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**DAVID CASTAÑEDA** CEO







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Thanks to the trust deposited in us by customers from over 40 countries, we closed 2018 with **revenue of 228 million euros**, consolidating our position as benchmark ABS providers. This was made possible by offering our customers a value proposition based on products and services tailored to their needs, with the decisive participation of the men and women who make up the ELIX Polymers team.

The end of the year saw a milestone in the history of ELIX Polymers: the **sales agreement between SUN Capital Partners and Sinochem International**, member of the Sinochem Group, for the purchase of our company, which was finalised in January of 2019. This event marks the culmination of a successful period for our company; under Sun Capital Partners we grew to become market leaders. Now, as part of Sinochem International, we embark on a new phase with new challenges, as well as new opportunities for growth and access to new markets.

This is our **third sustainability report**, corresponding to the 2018 financial year and prepared in accordance with GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) standards. With this report I would like to share the challenges we currently face in the Plastics Industry in general and specifically at ELIX Polymers as part of this industry.

Plastic products have unique properties and their benefits have contributed to developments and advances in our society. However, the incorrect use and management of plastics is having a negative impact on the environment which we would like to avoid.

For this reason, the plastics industry and society in general **must be capable of evolving towards a circular economy**, where natural resources, the supply chain and waste resulting from product use are managed in a sustainable way.

At ELIX we take our **commitment to sustainability** seriously, which is why we have increased our investments considerably in an effort to improve processes and reduce environmental impact. We have managed to boost our efficiency in the use of natural resources, for example, **reducing our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** -those responsible for climate change- **by 10,26%**.

ELIX continues to support the **development of more sustainable products**, a strategic support we demonstrate through product development projects that make way for more sustainable solutions to current market needs.

As part of our commitment to the communities and businesses of the localities we operate in, we look to **dynamise and generate local economic activity.** More than half of our annual expenditure goes to **local suppliers** and we are **providers of quality employment** both directly and indirectly.

For all of these reasons, our organisation has been granted several awards, such "Best Polymer Producers Awards for Europe" in 2017 and 2018, setting us apart as the best ABS manufacturers of the year; a double award for CLIMATE and EXPORTS in the prestigious RSE Awards for the Chemical Industry granted by FEIQUE, and the APPORT award in the category of INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

Finally, I would like to highlight **our membership** for yet another year, **in the United Nations Global Compact**. The publishing of this report, which I invite you to explore, is an example of our willingness to consolidate, develop and implement good practices that help us advance in our commitments to Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainablity.

These are commitments we want to continue sharing with our customers, suppliers and distributors, our team and their families, and of course, our shareholders. **To all of you, thank you for your trust in us.** 

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**GRI STANDARDS** 

**OUR COMPANY** 



**6,9% NET SALES\* GROWTH**FROM 2015 TO 2018



**29,6% EBITDA\* GROWTH**FROM 2015 TO 2018



+40

**OUR CUSTOMISED SOLUTIONS AT A GLANCE** 



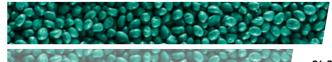
+300 CUSTOMERS



+300 COLOURS +40 GRADES PRODUCTS

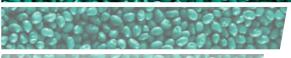


64%
CONTINUOUS INVESTMENT
IN R+D+I

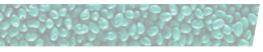


98,8%

RATE OF CUMULATIVE
SUCCESSFUL SALES



**94,2%** PERFECT ORDER RATE



95,5%
IMPROVEMENT IN OTIF RATE



#### **OUR TEAM**





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30,3% **WOMEN ON STAFF** (**↑9%** COMPARED TO 2017)



78
CONTRACTORS
(41,3% COMPARED TO 2017)

93,5% **EMPLOYEES WITH** INDEFINITE CONTRACTS

(**↑3,5%** COMPARED TO 2017)



OCCUPATIONAL ACCIDENTS WITH MEDICAL LEAVE

6.745

**HOURS OF TRAINING** FOR EMPLOYEES



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**OUR BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITY** 

2.299 k€ INVESTMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (**↑246%** COMPARED TO 2017)



96,9% RATE OF EFFICIENT RAW MATERIAL USE (**↑0,2%** COMPARED TO 2017)



941,6 ENERGY CONSUMPTION (kWh/T PRODUCED) (**↑0,1%** COMPARED TO 2017)



0,2 COMPANY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY PRODUCTION (T DE CO<sub>2</sub> eq. / T ABS PLUS SALES) (**↓10,3%** COMPARED TO 2017)



3,1% **WASTE GENERATION** (T WASTE / T ABS PRODUCED)



90,0% RECOVERED WASTE (**↑2,8%** COMPARED TO 2017) **OUR SUPPLIERS** 



695 **SUPPLIERS** 



63% PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURE PAID TO LOCAL SUPPLIERS (CATALONIA)



**52%** PERCENTAGE OF EXPENDITURE PAID TO **LOCAL SUPPLIERS (TARRAGONA)** 



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# **OUR ORGANIZATION**

We are specialists in tailor-made solutions for high quality thermoplastics applications, adding value through our offer of personalised, customeroriented services.



