



Responsible Care® Update Issue 9 Q1 2017

RCLG welcomes new Member and new leadership

**FOCUS ON LATIN AMERICA. SEE
PAGES 4 & 5**



CCIA's Renata Florjanić is congratulated by RCLG Chairman Patrick Vandenhoeke in his spectacularly appropriate shirt featuring chemical pictograms

A new member association and new leadership marked the latest face-to-face meeting of the ICCA's Responsible Care Leadership Group in Brazil. Hans-Jürgen Korte, who retired at the end of last year, stepped down as RCLG Chairman and handed over to his Solvay colleague Patrick Vandenhoeke.

The inter-company move will help provide continuity for future activities and was warmly welcomed by RCLG. The appointment reflects Solvay's leadership commitment to Responsible Care as its head, Jean-Pierre Clamadieu, has confirmed he will continue in his role as CEO Sponsor of the RCLG.

The group also welcomed a new Vice Chairman with the appointment of Sohei Morita from Mitsui Chemicals Inc. Morita-san succeeds Kyosuke Okano and has also taken over as Chairman of the Asia Pacific Responsible Care Organization APRO.

Croatia joins as 61st RCLG Member

The ongoing expansion of Responsible Care across the globe was reflected in the formal application for RCLG membership from the Croatian Chemical Industry Association (CCIA). Renata Florjanić from CCIA, part of the Croatian Chamber of Economy, provided an overview of the sector and her organization's plans for Responsible Care.

Renata said the expert support received from Cefic staff and Barry Dyer, Chief Executive of Responsible Care New Zealand, would enable the launch of an effective program for local industry.

Two leading member companies have promised to sign the RC Global Charter as a visible demonstration of their commitment.

After discussion of short term expectations and assurance that RCNZ and Cefic will continue to mentor and monitor progress, the group approved CCIA's application making it the 61st RCLG member association.



Debra Phillips, ACC Vice President Responsible Care & Value Chain Outreach and RCLG Secretariat, presents Hans-Jürgen Korte with a farewell gift on behalf of the group to thank him for his strong leadership, enthusiasm and dedication for the past three years.

INDUSTRY STRENGTHENS LINKS WITH OPCW

ICCA has been invited to participate in this year's 20th anniversary celebrations of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons at The Hague in April. A high-level industry delegation is expected to attend, and will provide an opportunity to promote Responsible Care and our common interest in chemical security and safety.

Links between industry and the OPCW have been strengthened and formalized over the past two years with the setting up of a Joint Steering Committee and a Chemical Industry Coordination Group to implement committee decisions.

Pakistan lays solid foundations for RCLG membership application



There's every indication that the next RCLG member application will come from Pakistan, judging from an overview by Tahir Qadir, Chief Consultant & Executive Director RC at the Pakistan Chemical Manufacturers Association (PCMA) which was only recently established in 2014.

Impressive progress

ICCA and member associations have been impressed by the progress to date and supportive of PCMA's commitments and efforts.

Drawing on his experience of launching and helping implement Responsible Care in the Gulf Region, Tahir described Pakistan's chemical industry and engagement in RC activities, and plans for implementation, at the recent RCLG meeting. Announcements in national newspapers and on TV accompanied PCMA's adoption of RC in August 2016.

The association's RC Committee

holds bi-monthly meetings. Documentation, materials and an awareness program are under development, and preparations are underway for a series of RC workshops for around 70 member companies, with the first held in October in Lahore and attended by 40 delegates.

The development of 8 RC Codes of Management Practices (CoMPs) is taking place between November 2016-February 2017: Community Awareness & Emergency Response; Product Stewardship; Climate Protection; Health & Safety; Process Safety; Security; Warehousing; Transportation & Distribution & Chemicals at Port.

China is one of Pakistan's main trading trading partners (2014 imports from China were valued at over \$9.5bn), with several important joint infrastructure projects slated for so-called China-Pakistan Economic Corri-

dors (CPECs). PCMA has officially reached out to the Planning Ministry to set up chemical zones alongside CPECs, and the two governments are in discussions for the possible relocation of eight chemical plants from Tianjin industrial estate to economic zones alongside CPECs in Pakistan under phase 1.

