

UMICORE SA (GROUP)

Belgium | Manufacture of basic precious and other non-ferrous metals

! Significant operations in at least one risk country

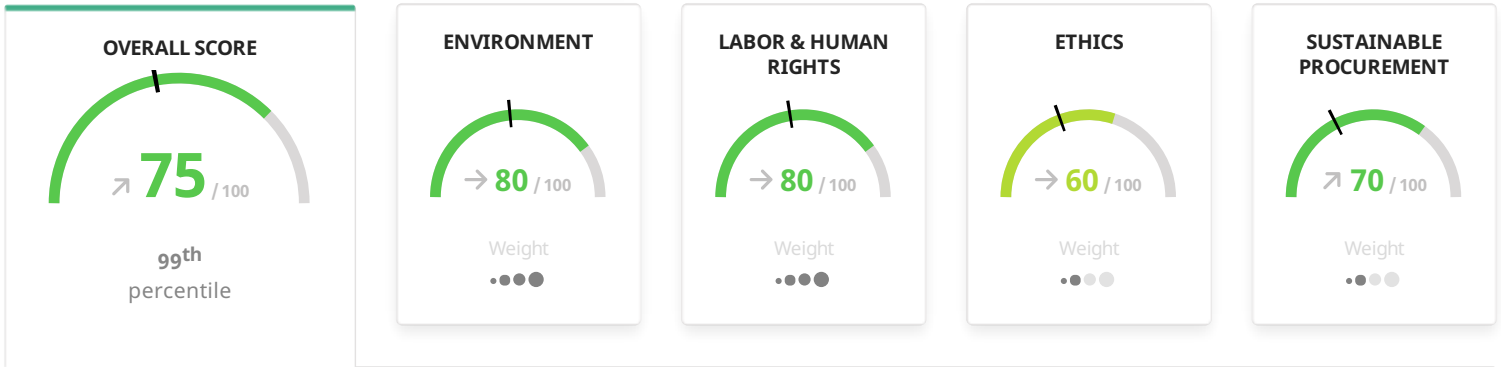


Publication date: 14 Feb 2022

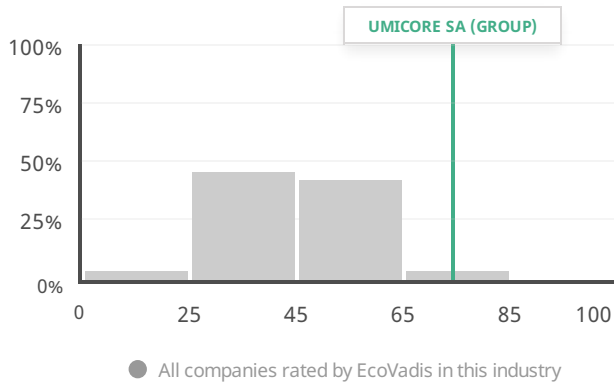
Valid until: 14 Feb 2023

Sustainability performance

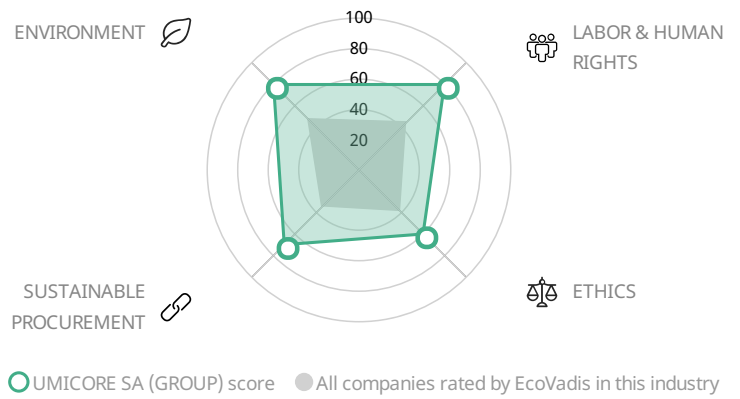
- Insufficient
- Partial
- Good
- Advanced
- Outstanding
- Average score



Overall score distribution



Theme score comparison



Strengths and Improvement Areas



Environment

Weight ●●●●

Strengths (46)

Policies

Strengths

Quantitative objectives set on energy consumption & GHGs

Environmental policy on materials, chemicals & waste

Environmental policy on local & accidental pollution

Environmental policy on water

Environmental policy on energy consumption & GHGs

Endorsement of the Science Based Targets initiative - Committed

Comprehensive policy on a majority of environmental issues

Endorsement of external initiative on environmental issues [e.g. The International Platinum Group Metals Association (IPA), Cobalt institute, Fachvereinigung Edelmetalle]

Endorsement of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)

Actions

Strengths

Company wide work processes for labeling, storing, handling and transporting hazardous goods

Fuel switch to achieve higher energy efficiency and/or lower carbon emission intensity

