Solvay – Cincinnati, Ohio

In 2022, Solvay Cincinnati implemented a Planning Wheel as an effort to minimize the amount of product changes throughout the year. Each product change utilizes 113,000 gallons of water and produces 6 Tons of material into landfill. Through the implementation of a planning wheel, they were able to reduce this by 77%. This equates to 1.3 millions gallons saved and 73 fewer tons of material in landfill. Solvay Cincinnati is committed and on track to further reduce these wastes through other initiatives in the facility.

Solvay – Cincinnati, Ohio

Solvay Cincinnati uses a technique called ICP-MS (Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry) in the analytical laboratory for measuring elements at trace levels. This technique is used daily to release finished products to customers. To prepare for this measurement tool, the finished product must be in liquid form. Since Solvay's product is an alumina powder, they have to digest this with a variety of acids. This poses a safety concern to the lab analyst who uses these chemicals daily. With the introduction of a microwave digestion unit, the Solvay Cincinnati team was able to eliminate the use of most acids to perform this analytical measurement. This change improved safety and storage of hazardous chemicals.

Solvay – Cincinnati, Ohio

The Solvay Cincinnati site achieved another year without an OSHA recordable injury for calendar year 2022. This completes the third year with no recordables. The Cincinnati team with the facilitation of the HSE Manager has consistently reviewed and updated the Site Safety Program to achieve this significant milestone. In 2022 the Site Safety Committee was reformatted and their focus on Safety & Environmental Engagement and identifying Near Misses with corrective actions led them to this continuing success. They ensure the entire team focuses on identifying hazards, reporting the situation, and taking action with a sense of urgency and use tools such as Behavior Based Safety reporting, Safe moments before meetings, Safety tips in their newsletter, and sharing Safety lessons learned across the plant and the company.

Solvay – Cincinnati, Ohio

70 tons of Alumina, a powder utilized in coating catalytic converters for automotive emissions, was found to be out of specification for some customers. The material was high in moisture content (50 tons) and rare earth elements (20 tons). To recover this material and prevent landfill, Solvay Cincinnati recommissioned equipment used to recover material from super sacks into bulk storage silo. About 30 tons of material were recovered into a silo and re-processed within specification products to release to customers. About 20 tons of material were recovered, mixed and milled to be sold as a different product. The remaining material was recovered and dried to reduce the moisture content and sold to customers. The recommissioning of this equipment and Solvay's efforts for the environment prevented 70 tons from being landfilled and that much more from having to be re-produced from raw material.