Development of efficient trade routes along the CPECs would have major logistical impacts: for example, oil shipments from the Gulf to Beijing currently travel a sea route of nearly 13,000km; moving cargo overland up through Pakistan into western China would slash this by roughly 85%.

Busy schedule for 2017

The coming months will see continued awareness building, development of communication and support materials, and outreach to stakeholders. Later in 2017, PCMA plans to start work on a 3rd party verification approach and development of a waste management database and guidelines.

Below: Attendees at a recent PCMA workshop



Priorities for Africa

ICCA's priorities for the Africa region are to identify host associations in three or four target countries to implement Responsible Care; strengthen 'Train the Trainer' efforts with UNEP; and identify specific projects and part-

ners. Essential support for ICCA efforts is being provided by the national associations of South Africa, the US and New Zealand; Europe's Cefic; and BASF, Sasol and Dow at company level.

Upskilling local people in target countries – which include Kenya, Tanzania, Algeria, Nigeria and Zambia – will be key to success.

Successful workshop with UNEP in Shanghai



Despite the challenges involved, ICCA has described the joint sustainability workshop it hosted with UNEP as a success, with industry acknowledged as an essential solutions provider.

Held last September in Shanghai, “The Role of Chemistry in Achieving Sustainable Development” drew more than hundred stakeholders from governments, industry, civil society and international organizations. Participants shared their views on sound chemicals management and sustainable chemistry, with key outcomes and take-away messages including:

- The importance of focusing on the basics for sound management of chemicals
- The need for the development of basic regulatory infrastructure in all countries, based on good practices and benchmarks to implement the 2020 goal for the sound management of chemicals.
- The need for proper implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements by all countries.
- The value of collaboration on harmonized approaches to risk management and schemes such as the GHS.
- The value of collaborative approaches in identifying and implementing solutions to address priority problems and challenges.
- Recognition that sound management of chemicals in SMEs requires specific attention and action by all stake-

holders.

→ The value of making accessible information related to chemicals in products during all stages of the value chain. The workshop also helps strengthen links with stakeholders on chemicals management, particularly in terms of future collaboration with UNEP on projects in Africa.

Industry formalizing sustainability position

In the US, the aim is to finalize a set of ACC Principles for Sustainable Chemistry in February 2017. The principles set out how ACC and its members pursue sustainable chemistry in five key areas by: advancing health and wellness; embracing abundant and affordable energy, addressing climate change and enabling clean air; valuing water resources; fostering communities and society; and driving innovation. Eleven ACC member company CEOs sit on the association’s sustainability taskforce.

Cefic, meanwhile, has developed a high-level Sustainability Charter which includes some ambitious goals and provides a framework for the European association to work on more detailed elements such as KPIs and concrete actions.

Spotlight on the Abiquim Atuação Responsável program

The second of the 2016 bi-annual meetings of the ICCA Responsible Care Leadership Group was hosted by Brazil's national chemicals association Abiquim in Praia do Forte, Bahia state. Andrea Carla Barreto Cunha, Director of Technical Affairs, welcomed participants and noted it was a challenging time for the industry as work continues on high priority issues including regulation, chemical products and sustainability.



Luiz Shizuo Harayashiki

Responsible Care, led at Abiquim by Luiz Shizuo Harayashiki, is known locally as Atuação Responsável (AR). He described the program which has been mandatory

for members since 1998 and showed a video highlighting the strong links with sustainability. The AR program has been adopted by 170 companies throughout Brazil, with 34 also signatories to the Global Charter.

There have been some significant developments in recent years including a new management system approach adopted in 2012 which in time will be fortified by an audit process launched last year; Abiquim has set a target of end 2017 for all companies to undertake an audit.

Adapting successful initiatives for local needs

Shizuo showed examples of how other organizations' tools, programs and best practices can be successfully adopted and adapted to suit local needs. That includes the evaluation scheme developed by Cefic – the Safety & Quality Assessment System (SQAS) operated in Brazil as SASSMAQ

(Assessment System Safety, Health, Environment and Quality) to raise standards of safe transport, storage and distribution of chemicals. The association's SASSMAQ website was built with government support.

Another initiative, Pró-química, is based on ACC's chemical emergency information and communications system Chemtec, whilst "Olho Vivo" (Eyes Wide Open) also focuses on logistics safety, aiming to prevent unsafe behavior during chemicals distribution. This latter initiative, based on a model developed by Dow Brasil, has support from several other trade associations and two training organizations.