Training of employees on energy conservation/climate actions

Purchase and/or generation of renewable energy

Company-specific emergency preparedness and response procedure regarding local pollution

Measures to detect and/or eliminate accidental water contamination (e.g. groundwater, surface water)

Reduction of carbon emissions in transportation

Improvement of energy efficiency through technology or equipment upgrades

Registration of substances to the ECHA

Measures to restore ecosystem after installation or dismantling of equipment

Monitoring of pollutant concentrations into waste gas (e.g. VOC, heavy metals, NOx, SOx)

On-site wastewater treatment unit

Use of waste heat recovery system(s) or combined heat and power unit(s)

Measures to treat waste gas or reduce air pollutants emissions

Formal measures implemented to avoid road congestion at construction/work site

Monitoring of noise level

Provision of safety data sheets (SDS) adapted for the REACH regulation

Performed analysis of substances within the scope of REACH

Regular soil testing for heavy metal contamination

Material scrap recycled

Closed-loop water cooling system in place

Measures to reuse or recycle waste

Measures to avoid emissions of dust or particles

Measures implemented to reduce pollutants discharged into water

ISO 14001 certified on more than 81% of operational sites

Results

Strengths

Reporting in accordance with GRI Standards (option "Core")

Reporting on total water consumption

Reporting on total weight of non-hazardous waste

Reporting on total weight of hazardous waste

Materiality analysis in sustainability reporting

External assurance of sustainability reporting

Company communicates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Reporting on scope 2 GHG emissions

Reporting on scope 1 GHG emissions

Company reports to CDP

Exceptional reporting on environmental issues

Reporting on total energy consumption

Improvement Areas (3)

Results

Priority Improvement Areas

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant controversy, fine or penalty regarding environmental issues in the last five years (see news with red downward arrow in the 360° Watch section).

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant adverse report regarding local and/or accidental pollution.

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant adverse report regarding customer health safety. [public health and safety]



Labor & Human Rights

Weight ●●●●

Strengths (53)

Policies

Strengths

Labor & human rights policy on diversity, discrimination & harassment

Labor & human rights policy on child labor, forced labor & human trafficking

Labor & human rights policy on career management & training

Labor & human rights policy on social dialogue

Labor & human rights policy on working conditions

Labor & human rights policy on employee health & safety

Standard policy on a majority of labor or human rights issues

Health and safety policy also covers subcontractors working on the company premises

Endorsement of external initiative on labor or human rights issues [i.e. The International Platinum Group Metals Association (IPA), Cobalt institute, Fachvereinigung Edelmetalle]

Endorsement of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)

Actions

Strengths

41-60% of operational facilities ISO 45001 certified

Measures to promote gender and/or minority inclusion in the workplace

Additional leave beyond standard vacation days

Remuneration process (e.g. salary grid, procedure for salary advancement) communicated to employees

Employee satisfaction survey

Bonus scheme related to company performance

Collective agreement on diversity, discrimination, and/or harassment

Collective agreement on training & career management

Collective agreement on working conditions

Collective agreement on employees' health & safety

Flexible organization of work available to employees (e.g. remote work, flexitime)

Health care coverage of employees in place

Risk assessments performed to identify operations exposed to potential child labor, forced labor and human trafficking

Whistleblower procedure on discrimination and harassment

Awareness training regarding diversity, discrimination, and/or harassment

Training on health and safety issues for subcontractors working on the company premises

Employee representatives or employee representative body (e.g. works council)

Internal audits on health & safety issues

Measures for the integration of senior employees

Provision of protective equipment to all impacted employees

Employee health & safety detailed risk assessment

Transparent recruitment process communicated clearly and formally to all candidates

Measures to prevent discrimination during recruitment phase

Regular assessment (at least once a year) of individual performance

Interactive session with employees regarding working conditions

Active preventive measures for stress and noise

Mandatory health check-up for employees

Official measures promoting career mobility

Provision of skills development training

Joint labor management health & safety committee in operation

Setting of individual career plan for all employees

European Works Council in place

Training of relevant employees on health & safety risks and best working practices

Results

Strengths

Reporting in accordance with GRI Standards (option "Core")

Reporting on average training hours per employee

Reporting on the percentage of workers from minority groups and/or vulnerable workers in top executive positions

Materiality analysis in sustainability reporting

External assurance of sustainability reporting

Company communicates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Reporting on the percentage of women in top executive positions

Comprehensive reporting on labor and human rights issues

Reporting on accident severity rate

Reporting on accident frequency rate

Improvement Areas (3)

Policies

Priority Improvement Areas

Low

No quantitative target on labor and human rights issues

Results

Priority Improvement Areas

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant controversy, fine or penalty regarding labor and human rights issues in the last five years (see news with red downward arrow in the 360° Watch section).

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant adverse report regarding employee health and safety.



