

The Winners

After careful consideration, the Awards jury selected the following winning projects for the 2018 Awards:

Chemical Safety Award

BASF SE, Germany

Project: A sustainable business framework for nanotechnology



Environmental Responsibility Award

Reckhaus GmbH & Co, Germany

Project: Insect Respect

Reckhaus

Sustainability Workplace Award

Versalis SpA, Italy

Project: Development of a safety perception and behavioural model - MPC



versalis

National Associations Award

essenscia, Belgium

Project: A unique support programme for SMEs for a safe use of chemicals



About Responsible Care

Responsible Care is a global initiative by the chemical industry to improve health and environmental performance, enhance safety, and to communicate with stakeholders about products and processes.

Launched in Canada in 1985 to address public concerns about the manufacture, distribution and use of chemicals, the European Responsible Care programme is now operational in almost 30 countries.

About the competition

Cefic runs the Responsible Care Award competition, launched in 2004, as part of its effort to strengthen and revitalise the Responsible Care initiative and boost best practice sharing across Europe.

The Awards recognise outstanding innovative and breakthrough technology projects which:

- Create low-carbon economy,
- Conserve resources,
- Foster circular economy,
- Care for the people and the planet

Award decisions were made by an independent jury consisting of four members:

Emma Argutyan, Director General of the European Chemical Employers Group, ECEG

John Baker, ICIS Chemical Business

Simon Minett, Managing Director, Challock Energy

Sylvain Clemendot, Total Refining (2017 RC Award winner)

For more information on Responsible Care and to learn more about this year's Award winners, go to www.cefic.org/Responsible-Care or www.responsiblecare.org

For questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Giulia Casasole via gca@cefic.be



Responsible Care®
2018 Awards Winners



Chemical Safety Award

BASF SE, Germany with "A sustainable business framework for nanotechnology"



The safety considerations of using nanomaterials came under closer public scrutiny in the early 2000s. With NGOs calling for sales of nanomaterials to stop, BASF SE – the largest chemical producer in the world – risked losing about 1/3 of its portfolio. BASF SE took a proactive approach, cooperating from the beginning with critical stakeholders in various projects and providing its expertise in relevant political and regulatory groups. Thus far, it has contributed to more than 35 national and international safety research programmes and conducted more than 250 toxicological and ecotoxicological studies. The company has hosted 14 dialogue forums with NGOs covering safety issues and published findings of safety research and guidance for nanomaterials.

The engagement of BASF SE has positioned the company as a competent and reliable supplier of nanomaterials and contributed to creating a positive business case for nanomaterials.

What the judges say

"This project is a great example of how to effectively engage with stakeholders on a difficult subject."

Contact: Carolin Kranz - carolin.kranz@basf.com

Environmental Responsibility Award

Reckhaus GmbH & Co, Germany awarded for "Insect Respect"

Reckhaus

In 2012 Reckhaus, a family enterprise specialising in indoor insect control, launched an innovative business model, INSECT RESPECT®. The element of innovation in this model is that it ensures the ecological compensation for the insects killed by a biocide. Biocide manufacturers participating in this scheme commit to compensating nature for the insect loss resulting from the product use. The compensation is accomplished by installing insect-friendly green roofs in residential or industrial areas. Doing this not only creates a new habitat for insects but also helps protect roofs, increase sound insulation, reduce the building's CO2 emissions and provide a more aesthetically appealing environment.

The middle- and long-term goal of Insect Respect is the transformation of the whole biocide sector. The project is fully in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

What the judges say

"Insect Respect stands out because of its transformative and innovative character. This project clearly contributes to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals."

Contact: Tina Teucher - kommunikation@insect-respect.org

Sustainability Workplace Award

Versalis SpA, Italy with "Development of a safety perception and behavioural Model – MPC"



In 2015, Versalis, the Eni petrochemical company launched the MPC project, with the support of international management consulting firm Arthur D. Little. The aim is to examine the human factor as the cause of injuries in workplace and develop preventive actions by activating the "safety culture and ethics" i.e. behaviours leading to prevention and protection from accidents across the company. The project has developed a range of steps, from surveys on safety culture, results analysis, targeted interviews, findings reporting, to action plans and monitoring. The MPC model is already being implemented in all Italian Versalis sites involving 2,494 employees. It is also planned to be expanded to Versalis sites in other countries. The initiative is expected to be completed in the course of 2019.

What the judges say

"Key elements earning the judges' praise include the collaborative employee involvement and focus on the overall safety performance and behaviour of the Versalis site."

Contact: Gerardo Stillo - Gerardo.stillo@versalis.eni.com

National Associations Award

essenscia, Belgium triumphed with "A unique support programme for SMEs for a safe use of chemical"



essenscia is the Belgian association representing the chemical, plastics and life sciences industries in Belgium. In 2008 and 2009, in partnership with the Belgian authorities, essenscia put in place two REACH implementation projects -- VLARIP for Flanders and WALRIP for Wallonia, to help Belgian chemical companies, especially SMEs, implement REACH, CLP and other product legislation via workshops, trainings, exchange of best practices and on-line assistance. The programme is open to the chemical industry but also to other sectors such as food, paper, textile. More than 200 workshops have already taken place all over Belgium since the launch of the project.

The initiative helped Belgian companies to successfully register substances by the deadline and therefore contribute to the safety of chemical products in the whole value chain. The programme will be extended to help companies keep up with the evolution of REACH and other product legislation.

What the judges say

"Establishing a close cooperation with regulators, including the European Chemicals Agency and other industry players is an important achievement that has received the highest marks from all the judges. Facilitating exchange of best practices among all industry players, including SMEs and capacity building through training programmes perfectly reflects one of the key values of Responsible Care."

Contact: Sofie Bracke - SBracke@essenscia.be

2018 European Responsible Care Special Commendation

Impressed by several entries, the jury also singled out two associations for special commendation:

National Associations

Association of the Chemical Industry of Czech Republic



Project: Youth and continuous improvement

SCHP CR, the chemical industry association of the Czech Republic, presents a project aimed at strengthening the interconnection between various key actors in society for continual improvement of the chemical industry.

The first step of the project focuses on attracting young people to study science and seek a career in chemistry. This includes teaching aids, experiments, materials, workshops and competitions for the best young chemist of the country. The second phase consists of benchmark visits of small group of companies' staff on site, to create opportunities to exchange best practices. The third stage, focusing on support of social dialogue, includes actions to increase synergies and collaboration between business, government and educational institutes through a Sector Agreement for Chemistry. SCHP CR Sustainable Development Awards are granted to member companies achieving outstanding results in the field of health, safety and environment and the economic and social spheres, contributing to the development of the region.

Ivan Souček - ivan.soucek@schp.cz

Chemical Industries Association, UK

Project: Integrated approach to promoting and supporting Responsible Care, using revised Guiding Principles as the Foundation



In 2017, CIA, the organisation representing chemical and pharmaceutical businesses across the UK, published a revised package of Responsible Care Guiding Principles, which dated from 1999. Adoption of the new Responsible Care Guiding Principles helps companies to demonstrate their commitment to managing performance on health, safety, environment and product stewardship in that it recognises their crucial responsibilities to employees, customers, the public and other stakeholders. Signing of the Guiding Principles – supporting all elements of the Responsible Care Global Charter – is a condition for CIA membership.

Contact: Phil Scott - scottp@cia.org.uk