He also noted how the UN's APELL program is being used to promote safer storage after two major incidents in 2015 and 2016 at chemical storage sites.

Major turnout for 2016 AR Congress

A highlight in the Atuação Responsável calendar is the annual congress which showcases good practice in chemical sector health, safety, environment and sustainability. At the 2016 event in October, which drew nearly 580 attendees from government, academia, the media, industry and its partners, 14 themed rooms enabled delegates to focus on topics ranging from process safety and risk management to water resources management and SASSMAQ.

Abiquim's AR capacity building activities are based on a range of tools and publications as well as conferences and seminars. Shizuo noted that capacity building reached around 2,000 people during 2015-16, including 530

from government agencies, as well as representatives from academia, associations and companies. The ICCA's Global Product Strategy is disseminated via an 80-hour training course and a risk analysis tool developed by Abiquim known as Aquarela, as well as through ICCA guidance materials.

In the traditional contribution from leading member companies of the host association, the RCLG heard Clariant and Braskem describe how Responsible Care has helped their re-



Community outreach at Clariant

spective companies to achieve excellence in two specific areas.

Paulo Itapura outlined the wide-ranging and successful community outreach program run by Clariant's Suzano site. It features strong education links, from music and sports activities, to careers advice and first aid training.

Success is reflected in many ways, not least that the site has received zero complaints from neighbors over the past 3-4 years. Clariant's management system is one of the first few in Brazil to be 3rd party audited under the new AR program.

Braskem's Lucy Jesus outlined how its RC program is aligned with the UNSDGs and focused on four goals - safety, renewable resources, climate change and post-consumption. The company – which only went international in 2010 – has workforce of around 8,000 of which some 25% are women.

Among other areas, RC has helped Braskem achieve a significant improvement in its safety record, particularly the company's LTI rate, Lucy noted.

RCLA network provides a more structured approach

The Grupo Latinoamericano de Responsible Care (RCLA), set up in 2015, is benefitting from a more structured approach to regional networking. The group met over a two-day period immediately after the RCLG meeting in Brazil.

Representatives attended from the national associations of Argentina (co-chair Hector Benavidez from CIQyP), Brazil (Luiz Shizuo Harayashiki, Abiquim), Chile (Cynthia Rojo Montaner, Asiquim), Colombia (Ana Pardo de Castro representing the joint RC committee of Andi, Aco-plasticos and CCS), Ecuador (Miguel Costales, Aproque) and Uruguay (co-chair Milton Vazquez from Asiqur). Missing were Mexico, Peru and Venezuela which has just appointed a new RC manager.

Each of the associations present provided a general update on key activities and developments, in itself a useful information-sharing exercise and start point for discussions. Other topics included:

- RC verification and auditing – developments and progress, national differences and harmonization options
- Mutual recognition of chemicals transport management programs between Abiquim and CIQyP and possible extension to other RCLA members
- Implementation of GHS in the region: development of online training course by the Industrial Technology

Argentine Institute (INTI), with the support of CIQyP.

→ Harmonization of criteria for implementation of PS / GPS in the region; an online GPS course for RCLA companies based on ACC guidance

→ Process safety indicators and KPIs for greenhouse gases

The translation of mainly English documents and materials developed by ICCA or other national bodies is frequently shared between the various RCLA associations; examples include the ICCA GPS Guidance and the ACC Facility Prioritization Tool.

RCLA co-chair Hector Benavidez noted that the region's RC programs as a whole need better participation of chemical companies with business activities in Latin America.

In Chile, Asiquim has set a target of 60% of companies to be Responsible Care verified by end of 2017. Companies can move beyond self-evaluation to a peer review process which involves a representative of the association and two industry retirees. Cynthia Rojo Montaner notes that RC will become mandatory for member companies in two years' time; currently more than half the membership participates on a voluntary basis.

With a strong focus on products, the RC effort in Colom-

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3M recognition for Uruguay's RC program

In Uruguay, the performance improvement achieved in occupational health and safety by the chemical sector won first place in the 3M Occupational Safety 2016 award scheme. A special exhibition highlighting the award has been held in the lobby of the building where national chemicals association Asiqur has its offices. Open to the public and attracting around 100 people a day, the exhibition walks visitors through a detailed history of the RC program in Uruguay since its launch in 1998 and runs for 6 months to February 2017.

