

## 2021 European Responsible Care® Award Guideline to Applicants

**Closing date for applications 30 June 2021 – Email address for submissions: [RCAwards@cefic.be](mailto:RCAwards@cefic.be)**

The European Responsible Care Awards are open to all companies and /or sites that are practicing Responsible Care along the supply chain in Europe. National associations and affiliate associations are also eligible to participate provided they have signed up to Responsible Care or have a Responsible Care Partnership Agreement with Cefic.

Following the “Caring in COVID-19 times” awards programme launched in 2020, this year, we will continue to show the industry’s commitment to support during the pandemic, while achieving carbon neutrality, circularity and resource efficiency.

**We welcome the participation by Small and large companies and country chemical Associations.**

**Companies** and **National associations** can share initiatives across four categories that embrace, for example, safety, circularity and digitalised processes, as described below.

### Guidance and criteria for entries

- Entries should include a **clear description of the initiatives**, outlining its aim and **objectives and list of actions**.
- We recommend including **additional supporting materials** describing the initiative and its effectiveness, such as photos/images, short videos, PowerPoint presentation, mosaic of testimonials, etc. to further illustrate the initiatives. Please note that generic marketing material is not appropriate.
- All entries will be assessed by an independent panel of judges consisting of experts and stakeholders. The jury will evaluate initiatives on the basis of **their performance and results, communication excellence, long lasting efforts, innovative strength**, while achieving carbon neutrality, circularity and resource efficiency.
- All entries must be provided **in English** by using the “Responsible Care Award application form”.
- Applicants should **be located in Europe**.
- All applicants will be notified with regard to their submissions.

## Description of the categories

Two sub-categories are illustrated with a few examples but not limited to:

### - **Category 1: Supporting health in COVID-19 times**

Initiatives that demonstrate the industry's continued support **to protect the health of workers and the community** as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. i.e. those that support mental health and accelerate the production of medical devices. Special recognition will be given to initiatives that embrace digitalisation.

### - **Category 2: Ecosystem preservation <sup>1</sup>**

Initiatives that demonstrate industry efforts to **preserve the ecosystem** towards achieving **zero pollution** i.e. sustainable use of resources by optimising production processes, managing water efficiency, improving logistics (reducing wastes, pollutants and GHG emission, minimise transport routes), preventing and minimising waste. Includes initiatives that protect, conserve and enhance the ecosystems for the (surrounding) communities. Special recognition will be given to initiatives that embrace digitalisation.

### - **Category 3: Climate change and energy**

Initiatives that demonstrate that **energy efficiency is improving, greenhouse gas emissions are being reduced**, including across the value chain, and show the company implements measures to support the transition to a sustainable society. Special recognition will be given to initiatives that embrace digitalisation.

### - **Category 4: Safe and Sustainable <sup>2</sup>**

Initiatives that demonstrate how the chemical industry strives for **safe and circular products**; showcasing innovative chemicals, materials and efforts that are safe and sustainable from design, production to end of life and reuse. Special recognition will be given to initiatives that embrace digitalisation.

## Inquiries

Should you have any queries regarding the submission of your entry or any other aspect of the Awards, please contact: [RCAwards@cefic.be](mailto:RCAwards@cefic.be)

---

<sup>1</sup> Focus on "outside" safety – links to plant and outside environment

<sup>2</sup> Focus on "internal" safety – links to safe product design, creation and reuse