

# Resources and Best Practices for Safer Chemical Management

This resource guide provides tools, reports, and select examples of best practices from companies aligned with recommendations and milestones set in the IEHN's Safer Chemical Management Recommendations for Consumer-Facing Brands. Further details are available on request, including fees and costs of various tools and certifications referenced.

# Summary

## 1. Conduct a full chemical hazard inventory

### Chemical hazard inventory analysis tool

- [ChemFORWARD's Ingredient Intelligence Report](#)

### Chemical hazard assessment tools

- Clean Production Action's [GreenScreen® for Safer Chemicals](#) ("GreenScreen")
- ChemFORWARD's [hazard assessment tool](#)

### Chemical Footprint tool

- Clean Production Action's [Chemical Footprint Project](#) (CFP) provides guidance to assess the total mass of chemicals of concern used in products, supply chains, packaging, and holistic value chains.

### Companies that use hazard profile ratings and/or disclose revenue dependency

- [Sephora](#) "supported the development of 26 chemical hazard assessments that provide the information needed to understand if an ingredient may be a safer alternative."
- [Apple's Full Material Disclosure \(FMD\) program](#) uses hazard-based assessment methodologies like GreenScreen to rate chemicals.
- [HP](#) uses GreenScreen to assess hazards and identify safer alternatives with suppliers. It also discloses its [chemical footprint](#) publicly through the CFP Survey.
- Ecolab, in its 2023 Ecolab Growth Impact Report [disclosed](#) that 0.35% of Ecolab's annual revenue was from products containing European Union Substance of Very High Concern authorization listed substances.

## 2. Adopt a comprehensive chemical management plan and validate its efficacy

### Hazard-based plans and/or policies

- [Google's approach](#) is to make proactive safer chemistry a standard operating procedure through its investment in chemical hazard assessments and preference for chemicals and materials that meet ChemFORWARD's low hazard ratings.
- [Target's chemical policy](#) addresses its hazard-based approach to restricting chemicals and defining safer alternatives.
- [Sephora](#) has a chemicals management policy that applies to all intentionally added ingredients used in formulated products sold, including third-party brands and packaging.
- Apple has a comprehensive plan including its [Full Material Disclosure \(FMD\) program and Regulated Substances Specifications](#) to assess risk and improve on chemical safety performance.
- HP's [materials and chemicals management policy](#) determines the hazard characteristics of chemical constituents, establishes timelines and strategies for phasing out substances of concern, and promotes collaboration with supply chain partners.
- [Costco's chemical management policy](#) includes a hazard-based smart screening program, Restricted Substances List (RSL) for specific product categories, and identification of certifications for safer alternatives.

### Time-bound goals to phase out chemicals of concern

- [Clorox's Product Stewardship program](#) has set a goal to improve its CFP Survey score by 50% by 2030, and 35% by 2025.
- [Walmart's chemical footprint reduction target approach](#) includes clear metrics and definitions.
- [MillerKnoll's chemical footprint reduction plan](#) includes a 2025 goal for all of its North American products from the collective brands to be free of poly-fluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS").
- [Reckitt](#) set a 65% chemical footprint reduction goal by 2030.

- [Target](#) has a goal to remove intentionally added PFAS from private-label products including but not limited to textiles, formulated products, cosmetics, beauty, and cookware items by 2025.
- [Sephora](#) has a goal to ensure that high-priority chemicals are reduced or eliminated in products and packaging by 2030 or earlier, unless otherwise required by applicable laws.
- [Apple](#) has committed to phase out PFAS entirely, and has replaced the use of PVCs, phthalates, and flame retardants (both brominated and chlorinated) from its products in almost all markets (other than where alternatives have not yet been approved by the government).

#### Comprehensive Restricted Substances Lists (RSLs) and Manufacturing Restricted Substances List (MRSLs)

- [Whole Food's "No List"](#) has restricted more than 550 unacceptable ingredients in standards set for food and beverages, supplements, personal care, and household cleaning products.
- Apple's [Regulated Substances Specification](#) "describes Apple's global requirements and restrictions on the use of certain chemical substances or materials in Apple products, accessories, manufacturing processes, and packaging used for shipping products to Apple's end-customers."
- Sephora discloses a ["High Priority Chemicals"](#) list and also has an internal RSL for its private label products. [Clean at Sephora](#) highlights brands that commit to formulating products without certain ingredients.
- BD uses a third-party platform and maintains a [materials of concern list](#).
- [Target's chemical policy](#) creates public access to product-specific RSLs:
  - For formulated products that are part of the Target Clean program, all products had to be free of its "Priority Chemical List" by 2023.
  - For flame retardants in textiles, Target uses the GreenScreen List Translator™ to create its RSL.

- For its branded textile supply chain (excluding trims), Target uses OEKO-TEX STANDARD 100 to verify its RSL and aligns its MRSL with the ZDHC Roadmap to Zero Programme.
- Walmart's [Priority Chemicals list](#) identifies ingredients targeted for reduction, restriction, or elimination from private and third-party products sold in its stores.
- [Ulta's Made Without list](#) is focused on increasing consumer transparency on chemicals not used in its products.
- Church & Dwight has an [R&D Chemicals of Concern Committee](#) that draws on expert sources and retailer RSLs to create its own Chemicals of Concern list.

