



# Issues and Strategy





Sustainable development drives economic growth and is also a vehicle for progress. It stimulates innovation, continuous improvement and competitiveness. By making Corporate Social Responsibility a central element of its strategy, Nexans encourages its employees to adhere to these principles, knowing that this is the best way to guarantee success in the long term. This approach also enables us to provide our customers with safer products and solutions with improved performance which are more respectful of the environment.

Frédéric Vincent Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



#### SATISFYING PRIMARY NEEDS

Demographic changes, urbanization and the industrialization of emerging countries, globalization and the Internet trade boom create significant demand in terms of energy, infrastructure, transportation and buildings. Nexans is committed to satisfying these needs using minimum resources, alleviating the impact on the environment, and guaranteeing the safety of people and equipment.

To achieve these objectives, the Group relies on a customer-focused structure combined with the best R&D and innovation capabilities in the cable industry.

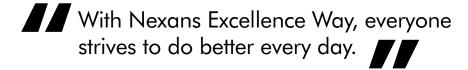
#### A COMMITTED MANAGEMENT TEAM

The CSR\* Committee defines Nexans' sustainable development strategy and supervises its implementation. The committee is chaired by Frédéric Vincent and includes Management Committee members and representatives of the Group's main departments. Two specialized committees – the Governance & Social Affairs Committee and the Environment & Products Committee – manage and coordinate projects. The CSR\* Committee and the specialized committees meet twice a year.

\* Corporate Social Responsibility



Nexans signed up to the UN Global Compact in <u>December 2008</u> and is committed to supporting and implementing ten universally-accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor standards, environment and anti-corruption.



#### QUALITY CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Expertise, surveillance and transparency are at the heart of the work of Nexans' Board of Directors, which implements a quality corporate governance structure that is constantly evolving. An assessment of the Board's operating procedures is conducted annually.

Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris and is building a relationship of trust with its shareholders and financial partners. Shareholders only have to own one share to become a member of the Shareholders' Club and take part in its activities.

#### A SHARED SENSE OF ETHICS

The Group's success is founded on rigorous ethical principles. The Code of Ethics and Business Conduct, updated and widely implemented in 2009, helps every Nexans employee to ensure that their daily actions on behalf of the Group are beyond reproach. The Code is available in 16 languages and may be consulted on the Group's Intranet. All new employees receive a copy, and training is given to ensure a better understanding of the issues.



#### AMBITIOUS PROGRESS OBJECTIVES

Our objectives – consuming less, producing more efficiently and satisfying our customers – are at the core of Nexans' innovation policy and the Nexans Excellence Way industrial performance program launched in July 2009.

Our priority objectives include:

- halving the workplace accident frequency rate within two years;
- a 0.5% reduction in raw materials consumption annually.



Nexans scored **15/20** in Ernst & Young's 2009 survey of the governance practices of SBF 120 companies, which ranks Nexans as one of the best.



# Employees and Communities

#### **DEVELOPING COMPETENCIES**

Customer and Market Focus, Operational Excellence, Taking Responsibility and Global Team Player are the primary competencies that Nexans promotes for managers and employees.

Nexans University plays an instrumental role in knowledge transfer, sharing of best practices, as well as personal development and unlocking employee potential.

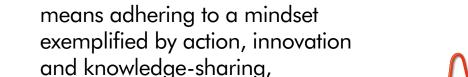
The Group encourages diversity, and actively promotes equal opportunities. It also favors internal promotions and employee mobility.

# WORKPLACE SAFETY AS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

The workplace accident rate is one of the key monthly indicators used at each plant. Measures based on best practices are being implemented in all countries. A Group Health & Safety Manager, supported by a specialized Safety Expert Team, defines common rules and coordinates cross-functional initiatives.

#### REWARDING PERFORMANCE

An attractive, coherent compensation policy is key to building employee commitment. Nexans has established such a policy in a spirit of transparency and fairness, while taking into account local conditions.



guided by ambitious objectives and strong ethics.

Being a Nexans employee



Safety rewarded

Every year, the Safety Awards

quality of their achievements,

honor three plants for the

their level of improvement

and their teams' initiatives.

The 2009 winners include Langhus in Norway, Elouges

in the United States.

in Belgium and New Holland



## Facts & Figures

- 36 sites with a zero workplace accident rate in 2009, compared with 11 sites in 2007.
- A 35% reduction in the workplace accident rate in 2009 compared with 2008.
- Nexans University: 50 training modules available, 100 sessions a year in 39 countries, more than 4,000 employees trained in two years.
- Job Way: a new online tool used to post internal and external job offers.
- A working group focused on the career development of senior employees has been active since 2009.
- 2009 industrial days: 120 plant managers from 30 countries attended a 3-day meeting to share their experiences.
- More than 55 agreements signed with unions in 13 countries in 2009.
- 400,000 Nexans shares offered in 25 countries as part of the Act2010 employee share purchase plan.
- ► All our sustainable development indicators are available on: <a href="www.nexans.com/sustainable/indicators">www.nexans.com/sustainable/indicators</a>

#### OPEN LABOR RELATIONS

Nexans enjoys a good working relationship with employee representative bodies, thanks to a shared willingness to communicate, exchange and negotiate.

When implementing restructuring plans,
Nexans proposes, as a priority, solutions within the
Group to each employee concerned, or provides
personalized assistance when an external solution
is preferable or cannot be avoided.
In addition to providing solutions, the Group
has a general policy of anticipating in-house
employment requirements to enable employees
to adapt or renew their skills.

