Product Stewardship

At Celanese, our main goal is to serve as a reliable and responsible partner to our customers, and commit not only to the highest product quality standards, but also to strict safety standards and social and environmental care. We aim to identify and eliminate potential risks throughout our whole supply chain to deliver superior quality products to our customers.

Governance and Oversight

Our commitment to product stewardship is ultimately guided by our public Environmental, Health and Safety Policy and Guiding Principles, which are overseen and approved by the Environmental, Health, Safety, Quality and Public Policy Committee of the board of directors. Product stewardship matters are discussed on a regular basis, and a full product stewardship update is provided to the Committee annually.

At an operating level, product stewardship is managed by our global Director of Product Stewardship, who has a mandate to implement relevant enterprise-wide global management systems and programs. This role reports to the Celanese Vice President of Global Manufacturing, who reports to our Chief Executive Officer.

Our dedicated product stewardship and hazard communications teams are comprised of members in the U.S., Germany and China, and they cover the Americas, EMEA and APAC regions, respectively. Our dedicated REACH team is based in Germany and is supported by in-house toxicologists. Furthermore, product stewardship professionals are aligned to every business line, in each of the 3 regions and provide support to the R&D, T&I, Manufacturing, Supply Chain and Commercial organizations.

Systems and Tools

Celanese adheres to internal product safety, risk and crisis management systems that are applied at all Celanese owned and operated sites. These systems have been developed through the standardization of global best practices, and help to ensure product safety and security. These systems are based on specific ISO standards, and have been third-party certified by accredited organizations, across various facilities and countries worldwide. Product quality and safety is monitored and documented, step by step.

We have conducted product safety reviews of all our commercial products by characterizing environmental, health, and safety hazards, examining uses, and taking actions to address concerns. Safety information from these reviews has been used in safety data sheets (SDS), which are a primary vehicle for communicating hazards information. Safety Data Sheets are provided in all local languages.

The Celanese product stewardship team is responsible for compliance with all laws and regulations that affect our products in the jurisdictions in which we do business. The team utilizes a global regulatory database for compliance evaluations and reviews. In partnership with our internal technology team, we are aligning all global EHS systems to help ensure that best-practices are applied enterprise-wide.

New products and new applications are subject to stewardship reviews and our product stewardship team is fully integrated into the decision-making processes for:

- R&D
- M&A due diligence (part of Integration Management Office)
- Risk reviews (Product Risk Management process)
Certification and Audit

Celanese is a Responsible Care® company. Responsible Care® is a global chemistry and industrial performance initiative set forth by the American Chemistry Council. Responsible Care® is instrumental in helping chemical companies implement and maintain world-class management systems that are designed to improve performance, safety and environmental metrics.

In accordance with our Responsible Care® commitments, Celanese facilities are fully audited every 3-years by trained, qualified personnel, where systems are evaluated, gaps and best practices identified, and corrective actions implemented and tracked to closure. Findings and learnings are used to ensure we are driving continual improvement across the business.

In addition, we are regularly audited by our customers to their highest standards and we have over 95% of our sites ISO 9001 certified for our quality management system.

Advocacy

We play an active role as strong advocates for safe, sustainable chemicals in national and international industry organizations where we share best practices and lessons learned to improve the chemical and specialty materials industries worldwide.

We partner with research institutions and serve on industry technical committees to help government agencies develop realistic, science-based regulations. The Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), for example, regulates new and existing chemicals throughout the product lifecycle in the United States. This law was recently updated and, as an active member of the American Chemical Council (ACC), we are well informed of new industry mandates.

Environmental & Social impact

Celanese researches, develops and delivers products that make life better for millions of people worldwide. In many instances, Celanese products have a direct positive social or environmental impact. We estimate that these products represented close to one billion in revenue for the business, or about 17% of total revenue based on 2018 actual results. Examples include:

- product solutions (more than 300 different parts and applications) that reduce weight of vehicle therefore improve fuel efficiency.
- low VOC paint material, such as (EcoVAE®, Mowilith LDM, Vinamul Elite Zero, Celovit).
- material that move the conveyor systems to be lubricant- and water-free, thereby eliminating water waste, lubricant use and disposal costs while increasing worker safety.
- material that are integrated into a novel product design of an affordable, reusable insulin pen with state-of-the-art features developed especially for diabetes patients in emerging markets. We also provide material that is used in high-quality orthopedic implant that helps people continue to contribute to society, stay active longer and enhance their health and wellness.
- products that contain commercial or industrial goods that are made of all or partial biological products, forestry materials, or renewably sourced plant materials.
- products which are post-industrial or post-consumer that contain recycled content while still maintaining the quality, consistency and performance of the material.
- products that can be restored and reused from the waste stage of life and turned into new materials and products

We are committed to helping our customers realize their long-term sustainability objectives, and we are continually reviewing our product portfolio for opportunities to help meet critical environmental and social needs.