

## 1.2 Environmental Management Systems (EMS)

Year Introduced: 2002 | Years Revised: 2008 | 2012 | 2016 | 2017

### Commitment

Signatories commit to having an Environmental Management System that meets or exceeds the *Australian PVC industry's Minimum Acceptable Standard for Environmental Management of Manufacturing Operations* (see below).

In consideration of marine plastic pollution, relevant Signatories commit to keep plastic pellets, resin powder and granulated material out of the environment by ensuring appropriate loss prevention, contamination and clean up procedures are included in the company EMS, communicated to employees, and enforced throughout the site.

### Australian PVC Industry's Minimum Acceptable Standard for Environmental Management of Manufacturing Operations

The following aspects of an EMS are considered as the minimum that might be considered acceptable in terms of responsible environmental management. Under the PSP, Signatories are expected to take the steps necessary to achieve this minimum. The minimum aspects are:

- The company has a current documented **environmental policy** supported by senior management.
- The company has prepared an **environmental aspects and impacts register** identifying potential environmental aspects (an element of an organisation that has or may have an impact on the environment) and has prioritised the impacts in terms of significance.
- The company has identified **environmental compliance** requirements and documented its legal (or other) environmental obligations.
- The company has developed an action plan setting out **objectives and targets** for **environmental management programs** related to the identified aspects and/or significant impacts and its legal obligations.
- The company has defined **resources, roles, responsibilities and authorities** for environmental management and communicates these to relevant personnel.
- The company has **procedures and processes** for achieving its environmental objectives and targets and to control operations and processes associated with identified significant environmental impacts.
- The company's **communications** and training programs include awareness of the company's commitment to the PSP, EMS, Environmental Policy, environmental impacts, and procedures.
- The company has identified and assessed reasonably foreseeable, potential significant **environmental, health or safety incidents** which may result from an emergency or unplanned event and has procedures in place to minimise the risk of incidents and manage impacts in the event of an incident.
- The company conducts an **environmental impacts assessment in capital expenditure projects** e.g., where a new process is adopted, a major modification is to be implemented, a major acquisition made, or assets divested.
- The company's management periodically **reviews and evaluates** its environmental management to ensure continuing effectiveness and adequacy.
- The company has **procedures or policies for communicating** its environmental performance and management to internal and external stakeholders.
- The company has **loss prevention, contamination and clean up procedures** to keep plastic pellets, resin powder and granulated material out of the environment.