Ethics

Weight ●●●●

Strengths (28)

Policies

Strengths

Policy on fraud

Policy on conflict of interest

Disciplinary sanctions to deal with policy violations

Policy on information security

Policies on corruption

Policy on anticompetitive practices

Dedicated responsibility for ethics issues

Endorsement of external initiative on ethics issues [e.g The International Platinum Group Metals Association (IPA), Fachvereinigung Edelmetalle, Cobalt institute]

Comprehensive policies on ethics issues

Endorsement of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)

Actions

Strengths

Whistleblower procedure for stakeholders to report anti-competitive practices

Incident response procedure (IRP) to manage breaches of confidential information

Whistleblower procedure to report ethics issues

Implementation of a records retention schedule

Information security risk assessments performed

Audits of control procedures to prevent information security breaches

Awareness training to prevent information security breaches

Anti-competitive practices risk assessments performed

Corruption risk assessments performed

Audits of control procedures to prevent corruption

Awareness training performed to prevent corruption

Specific approval procedure for sensitive transactions (e.g. gifts, travel)

Awareness training performed to prevent anticompetitive practices

Results

Strengths

Reporting in accordance with GRI Standards (option "Core")

Materiality analysis in sustainability reporting

External assurance of sustainability reporting

Company communicates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Standard reporting on ethics issues

Improvement Areas (2)

Actions

Priority Improvement Areas

High Supporting documentation demonstrates a low level of coverage of ethics actions throughout the company operations

Low No conclusive documentation regarding an anti-corruption due diligence program on third parties



Policies

Strengths

Endorsement of external initiative on sustainable procurement issues [i.e. Cobalt institute, Fachvereinigung Edelmetalle, Drive sustainability]

Endorsement of specific international or industry sector initiatives, set of principles, charters, frameworks on conflict minerals issues [European Partnership for Responsible Minerals]

The London Bullion Market Association (Responsible Gold)

Endorsement of the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI, formerly CFSI)

Policy on conflict minerals issues

Comprehensive sustainable procurement policies on both social and environmental factors

Actions

Strengths

Supporting documentation demonstrates a high level of coverage of sustainable procurement actions throughout the company supplier base/operations

Supplier sustainability code of conduct in place

Written communication sent to suppliers informing them of conflict minerals issues

Selected suppliers required to fill Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (CMRT)/other customized conflict mineral-related questionnaire

Investigation or traceability system of the supply chain (smelters, trades, mines) on conflict minerals due diligence (e.g. third party on site audit in place)

Detailed conflict minerals risk analysis (per product or purchasing category) across the supply chain (e.g. manufactures)

Inclusion of clauses on conflict minerals in contractual agreements

On-site audits of suppliers on environmental or social issues

Regular supplier assessment (e.g. questionnaire) on environmental or social practices

Training of buyers on social and environmental issues within the supply chain

Integration of social or environmental clauses into supplier contracts

Sustainability risk analysis (i.e. prior to supplier assessments or audits)

Results

Strengths

Reporting in accordance with GRI Standards (option "Core")

Materiality analysis in sustainability reporting

External assurance of sustainability reporting

Company communicates progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Publication of Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (e.g. CMRT, other type of template)

Standard reporting on sustainable procurement issues

Improvement Areas (3)

Actions

Priority Improvement Areas

Low

Declares capacity building of suppliers on sustainability issues, but no supporting documentation available

Low

Declares a percentage of suppliers for which conflict minerals information is available (e.g. CMRT) but no supporting documentation

Results

Priority Improvement Areas

Medium

The 360° Watch has identified at least one significant controversy, fine or penalty regarding sustainable procurement in the last five years (see news with red downward arrow in the 360° Watch section). [allegations on procuring cobalt using child labor]


360° Watch Findings

9 December 2021

Une ONG classe Umicore et Solvay parmi les moins bons élèves en matière de durabilité

<https://www.lalibre.be/dernieres-depeches/belga/2021/12/09/une-ong-classe-umicore-et-solvay-parmi-les-moins-bons-eleves-en-matiere-de-durabilite-HC5JTESQSZAK7HHMOHO4W625NM/>

Chaque année, l'ONG suédoise ChemSec, spécialisée dans les substances chimiques dangereuses, publie un classement des 50 plus grandes entreprises chimiques mondiales sur base de critères de durabilité. Dans le dernier en date, publié jeudi, Umicore et Solvay figurent parmi les moins bons élèves.

 Environment

→ No score impact

6 December 2021

Umicore in Hoboken to accept stricter lead-in-blood standards [NL]

<https://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2021/12/06/umicore-in-hoboken-moet-strengere-lood-in-bloednormen-accepteren/>

The metal processing company Umicore in Hoboken must nevertheless apply stricter emission standards for lead. The province of Antwerp had imposed these stricter standards on them this year because there is still too much lead in the blood of children who live near the factory. But Umicore had appealed to the Flemish Minister for the Environment Demir (N-VA). And Umicore has now proved it wrong. Umicore is therefore obliged to invest extra in order to reduce lead emissions.