#### Commitments to using safer alternatives

- [Sephora](#) works with third-party product standards and experts like ChemFORWARD to provide clear guidance and definition on safer alternatives.
- [HP follows a "precautionary approach"](#) and uses ["A Framework to Guide Selection of Chemical Alternatives"](#) by the National Academy of Sciences and incorporating GreenScreen methodology to identify safer alternatives.
- [Disney specifies safer alternative frameworks and certifications](#) to guide the replacement of chemicals targeted for reduction in its chemical management program.
- Church & Dwight's ["Safe and Sustainable Ingredient Selection"](#) has a commitment to "strive to select safer chemicals that perform the same function." Church & Dwight also features [EPA Safer Choice products](#) as part of its efforts to offer safer, low cost products to customers.
- Lowe's [Sustainable for our Future Program](#) features products certified by the Environmental Protection Agency's Safer Choice program.
- Amazon has a number of certification programs that allow customers to purchase safer products, including [EWG verified for personal care products](#), [EPA Safer Choice for cleaning products](#), [EPA Design for the Environment certified products](#) and [Cradle to Cradle certified products](#).

#### Chemical safety programs validating the use of safer, low-hazard chemicals

- [GreenScreen Certified® gold or platinum](#) (all products)
- [ChemFORWARD SAFER™ trade name assessments](#) (all products)
- [Environmental Protection Agency's Safer Choice certification](#) (cleaning products)
- [TCO Certified](#) (electronics)
- [Cradle to Cradle Gold level products](#) (all products)
- [EWG's Skin Deep®](#) (personal care products)

#### Preferred lists of safer chemicals

- The [Environmental Protection Agency's "Safer Chemical Ingredient List" \(SCIL\)](#)
- [CleanGredients](#)

#### Chemical safety certifications restricting specific chemicals of concern

- [OEKO-TEX](#) (textiles)
- [EPEAT Bronze](#) (electronics)
- [GreenScreen Certified Bronze®](#) (all products)

#### Validation

- Program validation: [Chemical Footprint Project Survey](#)
- Ingredient validation: [ChemFORWARD's Ingredient Intelligence Reports](#)

#### Annual reporting

- [Sephora's 2023 Global Impact and Progress Report](#)
- [Apple's 2024 Environmental Progress Report](#)
- [Target's 2024 Sustainability and Governance Report](#)

### 3. Incentivize safer chemistry solutions when legally feasible

#### R&D investments

- Apple and Google provided seed capital for the [Safer Chemistry Impact Fund](#) to implement hazard assessments and drive safer chemistry solutions.
- Target discloses “[Grant Recipients for Green Chemistry & Safer Alternatives](#)” to drive safer alternatives.

#### Industry collaborations

- [ChemFORWARD's shared data platform: Chemical Hazard Data Trust](#)
- [ChemWorks program: Safer Chemistry for Workers and the World](#)
- [Clean Electronics Production Network's Toward Zero Pledge](#) (safer solvents for electronics)
- [Change Chemistry's Retail Leadership Council](#)

#### Incentivizing supply chain partners to use and develop safer alternatives

- ChemFORWARD's [Know Better Do Better Collaborative](#): Ulta Beauty, Sephora and other beauty and personal care brands set specifications on “verified” safer chemistries for suppliers.

#### Revenue dependency on safer chemistries

- [Reckitt's](#) goal for 50% of its net revenue to come from more sustainable products by 2030 includes supply chain specifications for hazard benchmarks through the GreenScreen for Safer Chemicals.

#### Other validating safer chemistry programs for revenue dependency metrics

- Any of the programs listed previously in Section 2 can be used to validate metrics for safer chemistry use, including:
  - [GreenScreen Certified® gold or platinum](#)
  - [ChemFORWARD SAFER™ trade name assessments](#)
  - [Environmental Protection Agency's Safer Choice certification](#)



- [TCO Certified](#)
- [Cradle to Cradle Gold level products](#)
- [EWG's Skin Deep®](#)
- [Environmental Protection Agency's "Safer Chemical Ingredient List" \(SCIL\)](#)
- [CleanGredients](#)

## Additional resources

Reports focused on impact metrics and best practice

- [7th Chemical Footprint Project Report: Frontrunners take the lead in reducing chemical footprints & growing safer solutions](#)
- [Accelerating the Transition to Safer Chemistry: Establishing a Collective Vision and Impact Metrics](#)
- [Beauty & Personal Care Ingredient Intelligence Report: A Roadmap to Accelerate Safer Chemistry for All](#)
- [A Profitable Detox: Why safer chemistry makes financial sense](#)

Trusted industry associations for expertise on sustainable chemistry

- [Change Chemistry](#)

Trusted NGO Scorecards that evaluate retail and consumer goods companies

- [Mind the Store Retailer Report Card](#)
- [ChemScore](#)



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for safer chemical management:

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