



Accord Australasia

SUSTAINABILITY CHARTER

June 2012

 **accord**

hygiene, cosmetic & specialty products industry

Sustainability Charter



Goals of this Sustainability Charter of the member companies of Accord:

- To actively foster sustainability in our industry and along the supply chain for our industry products
- To promote whole-of-business sustainability approaches
- To be inclusive and aspirational for all business sizes - from multinationals to SMEs
- To demonstrate meaningful achievements in sustainability to customers, suppliers, consumers and government with openness and transparency

Accord's mission, as the national voice for the hygiene, cosmetic and specialty products industry, is to promote and coordinate a range of sustainability initiatives on behalf of industry.

Vision

As leaders in production and supply of hygiene, cosmetic and specialty products, our members are committed to:

- progressive improvement in sustainability through whole-of-business ethos and practices;
- generating tangible measures of improved environmental impacts, social benefits and economic progress; and
- effectively communicating our industry's essential role in protecting and promoting the health and wellbeing of Australians and our environment.



Sustainability Charter



Principles

Environmental stewardship: Encouraging a voluntary, progressive reduction in environmental impact throughout the lifecycle of our products by innovative solutions and reduction in the amount of resources consumed, waste generated and emissions produced.

- Production and supply of products to minimise potential environmental impacts associated with production, packaging, transport, use and disposal, including use of materials, energy and water; protection of biodiversity; and generation of emissions, effluent and waste
- Supporting basic research to resolve uncertainties around environmental safety, as they arise

Social responsibility: Committing to a policy of proactive, voluntary and continual improvement over and above basic legal requirements so that our industry's essential contribution in promoting and improving the health and quality of life of Australians, the communities in which we operate, and our staff is recognised and encouraged by society and government.

- Only marketing products that are fit-for-purpose and safe for their intended use
- Producing products that contribute to a better quality of life for all Australians
- Promoting safe use of products through transparent communication of safety and handling information across the supply chain
- Exercising corporate responsibility along the supply chain and beyond
- Promoting the health, safety and wellbeing of employees, customers, and communities by contributing to programs that enhance quality of life in the communities in which we operate
- Communicating the benefit of our products and contribution of our industry to the public and our governments
- Supporting basic research to resolve uncertainties around human health and safety, as they arise

Economic progress: Contributing to economic growth through innovative delivery, based on sound science and ethical standards, of hygiene, cosmetic and specialty products for use across consumer, commercial and industrial applications.

- Developing and embracing sustainable innovations
- Reinvesting in local communities through employment, infrastructure, investment and services
- Self-supporting – no government financial assistance on an industry-wide basis



Industry Initiatives

Environmental stewardship

- ✓ Accord Phosphorus Standard – *Launched 1994, Updated 2002 & 2010*
- ✓ 'WashWise' website www.washwise.org.au – *Launched January 2010*
- ✓ 'Recognised – environmental credentials scheme' for I&I cleaning products – *Launched October 2011*
- ✓ Australian Packaging Covenant participation – *Ongoing*
- ✓ Accord Code of Practice for Household & Commercial Cleaning Products Claiming Antibacterial Action – *Pending finalisation of disinfectant regulatory reforms*

Social responsibility

- ✓ Look Good...Feel Better charity and community service www.lgfb.org.au – *Celebrating 21 years in 2011*
- ✓ Accord Guidelines for Cleaners and Sanitisers that have Incidental Contact with Food – *2005, Updated May 2010*
- ✓ Dream Week www.dreamweek.org.au – *Since 2009*
- ✓ 'WashWise' public information website www.washwise.org.au – *Launched January 2010*
- ✓ Children and Safe Storage of Household Products
www.accord.asn.au/public_information__submission/children_and_safe_storage – *June 2010*
- ✓ Accord Proposal for Nano-labelling of Sunscreens and Cosmetics – *September 2010*
- ✓ 'What's in it?' Household Cleaning Product Ingredient Disclosure Initiative
www.accord.asn.au/whats_in_it – *July 2011*
- ✓ 'Hygiene for Health' public information website www.hygieneforhealth.org.au – *Launched August 2011*
- ✓ Food Safety Information Council participation – *Ongoing*
- ✓ Accord "Sustainability" Newsletter – *To be initiated*
- ✓ Sustainability section on the Accord website – *To be initiated 2013*

Economic progress

- ✓ Accord Quality Commitment Program – *Launched 2005*
- ✓ Accord Responsible Supplier Checklist – *Launched 2008*
- ✓ Member survey on sustainability policies and initiatives – *2010, 2012*
- ✓ Seminars & meetings with invited speakers addressing industry on sustainability and economic issues – *Ongoing*
- ✓ Profiling existing member sustainability initiatives via 'case studies' – *To be initiated 2012*

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