

AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL

2019

Sustainability Leadership Awards
Framework & Application Form



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All Applications are Due by March 15, 2019

Submit completed applications to ACC at
sustainability@americanchemistry.com.

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I. Background

As a component of its sustainability initiative, the American Chemistry Council (ACC) has developed the Sustainability Leadership Awards Program to recognize ACC member company achievements and contributions to sustainability in three priority areas highlighted in ACC's sustainability strategy:

- 1) **Transparency & Collaboration**
- 2) **Environmental Protection & Circularity**
- 3) **Societal Contributions**

Additionally, ACC member companies may nominate candidates for an “**External Collaborator**” Award, to recognize non-member organizations that have collaborated with the company on a project, product or initiative that has made significant contributions to sustainability. Applicants for the External Collaborator Award must be nominated by an ACC member company.

ACC will present the inaugural Sustainability Leadership Awards at its June 2019 Annual Meeting.

II. Scope

ACC Member Company Awards

Three Sustainability Leadership Awards will be awarded annually at the June ACC Annual Meeting in recognition of those ACC member companies with products, processes or initiatives that are making extraordinary contributions to sustainability in thematic areas covered by ACC's [Sustainability Principles](#). Full ACC members can apply for sustainability awards in three categories: **Transparency & Collaboration; Environmental Protection & Circularity; and Societal Contributions.**

Applications for the Sustainability Leadership Awards will not be broken down by company size category, and ACC encourages companies of all sizes to apply for the Awards.

Additional detail on these categories is provided below:

1. **Transparency & Collaboration:** Companies applying in this Awards Category may highlight products, processes or initiatives that promote safe use of chemicals, informed sustainability decision-making and accelerated innovation, such as:
 - Efforts that provide information on the impact of chemicals based on hazards, exposures, risks and lifecycle impacts, using best available science.

- Implementation of voluntary tools and frameworks (i.e., ingredient disclosure tools, detailed materials safety guidance) that enable transparent decision-making regarding chemical products and technologies used along the supply chain.
 - Collaboration with other stakeholders on products, processes or initiatives that help fulfill industry’s commitments to sustainability.
 - Other similar products, processes or initiatives.
2. **Environmental Protection & Circularity:** Companies applying in this Awards Category may highlight products, processes or initiatives that address the environmental impacts of their products or operations, such as:
- Measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and pollutants in manufacture and distribution processes.
 - Efforts to enhance conservation of materials and resources.
 - Initiatives that have enabled reduction of waste through recovery, reuse and/or recycling.
 - Collaborations or efforts to reduce marine debris and its impacts.
 - Other similar products, processes or initiatives.
3. **Societal Contributions:** Companies applying in this Awards Category may highlight products, processes or initiatives that illustrate a commitment to innovating for a sustainable future through societal contributions including, but not limited to, examples such as:
- Safely feeding a growing global population through technologies that reduce food waste, improve food safety and quality and/or enhance crop yield.
 - Helping people live healthier, longer lives through enhanced sanitation, hygiene, medicines and/or medical treatment.
 - Improving availability of clean water through resource conservation, reuse, purification and/or filtration.
 - Helping build and connect communities, elevating standards of living and contributing meaningfully to the world’s economy.
 - Other similar products, processes or initiatives.

External Collaborator Award

A key element of ACC’s sustainability commitments is association and member company collaboration with various stakeholders to advance innovative products, processes and initiatives. ACC member companies can nominate an organization for ACC’s “**External Collaborator**” award.

The External Collaborator award is intended to recognize external organizations (i.e., academic institutions, supply chain partners, NGOs, etc.) that are committed to working collaboratively with ACC members and others throughout the supply chain to drive sustainability and

innovation. The ACC member company nominating an organization for this award will provide specific information on the activities and initiatives undertaken in collaboration with this organization, as described in the Nomination Form on **page 11**.

Note: The ACC member company nominating an organization for an External Collaborator award is not required to submit an application for an ACC Member award.

Awards Judging Process

An internal panel will review all the awards applications, and ACC will select and convene an independent Awards Judging Panel, comprised of five external sustainability experts, to evaluate applications and select the Sustainability Leadership Award winners.

Panel judges may include representatives from the retail or building and construction sectors, product manufacturers, third-party certifiers, academia or other stakeholders in the sustainability space. Selection of Awards Panel participants will provide the opportunity for ACC and applying companies to further engage and educate stakeholders on ACC's sustainability initiatives.

Promoting Company Sustainability Achievements

ACC's sustainability website, www.sciencebehindsustainability.org, highlights nine categories where innovations in chemistry may have a meaningful sustainability impact:

- Safe Chemistry
- Sustainable Practices
- Health & Nutrition
- Quality of Life
- Clean Water
- Modern Energy
- Healthy Climate
- Vibrant Oceans
- Reimagining Resources

To enhance industry's ability to tell our story in a more effective and meaningful way, ACC may repurpose application submissions to develop member "case stories" for the Sustainability website. ACC will draft initial case story content based on the information submitted and collaborate with the member company to develop the final version of the case story before publishing it on the Sustainability website or other ACC media.