The key areas of safety and health are central to the exhibition, highlighting companies' performance

and measured through third party audits. It also features the objectives of Asiqur as a trade body and its relationship with the relevant authorities and the dissemination of health and safety regulations.

The award is important recognition for Asiqur and its partners for its achievements and efforts to improve in the areas of health, safety and environment and the sound management of chemicals.

The 3M jury was a high-level panel made up of representatives from two government ministries (Public Health, and Labor and Social Security), the State Insurance Bank,

Uruguay's Technical Standards Institute (UNIT), and bodies covering security, accident prevention and hygiene.

As a result of the award, Asiqur's Milton Vázquez was among a group invited to 3M's US headquarters where he delivered a presentation about RC.



Milton Vázquez (second from left) at 3M headquarters

New approach set to improve ICCA's chemicals management activities

Future capacity building efforts by the ICCA's four leadership groups will be modeled on a new systematic approach based on the use of modules covering all fundamental aspects of sound chemicals management.

Modules being developed as a 'first point resource' will provide a unified message for topics, and national associations will be able to modify these materials to suit their needs.

19 modules cover four core topics

A module – usually in workshop format – includes up-to-date basic training materials, including presentations and hand-out materials. In all there are 19 modules covering four core topics:

- Responsible Care
- Global Product Strategy, Product Stewardship and Regulatory Cooperation
- Advocacy & Communications
- Energy & Climate Change

The new Capacity Building Task Force – with experienced co-chairs Barry Dyer of Responsible Care New

Zealand and Kaori Matsue from Mitsui Chemicals – will play a bigger part in roll out and implementation of activities in an approach that aims to provide strengthened support for new and less well-resourced associations.

The Japan Chemical Industry Association is already making use of an RC integrated program (RCIP) which brings together RCLG and CP&H teams for greater effectiveness, in line with the new strategy.

JCIA's Shigeki Hiraoka notes the importance of getting the right balance between 'push' and 'pull'; managing the lack of JCIA manpower by identifying local experts in developing countries; and meeting requests on a limited budget.

The association has developed RCIP materials to support topics such as the Global Product Strategy and process safety for various countries including Indonesia and Vietnam. Organizers establish main needs and concerns in advance so workshops are targeted and effective. Evaluation meetings after each workshop help with preparations for the next event.



Left: JCIA conducting a process safety workshop in Indonesia. Participants were particularly interested in learning from Japan's experience of earthquakes and related expertise

IN BRIEF

□ THE ICCA BOARD and Steering Committee meetings in Florence, Italy drew a record attendance in early October, with around 80 delegates. The event introduced Hariolf Kottmann, CEO of Clariant, who takes over as the new President of Cefic and of ICCA, succeeding Solvay's Jean-Pierre Clamadieu. ICCA will continue CEO peer-to-peer efforts to recruit around 12 large chemical companies that are currently not signed up to RC.

□ THE CHINESE STATE has published the official report on the Tianjin chemicals fire and explosion in August 2015 which claimed 165 lives, with 8 missing and nearly 800 injured. Poor work practices and improper storage of large amounts of hazardous products resulted in explosions equivalent to detonating 450 ton of TNT. Thousands of checks on storage facilities have been carried out all over China as a result of the incident. A copy of the Chinese/English version of the report has been added to the RCLG Library.

□ THE ASIA PACIFIC Responsible Care Organization (APRO) has a new member, Sri Lanka's Lanka Responsible Care Council, taking membership up to 15 countries. A special session on reporting process safety events was included during the APRO meeting in June 2016.

□ ASSOCIATIONS AND companies are encouraged to submit newsworthy items for potential inclusion on the recently updated ICCA website to keep it fresh and active. Materials can be sent in via [Debbie Jackson](#), RCLG Communications; or direct to [Ryan Baldwin](#) at the American Chemistry Council, cc [Nicolas Stockreiter](#) at Cefic.

Praise for peer review process



Clariant's Margaret Soong (left), Chair of the Association of International Chemical Manufacturers' Responsible Care Committee, says the peer review process is an important new area of focus. In 2016, 13 member companies underwent reviews involving 180-plus people.

