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- Evonik reduced its specific energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by three percent in 2010 alone compared to 2009
- Klaus Engel, Chairman of the Executive Board: "We want to be successful as a supplier of competitive products and technologies that also make a contribution to sustainability."
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) for the first time assigns a grade of A+ to the Evonik Corporate Responsibility Report 2010 to certify the highest level of transparency.

Evonik Industries, one of the leading global specialty chemicals corporations, has significantly improved its CO₂ efficiency. The Group has been able to reduce its specific energy-related greenhouse gas emissions in chemical production by sixteen percent; compared to the previous year, the improvement in 2010 was a full three percent. This is highlighted in the company's 2010 Corporate Responsibility Report, which was recently presented in Brussels. This success means that Evonik has moved another step closer to its self-imposed goal of reducing the specific energy-related greenhouse gases of its chemical activities to twenty percent below the level of 2004 by 2014.

60 percent of CO₂ emissions in 2010 were energy-related and 40 percent related to chemical processes. Absolute emissions of greenhouse gases increased to 9.14 million metric tons CO₂ equivalents in 2010, a rise of 11 percent over the previous year (2009: 8.23). At the same time, specific emissions, i.e. emissions relative to output, declined by 3 percent. Accordingly, Evonik has successfully detached its production growth from rising emissions. "Our significantly increased energy efficiency is making an important contribution to climate protection" says Klaus Engel, the Chairman of the Evonik Executive Board.

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With the global economy regaining momentum, the Group returned to operating its chemical production facilities at full capacity in 2010, in many cases with optimized efficiency. A number of efficiency enhancement measures contributed to the reduction of specific greenhouse gas emissions. These included the start-up of a new cogeneration power plant in Antwerp (Belgium) and a more efficient installation for thermal incineration of exhaust gases from the production of the feed additive methionine. In addition, Evonik initiated selective energy-saving programs at its site in Rheinfelden (Germany). During the 2010 financial year, Evonik invested a total of 36 million Euro in environmental protection for its chemical business activities.

“We want to be successful as a supplier of competitive products and technologies that also make a contribution to sustainability. At the same time, we want to be a responsible, reliable and fair partner for our customers, employees and society and meet the demands made by our shareholders,” noted CEO Klaus Engel.

Evonik invested some €338 million in research and development in 2010. The Group pursued about 500 different projects, of which approximately 100 focused on resource efficiency.

The Corporate Responsibility (CR) efforts of Evonik provide answers for challenges of the future, such as resource efficiency. Says Christine Anders, Head of CR at Evonik: “Corporate Responsibility is an integral part of our business and we plan to keep fine-tuning our CR strategy in 2011.” With its three dimensions of Business, Employees, and Processes, the CR strategy is a fixed component of the corporate strategy, providing support and new impulses. In 2010, the Group identified important sustainability topics as part of so-called materiality analyses and intensified its dialog with stakeholders.

The Evonik Corporate Responsibility Report 2010 for the first time met the requirements for the highest application level A+ of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). GRI is the internationally recognized standard for comprehensive sustainability reporting and confirmed the A+ reporting level for Evonik. Large parts of the report underwent a business audit by an auditing firm.

The Corporate Responsibility Report 2010 can now be accessed online at www.evonik.com/responsibility.

Corporate information

Evonik is the creative industrial group from Germany. We are a global leader in our core business of specialty chemicals. In addition, it has energy and residential real estate operations. Our performance is shaped by creativity, specialization, reliability and continuous self-renewal.

Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In fiscal 2010 more than 34,000 employees generated sales of around €13.3 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of about €2.4 billion.

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