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# 3.1 MARKET LEADERS

ELIX Polymers (hereinafter ELIX) is a leading company in the manufacture of acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resins (ABS) and derivatives in Europe.

Our production centre is located in the Southern Industrial Park of Tarragona, the main pterochemical hub in the south of Europe.

We share a strategic location with other companies who are global leaders in their industries, as part of ChemMed Tarragona, the most important chemical, industrial, acedemic, scientific and logistics cluster in the south of Europe.

We have a hub in Germany and two in the United States, as well as an extensive network of sales representatives and distributors serving more than 300 customers in over 40 countries.

#### **WE ARE A GLOBAL ORGANIZATION**



# NEW INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS, SINOCHEM INTERNATIONAL

ELIX Polymers was founded in 1975 by Bayer as an ABS business unit. After forming part of several important multinational corporations, it became an independent, stand-alone company under the guidance of Sun Capital Partners in 2012.

From that moment on, Sun Capital Partners was the driving force behind our transformation into market leaders. We made improvements in management and manufacturing processes, offering quality products and services, which enabled us to increase our sales and build customer loyalty.

At the end of 2018, Sun Capital Partners announced the purchase of our company by Sinochem International (Overseas) Pte. Ltd., a state-owned enterprise from China with presence in strategic sectors.

And so in January of 2019 we embarked on a new phase under Sinochem International, with an excellent opportunity to grow within the Asian market while continuing to strengthen our business relations in the European and American markets.

As part of our new internationalisation strategy, this year we increased our business in the NAFTA (*North America Free Trade Agreement*) area, made up of Canada, Mexico and the United States, where we have had a sales office since 2016. In addition, we began our expansion into Asia through local distributors.

# Since December of 2018, ELIX has formed part of the prestigious business group Sinochem International,

a Chinese state-owned enterprise that manages logistics, industrial investments and sales in strategic sectors such as chemical products, natural rubber, gasoline, metallurgy and energy.

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#### WE CREATE VALUE FOR OUR KEY **STAKEHOLDERS**



#### **CUSTOMERS**

We provide a wide range of high quality, customised solutions for different sectors and applications.



#### **OUR TEAM**

We promote the personal and professional growth of our employees, considering this to be a key factor in the company's success.

Our success is the result of **our team's dedication as well** as strategic decisions based on the founding tenets of **our company:** the incorporation of safety and respect for the environment in our products and processes, a clear aim to meet our customers' needs, the satisfaction and wellbeing of the people who make up our company and the firm support of innovation through the development of more sustainable solutions.

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#### **OUR SHAREHOLDERS**

We offer sustainable growth with a solid return on investment for our new shareholders, the Chinese State Owned Enterprise Sinochem International.



**EMPLOYEES** 



COUNTRIES



+40 GRADES +300 COLOURS **PRODUCTS** 





**VOLUME GOWTH BY TONNES** BETWEEN 2015 AND 2018

**16,9%** BETWEEN 2015 AND 2018 (CALCULATED

ACCORDING TO CAGR\*)

#### **OUR PRODUCTION PROCESS AND VALUE CHAIN**

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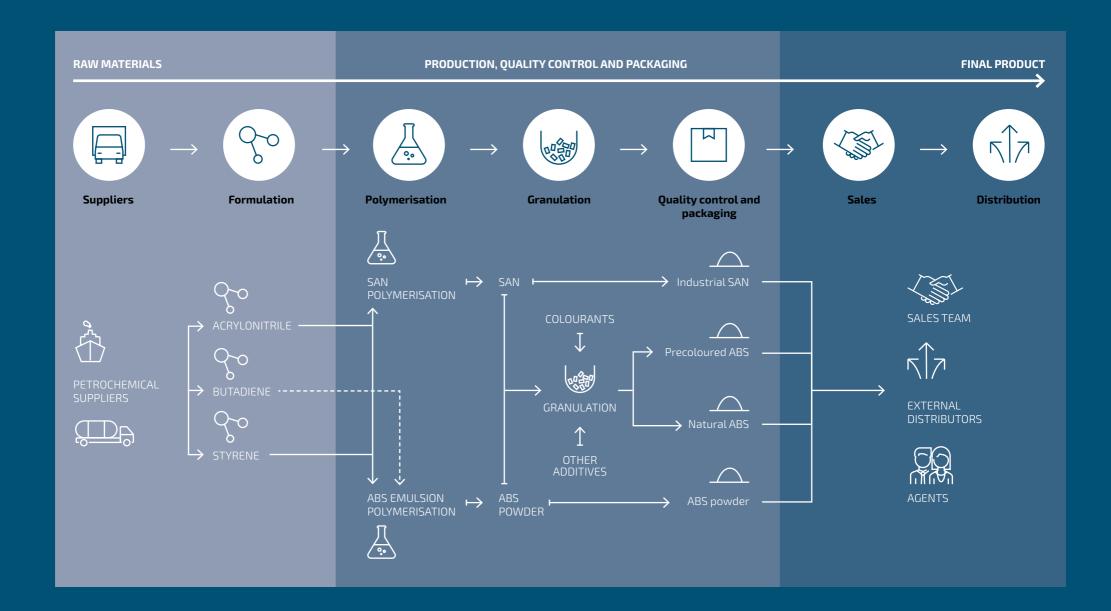
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#### **OUR PRODUCT PORTFOLIO**

#### **ABS RESINS**

Thermoplastic ABS products for applications in specialised products and high value added markets.