 Environment


↘ Impacts score

20 September 2021

Accords d'entreprise chez Umicore Specialty Powders France

<https://www.droits-salaries.com/325538973-umicore-specialty-powders-france/index.shtml>

Les négociations entre la direction de UMICORE SPECIALTY POWDERS FRANCE et les instances représentatives du personnel ont abouti sur les accords et avenants suivants. Les résultats des négociations avec les partenaires sociaux chez UMICORE SPECIALTY POWDERS FRANCE précisent les droits, avantages et obligations de l'employeur et des salariés.

 Labor & Human Rights

→ No score impact

21 May 2021

Glencore, Umicore to trace battery cobalt with blockchain technology

<https://www.euronews.com/2021/05/21/uk-glencore-cobalt>

Mining and trading company Glencore and other miners are joining forces with battery material supplier Umicore to make the cobalt used in electric cars traceable using blockchain technology.

 Environment


→ No score impact

18 March 2021

RPT-Umicore boss pledges 'green buffer zone' near Antwerp plant

<https://www.reuters.com/article/umicore-environment-idUSL1N2LG1HW>

The head of Belgian battery maker Umicore said on Wednesday it would create a buffer zone near its Hoboken plant on the outskirts of Antwerp, after blood readings last year showed high levels of lead in children living nearby.

 Labor & Human Rights

→ No score impact

12 March 2021

"She would be a very different child if we didn't live here": "Pano" shows consequences of lead emissions at Umicore Hoboken [NL]

<https://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2021/03/12/de-kinderen-van-de-rekening/>

The environmental permit of the metal processing company Umicore in Hoboken is based on twenty-year-old - outdated - scientific insights about the risks of lead in blood. This is apparent from a study that our report magazine "Pano" conducted together with Knack. In addition to lead, the emission of the carcinogenic substances arsenic and cadmium is problematic. The government announces a study into the influence of heavy metals on the inhabitants.

 Labor & Human Rights

→ No score impact

2 December 2020

Pollution aux métaux lourds dans le Gard : l'avenir de l'après-mine passe par le tribunal

<https://www.midilibre.fr/2020/12/02/pollution-aux-metaux-lourds-dans-le-gard-lavenir-de-lapres-mine-passe-par-le-tribunal-9232416.php>

Une démarche afin de mettre en œuvre les gestions des résidus de laverie issus de l'exploitation minière par la société Umicore. Une contestation motivée pour Michel Sala, maire de Saint-Félix-de-Pallières, par le fait "que l'État ne doit pas se substituer mais doit prendre la responsabilité de l'entièreté de la question de la pollution.


 Environment → No score impact

30 September 2020

Umicore partially relocates and cuts 165 jobs in Olen, union: "A bomb, the employees did not see this coming" [NL]

<https://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2020/09/30/umicore-schraapt-165-banen-in-olen-vakbond-dit-zal-inslaan-als/>

Umicore will cut 165 jobs by 2023 as it moves part of its cobalt business to Finland. Last year, Umicore acquired the Kokkola refinery there, which it says is one of the largest cobalt refineries in the world. It would allow them to produce on a larger scale.

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

29 September 2020

Elevated blood lead levels in Umicore employees. PVDA: "Forcing a company to produce cleanly" [NL]

<http://www.vrt.be/vrtnws/nl/2020/09/29/verhoogde-loodwaarden-in-bloed-van-personeelsleden-umicore-we/>

Elevated lead levels have been found in the blood of two subcontractors of the metal processing company Umicore in Hoboken. Mie Branders of opposition party PVDA demands that the company disclose the blood values of all 1500 employees.

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

17 September 2020

Another spike in pollution around Umicore factory [NL]

<http://www.demorgen.be/nieuws/opnieuw-piek-in-vervuiling-rond-fabriek-umicore~bb5b798e/?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F>

Very high amounts of heavy metals were again recorded at the beginning of the summer in the area around the Umicore plant in Hoboken. This is the second highest measurement results of the past three years.


  → No score impact

24 July 2020

Umicore has reported a fire today at a peripheral installation of the smelter at Umicore's Hoboken plant

<https://www.recycling-magazine.com/2019/07/03/umicore-has-reported-a-fire-today-at-a-peripheral-installation-of-the-smelter-at-umicores-hoboken-plant-no-casualties-are-reported-the-fire-brigade-extinguished-the-fire-the-impacted-insta/>

No casualties are reported. The fire brigade extinguished the fire. The impacted installation is currently shut down while the rest of the plant remains in operation.

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

15 July 2020

Accords d'entreprise chez Umicore Autocat France

<https://www.droits-salaries.com/500051495-umicore-autocat-france/index.shtml>

Les négociations entre la direction de UMICORE AUTOCAT FRANCE et les instances représentatives du personnel ont abouti sur les accords et avenants suivants. Les résultats des négociations avec les partenaires sociaux chez UMICORE AUTOCAT FRANCE précisent les droits, avantages et obligations de l'employeur et des salariés.

