

Sumitomo Seika Integrated Report 2024

Statement of Opinion Regarding the Third-Party Verification

August 30, 2024

To: OGAWA Ikuzo, President
Sumitomo Seika Chemicals Co., Ltd.

■ Purpose of the Verification

In this Responsible Care Verification Report, the Responsible Care Verification Center aims to express the opinions of chemical industry experts concerning the following items presented in the Sumitomo Seika Integrated Report 2024 (hereinafter “the Report”) prepared by Sumitomo Seika Chemicals Company, Limited. The scope of the verification does not include financial information.

- 1) Rationale behind the collection, compilation, and methods of calculating performance indices (numerical data) and the accuracy of the data
- 2) Accuracy of the information (other than numerical data) presented in the Report
- 3) Evaluation of Responsible Care and CSR activities
- 4) Characteristics of the Report

■ Verification Procedure

- At the corporate head office, we evaluated the rationale for the methods used to collect and compile the numerical data reported from each site (office and works), as well as the accuracy of the information (other than numerical data) presented in the Report. This was done by interviewing those personnel responsible for the relevant business operations and those in charge of preparing the Report about its contents, and asking them each to provide supporting materials, and hearing their explanations of those supporting materials.
- At Chiba Works, we evaluated the rationale for the methods used to calculate the numerical data reported to the corporate head office and the accuracy of the data, as well as the accuracy of information (other than numerical data) presented in the Report. This was done by interviewing those personnel responsible for the relevant business operations and those in charge of preparing the Report, as well as asking them to provide supporting materials, hearing their explanations of those supporting materials, and cross-checking the data and information with evidence.
- We applied a sampling technique to review the numerical data and other information presented in the Report.

■ Opinions

- 1) Rationale of the calculation and compilation methods for the performance indices (numerical data) and the accuracy of the numerical data
 - Rational methods have been employed at the corporate head office and Chiba Works to calculate and compile the numerical data.
 - Performance indices that came under the scope of this survey were accurately calculated and compiled.
- 2) Accuracy of the information presented in the Report other than the numerical data
 - We confirmed that the information presented in the Report is accurate. Although we made several comments about the appropriateness of some expressions and ease of understanding some text, these were all corrected in the current Report, and we have found no items that currently require correction.
- 3) Evaluation of Responsible Care (RC) and CSR activities
 - We rated efforts to strengthen human capital, particularly the level-specific training, development of global personnel, promotion of participation by female employees, improvements to childcare leave uptake by male employees, and the development of working environments.
 - In terms of sustainability initiatives, we were impressed by how, in line with the Basic Policies on Sustainability, a committee chaired by the president has been established, and how the committee and the promotion officers under its control take control for the entire group to create annual plans, check the status of initiatives, and offer accurate instructions.
 - We also laud chemical substance management, where efforts are made to gather the latest information on topics such as different countries' regulations, while also introducing new product management systems, linking various

regulatory systems with information on the substances used in products, and enhancing management.

- We particularly commend initiatives related to general compliance, including concerning human rights and harassment, where feedback and consultations are sought not just from employees, but business partners and many others.
- At Chiba Works, safety activities that include group companies and partner companies on-site are being developed, risk assessments are conducted for all regulated chemical substances handled, and the site's investigations into case studies using hazard mapping, etc. We also highly evaluated these efforts have resulted the fact that the works has not had an incident resulting in time taken off work for 35 consecutive years.

4) Characteristics of the Report

- The section of the Report on R&D strategies, on pages 28–30, introduces R&D policies, focus fields, and details of the R&D areas in which progress is currently being made. It is very informative for readers as an explanation of how R&D is being advanced.
- The section of the Report on pages 42–45 informs readers on how the Sumitomo Seika Group works on business activities and workplace development that respect human rights, while also calling on the support of business partners and others throughout the supply chain to show respect for human rights. Information on these initiatives is a useful reference for readers.



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