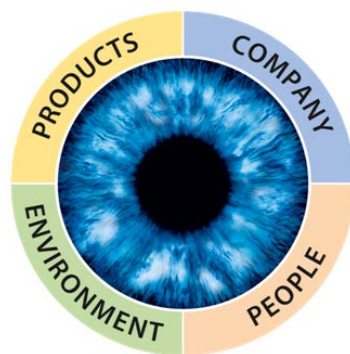


## Sustainability at Cognis: part of the corporate philosophy and essential pillar of the business model

Ever since Cognis' founding, sustainability has been a central pillar of the company's corporate strategy. All of Cognis' activities are based on the principles of sustainable development: Achieving a sensible balance between economic, ecological and social needs, without compromising the development opportunities of future generations.

**Cognis' understanding of sustainability covers four areas:**



- **Products:** With its innovation capabilities, Cognis is both harnessing and promoting the cross-industry trend toward biological and biotechnological production methods. The company offers innovative, intelligent products and solutions that enable its customers to develop new and high-growth markets with viable prospects of sustainable success.
- **Company:** All of Cognis' sites apply strict quality, environmental, health and safety standards. Cognis takes the interests of its neighbors as seriously as those of its customers and both groupings can rely on Cognis constantly improving its standards to the benefit of all.
- **Environment:** By specifically focusing on renewable raw materials, Cognis is following the logic of nature. At the same time, Cognis offers products and services that not only provide specific benefits but also enable manufacturing industries and consumers to act in a similarly economically and ecologically viable manner.



- **People:** Cognis provides its employees an attractive working environment and high standards of safety worldwide. Additionally, Cognis is committed to its wider social environment and establishes a stable social network, adapted to the various cultural mores and individual conditions that prevail locally.

### **Expertise in nature-based products and solutions**

Cognis is meeting the increasing demand expressed by consumers, retail chains, governmental agencies and public authorities for improved environmental protection and sustainable development in all its strategic business units with environmentally compatible and high-performance products based on natural raw materials (“Formula Nature”) and with its innovative strength. In adopting this approach, the specialty chemicals company is able to offer its customers – the manufacturers – genuine competitive advantages.

Basis and examples of Cognis’ expertise in natural-based solutions:

- Cognis has **more than 160 years of experience in specialty chemistry based on natural, renewable raw materials** (Emery, Dehydag, Henkel, Cognis).
- **About 50 percent of the raw materials** Cognis uses are **renewable** (natural oils and fats, plant extracts).
- Cognis is one of the first companies to adopt the widely accepted **24 Principles of Green Chemistry and Green Engineering** as its compass for the development and implementation of new concepts, products and processes.
- Action plan **“25 by 2012”**: By 2012, Cognis intends to achieve a **reduction or improvement of 25% in key environmental performance indicators** throughout the Cognis group. The measures implemented and envisaged relate to **specific energy consumption, emissions and wastewater volumes**. And Cognis has set its sights high in terms of raw material procurement, safety, health and personnel.
- Cognis was the first company in the specialty chemicals industry to obtain worldwide matrix registration to **ISO 14001** (Environment) and **ISO 9001** (Quality) in 2001.
- Cognis began to develop **GMP** (Good Manufacturing Practices) for its products in the fields of cosmetics, dietary supplements and pharmaceuticals in 2003.



- Cognis is one of the few specialty chemicals suppliers to be a member of the RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil). It has played an active role in the organization's efforts to promote the sustainable cultivation of oil palms since 2004.

#### **Examples of Cognis' expertise in natural-source solutions:**

- **Green Chemical Solutions** is a classification system developed by Cognis Care Chemicals which shows what percentage of the ingredients in its products are natural and renewable, providing a special orientation system for the cosmetic, personal and home care product sectors. In 2008, Cognis extended the concept with a focus on formulations demonstrating the relationship between the naturalness of the end product and its performance.
- Cognis is one of the world's largest producers of **mild, environmentally sound APG surfactants** based on renewable raw materials such as vegetable oils and starch. They are suitable for a huge variety of applications in such different areas as personal care products, detergents, and agrochemicals.
- Cognis is a specialist in the manufacture of health-enhancing high-quality **omega-3 fish oils** and natural, genetically unmodified (non-GM), cholesterol-reducing **plant sterols and sterol esters**.
- The portfolio also includes **high-purity oleochemical products** that comply with the GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) standards for cosmetics and food products, and with the IPEC – PQG GMP standard for pharmaceuticals (IPEC = International Pharmaceutical Excipients Council; PQG = Pharmaceutical Quality Group).
- Cognis is one of the world's largest producers of **natural vitamin E**.
- With its ProEco HE 801 series, Cognis launched the **first synthetic lubricant product line** bearing the **EU-Ecolabel**.

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