

Speech by Mr Wim Roels
SCIC Responsible Care® Awards 2019 Presentation

5 March 2021 (Friday) 6:30PM to 8:30PM
Shangri-La Hotel Singapore

Mr Alvin Tan, Minister of State for Trade and Industry,

Fellow SCIC Board of Directors, Industry Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,
good evening.

I'm glad to see everyone today in person for the Responsible Care Awards 2019 presentation ceremony.

With the unprecedented challenges presented by the pandemic, COVID-19 has impacted our lives both personally and professionally. Over the past months, SCIC has engaged the different Government agencies towards addressing various issues and concerns from members on the impact to business operations in the chemical industry. We would like to applaud the Singapore Government's efforts in providing financial aid to the people of Singapore and businesses, and protect the health and safety of our country. As we continue our efforts in addressing our members' needs, SCIC and the chemical companies in Singapore remain committed to working closely with the Government to overcome the challenges ahead.

While we embark on our recovery journey, we remain focused on advocating the industry's drive and commitment towards sustainability. There have been several collective efforts of the chemical industry through SCIC and to mention a few of these:

- √ Clear Shores, Clean Water Campaign – we are happy to have the overwhelming support from members and all other stakeholders in the beach clean-up activities that were organised
- √ SCIC's adoption of the global voluntary product stewardship programme on "Operation Clean Sweep" as the programme administrator for Singapore. We strive to influence more companies across the plastic value chain to come on board in demonstrating our commitment to zero pellet loss.

With the Singapore Government's sustainability blueprint set out in the Zero Waste Masterplan, the Chemical Industry through SCIC initiated efforts in actively engaging partners of the plastic value chain as well as the key regulatory and statutory agencies and trade associations to explore possible

avenues in the transition of Singapore's waste management ecosystem towards the circular economy model since 2019.

Building on the momentum, SCIC is organising the inaugural Sustainability Conference on 8 to 9 April 2021. Building on the momentum, SCIC is organising the inaugural Sustainability Conference on 8 to 9 April 2021 on the theme "Waste Management and the Circular Economy. As we drive towards plastic circularity, the conference presents as a key driver and collaborative platform in synergising joint efforts from stakeholders across the value chain. I strongly encourage members to be part of this initiative and I hope to see everyone at the conference in April.

With the appointment of the Standards Development Organisation (SDO)@SCIC to manage the additional portfolio on the Environment and Resources Standards Committee (ERSC) since April 2020, this further complements our efforts as an industry towards addressing issues on sustainability.

ERSC will focus on spearheading the development and adoption of standards to address sustainable development in the key areas of:

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Circular economy
- Water management
- Sustainable energy
- Sustainable finance
- Clean technologies

Formed in 2015 as a 6-years implementation project by EDB Singapore, SCIC, and Association of Process Industry (ASPRI), the Productivity Council (PC) looks into the management practices and productivity improvements through the adoption of advanced technologies. The PC has now progressed to the certification phase which will assist in the pre-assessment of the Process, Construction and Maintenance (PCM) companies' operational efficiency.

We are also proud to highlight the launch of the Productivity Certification Framework in Nov 2019, which will bolster the selection of tools for evaluating PCM companies. This world's first framework will serve as the industry's yardstick for productivity and provide a measured approach to track and benchmark productivity efforts and improvements.

Health, Safety, Environment & Security (HSES) performance remains a key priority of the chemical industry and we advocate for stronger leadership and ownership on this front in times as such. As the global voluntary initiative of the chemical industry in addressing issues and promoting continuous improvement in the areas of HSES, we are delighted to present a total of 81 Responsible Care awards to our deserving member companies.

I am very pleased that another company has attained the Leadership Award status. Congratulations to The Polyolefin Company Singapore Pte Ltd who will be joining the three other companies; Petrochemical Corporation of Singapore, ExxonMobil Chemical Asia Pacific and Shell companies to receive the SCIC Responsible Care Leadership Award this evening.

We look upon these exemplary achievers as we influence instilling the same strong safety mindset, culture and practices with fellow industry peers.

As we embrace and adapt to the rapidly changing business landscape, it is pertinent that the industry is well-positioned to maintain our competitive edge to continue to be a bulwark of the Singapore economy. By ensuring that proper safeguards are put into place, the HSES performance of the chemical industry plays a vital role in ensuring the continuity of the business enterprise.

It may not be easy, but as we stay united as an industry we will get there together, what look as challenges today are the opportunities of tomorrow.

I wish all of you an enjoyable evening. Thank you.