



Sustainability at the WeylChem Group of Companies: Frequently Asked Questions

Why does the WeylChem Group of Companies engage in sustainability?

The WeylChem Group of Companies is committed to sustainability in order to play an integral part in the chemical sector becoming a solution provider in the transformation towards sustainability. We want to enable our customers to develop sustainable products by providing them with innovation at a product and process level.

Sustainability Strategy and Management:

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies have a sustainability team? Yes, we have an interdisciplinary sustainability team consisting of representatives from all companies within the Group. This team develops, implements, and monitors the sustainability strategy and corresponding measures across the WeylChem Group of Companies.

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies have a sustainability strategy? Yes, we developed one in 2021. As part of this process, we identified material topics and drew up a roadmap for the implementation of targeted activities and measures along the triple bottom line. This strategy is being coordinated and aligned at Group level and implemented in the individual companies.

Sustainability reporting standards, ratings and rankings:

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies publish sustainability reports? Yes, we are working on our first sustainability report, to be published in early 2024 according to EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) requirements. The report will be based on the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standard.



Does the WeylChem Group of Companies measure the carbon footprint of its products and sites? Yes, we are actively engaged in measuring and reducing our carbon footprint. In 2022, we launched initiatives to measure the carbon footprint of specific products at our sites in WeylChem Wiesbaden and WeylChem Lamotte. We are developing and implementing an action plan to reduce CO₂ emissions at each of these sites.

Which other ESG standards does the WeylChem Group of Companies adhere to? Energy and environmental management systems according to ISO 50001 and ISO 14001 respectively have been implemented and certified at most of the production sites. Additionally, almost all legal entities within the WeylChem Group of Companies have been awarded Gold status in the assessment of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) performance by ECOVADIS.

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies engage in chemical-sector sustainability initiatives? The WeylChem Group of Companies is engaged in the “Together for Sustainability” initiative by supporting the development of standards for greenhouse gas calculations. Several companies within the Group are also signatories to the Global Responsible Care Charter, a voluntary commitment by the global chemical industry.

Sustainable Products and Processes:

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies offer sustainable products? Yes, we focus on developing sustainable, innovative products. These innovations may be in the area of performance, such as new catalysts for detergents that enable lower washing and bleaching temperatures in appliances, allowing consumers to wash more sustainably. Or they may be in the area of raw materials, such as our wide range of bio-based solutions.

Velvetol[®], for example, is a family of bio-based, high-performance polyether polyols that can completely replace petroleum-based polyols in polyurethane systems, thermoplastic polyurethanes, dispersions and elastane fibers. They can be processed into a range of polyurethane systems, thermoplastic polyurethanes, dispersions and elastane fibers, with possible applications ranging from shoes and clothing to accessories such as handbags and bracelets. A life cycle analysis according to ISO14040 / 44 shows that the climate footprint of this polymer is up to 50 percent lower than that of petrochemical alternatives like PTMEG, with similar or even better performance.



In care chemicals, our range of Peractive® TAED bleach activators is produced in a solvent-free manufacturing process which has water as the only by-product. The latest variant, Peractive® AC White Eco, does not contain any polymers that are classified as microplastics by the EU and is easily biodegradable, and has thus been certified according to the Ecocert standard.

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies operate sustainable processes and plants? We're always looking out for more energy-efficient and sustainable production processes based on the use of modern technology. To this end, we scrutinize our production processes, seeking to increase waste avoidance, recycling and the conversion of waste streams into alternative uses and improved steam utilization. For instance, gas-phase synthesis can significantly reduce energy consumption and CO₂ emissions in oxidation processes. Likewise, modern catalysts require less solvent and produce the desired products selectively. At our Frankfurt-Höchst site, for example, 90% of the energy used by the side-chain chlorination plant's off-gas incineration is recycled into mid-pressure steam, thereby reducing the plant's carbon footprint.

Does the WeylChem Group of Companies implement circular economy and waste reduction solutions? A field of particular importance for WeylChem is the establishment of circular processes that reduce raw material consumption, energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and waste creation, all at the same time.

One such process is the production of phenothiazine at our Allessa site, which is powered by a "waste-to-energy" biomass plant and does not consume fossil fuels. Another process is the production of biodegradable PET containing Soil Release Polymers as laundry aids for a superior cleaning performance. The use of cleaned flakes from PET recycling instead of fossil based raw material saves scarce resources without compromising the product quality.

How does the WeylChem Group of Companies foster the development of sustainable products and processes? At WeylChem, we regard our employees as our strongest asset – not just for our business, but in our transformation towards greater sustainability as a company and for the planet. Many of our companies have integrated sustainability goals into their employee bonus programs or set up local sustainability teams. We have also established an "ideas box" to which employees are encouraged to contribute suggestions for process and product improvements and sustainability innovations.