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

11 June 2020

Umicore explains the role of the catalyst in combating pollution

<https://naccar.com.br/2020/06/11/umicore-explica-o-papel-do-catalisador-no-combate-a-poluicao/>

Vehicles are responsible for a significant part of air pollution, with automobiles generating 72.6% of toxic gas emissions, according to a study by the Institute of Energy and Environment (IEMA). Thus, it is essential to focus on solutions to control these gases.


 Environment → No score impact

29 May 2020

Belgian Umicore signs deal with mining company Glencore to supply cobalt

<https://tweakers.net/nieuws/153414/belgische-umicore-sluit-deal-met-mijnbouwbedrijf-glencore-voor-levering-kobalt.html>

The Belgian materials technology group Umicore has entered into an agreement with the Swiss mining group Glencore for the supply of cobalt. This mineral, still an important part of batteries, comes from Congo-Kinshasa in accordance with the deal.


 Sustainable Procurement → No score impact

6 April 2020

Ipis Briefing March 2020 - Cobalt: Concerns Over Child Labour In Artisanal Mining Should Not Overshadow The Corruption In Large Scale Mining

<http://ipisresearch.be/publication/ipis-briefing-march-2020-cobalt-concerns-child-labour-artisanal-mining-not-overshadow-corruption-large-scale-mining/>

In January 2020, The NGO International Rights Advocates went a step further by suing the high-tech companies Apple, Alphabet (Google), Dell, Microsoft and Tesla for knowingly benefiting from and aiding and abetting the cruel and brutal use of young children in DRC to mine cobalt on concessions of Kamoto Copper Company (KCC). KCC is owned by the Swiss Glencore company, the world's largest commodity producer and trader. Glencore also provides cobalt to Umicore, the supplier of these high-tech companies.

 Sustainable Procurement → No score impact

2 March 2020

Heavy fire in Umicore's warehouse in Hoboken

<http://www.mbs.news/a/2020/03/heavy-fire-in-umicores-warehouse-in-hoboken-fire-fighting-hoboken.html>

In the Antwerp district of Hoboken, a fire broke out Monday evening in a warehouse of material technology company Umicore. That says the Antwerp Fire Department Zone, which is on site with large resources. There is a lot of smoke development. Local residents are asked to keep windows and doors closed.



→ No score impact

23 January 2020

42 Global Organizations Agree on Guiding Principles for Batteries to Power Sustainable Energy Transition

<http://modern diplomacy.eu/2020/01/23/42-global-organizations-agree-on-guiding-principles-for-batteries-to-power-sustainable-energy-transition/>

Batteries will be a major driver in reducing the carbon footprint of the transport and power sectors through the use of electric vehicles and renewable energy. To help companies and governments, the Global Battery Alliance designed 10 guiding principles for the creation of a sustainable battery chain by 2030. Organizations supporting the realization of a battery value chain that meets these principles include Umicore.



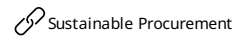
→ No score impact

18 December 2019

Death of children in the cobalt mines. The defendants are Apple, Google Dell and Tesla [PL]

<https://www.national-geographic.pl/arttykul/smierc-dzieci-w-kopalniach-kobaltu-pozwy-dla-apple-google-dell-i-tesla?>

As many as fourteen children died or were seriously injured in Congolese cobalt mines, the raw material of which went to Apple, Google, Dell and Tesla equipment. The case resulted in a lawsuit for companies filed by International Rights Advocates on behalf of the injured children and their families.



→ Impacts score

17 December 2019

Audi and Umicore use recycled cobalt and nickel [DE]

<http://www.electrive.net/2019/12/17/audi-und-umicore-verwenden-recycletes-kobalt-und-nickel/>

Audi and Umicore have completed the test phase of their research cooperation. According to this, more than 90 percent of the cobalt and nickel can be recycled from the e-tron batteries. From January, the recycled materials will then be installed in new battery cells.



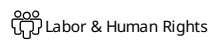
→ No score impact

9 December 2019

Fire at Umicore's Hoboken plant in Belgium under control

<http://www.euronews.com/2018/09/13/fire-at-umicores-hoboken-plant-in-belgium-under-control>

Belgian materials and recycling group Umicore said a fire that broke out on Wednesday at its Hoboken plant is under control. The 30 employees working at the affected part of the site, which is currently shut, were evacuated and nobody was hurt.



