Product Safety, Quality, and Stewardship Principle

Principle Statement:

3M is committed to product safety, quality, and stewardship. Product safety, quality, and stewardship must always be primary considerations during design, manufacture, marketing, and sales of 3M products. 3M employees must know and follow all applicable laws, regulations, and 3M policies, standards, and procedures for product safety, quality, and stewardship and must report and respond to concerns in a diligent manner. 3M management is responsible for addressing reported concerns and ensuring that 3M employees are properly trained in applicable laws and regulations and 3M policies, standards, and procedures.

Purpose:

3M strives to improve every life. 3M provides our customers with quality products that are safe for their intended uses and understands that providing products that consistently meet customer, community, and our own high expectations is fundamental to our success. 3M works to produce products with superior environmental performance across their entire life-cycle. We also work with our suppliers and business partners so that their operations support these same objectives. These efforts together help define, protect, and ensure the long-term success of our company.

This Principle applies globally to all employees and may apply to those acting on behalf of 3M. See the Compliance Principle for information on when a third party might be covered by the Code of Conduct Principles.

Additional Guidance:

- Comply with all applicable product safety, quality, and environmental laws and regulations and 3M policies, standards, and procedures.
- Always be alert and report all product safety, quality, and stewardship concerns, including concerns raised to you by fellow employees, customers, product users or others.
- Product stewardship encompasses 3M environmental, health and safety (EHS) commitments that extend beyond the foundation of product safety and compliance. Specific 3M product stewardship commitments include, for example, policies and standards regarding life-cycle management, persistent chemicals, and paper sourcing.
- Use 3M’s New Technology Introduction and New Product Introduction Frameworks and Life Cycle Management program to help integrate product safety, quality, compliance, environmental performance and other stewardship considerations into the design, manufacture, marketing, and sale of 3M products, including considerations of intended uses, foreseeable misuses, and disposal of our products.
- Assess outsourced products with the same degree of review for product-related environmental, health, safety, regulatory, and potential liability attributes as those manufactured by 3M.
- Participate in training and education programs regarding product safety, quality, compliance, environmental performance and other stewardship management procedures and requirements.
- Substantiate product claims, including marketing, sales, and technical information provided to customers.
- Select and retain those suppliers, contractors, or outsourced manufacturers and service providers that comply with all applicable laws and regulations and meet 3M’s product safety, quality, environmental performance and other stewardship expectations.
- Employees should contact their assigned division, facility, or country environmental, health, and safety professionals or quality leaders for help in identifying and complying with applicable laws and policies.
- 3M commitments to safety, quality and stewardship apply equally to services. Services provided by 3M must be conducted in a manner that is safe; complies with applicable laws and regulations; meets quality requirements; and conforms with 3M policies, standards and procedures.

Penalties:
Failure to comply with applicable product safety, quality, and environmental laws and regulations and this Principle could lead to criminal and civil penalties for 3M and for employees personally, significant business disruptions, and harm to 3M’s reputation. Violations of 3M’s Code of Conduct will result in discipline, up to and including termination from employment.