



## **Brazil hosts event dedicated to sustainability in the chemical supply chain**

**São Paulo, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015** – The Together for Sustainability (TfS) initiative, led by 13 companies from chemical industry; AkzoNobel, Arkema, Basf, Bayer, Clariant, Henkel, DSM, Eastman, Evonik, Lanxess, Merck, Solvay and Wacker, will hold a supplier event in São Paulo.

The event will feature presentations from key sector executives, as well as the discussion panel "Creation Sustainable Competitive Advantages in the Global Supply Chain", mediated by journalist Rosana Jatobá.

The initiative was founded in 2011 by six multinational chemical companies, with the purpose to develop and implement a global audit program to assess and improve sustainability practices within the supply chains of the Chemical Industry. Across the world, TfS member companies have already performed over 8,000 evaluations and audits.

TfS aims at developing and implementing a global supplier engagement program that assesses and improves sustainability sourcing practices, including ecological and social aspects. Participating suppliers will now only have to complete one form instead of multiple questionnaires with the relevant sustainability information provided to all participating buyers who would otherwise need separate sustainability assessment or audits from these suppliers.

The initiative is based on good practices and builds on established principles – such as the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and the Responsible Care Global Charter as well as standards developed by the International Labor Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Social Accountability International (SAI) and others

Since its foundation, participation in the initiative has more than doubled, 32 audit criteria have been defined and over 290 auditors qualified. Also TfS intends to grow its own membership over time.

According to Ruediger Eberhard, president of TfS, the initiative plans to establish benchmarks in the supply chain that can cover all the pillars of sustainability and grant relevant long-term gains both to the companies and to their suppliers.

“Our goal is the responsible procurement of goods and services and the improvement of environmental and social standards of suppliers of the chemical industry worldwide”, he remarked.

For more information about the initiative, access <http://www.tfs-initiative.com/>

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