

Safety, Environment and Sustainability Policy

Chemische Fabrik Karl Bucher GmbH is a future-oriented, flexible and customer-oriented family business that produces fine chemicals and, in particular, organosilicon substances. As a family-owned company, we also cultivate personal relationships with our customers, suppliers, the community and public authorities, making reliable, trustworthy and harm-free cooperation, as well as the sustainable design of the future, a particular concern for us. We use this Safety, Environment and Sustainability Policy to set goals and communicate them to all our employees.

The Significance of Safety

Chemische Fabrik Karl Bucher GmbH produces fine chemicals by the tonne for use in various industries and products. Owing to the nature of the raw materials and products we produce and the type of reactions carried out, safety is of central importance to us. Not only for the operation itself, but also for the environmental impact and safety of our products, which are used for several sensitive purposes, such as medical devices, pharmaceuticals and the food industry.

Plant safety and hazard prevention – Responsibility for our operation and the environment

Given the potential scope of incidents, this point is a particular focus for us. We protect ourselves against the risks relating to plant safety by systematically and comprehensively addressing safety issues, identifying and evaluating risks in advance and defining protective measures. For this reason we design our systems to be as robust as possible with built-in error prevention and fault tolerance capabilities. We design our reaction controls to have the lowest possible risk potential. In order to avert and minimise risks to the environment, we draw up corresponding safety plans and coordinate them with the authorities responsible.

Occupational Safety

Protecting our employees against acute and long-term health hazards comprises part of our basic responsibility. We protect our workers with an efficient occupational health and safety system that we use to identify hazards, define measures and put them into action. Owing to the nature of our business, we prioritise and focus specifically on dangers with serious consequences. We also make sure that access to adequate occupational safety and health measures is provided. Besides providing our employees with detailed written instructions in the area of occupational safety and health, we focus on transferring knowledge to them and, in particular, engendering the independent, autonomous and proactive behaviour of each employee in all their actions according to the proviso, "Why am I doing what I am doing and why am I doing it in this way?", taking into account all possible consequences.

Product Safety and Stewardship

Most of our products are used in sensitive industries to produce pharmaceutical products, medical devices and even consumer goods. This makes it our responsibility to ensure that our products pose no danger. We evaluate the properties of our products in full and alert our customers to known hazards.

Transport Safety

The transportation of hazardous substances poses a particular danger, because, at this stage of the product lifecycle, the hazardous substance finds itself in a much less qualified environment for handling substances and hazard prevention. We minimize this risk to the lowest level by carefully selecting and using high-quality, safe packaging in combination with suitably qualified transport companies.

Dialogue

In order to create a climate of trust, we seek dialogue with the authorities, our employees and the public. We also openly address questions and concerns raised with us by providing factual explanations in order to strengthen trust in us and our abilities.

Preservation of an unscathed environment

Our factory is located completely on its own in the middle of the Günztal nature. We preserve the diversity and intact natural systems that are worth protecting in our immediate and general environment by meeting

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environmental standards, designing our production processes in the most resource-efficient and environmentally-friendly manner possible and striving to improve them and further minimising waste, energy use and emissions. We also pay close attention to these aspects when procuring materials.

The ethical foundations of our actions

Respect and ethics represent significant aspects of a lasting and peaceful coexistence. This is why we afford these aspects a central role, both in the cooperation that takes place within our company and in our dealings with suppliers, customers, competitors, authorities and the public. We provide our employees with the following guidelines.

Management responsibility and personal interaction

Respect for the individual and open-mindedness in an open communication culture represent the central components of an objective togetherness. We value performance and competition in an environment with a long-term focus and the contribution of each individual according to his or her own potential. The assumption of responsibility for the personal actions of each individual and as a collective characterises sustainable leadership.

Impartiality and equality

Fair action towards all parties, whether colleagues, customers, suppliers, authorities or neighbours, is a central maxim for us. We respect equality and practice zero tolerance towards all forms of discrimination. We respect gender equality, especially in our recruitment and personnel policy.

Social Responsibility

We respect internationally applicable human rights. We also expect the same from our suppliers, customers and other partners. This includes rejecting any and all kinds of child and forced labour. We also generally reject the use of minerals from conflict zones.

Legality

Our aspiration towards complying with national and international laws and regulations is not only what we expect of ourselves, but also of all our suppliers, customers and other partners. We reject any and all forms of corruption.



Stefan Bucher
Managing Director