

# Responsible Care®: Industry's Environmental, Health, Safety & Security Commitment



Since 1988, Responsible Care has helped American Chemistry Council (ACC) member companies significantly enhance performance and improve employee safety and the health of their communities and the environment as a whole, moving us toward a safer, more sustainable future.

## How Does Responsible Care Work?

### Performance Metrics

All ACC member companies publicly report performance around the following metrics:

- **Environmental:** Hazardous air pollutants, SOx & NOx emissions, net water consumption
- **Energy:** Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, energy efficiency
- **Safety:** Number of process safety incidents, DOT-reportable distribution incidents, OSHA recordable lost workday incidence & fatalities
- **Product Stewardship:** Public availability of product safety information

Some metrics are reported on a company-by-company basis, while others are reported in aggregate. Public reporting is meant to *enhance transparency and accountability*, driving company performance.

### Management Systems & Certification

The Responsible Care Management System offers an *integrated approach to improve company performance* in: security; distribution; employee health & safety; pollution prevention; emergency response; and process & product safety.

The Management System is built on a “*Plan-Do-Check-Act*” philosophy that raises the bar for industry-wide performance while allowing flexibility for individual companies and facilities to meet their specific needs.

Companies undergo *mandatory certification by an independent, accredited auditor* to assure they have a system in place to measure, manage and verify performance.

### Fast Facts: Responsible Care Companies:

- Employee safety record is **5 times better** than the U.S. manufacturing sector, and almost **3 times better** than the business of chemistry overall
- Reduced process safety incidents by **56 percent** since 1995
- Reduced hazardous releases to the air, land and water by **84 percent** from 1988 to 2016
- Improved energy efficiency by **19 percent** since 1992
- Invested more than **\$21 billion** to further enhance security at facilities since September 11, 2001

## Responsible Care Codes of Practice

- The **Product Safety Code** includes a set of 11 Management Practices, through which chemical manufacturers *evaluate, demonstrate and continuously improve product safety performance*, while also making information about chemicals available to the public.
- The **Process Safety Code** sets a *collective commitment to a culture of process safety* throughout a company's operations, management systems and leadership. It includes a commitment to set expectations, define accountability for process safety performance and allocate resources to meet performance expectations.
- Recognized by local, state and federal governments as *a model chemical facility security program*, the **Security Code** enables companies to enhance coordination, conduct training and safety drills, and share information with local emergency response teams.

More information is available at: [www.americanchemistry.com/rc](http://www.americanchemistry.com/rc)

