

Press Release

Oslo, Norway, March 2020

Elkem (Hall 23 / Stand A32)

Elkem, headquartered in Oslo, Norway, is a world-leading provider of silicones, silicon and carbon-based solutions. With complete vertical integration and over 6000 people in 27 production sites globally, Elkem can deliver innovative technologies and the most ideal solutions for your intended application, while contributing to a sustainable future.

Elkem's environmental and energy strategy

Elkem works continuously to reduce its environmental footprint. Elkem's sustainability philosophy is based on a general principle of producing as efficiently as possible, with maximum use of all input streams, like materials and energy. All divisions and plants are responsible for implementing environmental and energy strategies.

As Elkem continues to grow in new segments of the silicone value chain, strategic targets include, for example:

- mapping and understanding Elkem's total environmental impact;

- expanding Elkem's global EHS reporting to include better environmental and energy indicators;
- greater understanding of critical emissions and discharges (i.e. COD, dust, CO₂, SO₂, NO_x, PAH), and setting reduced emissions targets;
- striving to avoid waste through efficient processes and/or recycling.

Carbon neutral metal production

Elkem seeks to reduce fossil CO₂ emissions by replacing fossil coal with biocarbon in smelting furnaces, and has a pronounced goal of using 20 % biocarbon in the mix of reduction materials in production of silicon and ferrosilicon alloys in Norway within 2020 and 40 % within 2030.

Energy efficiency

Elkem is constantly seeking ways to reduce energy consumption per produced unit. The most effective method to reduce energy used per produced tonne of ferrosilicon or silicon is to make production processes more energy efficient. Elkem has some of the most energy-efficient smelting furnaces worldwide, but still sees a potential for improvement. A dedicated R&D project (Si2020) focuses on furnace design, process control, refining, etc.

Maintaining intense focus on energy efficiency has made Elkem Thamshavn, Norway, and Elkem Chicoutimi, Canada, the world's most energy efficient smelting plants for silicon and ferrosilicon production respectively.

Energy management

All Elkem plants in the Silicon Materials, Foundry and Carbon Divisions now have energy management systems that comply with ISO 50001. Even small measures, such as better insulation, motor inspections, lighting management, etc. can produce substantial savings. Potential energy savings of 10 % of auxiliary energy have been identified.

Innovation at Elkem

Ever since Sam Eyde established Elkem in 1904, main activity has been to develop new products, markets and production methods. An ambitious innovation strategy combined with strong focus on future markets has been a foundation for Elkem's development. Elkem's innovation strategy covers both incremental and step change innovation. To keep our position as a world-leading producer of silicon, silicones and carbon-based materials Elkem also seeks innovation & new improvements.

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