

2011 EH&S awards

Every year, Koch Industries' senior management evaluates the best environmental, health and safety performances submitted by all Koch companies for review.

The best of the best receive EH&S awards presented by Charles Koch, KII's

Hurricane Ike in 2008, the adipic acid recovery team began planning how to safely repair and restart its badly damaged intermediates plant in Orange, Texas.

As a result of their careful planning and execution, the plant was successfully brought back online without any reportable releases or injuries to employees or contractors.

Georgia-Pacific's wood and fiber procurement team won for its work in developing a policy and statement promoting forest protection and sustainable practices.

GP's Palatka, Fla., site received an award for successfully addressing community concerns and advancing efforts to achieve EH&S excellence.

This marks the second year in a row that GP has won two EH&S awards.

"All of the nominated teams did great work," Robertson said, "and are worthy of recognition.

"But these three were clearly outstanding. They did an exceptional job of exemplifying our vision for EH&S excellence."

chairman and CEO, and Dave Robertson, KII's president and COO, at an awards banquet in Wichita.

This year, three awards were granted – two to Georgia-Pacific and one to INVISTA.

INVISTA's winning submission was literally years in the making.

Following the devastation caused by



Members of GP's wood and fiber procurement team received an EH&S award June 21 in Wichita. Shown (l-r) are: Dave Robertson (KII), Keith Reitter (GP), Bobby Maddrey (GP), Charles Koch (KII), Deborah Baker (GP), Jim Mahoney (KII) and Tom Butz (KII).

2020 foresight

INVISTA has announced a global initiative to reduce its overall energy intensity 20 percent by the year 2020.

Energy intensity is a measure of the amount of energy per unit of product produced. In INVISTA's case, those products include carpet and clothing fibers.

In making the announcement, Dave Dotson, INVISTA's senior vice president of global operations, emphasized the importance of this initiative as part of INVISTA's overall sustainability initiative.

"This is part of our overall effort to use resources more efficiently, which helps protect the environment," Dotson said.

"It is also another example of how we are implementing our sustainability vision.

Efficient energy use is an absolute requirement as part of that commitment."

Although the 20 percent goal is aggressive, several INVISTA facilities have already proven such reductions are possible.

For example, INVISTA's Gersthofen, Germany, site has reduced energy intensity by 11 percent since 2007.

During that same period, the company's Performance and Surface Materials business has reduced total fuel energy intensity at its North American sites by 13 percent.

These reductions (which do not count toward INVISTA's 2020 goal) were made possible by several initiatives, such as raising overall energy awareness, as well as a variety of technical improvements.



Noteworthy

How long does it take to explain the importance of economic freedom? Less than two and a half minutes.

That's the length of a new video produced by the Charles Koch Foundation that examines why some societies thrive and others do not.

The fundamentals of economic freedom are property rights protected by an impartial rule of law, free trade, sound money and a relatively small government.

Those living in nations with economic freedom have incomes that are eight times higher than those that are least-free. Those that are poorest earn 10 times more.

What's more, those who enjoy economic freedom are happier, have better-protected civil rights, cleaner environments and longer life expectancies (up to 20 years longer).

Economic freedom also leads to less corruption, lower infant mortality rates, less child labor and lower unemployment.

In short, economic freedom means more than just higher incomes. It means a better overall quality of life.

If you really care about improving people's lives, then you should also care about economic freedom.



To join in the discussion about these concepts, visit www.facebook.com/economicfreedom.

Too True

"Long-term, widespread prosperity is only possible in free societies."

- Charles Koch