

PRESS RELEASE

Essen, Germany, October 10, 2016

TfS signs agreement with the CPCIF

The China Petroleum and Chemical Industry Federation (CPCIF) and the Together for Sustainability initiative (TfS) signed a framework agreement to jointly promote and improve sustainability practices within supply chains in China. The agreement was officially signed at the German Headquarters of Evonik Industries in Essen by Pang Guanglian, Vice Secretary-General and Head of International Affairs of CPCIF, and Rüdiger Eberhard, CPO of Evonik and President of TfS.

“Nowadays, economy in China has entered into a new phase of sustainable development. In this phase, for us, the cooperation between TfS and the CPCIF is an important step toward improving sustainability practices and building resilience into the supply chains. Supplier trainings, best practice sharing and regular exchange will help us support the chemical industry in China to reach the new era of sustainability,” says Shuosheng Li, President of CPCIF.

CPCIF is a national association of the petroleum and chemical industry that was established in Beijing on April 28, 2001. It is committed to coordinating industry-wide efforts in China, as well as strengthening cooperation and exchange with international counterparts as the representative body for China’s petroleum and chemical industry.

The Together for Sustainability (TfS) initiative was set up in 2011 with the purpose of developing and implementing a global program to assess and improve sustainability practices within the supply chains of the chemical industry.

Suppliers' sustainability performance is verified against pre-defined criteria that are tailored to the requirements of the chemical industry through two processes: TfS assessments performed by EcoVadis, an external service provider for CSR assessments, and on-site TfS audits. TfS membership has more than tripled in the five years since it was founded.

“Such strong alliances are crucial for TfS – and also for Evonik as one of the six founding members – as they form the basis for the success of TfS,” says Rüdiger Eberhard, President of TfS and CPO of Evonik Industries. “The international implementation of our global audit and assessment program is one of our most important targets for 2017. Together with the CPCIF,

we hope to intensify our partnerships in China and encourage Chinese companies to become members of TfS.”

In recent years, both parties have successfully cooperated to promote the sustainability of supply chains within the chemical industry, and related industries, through a range of conferences and summits. With further social and economic development, both parties would like to prioritize sustainability training for suppliers of chemical synthesis companies in China, in order to develop a sustainable supply chain within the chemical industry and related industries in China.

About Together for Sustainability (TfS)

TfS AISBL is a joint initiative of chemical companies for sustainable supply chains. It was founded in 2011, to develop and implement a global program to assess, audit and improve sustainability practices within the supply chains of the chemical industry. Currently it has 19 member companies worldwide and intends to grow globally. <http://www.tfs-initiative.com/>

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In Essen, Pang Guanglian, Vice Secretary-General and Head of International Affairs of CPCIF (left) and Rüdiger Eberhard, President of TfS and CPO of Evonik Industries signed a framework agreement to jointly promote and improve sustainability practices within supply chains in China. Shuosheng Li, President of CPCIF and Dr. Klaus Engel, CEO Evonik Industries (in the back) hosted the signing event.



With further social and economic development, both parties want to prioritize sustainability for suppliers in China.



From left: Dr. Gabriele Unger, General Manager Tfs, Pang Guanglian, Vice Secretary-General and Head of International Affairs of CPCIF, Norbert Merklein, CPO Clariant, Gu Zongqin, President of China National Petroleum & Chemical Planning Institute, Shuosheng Li, President of CPCIF, Dirk Jan de With, CPO Covestro, Dr. Klaus Engel, CEO Evonik Industries, Rüdiger Eberhard, President of Tfs and CPO of Evonik Industries, Hu Qianlin, Vice Secretary General and Director of Science of CPCIF and Man Juan, Project Manager of CPCIF International Affairs.