

USA: Johnson & Johnson (J&J) On Track to Meet 2010 Climate Goal

According to the news reported by greenbiz.com, Johnson & Johnson (J&J) has cut emissions at its company-owned and larger leased facilities by 9 percent between 1990 and 2008, a period in which its worldwide sales have grown by more than 400 percent.

Though the company is currently meeting its goal of reducing emissions by 7 percent below 1990 levels by 2010, emissions increased in 2008. Its carbon footprint, which includes 364,000 metric tons of carbon offsets, grew 3.3 percent in 2008 compared to the year before, the company said in its 12th sustainability report published last week.

“We fully anticipate meeting our 2010 goal, despite challenges such as reducing our absolute emissions while our business is growing and financially justifying energy-reduction projects when energy prices are down,” the report said.

According to the news, the company has a \$40 million carbon dioxide reduction capital fund to pay for reducing its emissions. As of late 2008, 61 energy-reduction projects were approved through its capital funding process, 45 of which were completed between 2005 and 2008. Seventeen projects focused on energy efficiency, followed by 15 chiller upgrades. The remaining projects include cogeneration, solar, HVAC, boiler upgrades, biomass, and wind. The \$124 million in capital put toward these projects will generate a 17.2 percent average rate of return. In 2008, 34 percent of its electricity was derived from renewable sources.

J&J didn't include fleet emissions in its worldwide emissions figure because it doesn't have an adequate degree of precision in the measurements. The company sports the largest commercial hybrid fleet in the U.S. with more than 2,100 in service, or about 20 percent of its U.S. fleet.

It set a goal of reducing emissions per kilometre driven by 30 percent below its 2003 baseline, or to 150 grams/km. However, its CO₂ emissions per unit distance grew in 2008 to 233 g/km, due in part to older vehicles that haven't been phased out and its use of minivans to transport medical supplies and equipment.

Full Report by greenbiz.com | July 28, 2009, available at:
<http://www.greenbiz.com>

Germany: BASF's eco-efficiency analysis wins international recognition

According to the news reported by basf.com, BASF's eco-efficiency analysis has been awarded the internationally recognized seal of approval of the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF). The U.S.-based NSF is an international non-profit organization that is active in the field of public health protection and consumer safety.

According to the news, the eco-efficiency analysis, which has already been evaluated by the German Association for Technical Inspection (TÜV), provides information on the relationship between the economic value of a product and its impact on the environment. This tool helps BASF and its customers to decide which products and processes are most suitable, both in economic and in environmental terms. The entire lifecycle of a product or production process is assessed, for example, in terms of resource and energy consumption, emissions to air, water and soil as well as risk potential.

In collaboration with various stakeholders and product safety experts at BASF Corporation, the NFS has defined standard requirements for eco-efficiency analyses. The aim of NFS Protocol 352 is to ensure conclusiveness, objectivity and transparency for the different types of eco-efficiency analyses. BASF's method has now been verified under the requirements of this protocol. "This NSF certificate is a big step forward and shows the increasing acceptance of our strategic eco-efficiency tool – also in the United States," said Dr. Ulrich von Deessen, head of BASF's Environment, Health & Safety Competence Center in Ludwigshafen.

"NSF shares BASF's commitment to the environment, and we applaud their leadership in helping to develop an intelligent methodology, which provides solutions that improve the environment and the economy," said Bob Ferguson, NSF Vice President.

The news also indicated that, BASF's eco-efficiency analysis is based on standards DIN EN ISO 14040 and 14044. Since the introduction of this tool in 1996, BASF has performed more than 400 analyses for BASF business units, as well as for external partners and customers. Eco-efficiency analyses have been conducted for major products in 90 percent of BASF's product lines.

Full Report by basf.com | July 23, 09, available at:
<http://www.basf.com>

Australia: Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Unveils Major Five-Year Expansion Programme

According to the news reported by responsible-investor.com, the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment has laid out an ambitious five-year expansion programme, which aims to lead the mainstreaming of responsible investment globally. The initiative was unveiled to PRI signatories at its AGM in Sydney today.

The \$18 trillion investor movement said that among its major orientations to 2013 would be the creation of a public policy network to bring together national and international policy makers with responsible investors to work on areas of common interest, reduce

barriers to responsible investment and jointly encourage better corporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance.

This would be the first time the PRI as a collective entity has officially sought to work with regulators and governments on investor sustainability issues. The PRI said it also planned to launch new work streams on alternative assets including hedge funds, infrastructure and commodities as part of a major broadening across asset classes, which started earlier this year with the creation of best practice ESG guidance for investors in private equity.

Further research work streams will be added on themed ESG-focused investments in areas such as climate bonds, forest bonds, clean tech, microfinance, and sustainable venture capital. The PRI said this reflected increasing numbers of these types of asset classes appearing within its signatory base.

According to the news, another key area for expansion, the PRI said, would be the PRI Clearinghouse, a private intranet website which allows investors to collaborate on engaging with companies and lobbying regulators and governments. It said the Clearinghouse would notably widen its focus to address what it called “higher-level, systemic issues”, which it said included economy-wide risks such as climate change.

By 2013, the Clearinghouse plans to have specialist coordinators across each of the E, S and G issues with administrative and local language support to enable international investor collaboration. To aid this, the PRI said it would create local networks in different countries for on-the-ground support.

Full Report by responsible-investor.com | July 16, 2009, available at:
<http://www.responsible-investor.com>
