safety and health promoter

As an occupational safety and health promoter, my job is to create an annual action plan on the various environmental and safety issues that need to be addressed at our workplace, and to execute and control the progress of the plan. At the monthly occupational safety and health meeting of the Functional Materials Group, lively discussions are held among superiors and subordinates, seniors and juniors, regardless of rank, and I feel that through various initiatives, there is a growing momentum in which each of us think about safety more seriously.

Environment and safety are critical theme that constitute the bedrock of our business activities and are essential in gaining social trust and coexisting with society. It is a theme that must be grappled by the collaborative effort of all employees, and I am also committed to fulfill my own role, cooperating with others, giving attention to environment and safety at all times.