

Sustainable and dynamic waste management at SABIC



Waste management entrusted to a specialist is more cost-efficient

Ton van Dooremaal - André Hage

Indaver has been responsible for the Total Waste Management of Bergen op Zoom headquartered SABIC ever since the middle of 2007. SABIC produces raw materials for the plastics industry in a total of 8 production units. Indaver manages all the waste, from site collection and waste-yard management to transport and treatment, and employs two operators to that effect. Indaver's dynamic and sustainable approach is highly valued, according to SABIC Environmental Health & Safety Specialist, André Hage.

Waste management entrusted to a specialist

For some years now, SABIC has been outsourcing tasks that are not part of its core business. This in order to be able to work more cost efficiently and to focus on its own production activities. Waste management, too, is not a core activity and has been outsourced for years. Since waste management in an industrial environment is indeed a complex matter with a relatively large budget impact to top it all, it must be entrusted to an expert in the field.

With its Total Waste Management concept, Indaver demonstrates that it can deliver a strong tailored service offering to the industry. Already from the onset of the cooperation Indaver tipped the scales with an honest and transparent price, and several optimization proposals which presented increased efficiency and a lower overall cost.

Indaver's improvement projects result in a cost, equipment and workload reduction



Optimization of on-site operations and logistics

In order to organize on-site waste management in the tightest and leanest possible way, fewer bulk containers among others were put in place with clear signage and sorting rules and the internal collection was set up more efficiently.

The daily operational management is the responsibility of Ton van Dooremaal, Indaver's coordinating operator, assisted by a second Indaver operator, Alain van Bouwel and Indaver driver Amedee Nelissen. As a team they are in charge of the central waste-yard, planning and daily waste removal, and are headed by Indaver TWM coordinator Walter Tubeckx.

The operators advise the plant production managers on the delivery conditions of (packaged) waste and to ensure a correct collection on the central waste-yard. In addition, they also legalize all notices, manipulations, removal trips with the corresponding documents and the complete administrative procedure. They follow a tight schedule without sacrificing to safety, quality and continuity; aspects which are absolutely key within SABIC. Indaver's improvement projects resulted in a cost, equipment and workload reduction.

improvements on-site. This strong interaction and involvement constitutes one of the determining factors for those good results.

Involvement and thoroughness are key

For both SABIC and Indaver, legality and safety come first. Sufficient attention is therefore also given to the selection of the Best Available Technology. In joint waste projects, safety aspects are communicated clearly, which leads to a good result. Together with Indaver, SABIC has chosen to introduce a tighter charge monitoring system by putting in place a cost centre. This requires a careful administration, which then forms the basis for smooth invoicing and reporting. As Indaver maintains its positive momentum, SABIC is looking to strengthen even more, and further develop the partnership in the long term. ■

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Combining expertise and sustainability

When screening the waste products, Indaver takes as its starting point the Best Available Technology for each waste flow. In SABIC's case, this resulted in dumping solutions accounting for less than 1 %, which constitutes a 7 % reduction over the previous years. The choice of geographically well located outlets and direct removal without transfer also reflected Indaver's sustainable approach. For SABIC's considerable volume of plastics waste flows Indaver acts as an expertise centre which works towards maximum recycling and useful applications.

Furthermore, the green waste flows are studied and, at treatment level, the possibilities of reducing or preventing waste flows are examined. Indaver's knowledge of the complexity of various flows and its efforts towards continuous improvement in order to work in a more sustainable and cost-efficient manner manifest themselves in a very dynamic way. The same applies to the close cooperation with Indaver Project Manager Kristof Saey who leads the project, regularly consults with SABIC and formulates