

“If we consider it necessary in the West to adhere to stringent standards in order to protect our environment, I can see no justification for applying lower standards in other countries.”

**Robert Donker**  
DSM Corporate SHE Manager  
With DSM since August 1981



#### • Reduction of eco-footprint

In our efforts to reduce our eco-footprint we work closely with our suppliers. We achieve this reduction by various means, including the use of biobased chemicals and renewable energy, the use of lighter packaging and the use of more energy-efficient transport options.

During 2008 we defined and implemented the first eco-footprint improvements jointly with our suppliers:

- Renewable electricity contracts have been initiated on a trial basis for some of our European sites – Tienen and Genk, Belgium and Meppen, Germany.
- A number of environmental friendly biobased raw materials have been identified as replacements for more hazardous ones which are oil based.
- New packaging solutions involving lower weight/less waste have been identified. For example, DSM Resins, DSM Food Specialties, DSM Nutritional Products and DSM Pharmaceutical Products now make use of 1000-liter Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBC), which replace the 250-liter steel drums formerly used. The main advantages are:
  - avoidance of waste via re-use of the IBCs, which saves the need for 2000 tons of new steel per year;
  - higher transport efficiency;
  - re-use of inner polyethylene IBC lining to produce plastic pallets, which saves almost 1000 tons of polyethylene per year;
  - significantly improved SHE aspects for the operators involved, on account of the replacement of manual handling by automated handling.

The eco-footprint of our lease car fleet in the Netherlands has been improved by 5% on account of increasing numbers of employees opting for company cars with lower fuel consumption and/or CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions. The number of ABC-label lease cars rose from 51% in Q1 2008 to 59% in Q4 2008.

#### Stakeholder views shape policy development

**Society's requirements are changing and giving rise to new needs. Working together with our stakeholders through partnerships and projects, we strive to develop long-term, mutually beneficial relationships. These help us to better understand the needs of the world around us, identify business opportunities and reduce our risk exposure.**

We are involved with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the China Business Council for Sustainable Development, the United Nations World Food Programme, the World Economic Forum, BioVision, The United Nations Global Compact and Young Leaders for Nature, an initiative of IUCN (the International Union for the Conservation of Nature), as well as a number of industry associations such as ICCA (the International Council of Chemical Associations), ACC (the American Chemistry Council), CEFIC (the European Chemical Industry Council), VNCI (the Dutch Association for the Chemical Industry), EuropaBio and the American Biotechnology Industry Organization.

We seek to engage with relevant key stakeholders: shareholders, suppliers, customers, local communities, industry peers, NGOs (non-governmental organizations), special interest groups and, of course, our own employees. Engaging with our stakeholders enables us to identify key societal and technological trends, to develop and test our responses to these, to anticipate and manage any potential conflicts of interest, and, above all, to cultivate trust in our company and its people.

During 2008 we continued to develop our Stakeholder Engagement Road Map. This identifies the strengths and weaknesses in our current network of stakeholder