The approach is proving a constructive process with valuable suggestions offered to the companies reviewed including pointing out opportunities for improvement, and exchanging good practices. Inputs from international experts at several national associations have been invaluable. Margaret noted that AICM had set an 'aggressive target' for peer reviews



three years ago which has to be modified because of limited resources.

Other key developments for AICM include the updated SQAS program for road transport, and ongoing efforts to implement RC specifically in the Shanghai and Changzhou Chemical Industry Parks (CIPs).

Margaret Soong succeeded Wacker Chemicals' Michel Houmard as chair last July.

CPCIF capacity building

Chemical Industry Parks are also an important area of focus for the China Petroleum & Chemical Industry Federation. Xu Housheng, CPCIF Director of Quality, Safety and Environment, highlighted activities at Taixing, Yangzhou and Tianjin Nangang, where a key area of RC training involves development of guidelines for the CIP model.

Delegates at CPCIF's 2016 Responsible Care Workgroup Conference heard about RC from representatives of Changshou Economic and Technological Development Zone and Shanghai CIP, with lively discussions culminating in a unanimous call for rapid development of a robust Responsible Care Assessment System.

Meanwhile, CPCIF is working energetically to strengthen RC communication and interaction at all levels and aims to spread the initiative to others such as product-specific organizations. Future activity will also involve training of more experts and capacity building to help move forward with RC implementation.

2017 Diary Dates



Above: the Responsible Care Leadership Group breaks for a photo during its recent meeting in Praia do Forte, Bahia, Brazil. RCLG's first meeting of 2017 will take place in Berlin, Germany, March 20-22 with one day (March 22) held in conjunction with the CP&H meeting.

Responsible Care Indonesia has proposed Bali for the second meeting from November 1-3, to take place immediately following the Asia Pacific Responsible Care Conference in Singapore.

RCLG is compiling a current events calendar and we need your dates. So let us know about key national or regional association meetings, and any relevant chemicals-related regional or international events that are taking place in your country.

Please send information for inclusion on the RCLG calendar to Katherine Berry at the American Chemistry Council:

Katherine_Berry@americanchemistry.com

Global activities and progress for ICCA's Chemical Policy & Health Leadership Group



Whilst it's widely accepted that SAICM goals will not be achieved by the 2020 target, industry is nevertheless focused on continuing the multi-stakeholder approach beyond that

date, notes BASF's Stefanie Deuser (above).

She was at the Brazil meeting to provide a report on current activities of ICCA's Chemical Policy & Health Leadership Group which works closely with RCLG on a number of areas.

Stefanie encouraged RCLG members to provide strong examples of the chemical industry as a creator and provider of solutions for potential use in an ICCA brochure on the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs).

She reminded participants of Global Product Strategy messaging and its worldwide focus on enhancing product stewardship, improving chemical management through risk assessment and risk management, enhancing transparency about chemical substances and products, and strengthening chemicals management globally.

In a subsequent discussion about GPS Product Safety Summaries, it was acknowledged that the target audience is making little use of the GPS Portal on the ICCA website. This is disappointing in view of the considerable effort made by chemical companies to input the sum-

maries and keep them up to date, and the joint RCLG/CP&H LG meeting in March 2017 will no doubt see further discussion of this issue.

Last May, the CP&H Value Chain Outreach Taskforce held a successful workshop in Frankfurt for players in the electronics sector, identified through a recent survey as one of the industries most effected by transparency requests. CP&H LG plans to capture discussions in the form of guidance materials which could be used by interested stakeholders to identify appropriate tools for their specific communication needs. Similar workshops are being considered for the US and Asia.

These activities reflect the chemical industry's response to downstream customers who are strengthening their chemical policies as result of growing public awareness and NGO campaigns.

The CP&H taskforce covering Global Regulatory Cooperation has been actively involved in workshops in ASEAN and Latin America. While the taskforce has no direct engagement in negotiations on national regulatory systems, it can provide expertise and information and supports national associations with advocacy on regulatory cooperation.

Abiquim's Andrea Barreto Cunha noted cooperation between the taskforce and the Brazilian government, while Do Thanh Bai of the Vietnam Responsible Care Council said it had also provided important support in dealing with chemicals management regulation.