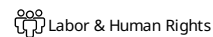
→ No score impact

25 November 2019

Richey v. Umicore Precious Metals Chemistry USA, LLC

<https://unicourt.com/case/pc-db5-richey-v-umicore-precious-metals-chemistry-usa-llc-266763>

On 11/25/2019 Richey filed a Civil Right - Employment Discrimination lawsuit against Umicore Precious Metals Chemistry USA, LLC. This case was filed in U.S. District Courts, Oklahoma Northern District. The Judges overseeing this case are John E Dowdell and Jodi F Jayne. The case status is Pending - Other Pending.



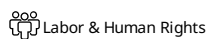
→ No score impact

7 November 2019

OSHA Penalty for serious H& S Standard Violation

https://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1443280.015

In November 2019, Umicore Specialty Materials Recycling, LLC's facility in Wickliffe, OH, was fined USD 6,087 for one serious violation of U.S. OSHA health and safety standards.



→ Impacts score

19 October 2019

Umicore and IndustriALL renew Global Framework Agreement

<http://www.industriall-union.org/umicore-and-industrial-renew-global-framework-agreement>

In a signing ceremony at the ILO in Geneva, Umicore and IndustriALL Global Union renewed their Global Framework Agreement on Sustainable Development for another four-year period. The renewed agreement covers human rights, including collective bargaining and equal opportunities, with a new section on violence and harassment at work with a reference to the newly adopted ILO Convention 190, safe and healthy working conditions and environmental issues.



→ No score impact

4 October 2019

Umicore accusé de pollution dans le Gard

<https://www.lecho.be/entreprises/matieres-premieres/umicore-accuse-de-pollution-dans-le-gard/10168666.html>

Le géant minier gérait entre 1914 et 1971 plusieurs mines dans le sud de la France. Aujourd'hui à l'arrêt, ces mines continuent de polluer les sols, les eaux, les végétaux avec des répercussions sur la santé des riverains. Les autorités attaquent, Umicore se défend.




→ Impacts score

11 July 2019

OSHA Penalty for Serious H&S Standard Violation(s)

http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1443280.015

In July, 2019, Umicore Specialty Materials Recycling, LLC in Wickliffe, OH, was proposed a USD 6,087 penalty for a serious violation of U.S. OSHA health and safety standards.

 Labor & Human Rights


→ **Impacts score**

12 March 2019

Umicore à Florange : une grève ce vendredi

<http://www.republicain-lorrain.fr/edition-de-thionville-hayange/2019/03/12/umicore-a-florange-une-greve-ce-vendredi>

Les syndicats FO et CFE-CGC ont déposé un préavis de grève pour vendredi, sur le site de l'équipementier belge Umicore à Florange. L'objet de la grogne ? La dégradation des conditions de travail.

 Labor & Human Rights


→ No score impact

1 February 2019

Union of Metalworkers Obtain PLR of BRL 6,160.00 at Umicore [PT]

<http://fsindical.org.br/forca/sindicato-dos-metalurgicos-obtem-plr-de-r-6-16000-na-umicore>

The value was reached because the workers exceeded the goals of the Participation agreement. The second installment, which reaches R \$ 3,960.00, will be paid in February. The PLR will total R \$ 6,160.00.

 Labor & Human Rights

→ No score impact

25 January 2019

Estas son las empresas más sustentables del mundo... y ninguna es mexicana

<https://expansion.mx/empresas/2019/01/25/empresas-mas-sustentables-del-mundo-y-ninguna-mexicana>

Las únicas compañías latinoamericanas entre las 100 compañías más sustentables del mundo son brasileñas, según el listado que elabora Corporate Knights.

 All themes


→ No score impact

21 January 2019

Fire brigade at Umicore in Gmünd [DE]

<https://www.schwaebische-post.de/p/1746372/>

The fire brigade was at the Umicore company in Klarenbergstrasse on Monday around 17:15: a plastic basin used for electroplating, in which acid was stored, leaked. According to the police, this was presumably triggered by a short circuit in the plant.

 Labor & Human Rights

→ No score impact

1 November 2018

Audi, Umicore Develop Closed Loop Battery Recycling

<https://www.waste360.com/e-waste/audi-umicore-develop-closed-loop-battery-recycling>

The two companies are developing a closed loop for components of high-voltage batteries that can be reused.

 Environment

→ No score impact

15 October 2018

Umicore is going to recycle BMW's electric batteries [NL]

<http://www.tijd.be/ondernemen/auto/umicore-gaat-batterijen-elektrische-bmw-s-recycleren/10059093.html>

According to some environmental organizations, the electric car, which does not emit CO2, is less environmentally friendly than it appears to be, because the battery production process is polluting and the battery is difficult to re-use as residual waste. The German car manufacturer BMW wants to tackle this weakness now and closes a technological partnership with the Swedish battery manufacturer Northvolt and the Belgian materials and recycling group Umicore.

 Environment


→ No score impact

10 October 2018

Industrial accident victim's family files wrongful death suit in Marshall County

<http://www.waff.com/2018/10/10/industrial-accident-victims-family-files-wrongful-death-suit-marshall-county/>

The family of a construction worker who died in an industrial accident in Marshall County has now filed a wrongful death suit. The bottom line is they claim Umicore was negligent.