#### LOCAL SOLIDARITY INITIATIVES

Nexans' local managers worldwide are best placed to take action in line with the situations and expectations of the communities in which they operate. They support initiatives run by associations encompassing education and assistance to underprivileged children and the needy. Nexans raises awareness of the efficient use of electricity and energy saving, and helps to restore power and telecommunications networks in areas hit by natural disasters.

Nexans is keen to make a positive contribution to the countries in which it operates by supporting its host communities and putting its skills and products to work for the benefit of the local heritage.

# A PATRON OF OUR HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY HERITAGE

Drawing on its expertise in building cables, Nexans is sponsoring two major heritage projects: the renovation of the Palace of Versailles and the building of the new Louvre museum in Lens. The Group is donating special fire-resistant cables offering better protection for visitors and the art collections in case of fire.







# Environment and Solutions

Nexans puts its energies into limiting the impact of its operations and products on the environment, providing solutions that enhance the safety of people and equipment, save energy, and facilitate the use of renewable energies.

#### **Certified cable drums**

Nexans is the first cable manufacturer in the world to supply its European sites exclusively with PEFC  $^{\scriptscriptstyle{\rm TM}}{}^*$ label drums, certified to be made of wood from sustainably managed forests. This is applicable to all new wooden drums put into circulation since 2010.

Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes

#### BETTER DESIGN, PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Nexans invests in developing solutions that both meet customers' needs and have a minimal impact on the environment.

Its R&D teams use product life-cycle assessment methodology (LCA) to select optimal solutions.

The Group is developing cabling solutions that comply with current regulations, such as REACH\*.

Nexans limits excessive consumption of raw materials and energy by optimizing product design, improving energy efficiency and production control, and developing ready-to-install cable delivery.

The Group is a pioneer of recycling and provides a comprehensive solution for the recoverability of end-of-life cables.

#### RIGOROUS MANAGEMENT AND A DEMANDING LABEL

Nexans' environmental management system includes thorough industrial risk assessment, training in best practices, close monitoring of production plants and continuous improvement

The internal EHP\*\* label is awarded to sites that satisfy certain criteria specific to the Group's operations, in line with ISO 14001.

<sup>\*</sup> Registration Evaluation Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals

<sup>\*\*</sup> Environnement Hautement Protégé - highly protected environment

### Facts & Figures

- The global cable industry's top R&D capability, with 450 researchers and technicians, 1 international research center and 10 competence centers on 4 continents.
- In 2009, 60 sites carried the EHP label and 56 sites were ISO 14001 certified.
- EIME (Environmental Improvement Made Easy) software is used to compare the environmental impact of different cables and prepare eco-declarations for our customers.
- Recycable: a joint venture with Sita which recycles several thousand metric tons of cables annually.
- Energy and transportation: two markets that make a significant contribution to Nexans' long-term performance.
- ▶ All our sustainable development indicators are available on: <u>www.nexans.com/sustainable/indicators</u>

#### SAFE, ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

The availability of electricity is critical for a growing number of applications. Nexans offers solutions that make transmission and distribution more reliable, mitigate power loss in lines, and make it easier to supply power to islands and isolated areas to avoid the use of polluting generators. The cabling systems developed by Nexans, packaged with dedicated solutions and services, make for safer operation and grid connection of solar and on-and-offshore wind power facilities.

The Group optimizes cable resistance and longevity in tough environments: deep water, high pressure, extreme temperatures, corrosion and intense mechanical stress.

Nexans is working successfully to lighten the cables used by all modes of transportation and help make data centers more energy efficient. It enhances the safety of people, equipment and operating conditions with fire-resistant cables for safe, secure and sustainable buildings.

# A FRONT-RUNNER IN LEADING-EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

Nexans offers advanced solutions in cuttingedge technologies such as ultra high-speed data transmission, superconducting cables which carry five times more electricity on an equivalent crosssection, without any power loss on lines. The Group plays an active role in the development of smart grids, intelligent networks which are paving the way for new levels of reliability, safety and operational continuity for customers and users.



#### **Business travel and carbon offsets**

In 2010, Nexans is offsetting the entire  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  emissions resulting from its employees' business travel by funding the Uchindile-Mapanda reforestation project in Tanzania. This project, which has both VCS\* and CCBA\*\* validation, guarantees the traceability of carbon credits at origin and helps improve living conditions for local populations.

- \* Voluntary Carbon Standard
- \*\* Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance



#### Global expert in cables and cabling systems

With energy as the basis of its development, Nexans, the worldwide leader in the cable industry, offers an extensive range of cables and cabling systems. The Group is a global player in the infrastructure, industry, building and Local Area Network markets. Nexans addresses a series of market segments: from energy, transport and telecom networks to shipbuilding, oil and gas, nuclear power, automotives, electronics, aeronautics, material handling and automation.

Nexans is a responsible industrial company that regards sustainable development as integral to its global and operational strategy. Continuous innovation in products, solutions and services, employee development and engagement, and the introduction of safe industrial processes with limited environmental impact are among the key initiatives that place Nexans at the core of a sustainable future.

With an industrial presence in 39 countries and commercial activities worldwide, Nexans employs 22,700 people and had sales in 2009 of 5 billion euros. Nexans is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris, compartment A.





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