#### PC/ABS

A compound of PC/ABS for the most demanding applications in the market.

#### POLYMER MODIFIERS

These make it possible to modify and improve Polymer mixture properties as well as materials derived from PC, ABS, PVC, SMA, etc.

#### CADON

A line of general use products for high impact needs (high resistance).



# OUR MARKETS STRATEGIC MARKETS



#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

Our products comply with the requirements of the automotive industry and are approved by the main manufacturers of original interior, exterior and electroplated car parts.



#### HEALTH

We provide products to the medical industry for application in intravenous injection systems as well as respiratory and self-injection devices, strictly complying with regulations and guaranteeing product safety.



#### CONSUMER GOODS

Our materials meet industry demands thanks to the development of new colours and finishes as well as UV and chemical resistant features for small home appliances, garden articles, bath accessories, etc.

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#### HOUSEHOLD **APPLIANCES**

We develop customised solutions to meet the specific needs of this market, launching new colours and finishes as well as UV ray resistant products for applications in large household appliances, washing machines, dishwashers, etc.



#### **ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Our products cover needs related to dimensional stability, heat distorsion temperature and electrical properties for use in the manufacture of outlets, switches, electrical circuit boards, ventilation systems, etc.



#### **BUILDING AND** CONSTRUCTION

We meet the ongoing needs of this sector for products with extreme durability, aesthetic appearance, ease of use and high performance to be applied in furniture, thermoforming sheets, accessories, etc.



#### TOYS, SPORTS AND LEISURE

We have special grades for the manufacture of toys, skis and gymnastics equipment, all of which comply with current industry regulations.

Visit <a href="https://www.elix-polymers.com/products-and-markets">https://www.elix-polymers.com/products-and-markets</a> for more detailed information on our products and markets.

#### **THREE AWARDS** HIGHLIGHTING **OUR PERFORMANCE IN 2018**

#### THE BEST ABS MANUFACTURING COMPANY IN 2018

In May of 2018 we received the "Best Polymer Producers **Awards for Europe 2018"** in the ABS category from the European Alliance of Polymers as part of the "Best Polymer Manufacturers in Europe 2018" awards. During a threemonth period in 2018, polymer users from all over Europe participated in an online survey rating suppliers in terms of polymer quality, adherence to legislation, innovation, etc. Our final score was excellent (95%).

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# Premios RSE 2018

El Jurado de la II Edición de los Premios RSE del Sector Químico, ha decidido conceder por unanimidad el

#### PREMIO CLIMA

ompromiso empresarial con la gestión sostenible de sus procesos ivos minimizando las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero [GEI] a la atmósfera en el desarrollo de su actividad a:

#### Elix Polymers S.L.

En Madrid, a 31 de mayo de 2018









#### APPORT AWARD IN INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In the XVI edition of the **APPORT Awards**, organised by the Association for the Promotion of the Tarragona port, and celebrated in December of 2018, we were prize-winners in the category "Innovation and Entrepreneurship," for being a pioneer company in ABS and derivative materials nationally and internationally.

This award is a recognition of our strategic commitment at ELIX to innovation and clearly differentiates us from our competitors.

#### RSE CLIMATE AND EXPORTS AWARD BY FEIQUE

We received two awards from the Spanish Chemical Industry Business Federation (FEIQUE); one in the CLIMATE category for sustainable management in production processes and the other in the EXPORTS category for our contribution to the export potential of the Spanish chemical industry.

We were granted the **CLIMATE Award** based on our reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG) per tonne produced in 2017 – a 12% reduction compared to 2015, thanks to improvements in our production processes which optimised electricity and natural gas consumption.

We were granted the **EXPORTS Award** based on our exports comprising more than 65% of our revenue – in 2017, 92% of our production was exported.

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# 4.1 GOOD GOVERNANCE

#### **GOVERNING ORGANS**

Senior Management at ELIX is made up of five professionals -the CEO and Area Managers- who, together with the support of Department Managers and all of the employees, work towards preserving the values of ELIX in attaining our objectives.

This team defines and carries out strategic plans taking into account business ethics, the sustainable growth of our company and the professional growth of all the people who are part of the company.



DAVID CASTAÑEDA CEO



**LUIS ALONSO** CFO



CARLOS MÜLLER **BUSINESS DIRECTOR** 



**NOELIA VÁZQUEZ** HR & COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR



NARCIS VIDAL OPERATIONS & SUPPLY CHAIN DIRECTOR

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#### **CORPORATE POLICY**

#### **OUR VISION AT ELIX**

Our goal is to be global benchmark leaders in the specialty market of thermoplastics as a customer-oriented company offering personalised services and a wide range of products while maintaining our commitment to environmental sustainability and supporting the professional growth of our employees.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Within the framework of the "Management by Missions" project, we have redefined our corporate mission with the three highest priority stakeholders in our business strategy at the core:

#### **OUR VALUES**

- · Safety, health and respect for the environment
- Customer-oriented
- and teamwork
- Innovation and continuous improvement
- · Responsibility and integrity

- Human capital, respect
- Quality

#### Customers

OFFER THE BEST IN HIGH QUALITY, TAILOR-MADE SOLUTIONS



### People

FOSTER PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CREATE A COLLABORATIVE. SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE WORK ENVIRONMENT

**Shareholders** 

GENERATE SUSTAINABLE GROWTH WITH A SOLID RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Generar crecimiento sostenible, con un retorno sólido de la inversión

MISIÓN

Ofrecer lo mejor en soluciones a medida

con alta calidad

Proporcionar servicios y entregas

óptimas.

romover el desarrollo personal y profesional

erar un entorno de trabajo de oración, seguro y sostenible.