 Labor & Human Rights


→ No score impact

14 September 2018

Cobalt mining continue to be controversial for manufacturers

<https://financeandmarkets.com/cobalt-mining-continue-to-be-controversial-for-manufacturers/>

The US technology giant Apple and the German car maker Volkswagen AG, as well as another 20 world manufacturers, justified by the Amnesty International report two years ago. It states that some of the cobalt used by companies to produce batteries is mined in Congo, where the conditions are extremely heavy and child labor is exploited.

 Sustainable Procurement


→ **Impacts score**

12 September 2018

Fire breaks out at Umicore's Hoboken plant in Belgium

<http://news.trust.org/item/20180912074945-tusqy/>

A fire broke out on Wednesday morning at the Hoboken plant of Belgian materials and recycling group Umicore a company spokeswoman said, confirming reports in the Belgian media. "The fire brigade is there and no people are hurt," said Marjolein Scheers. "The cause of the fire is still unknown."


 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

15 August 2018

Fire at Umicore cleared quickly [DE]

<http://www.op-online.de/region/hanau/feuer-umicore-industriepark-wolfgang-hanau-rasch-geloescht-10122409.html>

On Tuesday at Umicore in the Industrial Park Wolfgang around 21.50 clock, there was a fire in a production plant. Nobody was injured. Also, measurements showed that neighborhood and environment were not at risk. After only 30 minutes, the plant fire department of the Wolfgang Industrial Park had extinguished the fire. The forces of the Hanau fire brigade were on site for support. The authorities were informed immediately. According to Umicore, the cause of the fire was not yet clear.

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

11 June 2018

IPE Supervision Records cites Ganzhou Yi Hao You Mei Ke Industry Co.,Ltd [CN]

<http://www.ipe.org.cn/IndustryRecord/regulatory-record.aspx?companyId=47606&dataType=0&isyh=0>

On April 13, 2018, the environmental supervision and law enforcement personnel of the Shengzhou Environmental Protection Bureau carried out a regulatory inspection at Ganzhou Yi Hao You Mei Ke Industry Co.,Ltd. and sampling and testing of the company's 10 tons biomass burning boiler and 15 tons of fluidized boiler. The mean value of soot conversion (mg/m3) of the 10 ton biomass burning boiler was 141.8, exceeding the "Boiler Air Pollutant Emission Standard" (GB13271-2014). The company was issued a RMB 10,000 fine.


 Environment → No score impact

18 May 2018

Workers at Umicore spontaneously lay down the work [NL]

http://www.gva.be/cnt/dmf20180518_03519577/arbeiders-bij-umicore-leggen-spontaan-het-werk-neer

Dozens of workers at the recycling company Umicore in Hoboken have spontaneously put down work on Friday. They are tired of the high workload. The production was disrupted due to the spontaneous action.


 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

2 May 2018

Incendie à l'usine Umicore à Angleur: le plan communal d'urgence levé une fois la situation sous contrôle (photos)

<http://www.sudinfo.be/id52015/article/2018-05-02/incendie-lusine-umicore-angleur-le-plan-communal-durgence-leve-une-fois-la>

Un incendie s'est déclaré ce mercredi vers 21h40 au sein de l'usine Umicore, installée dans la rue Denis Lecocq, à Angleur. Les ouvriers ont tout d'abord tenté d'éteindre le feu avec leurs propres moyens, mais ont finalement dû faire appel aux pompiers de Liège. Le feu a pris dans une ligne de poudre de zinc, ce qui a empêché les hommes du feu d'utiliser les lances à incendie. Ils ont donc dû faire appel à un conteneur à poudre pour venir à bout du sinistre.


 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

25 April 2018

Umicore Offers Smoking Staff Alternatives [NL]

<http://www.gezondleven.be/nieuws/umicore-biedt-rokende-medewerkers-alternatieven>

In the past, Umicore employees were able to take smoke breaks and smoke wherever they wanted. A bad thing for the productivity and costs in the company. The management took action and with this also committed to the health of its employees. The purpose of the action? Less smoke and smoke locations in the company. With success: now smoking can only be done at a fixed time in a smoking zone. Half of the smokers showed commitment to quit smoking and almost 1 in 3 stopped effectively. "Not so obvious", says Veerle Frederickx, company doctor Umicore Olen. "But with a correct approach, every company can do the same."


 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

2 October 2017

The only gold factory in the Netherlands closes its doors [NL]

<https://www.parool.nl/amsterdam/enige-goudfabriek-van-nederland-sluit-deuren-a4519681/>

The Netherlands loses its only gold factory. The production branch of Schöne Edelmetaal from Noord ends after 278 years.


