

Responsible Care

Basic Policy

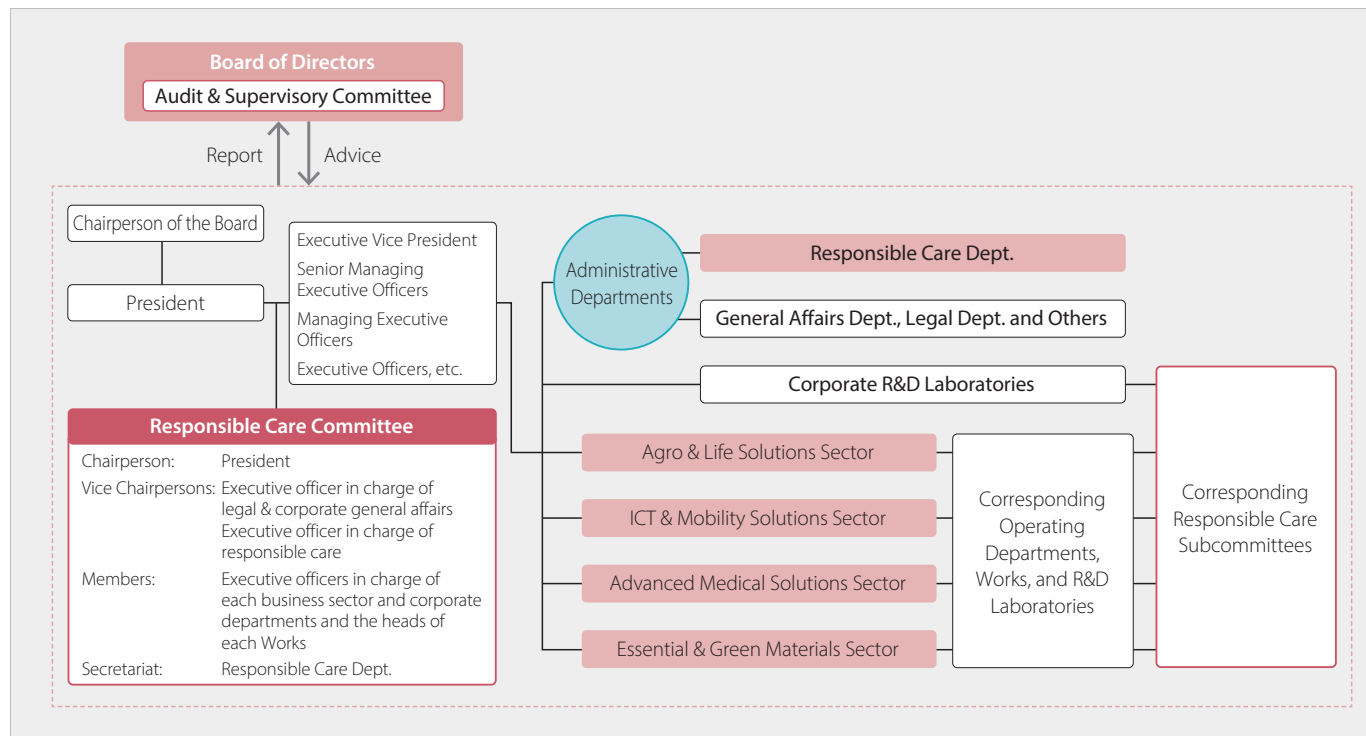
Responsible care (RC) activities refer to the voluntary initiatives undertaken by business operators in the chemical industry, with the goals of ensuring safety, health and the environment throughout the life cycle of chemical products, from development through to the manufacture, sales, use, and disposal after final consumption, maintaining and improving the quality of those products. These activities also strive to gain the further trust of society through continuous dialogue.

The Sumitomo Chemical Group has positioned responsible care activities as one of its most important management pillars. Based on the core principle of “Making safety our first priority,” the Group has set goals for each of the following fields: occupational safety and health; industrial safety and disaster prevention; environmental protection; addressing climate change; product stewardship, product safety, and quality assurance; responsible care audits; and logistics. The Group is working to achieve the goals it has set.