# **SUPPLY CHAIN**

Asegurar rapidez y eficiencia ante sus necesidades, y proponer proactivamente soluciones óptimas

Promover flexibilidad y fiabilidad para la satisfacción del cliente

Optimizar la relación entre recursos dedicados vs servicio ofrecido

Promocionar la generación de procesos de valor añadido.

Proporcionar la mejor visibilidad al resto del negocio para facilitar las mejores decisiones.

Informar y hacer participes de los logros alcanzados;

Impulsar herramientas para el desarrollo de las capacidades.

Impulsar el trabajo participativo, colaborativo y transversal. Facilitar herramientas para el desarrollo de habilidades

# **SHARED MISSIONS**

#### ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY

Our Code of Conduct at ELIX establishes integrity, honesty and transparency as the base of all our professional and business relationships, intrisically related to our anticorruption policy.

All of our employees have received information regarding the current applicable code and are therefore familiar with it. Senior Management and Department Managers carry out continuous assessments of work behaviour on their teams based on the tenets of this code. We also extend the code to include our suppliers and contractors by means of an explicit signed statement.

At ELIX, ethics and transparency are pervasive values throughout the whole organisation, reflected in the daily operations of all employees. For this reason, we will continuously work on the improvement of our Code of Conduct.

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# 4.2 TRANSPARENCY WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS







Strategic, responsible and transparent comunication with all of our stakeholders is essential at ELIX.

All departments in the company are committed to maintaining collaborative relationships based on transparency and continuous improvement with all the stakeholders who form part of our business operations.

To this end, we as a company have defined a strategic communication policy encouraging relationships with all of our stakeholders built on dialogue, trust and added value through various communication channels and actions.



#### **EMPLOYEES**

Corporate Intranet, employee website, corporate email, monthly newsletter ELIX Actualidad (printed and digital), corporate memos, bulletin boards, internal participatory platforms, information panels, audiovisual material, internal events, social media, area meetings, training sessions, annual dinner for employees and their families, annual magazine ELIX Familiar, work environment survey and others.



#### **CUSTOMERS**

Corporate website, digital corporate newsletters, digital technical newsletters, social media, international trade fairs, events, press releases, articles, advertisements, corporate brochures, sales and technical visits with customers, tours of the Tarragona plant, annual customer survey and others.



#### **SHAREHOLDERS**

Weekly, monthly and annual corporate reports, sustainability report, strategic meetings.



#### CONTRACTORS (On-site)

Operational email memos, meetings, bulletin boards, information panels, internal events, training sessions.



#### **SUPPLIERS**

Digital newsletter, email, meetings, Supplier of the Year award.



#### **INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS**

Participation in committees and specific technical-themed days, training sessions, email, meetings.



#### LOCAL COMMUNITY (NGOS)

Sponsorship of sports, cultural and solidarity projects, participation in local social initiatives, publications and press releases, meetings, events, social media.



#### **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

Regular contact through formal notifications, bulletins issued by administration offices, face-to-face meetings, email.



#### **EMPLOYEES' FAMILIES**

ELIX Familiar magazine, annual dinner for employees and their families, social media.



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From the results of our Work Environment Survey, we found that ELIX employees consider the following communication channels to be the most effective:

#### THE MOST EFFECTIVE CHANNELS (IN ORDER OF RANKING\*)



**EMPLOYEE AND FAMILY DINNER** 4,15

CORPORATE **EMAIL MEMOS** 4,06



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER **ELIX ACTUALIDAD** 



**CORPORATE WEBSITE** 3,94

**INTERNAL WELL-BEING** CAMPAIGNS

3,89



3,95

**#PEOPLEMAKEELIX VIDEOS** 

3,89



**KPI BOARDS** 

3,77

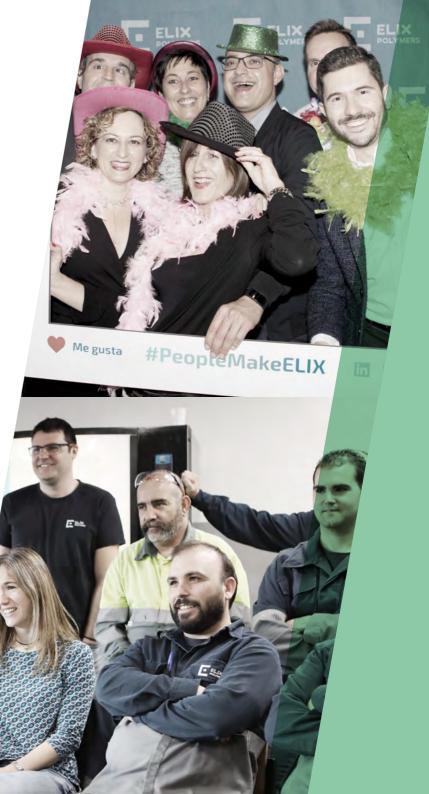


INTERNAL COMMUNICATION BOARDS 3,75



MANAGEMENT BY MISSIONS PROJECT EVENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3,75



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INDEX OF GRI STANDARDS One of our communication goals at ELIX, within the framework of the Management by Missions project, was to support the needs of the different business areas of the company and bring visibility to the initiatives of each department. In this sense, communication management spans across all departments of the company, developing new mediums and collaborative activities.