III. Instructions for Applicants

How to Apply

To participate in the Awards Program, an ACC member must:

1. Complete the [Cover Page](#) found on **page 8** of this document. If the company is submitting more than one application, a cover page must be completed for each application.
2. Complete the award application or nomination form and submit it by March 15, 2019, to ACC at sustainability@americanchemistry.com.

The award application time period will run from January 1 to March 15, 2019.

Members applying for an award(s) must **FIRST** enter their Responsible Care® Performance Measures into the ACC reporting database **on time**. This will enable ACC to verify member eligibility criteria as part of the awards process.

Sustainability Leadership Awards Screening Criteria

1. Applicant must be a full ACC member company in good standing.
2. The applicant must have undertaken the sustainability product/process/initiative being submitted for award consideration within the past 3 years.
3. Responsible Care-related criteria: The company must have:
 - a. No fatalities in the past **3** reporting years for Employees or Contractors.
 - b. Illustrated reduction of environmental impact through 1 or more reporting metric(s), through self-reporting.
 - c. Completed all Responsible Care reporting metrics by due date
 - d. Completed RCMS®/RC14001® certification on time
 - e. Completed adherence to Responsible Care Codes on time

Attestations to these criteria will be required and verified through ACC's Responsible Care data collection processes, where possible.

All ACC member companies are eligible to apply for this award(s).

IV. Additional Information

ACC may, in its discretion, contact member company applicants to request clarification or additional information. ACC reserves the right to reject applications that are untimely, incomplete or otherwise fail to meet the application requirements.

Once received, all applications will become the property of the American Chemistry Council and will not be returned. ACC's ownership does not extend to pre-existing company materials provided as supporting documentation for an application (such as, but not limited to, a company's Sustainability Report, a company's website content, or a company's sustainability award).

The American Chemistry Council may publish, advertise and exhibit applications, or excerpts therefrom, to other American Chemistry Council member companies. The American Chemistry Council may also prepare a summary of applications and may provide these summaries to outside entities. To enhance industry's ability to tell our story in a more effective and meaningful way, ACC may also repurpose application submissions to develop member "case stories" on ACC's public-facing websites or in other ACC publications and social media. In such repurposing circumstances, ACC will collaborate with the member company to develop the final version of the case story before publishing it.

Companies submitting applications retain the right to publish, advertise and exhibit their activities as they wish.

V. Awards Application/Nomination Forms

2019 ACC Sustainability Leadership Awards Program

-Cover Page-

Date _____

To: American Chemistry Council, sustainability@americanchemistry.com

Title _____

From: _____ (Person Submitting Application)

_____ (Title of Person Submitting)

_____ (Name of Company)

_____ (Street Address/P.O. Box)

_____ (City, State, Zip Code)

_____ (Phone Number)

_____ (Email address)

ACC Member Sustainability Leadership Award - Application Form -

Section 1

1) Please identify the Sustainability Leadership Award category for which your company is applying. (You may apply for more than one category, but each submission must have a separate application form.)

- Transparency & Collaboration**
- Environmental Protection & Circularity**
- Societal Contributions**

Section 2

Please provide responses to the following questions. Please limit your response length to approximately 300 to 400 words per question. You also may attach supplemental materials, or include links to relevant website content, in your response.

1. Provide a description of your company’s sustainability product, process or initiative, and how it addresses the stated goals of one of the three categories noted above (“Transparency & Collaboration,” “Environmental Protection & Circularity,” or “Societal Contributions”).
2. How does this product, process or initiative demonstrate progress toward the commitments outlines in ACC’s industry-wide Sustainability Principles?
3. How does this product, process or initiative contribute to the broader [U.N. Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)? Please indicate the specific SDG(s) and how your company’s initiative contributes to those goals.
4. How has your company measured the success of this product, project or initiative?

5. Has this product, process or initiative received other recognitions or awards from external stakeholders (i.e., local government, nonprofit or environmental organization, etc.)? If so, please describe below.

6. Has enactment of this product, process or initiative enabled your company to grow and build partnerships with external stakeholders in the sustainability arena?

7. How has this product, process or initiative impacted your company's performance reporting (via Responsible Care metrics or other metrics your company reports)?

8. Please describe specific ways in which your company incorporates sustainability and its associated values into its core business culture.

9. Please describe (and/or provide examples) of internal and external communications tools and resources the company has implemented to communicate its sustainability achievements and contributions to relevant stakeholders (e.g. Sustainability Report, or public-facing website).

ACC External Collaborator Sustainability Leadership Award - Nomination Form -

Section 1

Please provide the name of the organization that you are nominating for an ACC External Collaborator Award:

Please provide the name of your contact at the organization:

Does ACC have permission to contact this person in regards to the information provided in this Nomination Form?

Section 2

In 500 words or less, please describe how your company and the External Collaborator have successfully partnered on a project or initiative to advance sustainability. Please consider addressing the following points in your response:

A key element of ACC's sustainability commitments is collaboration with various stakeholders to advance innovative products, processes and initiatives.

- How has this organization engaged and collaborated with your company, and the value chain as a whole, to promote broader sustainability principles?
- What role has this organization played in the design, development or implementation of your company's sustainability product, process or initiative?
- What makes this organization exemplary in its commitment to sustainability?