Management System

As the body for deliberating and approving Sumitomo Chemical’s RC activities, the Responsible Care Committee is chaired by the President and comprises executive officers responsible for and in charge of the administrative departments and the four business sectors of the Company, and the General Manager of each Works. The Committee puts in place annual policies on activities, medium-term plans, and specific measures as they relate to responsible care. The committee also analyzes and assesses the results of responsible care activities. The Committee then reports the content of its meetings to the Board of Directors as appropriate and receives necessary guidance in an effort to enhance its supervisory functions and the execution of its duties.

■ Organization of Responsible Care



Policies and Goals

Corporate Policy on Responsible Care (Safety, Health, the Environment and Product Quality)

Sumitomo Chemical has set forth safety, health, the environment, and product quality as top priorities for all phases of its business activities in its Corporate Policy on Responsible Care (Safety, Health, the Environment and Product Quality). This policy has been communicated to all employees of Sumitomo Chemical and its Group companies to ensure that each and every employee is fully aware of it.

Corporate Policy on Responsible Care
(Safety, Health, the Environment and Product Quality)

 <https://www.sumitomo-chem.co.jp/english/sustainability/files/docs/ResponsibleCarePolicy.pdf> 

Promoting Responsible Care Activities

Sumitomo Chemical shares policies and targets regarding RC across the entire Group. We are working to maintain stable operations with zero accidents and zero injuries as the foundation of our business, which is one of the basic policies outlined in the responsible care medium-term plan. We are also striving to ensure safety, health and the environment throughout the life cycle of products as well as to improve the quality of chemical products the Company manufactures.

At present, we have stationed responsible care specialists at regional headquarters in Europe and the Americas as well as China and the wider Asia-Pacific region. This has enabled us to develop RC activities rooted in each area. We established the Sumitomo Chemical Group's Safety Ground Rules in 2016 as a measure to further secure safety at all Group locations. We have since been working to promote awareness of the rules among all Group employees

while further raising the level of Group-wide safety activities and eliminating work-related accidents. Moreover, we strive to ensure the safety of community residents and protect their environment while promoting mutual understanding by providing residents with information concerning our initiatives and engaging in dialogue.

Also, we continually work to develop human resources that are capable of implementing responsible care, for example, through training and practice at each production site and regional headquarters as well as regular meetings attended by the responsible care managers of Group companies in Japan and overseas. In addition, we publish a newsletter that covers various topics and information on accidents and disasters that have occurred within the Group in the hope of preventing similar occurrences. We also promote various kinds of RC activities through RC awards for excellent RC activities of Group companies.

	Medium-term Plan (FY2025-FY2027)
Occupational Safety and Health / Industrial Safety and Disaster Prevention	• Under the slogan “notice, share, and reduce risks,” enhance efforts to call attention to risks that may change over time, building a safe organization that is resilient to change • Further utilize safety-focused technical knowledge gained using IT tools to prevent occurrences of similar disasters • Utilize the latest nondestructive inspection technology to eliminate leakage due to corrosion of outer surfaces • Enhance our efforts to prevent the occurrence of industrial accidents and minimize impacts caused by intensifying natural disasters as well as increasingly sophisticated and complex cyberattacks
Environmental Protection	• Promote the prevention of accidents and minimize troubles and reputational damage by thoroughly complying with environmental regulations and establishing a rapid and appropriate trouble-prevention system that is not dependent on individual experience • Advance the sophistication of environmental data aggregation management system to improve the efficiency of data aggregation and promote appropriate information disclosure
Addressing to Climate Change	• Support businesses by calculating and utilizing environmental values (promoting the use of CFP, LCA, SBC, reduction amounts, and more) • Address new issues, such as those related to biodiversity and water risks • Promote Sumika Sustainable Solutions
Product Stewardship, Product Safety, and Quality Assurance	• Work to address risks through use of the Company's systems, including the comprehensive chemical management system (SuCCESS) • Ensure the soundness of product quality and foster a workplace culture focused on quality to further enhance quality compliance. Furthermore, promptly and reliably conduct product safety reviews to proactively prevent quality issues, thereby enhancing the safety and reliability of products.
RC Audits	• Conduct audits to ensure thorough operation of the responsible care management system, steady improvements to its operation, and compliance with related laws and regulations
Logistics	• Work to reduce the number of logistics safety- and quality-related incidents

Note: More details on the key activities and initiative results for each field can be found in the following sections.