In 2018 we published 10 ELIX Actualidad internal newsletters and developed over 30 activities to promote the well-being of our employees: health campaigns, conferences, memos to raise awareness on specific topics related to well-being, workshops, etc. We also put in place 36 internal actions to foster a sense of belonging and commitment among our employees.

In terms of social media, ELIX has presence on LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube, where we have boosted the visibility and reputation of our company, growing our online community and building loyalty among our stakeholders.

In 2018 we had 1.033 new followers on **LinkedIn**, a 64,8% increase from 2017, making our professional community a valuable asset. In addition, we offered our employees training sessions on LinkedIn to help them make the most of this professional social media site.

# Whenever we have the opportunity, we support awareness campaigns through our communication channels.

As far as **Twitter**, our followers have grown by 130%. On this social media site, besides giving updates on our company and the industry, we are supporters of the campaign #NoCulpesAlPlástico (#DontBlamePlastic). This is an initiative set forth by the main associations of the plastics industry to inform and examine the different applications of plastic materials, as well as to raise consumer awareness on the importance of proper plastic use.

On our **YouTube** channel we posted 7 new videos, closing 2018 with a total of 20 corporate videos on various topics highlighting the key role our team of professionals plays in the company's success.

We increased our presence in **specialised industry media** at the international level by 20%. Likewise, we participated in 8 **international tradefairs**, 6 in Europe and 2 in the United States — these last two being strategic actions to promote the company's business in the NAFTA region.

With the aim of building loyalty among our sales contacts, we published 4 quarterly **corporate newsletters** for our customers, suppliers and distributors, with news on products, services and events at ELIX. In addition, we published 2 company newsletters in the NAFTA region for current and potential customers, as a way of generating interest in our brand and the materials we offer in this region.







**-inkedln** =LIX Polymer



Twitter

@ELIXPolymers

@ELIXPolymers ES



**YouTube** ELIX Polymers

# 4.3 STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

# In 2018 we established the objectives and strategic plan for our sustainability policy at ELIX.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is an area whose goal is to define our global work plan for sustainability across the whole organisation, examining the objectives we have set at ELIX and the actions required to reach them, as well as identifying national and international initiatives we can incorporate — all of this in order to be at the forefront of industry trends as a leading environmentally responsible company.

Our strategic action plan for sustainability and the objectives associated with this plan are connected to our commitment at ELIX as defined in the Management by Missions project, which is distributed in the following way:

In a way that pervades all of these tenets, we operate following criteria of ethics and transparency in all of our relationships, within the organisation as well as with external stakeholders. Therefore, these two aspects are essential to the sustainability of our company's business and are situated at the core of our strategy.

Each strategic action plan includes medium-term objectives and actions in order to identify areas where we can improve the impact our business has on the community and our local environment.

CERTIFIED
MANAGEMENT
SYSTEMS ASSURE
PRODUCT QUALITY
AND CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENTS IN
THE SUSTAINABILITY
OF OUR BUSINESS
OPERATIONS



ISO 14001:2015
Environmental Managemen



ISO 50001:2011

Energy Management Syste



**ISO 9001:2015**Quality Management System
Certificate

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**CUSTOMER SATISFACTION** 



PROFESSIONAL GROWTH FOR EMPLOYEES



RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT



SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS OPERATIONS

#### **CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**

Tailor-made solutions

Product and service quality

Responsible Innovation, promoting the design of reusable and recyclable products in order to improve and extend the life span and value of all our products and contribute to a more circular economy

### PROFESSIONAL GROWTH FOR EMPLOYEES

Training and development both personal and professional

Responsibility and integrity

Motivation and group cohesion within our team

Equal opportunities

Well-being of all employees

# ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY

## RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

Sustainable and responsible growth

Contribution to the development of the local economy

# SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Philosophy of continuous improvement

Guarantee the safety of our employees, our workplace and our products

Improve sustainability practises and take accountability for the protection of the environment

Incorporation of Corporate Social Responsibility throughout the supply chain

# WE PARTICIPATE IN BENCHMARK INITIATIVES

With the firm purpose of positioning ourselves as a sustainable company and as such contributing to the economic, social and environmental operations of our industry, we continue to participate in different national and international initiatives:

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We have been members of Responsible Care since 2008. This project is a global volunteer initiative in the chemical industry for continuous improvements in Safety, Health and Environmental Protection in all industry operations, in accordance with Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility in Business principles. The program provides information in an effort to answer the questions of stakeholders within the industry as well as the general public. It includes 7 action areas related to economics, social issues, environmental factors, ethics and good governance, and compiles 52 performance evaluation indicators for the chemical industry based on the Sustainable Development goals framework established by the United Nations in the 2030 Agenda. The chemical industry actively contributes to the achievement of these goals thanks to its high innovative capacity.



