



Take Back Chemicals: A new business model for the chemical related industry

Royal HaskoningDHV has co-developed a new business model for closing material cycles for the chemical related industries in Western Europe called Take Back Chemicals. This businessmodel is inspired by the concept Chemical Leasing (ChL), originally developed by UNIDO.

The challenge

Sustainable industrial production is increasingly important in today's world. Introducing innovative business models to encourage waste-free production and improve production and consumption patterns is an effective way to increase sustainability in goods and services.

Our solution

In the Take Back Chemicals service based business model a chemicals supplier is paid for the function of a substance rather than the quantity. This aligns the economic interests of supplier and user, reducing the amount of substance used while optimising the effect. This cooperation and related price setting differentiates Take Back Chemicals from simple forward integration or outsourcing and encourages development and operation of new production processes.

Preconditions

Take Back Chemicals is designed for fully controlled substances. The main field of use is on non-core user activity, such as cleaning, coating, pretreatment of materials or water and chemical purification. Cooperation and knowledge sharing between the stakeholders within the supply chain, including developers of operational equipment, waste and recycling companies and consultants, are crucial for the success of implementation.

The outcome

Take Back Chemicals delivers a win-win-win situation for the supplier, user and environment. The supplier gains in depth knowledge of customer needs and can valorise its knowledge and expertise as a service. The user gains a more efficient production process with eventually a higher quality standard and the advantage of relief from regulatory tasks such as the REACH Regulations, waste handling legislation and permitting. The increased efficiency in chemical use and reduction of waste production benefit the environment.

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Royal HaskoningDHV and Take Back Chemicals

Royal HaskoningDHV is a leading independent, international project management and engineering consultancy service provider. Specialising in planning and transport, infrastructure, water, maritime, aviation, industry, energy, mining and buildings, each year we contribute to the delivery of some 30,000 projects around the world on behalf of our public and private sector clients. Providing services for the complete life cycle of products in the chemical industry, we can guide you through the innovative and inspiring transition towards a Take Back Chemicals business model. We are currently involved in a Government funded project to implement Take Back Chemicals within the industrial ecosystem in the Netherlands and Belgium, in an open collaboration with partners from different sectors, such as AgentschapNL, VNCI, MIP, Essenscia, A-Worx, Solvay, Tessenderlo Chemie and Janssen Pharmaceutica.

To discover how this project may benefit your organisation, or to share your thoughts about using Take Back Chemicals in your business, please contact one of our experts.

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