



Sustainability FAQs

Q What is “Sustainability”?

A Sustainability is a broad set of standards utilizing the benchmarks and standards for “Green” as part of the environmental leg of the program but to be Sustainable, a program must be green, financially viable and add social value for the user and the community.

Q How is Sustainability different from green programs?

A The focus is not on a “creation to land-fill” approach like the Green programs but on a “creation to reinvention” approach so that the waste generated is minimal to non-existent.

Q What is an example of a green program that is really not sustainable?

A Measured against green standards, hybrid and hydrogen fuel cell cars are great, but when measured against sustainability standards, they fail miserably. The large batteries require replacing

every 5 years and are limited in their ability to be recycled. The hydrogen™ cell contains many exotic and toxic metals that cannot be reclaimed and must be disposed of as a hazardous waste about every 5 years.

Q How is Rochester Midland using sustainable practices?

A We are using third party certified products in our facilities to improve health of the employees doing the cleaning and those working in the cleaned areas. We have recycle programs active in all facilities so that we re-use as much as possible. The quality of our wastewater discharge has been improved and the quantity of wastewater has been reduced in all plants. The addition of energy saving windows and a more efficient boiler and air conditioning systems at the Rochester facility have also reduced our carbon footprint.

Q How can Rochester Midland programs improve our customers’ sustainability?

A The InTec, Water Energy, Sanor and Food Safety product lines all work to

improve our customers’ sustainability. When feasible, we are developing products to the DfE (Designed for the Environment) EPA standards under the EnviroGuard® label in our continuing effort to have more of our chemistry certified “green”. In addition, each of the product lines are improving the economics and reducing environmental impact of all our programs by working with our customers to identify return on investment or joint process improvement approaches that include such things as heat transfer efficiency, reduced water use, and improved wastewater treatment efficiency to name a few.

Q What are some specific examples of sustainable programs provided by RMC?

A There are specific forms for each product line that define programs that support each leg of the sustainability stool and they can be ordered as follows: Form # 7451 Food Safety Sustainability Matrix, Form # 7447 Water Energy Sustainability Matrix.