A non-governmental organisation with members in over 130 countries. This organisation has more than 80 years of experience as an international institution representing different business sectors. It aims to promote business throughout the world and investments based on free market values. In response to the report "World Commission on Environment Development," ICC developed "Business Charter for Sustainable Development," which defines 16 principles for promoting environmental management.





EcoVadis rates the sustainability of suppliers for global supply chains.
Their rating method consists of evaluating the quality of a company's CSR management system (policies, implementation measures and results). Evaluations focus on 21 aspects divided into four categories (environment, work practises and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement).



Since December of 2017, we have been members of the <u>United Nations Global</u>
<u>Compact</u>. This initiative provides a practical framework for developing, incorporating and disseminating sustainable business policies and practises, endorsed by our CEO. In addition, it provides accessible management tools and resources to help us implement a sustainable business and development model.



measures.

We are members of the Volunteer Agreement Program of the Catalan Climate Change Office (OCCC). Through our membership in this program, we demonstrate our concern at ELIX over climate change and our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions beyond current legislation, through regular emission monitoring and yearly reduction



We are members of the program "Operation Clean Sweep", Zero Resin Pellets. This is an international initiative started 25 years ago by the plastics industry to protect the environment, working towards minimising the loss of resin pellets and microplastics, this way avoiding their entrance into rivers and oceans.

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# WE ARE MEMBERS OF THE MAIN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

ELIX is a member of the main chemical industry associations in Catalonia, Spain and Europe. Through these associations we establish close ties and in some cases collaborations with companies representing the entire plastics manufacturing chain. In addition, these associations help us defend the interests of the chemical industry and promote its competitive and innovative growth.

In 2018 we became members of **MedPharm Plast** (MPEE) in order to keep up-to-date on the trends in one of our main markets: the healthcare industry. In this sector we serve customers from the main European and US injection moulding companies as well as international pharmaceutical companies.

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#### **GLOBAL ASSOCIATIONS GLOBALES**



#### PLASTICS EUROPE

A leading business association representing the main polymer manufacturers of the European plastics industry. www.plasticseurope.org



# SPANISH CHEMICAL INDUSTRY BUSINESS FEDERATION (FEIQUE)

One of the largest business organisations defending the interests of the chemical industry in Spain. It promotes expansion and competitive development in the chemical industry in accordance with sustainable development principles.

www.feigue.org



# THE EUROPEAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COUNCIL (CEFIC)

A forum for the chemical industry in Europe and dedicated collaborator of EU decision makers.

www.cefic.org



**LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS** 

#### TARRAGONA CHEMICAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (AEQT)

This association brings together the chemical industries of Camp de Tarragona and Tierras del Ebro, and whose mission is to assure the global competitiveness of these industrial areas, contributing to the sustainable develoment of the region.



# TARRAGONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, SERVICES AND NAVIGATION

A public corporation that promotes activities supporting business development and carries out actions of interest to the business and commerce community of its district.

www.cambratgn.com



### CATALAN TRANSPORT USERS COUNCIL

This council offers its member companies a common space for exchanging knowledge on transport and logistics, as well as providing support in the management of imports and exports.

www.shippers.cat

# RELEVANT ISSUES ON SUSTAINABILITY, THE BASE OF OUR STRATEGY

With the goal of making improvements in our company's business, it is essential for us to know in what areas and in what ways our operations impact our social, economic and natural environment; impacts can be felt throughout the entire value chain, affecting our stakeholders.

In 2016 we conducted a materiality analysis to identify the most relevant aspects of our operations, innovation capacity and sustainability, as well as the most pressing issues for our stakeholders. This analysis was revised and broadened in 2017.

As our business in 2018 experienced no substantial changes, the CSR Area decided that this year a revision of the analysis was unnecessary.

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#### **ELIX MATERIALITY ANALYSIS**

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

Using the topics comprising GRI standards as a base, and adding other topics we considered significant to our organisation, we compiled a list in 2016 of all the potentiall relevant topics to our business at ELIX; we identified these topics through analysis of the industry (sustainability initiatives) and analysis of other companies within the industry.

#### PRIORITISATION

The prioritisation of topics was done taking into account the perspective of our stakeholders (external environment) as well as company executives (internal environment), who ranked each sustainability topic on our list according to level of importance.

- Inside the company, we conducted a workshop fo Senior Management.
- Outside the company, we got feedback from our stakeholders through an anonymous online survey.
   In 2017 we conducted more in-depth surveys geared towards public administration and the chemical industry, and revised our prioritisation.

#### VALIDATION

Our materiality matrix at ELIX shows the results obtained from the internal environment (horizontal line) as well as additional results from the external environment (vertica line).

These results were corroborated by the Senior Managementt at ELIX, who decided to include as materia aspects topics of high priority for ELIX but considered low priority by our stakeholders.

In 2018 there were no change in this area with comparison to 2017.