 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

11 September 2017

Umicore staff in shock [DE]

<http://www.verlagshaus-jaumann.de/inhalt.rheinfelden-umicore-belegschaft-in-schockstarre.48e3c8b8-04da-46ba-97f7-bcb589673efa.html>

The approximately 400 employees of the Rheinfelder site of the automotive supplier Umicore have been in shock for nearly a year now. Rheinfelden. "Since the decision in the fall of last year to close our Rheinfelden site by 2020, we are making very little progress with the social plan," reports Works Council Chairman Jörg Heinig. On the contrary: "The original intention that at least 120 employees can change to the location Bad Säckingen, Umicore has already cashed again. The Economic Committee informed us at the end of July that another 35 workers will lose their jobs at Umicore. "

 Labor & Human Rights → No score impact

31 August 2017

OSHA Penalty for Serious H&S Standard Violation

http://www.osha.gov/pls/imis/establishment.inspection_detail?id=1260217.015

In August 2017, Umicore Specialty Materials Recycling Llc in Wickliffe, OH, was fined \$2,909 for one serious violation of U.S. OSHA health and safety standards.

 Labor & Human Rights → Impacts score

24 August 2017

U.S. EPA Unilateral Administrative Order without Adjudication against Palm Commodities International, LLC

<https://echo.epa.gov/enforcement-case-report?id=04-2017-9153>

In August 2017, Palm Commodities International, LLC in Laverne, TN, had pesticide denied entry in the U.S. for not complying with FIFRA 17C Importation regulations.

 Environment → No score impact

8 May 2017

Umicore investit dans les batteries pour voitures électriques

<http://deredactie.be/cm/vrtnieuws.francais/Economie/1.29727>

L'entreprise belge spécialisée dans la technologie des matériaux avancés a annoncé ce lundi son intention d'investir 300 millions d'euros, entre 2017 et 2019, pour accroître sa capacité de production en matériaux cathodiques pour les batteries rechargeables des voitures électriques et hybrides.

 Environment → No score impact

26 April 2017

BASF and Argonne Settle With Umicore

<http://www.chemanager-online.com/en/news-opinions/headlines/basf-and-argonne-settle-umicore>

German chemical giant BASF and Chicago, USA-based Argonne National Laboratory have settled out of court their running patent disputes with Belgium's Umicore. The two companies said they had agreed to license the technology to the Belgian company to make, use, sell, offer to sell, distribute and import nickel-manganese-cobalt (NMC) cathode material for lithium-ion batteries in the US under their US patents. Action had been pending in the US District Court for the District of Delaware. The parties said, however, they planned to file a petition for rescission of the existing limited exclusion order with the International Trade Commission (ITC).

 Ethics → No score impact

1 March 2017

[IPE NEWS 1] 2017 IPE Supervision Records, Umicore marketing services (shanghai) co., ltd. [CN]

<http://www.ipe.org.cn/IndustryRecord/regulatory-record.aspx?companyId=11780696&dataType=0&isyh=0&showtype=0>

In March, 2017, Umicore marketing services (shanghai) co., ltd. was fined 10,000 yuan by Yangshan Port Maritime Bureau for Prevention of Pollution from Ships Regulations of the marine environment.

 Environment → Impacts score

11 February 2017

Umicore after new incident: "No danger to the neighborhood" [NL]

http://www.gva.be/cnt/dmf20170211_02725662/umicore-na-nieuw-incident-geen-gevaar-voor-de-buurt

It has been observed that the level of lead emissions at the Hoboken refinery of Umicore has increased. This has negatively affected the health of several children near the refinery. The level of the emissions exceed the standards set.


 Environment → No score impact

8 February 2017

ITC Finds Umicore In Violation Of Section 337 In Certain Lithium Metal Oxide Cathode Materials (337-TA-951)

<http://www.itcblog.com/7689-itc-finds-umicore-in-violation-of-section-337-in-certain-lithium-metal-oxide-cathode-materials-337-ta-951>

On January 26, 2017, the International Trade Commission ("Commission") issued its opinion finding a violation of Section 337 in Certain Lithium Metal Oxide Cathode Materials, Lithium-Ion Batteries for Power Tool Products Containing Same, and Power Tool Products with Lithium-Ion Batteries Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-951).

 Ethics → No score impact

9 December 2021

**No records found for this company on
Compliance Database**

null

→ No score impact

Specific comments



No records found in third party risk and compliance database.



There is a lack of reporting on KPIs regarding ethics issues.



There is a lack of reporting on KPIs regarding sustainable procurement issues.



The company demonstrates an advanced management system on environmental issues.



The company demonstrates an advanced management system on labor & human rights issues.

You are receiving this score/medal based on the disclosed information and news resources available to EcoVadis at the time of assessment. Should any information or circumstances change materially during the period of the scorecard/medal validity, EcoVadis reserves the right to place the business' scorecard/medal on hold and, if considered appropriate, to re-assess and possibly issue a revised scorecard/medal.

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