

AGC Chemicals Europe Our Approach to Corporate Social Responsibility





Who Are AGC Chemicals Europe?



We are world-leading specialists in fluorine chemistry. Our expertise is in making fluoropolymers - highly durable plastics that are very resistant to corrosion and extremes of temperature. Specifically, in the UK we manufacture two well-known fluoropolymers called polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and ethylene tetrafluoroethylene (ETFE). Due to their unique non-stick and friction reducing properties these fluoropolymers have many applications including the coating of cookware, the weatherproofing of buildings and solar cells, and the soil proofing and waterproofing of fabrics.

Our fluoropolymers could be on the fabric of the raincoat you put on in the morning, in the engine and brakes of the car you drive to work, in the bearings of the bridge you cross on the way and on the building you work in (not to mention the sports stadium you visit at the weekend). They may be on the fast food wrapper when you buy your lunch and could have been helping to protect the solar cells on your roof to light your home when you get back there.



AGC Chemicals Europe is the specialist chemical division part of a much bigger company, AGC Group, which employs more than 50,000 people all over the world. At AGC Chemicals Europe we have around 190 employees at our manufacturing site and head office in Thornton Cleveleys, Lancashire. We also have a busy sales office in Amsterdam.

What Does Corporate Social Responsibility Mean To Us?



We know that Chemistry has the power to deliver exciting solutions, but we want to do this in a responsible way. To AGC Chemicals Europe 'responsibility' means going beyond legal compliance, continually improving our performance and products, working in partnership with our employees, customers and suppliers, and giving something back to the community in which we operate.

To co-ordinate our CSR efforts and ensure we focus on priority areas we have established a cross functional CSR committee. Already we have identified areas for improvement and are working hard together to find practical solutions that support our commitment to be a responsible business.



Chemistry for a Blue Planet is the AGC Chemicals slogan, summing up our mission. Viewed from space, planet Earth is predominantly blue in colour. We believe that chemistry is essential for progress, but we know that this can't be at the expense of the Earth's resources.

Chemistry for a Blue Planet reminds us that all of our innovation must be compatible with sustainability and this guides us in everything we do.



At AGC Chemicals Europe our approach to corporate social responsibility has five areas of focus:

1. PEOPLE are at the centre of everything we do. There is nothing more important than the safety of those who work for us, those who live close to our production sites and those who use the end products made from our materials. We want to attract and retain a skilled, motivated and healthy workforce and we work hard to be a good employer.

Each year we hold a Family Day for our employees and their families. Guided tours of our production facilities and beautiful Wyre Estuary, located close to our site are on offer, as are a range of eco activities, including woodworking and bush craft skills. Our aim is to thank our employees for their hard work and help them to enjoy the natural environment of which we are part.

2. PRODUCTS. We are proud that many of the materials we make contribute to a more sustainable way of living by prolonging the life of the products to which they are applied, or improving the efficiency of products, both of which save precious resources over the full product lifecycle.

Our Fluon® ETFE film is used as a protective covering for solar cells, helping them to last longer in tough climates. We supply polyols for the making of polyurethane foam, which saves energy when used in cavity wall insulation. The same polyurethane foam is used in the manufacture of car seats, contributing to the consumption of less vehicle fuel, thanks to its lightweight properties.

3. PROCESSES. We are constantly developing and improving our production processes to save energy, increase efficiency and reduce our environmental impact.

Over the last 3 years we have consistently reduced the amount of energy it takes to produce each tonne of our material and we're looking to continue this steady reduction in years to come. We also work hard to find ways to use the by-products of our manufacturing process, thus reducing the amount of waste we send to landfill.

4. PARTNERS. We work in partnership with our customers and our suppliers and we are committed to sound and sustainable procurement procedures. By working closely with our partners, we do our best to ensure that they adhere to the same principles as we do.

When it comes to suppliers, we believe in fair and sustainable pricing for the long term benefit of everyone involved. We even go as far as actively introducing our smaller suppliers to other businesses in our network, knowing that their success is our success.

5. COMMUNITY. We know we have a part to play in the fabric of our local community. That's why we regularly support local good causes via our charity club and also why we work with schools in the area to help pupils understand more about the importance of sustainable lifestyles.

Our programme for local schools is delivered in partnership with well-known environmental regeneration charity, Groundwork Pennine Lancashire. Together we support school Eco Councils in their work towards the coveted schools Green Flag Award, helping children learn about topics such as energy conservation, biodiversity and health and the environment. In each school year our programme has the potential to reach hundreds of children in schools near our UK manufacturing base in Lancashire.

Please visit www.agcce.com for more information

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**Chemistry
for a Blue Planet**
AGC Chemicals

AGC

This is Kemmy, our company mascot. Kemmy takes the shape of a chemical symbol, indicating chemistry, with a green leaf, signifying our natural environment.

Kemmy inspires everyone at AGC Chemicals to work together to find ways in which chemistry can contribute to sustainable solutions.

GLOBAL LOCATIONS



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REF: CSR E 06-2013