

Personal safety on our production sites

3

Strategy

- Implementing a culture of safety and pursuing on objective of zero working accident.
- Aiming at the same level of safety for the Solvay employees or subcontractors, and systematically including them in safety initiatives, while favoring direct subcontracting.
- Carrying out an analysis of each accident, disseminating knowledge obtained from the investigation and undertaking corrective measures in all comparable units.

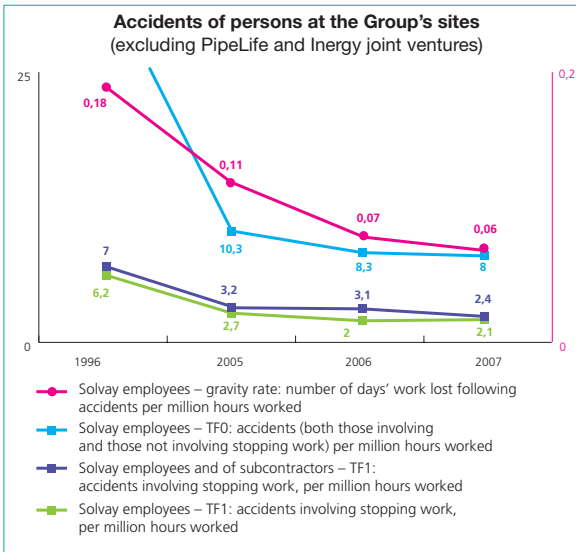
In 2007, the overall accident frequency rate involving stopping work is 2.4 per million hours worked (2.1 for the Group's employees). Performance in regard to workers safety is generally high at the Group's sites, as compared to the sector average.

Measures taken to prevent accidents currently concentrate on risky behavior. From 2003 onwards, action relating to behavioral safety has been taken at a large number of sites. Each year, additional plants adopt this approach, recent examples being Tavaux (France), Martorell (Spain), Santo André (Brazil) and Povia (Portugal). The aim is to achieve continuous reductions in the personal accident frequency rate (TF1) and in the gravity rate, towards zero-accident. Every month, the Executive Committee ascertains the number of personal accidents for all of the sites.

The information on accidents is now held centrally, facilitating analysis and monitoring, and making it easier to introduce corrective measures. This system allows for a more formalized and explicit use of the returns recording experience, recommendations to the plant and business managers, and regular information through bulletins and the Group's Intranet. The recommendations take also the form of presentations aimed at particular employee groups, of plant inspection checklists, and of guides to good practice. The recommendations are to be applied at each site, with the support of the supervisory management of the relevant Strategic Business Units.

Group auditors carry out specific internal audits of health and safety, supplementing the "risk engineering" audits, and they result in recommendations for improvement. The sites having these specific audits in 2007 were Tver (Russia), Juarez (Mexico), Chevigny, Daix, Fontaine and Giraud (France), Künsebeck (Germany) and Torrelavega (Spain).

A significant improvement has been obtained for the safety of subcontracting firms' employees working on our sites, with the accident frequency rate having been reduced from 6.0 per million hours worked in 2005 to 3.4 per million hours in 2007. This followed Group recommendations covering selection, analysis of tasks and of how they are carried out, contracts, assessments and reporting back to the service-providers.



Fatal accidents which occurred in 2004-2007 on our sites - Solvay personnel and subcontracting firms:

2004 : 4 persons (in India, Italy, Spain and United States): falling from height, falling object, traffic accident

2005 : 1 person (in France): accident involving mechanical equipment

2006 : 3 persons (in Bulgaria, Germany and France): falling from height, electrocution

2007 : no fatality



When selecting subcontractors, increasing attention is given to their professionalism and their performance in the area of health and safety. All new contracts entered into by the International Purchasing Network include requirements in this area. Compliance with Solvay rules and instructions is demanded, and is checked on. Already, 80% of the contracts require such compliance and include a clause relating to the subcontractor's suitability for carrying out the tasks. Also, 45% of our production sites have a program aimed at ensuring that the subcontracting firms have a policy on health, safety and the environment that is comparable to Solvay's.

The Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series OHSAS 18001 management system has now been established at 19 of the production sites. Various other management systems are being used in the area of safety: Responsible Care, International Safety Rating System, etc.

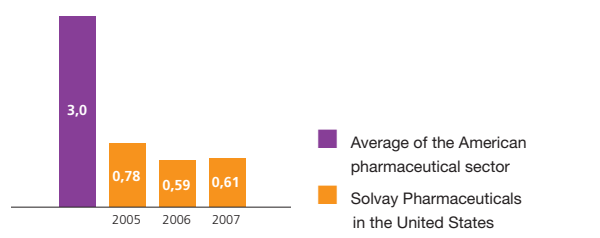
There is also a new information system allowing centralized monitoring and sharing of accident follow-up for the whole Group, with descriptions of the accidents and of corrective measures taken, with a cross-fertilization of actions between sites

Targets for 2012

- Introducing structured programs to protect the employees against risks at all sites, ensuring the programs extend to subcontractors.
- In pursuit of our objective to achieve a zero rate for accidents, attaining a frequency rate for personal accidents involving stopping work (TF1) of 1.2, and including also the frequency rate for personal accidents not involving stopping work (TF0) in the Management reviews.
- Carrying out structured behavioral safety programs at 50% of the sites.
- Making the safety programs for subcontractors general, checking that the Group's recommendations on the safety of subcontractors are applied, and making the training and safety clauses general in their contracts, with verification of compliance.
- Obtaining OHSAS 18001 certification for safety-management systems at 30 of our production sites.



At Solvay Pharmaceuticals in the United States, the rate of occupational injury incident and illness required by OSHA is very below the average of the American pharmaceutical sector (3.0).



Safety training programs for subcontracting firms
number of sites that have carried out training programs during the past two years

Chemicals Sector	Plastics Sector	Pharma Sector	No training program
41	75	14	24