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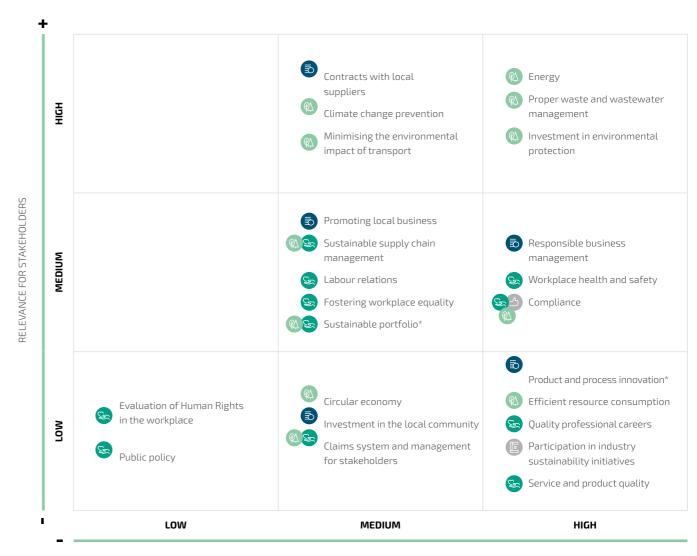
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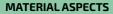
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#### MATERIALITY MATRIX







ECONOMIC CATEGORY



SOCIAL CATEGORY



ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORY



ORGANISATION PROFILE CATEGORY



GOOD GOVERNANCE CATEGORY

#### RELEVANT TOPICS AND THEIR RELATION TO THE VALUE CHAIN

#### **RAW MATERIAL**

**SUPPLIERS** 

# PRODUCTION, QUALITY CONTROL AND PACKAGING ELIX

FINAL PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION



Energy

of transport

Compliance

Contractors

Contracts with local suppliers

Service and product quality

Sustainable supply chain management

Minimising the environmental impact

Labour relations (with contractors)

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### FORMULATION, POLYMERISATION AND COMPOUNDING

Responsible business management Product and process innovation Proper waste and wastewater management Energy

Investment in environmental protection
Workplace health and safety
Quality professional careers

Fostering workplace equality
Compliance
Participation in industry sustainability
initiatives

Service and product quality Sustainable portfolio



#### **QUALITY CONTROL AND PACKAGING**

Responsible business management Proper waste and wastewater management Efficient resource consumption

Energy

Workplace health and safety Labour relations (with contractors) Compliance

Service and product quality



#### SALES

Responsible business management
Promoting local business
Quality professional careers
Compliance
Service and product quality
Sustainable portfolio



Responsible business management
Efficient resource consumption
Climate change prevention
Minimising the environmental impact
of transport
Compliance

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# **CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**

We believe responsible innovation to be a differentiating value in the quality of our products and services, offering tailor-made solutions that meet the requirements of the ABS market.



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#### MISSION

To offer the best in high quality, tailor-made solutions.

To provide optimal service and deliveries.





#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

#### OFFER TAILOR-MADE SOLUTIONS

Proactively visit customers to know their needs and incorporate improvements.

Develop new, tailor-made products and services according to customer needs.

#### PRODUCT AND SERVICE QUALITY

Accompany our customers in the processes of product development, order management, consumption and technical support for materials, to satisfy their needs quickly and accordingly.

#### **RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION**

Incorporate sustainability as an innovation and development strategy within a differentiating portfolio of thermoplastic products.



At ELIX, our objectives and the actions we take to reach them, place our customers at the core of our business. Working for and collaborating with our customers has established us as a trustworthy, leading company in ABS.

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#### **PROXIMITY**

We create close, personalised relationships with our customers and make the most of the geographic proximity to our main markets for better product distribution.



#### TAILOR-MADE SERVICES

We apply tailor-made product and service solutions thanks to our interdepartmental teamwork and continuous improvements.



#### **FLEXIBILITY**

**PROACTIVITY** 

We encourage collaboration

in our value chain to establish

long-term relationships that

generate positive synergy.

Our flexibility and agility give us extra technical-productive capacity, making us more equipped to respond to possible changes in market demands.

#### **GLOBALITY**

We work in over 40 countries and offer our services in various languages, optimising our operations in terms of security and privacy.





#### **GOALS ACHIEVED IN 2018**

98,9% THROUGH JULY 2018





**78%** 2012 95,5% 2018 IMPROVEMENT IN OTIF RATE

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# 5.1 PRODUCT AND SERVICE QUALITY

As part of our mission and commitment, we guarantee the flexibility, quality and reliability of our products and meet our customers' needs with a quick response capacity. Our goal is to provide our customers with the best experience from the onset of their projects throughout the process of product development, consumption and technical support for our materials, up until the preparation of their next order.

Our SLA (Service Level Agreement), in force in 2018, allowed us to offer a differentiating service, totally adaptable and appropriate to each and every customer. In the coming years, the initiatives we develop in this area will be those defined in our roadmap for process digitalisation: a technological transformation we will use to improve our services and create more value for our customers.



#### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Ensures that all of our customers' needs are met and guarantees personalised attention. This service works to satisfy customers' needs, including those that require our high capacity logisitcs at ELIX, allowing us to effectively adapt to changing circumstances.