Building on this success, the Gulf Region is running a regulatory cooperation and advocacy workshop in January 2017.

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RCLA network provides a more structured approach

bia has included many workshops on the GPS and product stewardship, as well as re-engaging top management (see issue 4), under the enthusiastic leadership of Ana Elvia Pardo.

RCLG capacity building funding helped Ecuador's Aproque produce an informative RC video. Aired on social media, Miguel Costales notes the 4-minute video received over 10,000 views in 2016 and highlights

achievements such as a 56% decline in industry accidents since 2004. The video and the RC Global Charter have helped recruit two new members.

Argentina's CIQyP introduced a new verification audit last July, according to ISO 17065 (the standard for certification bodies). The scheme is operated by DNV-GL with audits lasting between 1.5-3 days as an average,

depending on the activity type and site complexity, said Hector Benavidez. CIQyP and Abiquim have signed a declaration for mutual recognition of the associations' audit schemes for chemicals transporters. RCLA is slowly moving forward with harmonizing verification of the Responsible Care Fundamental Features. Brazil is currently the only RCLA association with an integrated approach, although there is interest in the integrated RC14000 approach used in the USA.

Japan shares learnings from PS pilot

In 2017, national associations will begin collecting process safety (PS) data from their members with first results available in April 2018. The Japan Chemical Industry Association wasted no time in testing the waters regarding ICCA's new PS Metric. Under the pilot scheme, volunteer companies submitted all PS events to JCIA regardless of thresholds, under the same reporting process required by the authorities. Analysis of the data showed that around 65% of cases would be reportable under the ICCA

approach.

Kazuyuki Akita, General Manager of JCIA's RC Department, says the trial helped to identify a range of useful points including: practical issues in data collection and reporting, common queries from companies, how to make the most of outputs and to best communicate them, and how to maximize member company buy-in. JCIA has developed English-language PS materials for use in its extensive capacity building activities in the ASEAN region which are also being

shared more widely within the RCLG. The Taiwan Responsible Care Association is providing its translation of the existing Process Safety Metric Guidance to AICM and CPCIF in China. Materials are also being added to the RCLG library.

It's expected that a number of national associations will look for support with implementing the new process safety metric as momentum builds over the coming months and beyond. Associations are being encouraged to apply for capacity building funding and expert input for PS workshops and related performance reporting.

25TH ANNIVERSARY IN GERMANY

CELEBRATING THE RC SUCCESS STORY

During 2016 celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of Responsible Care in Germany, VCI Director Science, Technical and Environmental Affairs Gerd Romanowski, described RC as "a true success story for our industry." He said: "Beyond existing legal requirements, the companies and their staff turn the initiative into a reality in their everyday practice – with fewer emissions, better protection at the workplace, and safer production and products. The positive effect of the initiative is recog-



(From left) Journalist Tom Hegermann presented speakers at the 25th anniversary celebrations: Auguste Willems, chairman of VCI's technical and environmental affairs committee; German Member of Parliament Jürgen Trittin; and former Federal Minister of Environment, Michael Vassiliadis who heads up the IG BCE trade union.

nized by both public authorities and non-governmental organizations."

An outstanding example of environmental protection is VCI's 15-year agreement with the port of Rotterdam on reducing the release of harmful substances into the river Rhine which ran to 2006. Over the period, direct releases of heavy metals by chemical companies were significantly reduced not only into the Rhine but nationwide – until heavy metal releases finally reached their analytical detection limit. Major progress was also achieved, for example, for clean air, climate protection, occupational and transport safety.

"But with regard to the great global challenges, the chemical industry is constantly called upon to find new and better solutions," said Romanowski. "In the future, the industry will give even more focus on product stewardship along the value chain, chemicals in consumer articles and the security of plants."

Since 2013 Responsible Care has come under the umbrella of the sustainability initiative Chemie3 of VCI, the Mining, Chemical and Energy Industrial Union IG BCE, and the German Federation of Chemical Employers' Associations BAVC. The RC initiative is specifically mentioned in the 12 sustainability guidelines and "is an important constituent of Chemie3," he said.

The VCI represents over 90% of the chemical industry in Germany which in 2015 achieved sales of around €190 billion and employed 447,000 people.

Responsible Care® Update is published by the ICCA's Responsible Care Leadership Group.

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