Chemical Footprint Project

GC3 Innovators Roundtable
May 10, 2018
Cheri Peele
Clean Production Action

Together, we’re creating a safer and healthier future
Chemical Footprint Project
Founders

CLEAN PRODUCTION ACTION

Lowell Center for Sustainable Production

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL

pure STRATEGIES
“You can’t manage what you don’t measure.”
Annual Survey
20 Questions - 100 pts
Chemical Footprint Definition

Total mass of chemicals of high concern in a company’s
- products sold,
- manufacturing operations,
- suppliers’ operations, and
- packaging
Chemical Footprint
Scope 2017

• Chemicals in **products** (not manufacturing, supply chains, or packaging)

• Report mass **and/or count** of chemicals of high concern

• Choice of longer or shorter reference list for chemicals of high concern
Chemicals of High Concern (CoHCs)

- carcinogen, mutagen, or reproductive toxicant (CMR)
- persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic substance (PBT)
- any other chemical for which there is scientific evidence of probable serious effects to human health or the environment that give rise to an equivalent level of concern
- a chemical whose breakdown products result in a CoHC that meets any of the above criteria

- CFP 2017 CoHC List (same as 2016)
CFP Annual Survey & Report

THE CHEMICAL FOOTPRINT PROJECT SURVEY

2017 Guidance Document
Value of CFP Survey

- Common language
- Quantitative metric to measure progress
- Gap analysis
- Alignment with leading business practices & investors
CFP Signatories

- Enables benchmarking
- Establishes common language
- Identifies leaders

Benefits to Signatories

$2.3 trillion in assets under management

$600 billion in purchasing power
Companies Disclosing Their Participation in the 2016 CFP Survey

adidas AG
Alima Pure
Angelica Corporation
Beautycounter
Becton Dickinson and Co. (BD)
Case Medical, Inc.
Construction Specialties, Inc.
GOJO Industries, Inc.
Herman Miller, Inc.
HP Inc.
Inpro Corporation
Johnson & Johnson
Kimball Hospitality Inc.
Levi Strauss & Co.
nora systems, Inc.
Radio Flyer
Replenish
Seagate Technology PLC
Sealed Air Corporation
Seventh Generation
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
WaterWipes

OUR RESPONDERS
Responders provide the data for the Chemical Footprint Project.

Reduces chemical risks of regulation, reputation, & redesign

Identifies opportunities for improvement including engage senior management & increase transparency

Measures progress over time in improving chemicals management

Benefits to Responders
Chemical Footprint Project Survey 2016-17 data: Total Points Scored by Company
Lessons Learned

• Chemical footprinting is challenging, but possible
  – Data collection
  – Calculations

• Survey is valuable as self-assessment tool
  – Data out of silos
  – Clarifies understanding of progress

• Leadership is essential
Opportunities

• Become a Signatory
  – Encourage suppliers to become responders

• Become a Responder
  – Respond as a brand - private label
  – Respond as a retailer
  – Flexibility:
    • Anonymous
    • Subset of product portfolio
Schedule

- June 2018: Annual Report released
- Q4 2018: Revised Survey questions & response options released
- Jan - Mar 2019: 2019 Survey open
Reflections from CFP participants

- Yashi Shrestha, Beautycounter
- Al Iannuzzi, Johnson & Johnson
Chemical Footprint Survey as Management Tool

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A number of companies use the survey internally, even go through the verification process, but don’t submit.

So what do they get out of it?
Use Survey Tool to Assess Own Programs

• Mechanism for company to review and assess current program

• External objective benchmark
  – Multi-stakeholder set of criteria
  – Common list of chemicals of concern
Verification

• Why added layer of verification process, especially when not planning to submit?

• Value for companies
  – Arm’s-length objective 3rd-party review
  – Systematic process reviewing responses in detail
  – On-going process of questioning/clarifying of policies, processes, execution
  – Opportunity for 3rd party to provide tips/advice
Outcomes from Verification

• How well do survey answers really capture what’s going on?
  – Documentation? Missing internal evidence that achieving what expected?
  – Gaps in execution?
• Opportunities to benefit from multi-company experience of 3rd-party
Questions for Discussion

• What business benefits can you see for your company in participating in Chemical Footprint survey?
• What are the barriers to your participation and what would help you to overcome them?
• What would persuade you to get engaged?
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