

HSE and Sustainability

Sep - Dec 2021



	Territory	Title	Links
Regulation	UK	Amid fears of chemical shortages, the Environment Agency introduced a waiver that enabled companies that cannot comply with permit conditions to skip the final stage of wastewater treatment, valid until the end of 2021.	>>
	US	The EPA is to set an industrial wastewater discharge limit for the release of PFAS from plants in numerous industries, including the organic chemical industry.	>> >>
	US	The EPA ordered to gradually phase down the use and production of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by 85% within the next 15 years as part of its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, claiming the rule could reduce global warming by up to 0.5 °C by 2100.	>> >>
	US	In order to fight hazardous pollutants, the EPA agreed to review and propose new emission standards for plants that produce synthetic organic chemicals by the end of 2022.	>> >>
	Brazil	The National Council for the Environment (CONAMA) approved end of limits on polluting emissions from oil platforms, after the council appealed against a lawsuit filed by the Federal Public Ministry which opposed the proposal to end emission limits.	>>
	Brazil - Paraná	The Governor of the state published a decree requesting to extend water emergency measures to prevent waste. According to the decree, the Water and Land Institute (IAT) the use of its legal attributions, will evaluate the restrictions on water flow granted for agricultural, industrial and commercial activities.	>>
	Colombia	The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development passed the new Climate Action Law, which will function as a roadmap for the country on its way to reduce carbon emissions by 40%, reach zero deforestation by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. The new law also sets the goal of reducing the emission factor of nitrous oxides by up to 80% per unit of product in production plants in the chemical and fertilizer sectors.	>> >>
	Mexico	The Secretary of the Environment introduced the Management Program to Improve Air Quality in the Metropolitan Area of the Valley of Mexico, which involves an update to the regulatory framework to reduce industrial emissions, as well as applying auditing and surveillance schemes to control emissions in priority industries.	>> >>
	EU	The European Commission adopted a proposal offering new limits for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in waste, including PFOA, dicofol and pentachlorophenol.	>>
	Poland	The Polish Ministry of Climate and Environment published a bill to tackle the waste disposal by chemical plants in large-scale brownfields, to be adopted in Q1 2022.	>>
Spain	The Governing Council of Castilla y León approved the Plan for Improving Tropospheric Ozone Air Quality in the region, which includes measures to reduce nitrogen oxide, volatile organic compounds and ozone precursor pollutants emissions from industrial sources.	>>	
HSE Events	US	One contract plan worker of Zachry Group died after being exposed to unidentified chemicals at a BASF chemical plant in Louisiana.	>> >> >>
	US	Six contract employees were injured by an explosion at Westlake Chemical's Petro Complex plant in Louisiana.	>> >> >>
	US	A fire broke out at Westlake Chemical's plant in Mississippi. There were no injuries in the incident.	>>
	Canada	One person died and another was severely injured in an explosion at a chemical manufacturing plant in East York.	>>



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South Korea	Three workers died in an explosion at a shortage facility of a chemical factory in Yeosu city.	>>
China	Four people died and three were severely injured in an explosion inside a workshop of a chemical plant.	>>
Russia	Sixteen workers died and one was severely injured at an explosion in a chemical and gunpowder plant in Ryazan province, potentially due to a failure to follow technical procedures.	>>
India	A fire broke out at chemical factory in Maharashtra, which was closed at the time due to a holiday.	>>
India	28 people were hospitalized including one in a critical condition due to a sulphuric gas leakage from a chemical plant in Maharashtra.	>>
India	Two workers died after a bucket conveyor system collapsed at a facility of the chemical manufacturing company Nirma Group in Gujarat.	>>
India	One employee died and four others were injured in a reactor blast at the chemical manufacturing unit of RP Industries in Gujarat.	>>
India	Five laborers were killed and 16 were injured in blast an explosion at the chemical manufacturing facility of Gujarat Fluorochemicals Limited in Gujarat.	>>
China	A fire broke out in the ethyl chloride facility of Ningxia Jinrunsheng Biotechnology in Shizuishan City, causing a series explosions.	>>
Poland	One person injured in a fire at the chemical plant of PCC Rokita SA in Brzeg Dolny.	>>
Germany	Large amounts of hexamethylene diamine leaked from BASF's chemical facility in Ludwigshafen into the Rhine river due to a technical defect of a motor tanker.	>>
India	Four people died in a blast at the chemical unit of Canton Laboratories Pvt in Vadodara, Gujarat.	>>

Sustainability

Global	Sustainalytics published its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ratings for 2021 and elected UPL as the highest performing CP company for its overall sustainability performance that year, as the company has achieved a 6% improvement in its rating over the 2020 index.	>>
Global	UPL has become the first signatory from the agricultural inputs, solutions and technologies sector to have joined The Climate Pledge, an initiative co-founded by Amazon and Global Optimism in 2019 committing to reach net-zero carbon by 2040. The company will join more than 200 signatories from 21 countries that have joined the pledge as of September 2021, varying across 26 industries.	>>
Global	Corteva Agriscience has initiated the 2021 Climate Positive Leaders Program, in which farmers and ranchers from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Kenya and the US were recognized based on their early adoption and implementation of climate positive practices.	>>
Global	FMC has joined the Agricultural Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C) initiative and the Coalition for Sustainable Productivity Growth for Food Security and Resource Conservation (SPG Coalition) initiative to promote sustainable agriculture across the entire supply chain.	>>
Global	The international non-profit organization CDP gave BASF an A- rating for its activity in 2021 in three fields: water management, forest protection and climate protection.	>>
Global	DuPont Sustainable Solutions has acquired Sofies Group, a sustainability consulting and project management company. The move is expected to expand DuPont's sustainability management capabilities and provide its clients with deeper insights to implement their sustainability plans.	>>



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Germany	BASF announced the implementation of the Net Zero Accelerator project plan, which sets a target of a 25% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 compared with the 2018 level. The new unit is expected to consist of 80 employees in the first stage and it will be based in Germany, with operations commencing on January 2022.	>>
Global	BASF is to launch the Global Carbon Farming Program in 2022, allowing farmers to profit from implementing sustainable practices and supporting the company's commitment of a 30% reduction of carbon footprint per ton in wheat, soy, rice, canola and corn.	>>
China	Yangnong Group has started implementing the FORUS system, introduced by Sinochem. The system draws guidelines for creating a healthier, more sustainable environment across the entire supply chain, as part of the company's vision to become a global HSE leader.	>> >>
China	Beijing Hanqi Environmental Technology and Shenzhen Goldtact Environment Holdings, a subsidiary of China Water Affairs Group, signed a sewage and wastewater treatment project involving investment in ExxonMobil's chemical complex in Huizhou, Guangdong Province.	>>
Global	Bayer announced it will invest \$110M in sustainable innovation, production and sales of its consumer health products, including steps to make all packaging recyclable or reusable by 2030.	>>
Global	Bayer collaborated with Bushel and Amazon Web Services to launch Project Carbonview, a digital solution which will allow US ethanol producers to measure and analyze their carbon footprint through the supply chain. It will be first piloted in the US during the 2022 season.	>>