Guide to Safer Chemicals

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BizNGO Principles for Safer Chemicals
(formerly the “Guiding Principles for Chemicals Policy”)

1. Know and disclose

2. Assess and avoid hazards

3. Commit to continuous improvement

4. Support policies and standards
The Guide to Safer Chemicals

For each of the BizNGO Principles for Safer Chemicals

– Define trajectory of business activities from compliance to visionary
– Present best practices among downstream users in managing chemicals across lifecycle
– Create a set of benchmarks based on progress towards vision
Using the Guide to Safer Chemicals

• Use internally to benchmark current performance, identify areas of improvement, and track progress
• Integrate into environmental management system
• Use externally to explain and report on corporate performance and progress
The Logic

Know

Disclose

Assess

Act

Improve

Engage
Principle #1a – Know Chemicals across Life Cycle
(Business-to-Business (B2B) communication)

Full Life Cycle Insights

Summit
Know:
-- feedstocks
-- process chemistries
-- all chemicals and materials in products
-- breakdown products and other life cycle concerns

High Camp
Know all:
 a) feedstocks,
 b) chems in product,
 c) process chemistry,
 and/or
 d) break-down products

Base Camp
Know third party – chemicals in:
 a) product
 and/or
 b) process chemistry

Trailhead
Chemicals of high concern

Compliance
Presence or absence of regulated substances

Know Chemicals
Principle #1b – Disclose Chemicals
(business to public disclosure)

- **Trailhead**
  - Presence / absence of a few chems of high concern

- **Base Camp**
  - Disclose most ingredients online or on product

- **High Camp**
  - All chem ingredients online or on product

- **Summit**
  - Disclose:
    - feedstocks
    - all chemical and material ingredients in products on product
    - process chemistries
    - breakdown products and other life cycle concerns

**Full Product Disclosure**

**Compliance**
- MSDS
- RoHS

**BizNGO**
FOR SAFER CHEMICALS AND SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS
Principle #2 - Assess & Avoid Hazards

Compliance
Avoid legally restricted substances

Trailhead
RSL beyond legal compliance (e.g., SIN List)

Base Camp
-- Assess hazards
-- Benchmark chemicals (e.g., using GreenScreen)

High Camp
-- Prioritize Chems of Concern
-- Evaluate alternatives
-- Select safer alts

Summit
-- Assess hazards of all chemicals in processes and products
-- Benchmark all chemicals based on hazards
-- Select and use only safer alternatives

Assess and Avoid

Safer Substitutes
Principle #3 – Commit to Continuous Improvement

Compliance
- Do nothing beyond compliance

Trailhead
- Target a few chemicals of concern

Base Camp
- Set organizational policies & goals
- Internal scoring & evaluation
- Easy to use & explain
- Group to inform C-suite & implementation

High Camp
- Publicly report on policies, goals, progress
- Integrate into EMS

Leadership & Innovation
- Benchmark progress to safer chemicals across all organizational initiatives

Summit
- Benchmark progress to safer chemicals across all organizational initiatives

Continuous Improvement
Principle #4 – Support Policies & Standards
(that advance principles #1 and #2)

Baseline
Do not engage or oppose implementing BizNGO Principles

Trailhead
-- Engage academics, suppliers
- Present at technical forums

Base Camp
-- Comment to regulatory agencies
-- Engage trade associations, cross-sectoral initiatives

High Camp
-- Collaborate with advocacy organizations
-- Open source IP
-- Integrate into ecolabels

Summit
-- Publish OpEds
-- Testify before Congress & speak to the media

Advancing a Green Economy

Support Policies & Standards
Thank You!

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Questions

– What commitments have your organization made to safer chemicals?
– How do you measure and report on progress towards those commitments?
– What have been some of the unexpected successes and hurdles?