#### **TECHNICAL SERVICE**

Comprised of an interdisciplinary team of professionals with the knowledge and resources to assist customers in the use of our products. Areas included in this service are:

- Development of new colours and products
- Technical support and problem solution
- · Product management, Intellectual Property management and Technology Forecasting
- Specialised support for all market segments

RIGHT FIRST TIME CLAIMS (MATERIAL PRODUCED (MATERIAL + LOGISTICS) **VS MATERIAL NOT OK) VS NUMBER OF DELIVERIES OBJECTIVE** 99% 0,78 2018 **PERFORMANCE** 0,63 99,3% 2018 **OBJECTIVE** 99% 0,73% 2019

**WE INTRODUCED TWO NEW CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEYS: NET PROMOTER SCORE** AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SCORE

In 2018 we wanted to make even further improvements in the services we offer so we allocated resources towards examining the most relevant aspects for our customers when making their purchase decisions, understanding their needs and at the same time knowing what it is that assures their trust in us. We put our efforts into understanding our relationships with customers in order to improve these relationships in a global way.

We improved our employment of Net Promoter Score (NPS), a tool we implemented in 2017. NPS is used to measure customer loyalty based on the response to just one question: "How likely are you to recommend our products or services to a colleague? Depending on their answers, customers are classified as promoters, passives or detractors on a scale of most to least satisfied with the product or service they received.

During this year we made NPS a relevant indicator for customer satisfaction management, as we are interested in defining clear objectives for our employment of this survey in upcoming years. NPS results showed us that between 2017 and the end of 2018, customer satisfaction increased by 74%.

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**NPS PROGRESS** 

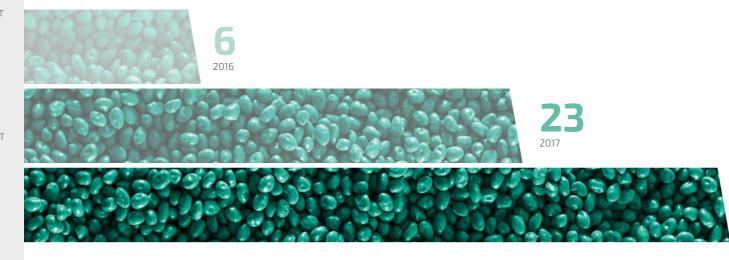
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# Industry studies on NPS position us as higher than average.

Though NPS is a tool generally used in Busines to Consumer (B2C) markets, it is not so present in Business to Business (B2B) markets where we are applying it in an innovative way. For this reason, there isn't much data on NPS in the chemical industry and there aren't many comparative studies. However, the few references there are place ELIX in an above average position within the industry.

New in 2018 were the transactional measures of the Customer Satisfaction Score (CSAT), a tool for operational performance that measures customer satisfaction with a

product or service. For each company-customer touchpoint, a satisfaction question is sent, followed by an improvement question in case of a low satisfaction level. In 2018 we used the Claims area as our first company-customer touchpoint; in 2019 we are planning to expand the CSAT into the area of sample deliveries.

The combined analysis of customer responses in these two tools will enable us to develop specific actions within a cyclical procedure of continuous improvement.

Although customer participation in NPS and CSAT seems to be on the rise, it is still much lower than we would prefer. Therefore, one of our goals is to increase customer response in this area.

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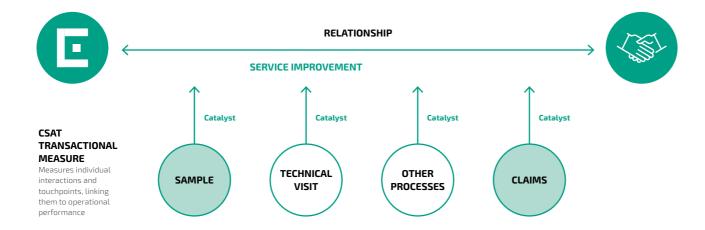
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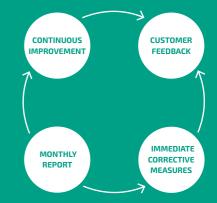
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# **MEASURE - NPS**

SENT TO CUSTOMERS BIANNUALLY





## **CUSTOMER SATISFACTION**

# We maintain high levels of customer satisfaction thanks to our personalised attention and tailormade products and services.

We conduct a a yearly customer satisfaction survey; our 2018 survey showed a high degree of satisfaction with our products and services. On a scale of 1 to 5, the areas with the highest levels of satisfaction continued to be product quality, customer service, the sales team and logistics.

# **PRODUCT QUALITY AND SAFETY**

Quality is the area that scored the highest among our customers and is one of the contributors to ELIX being a competitive and reliable company in the thermoplastics industry.

Our mission and policy on sustainability affirm our commitment to quality and safety, and the protection of health and the environment. To this end, we employ a certified management system in accordance with the ISO 9001 standard which ensures that our products comply with the highest quality standards for their sale. We also

comply with the most stringent national, international and industry regulations regarding health and safety (see statements, product information and regulation compliance here).

We operate under the concept of product responsibility, which means that we evaluate and manage the potential risks of our products during their entire life cycle. Furthermore, we focus on responsible and ethical management right from the initial phases of product development, allowing us to improve sustainability within the industry.

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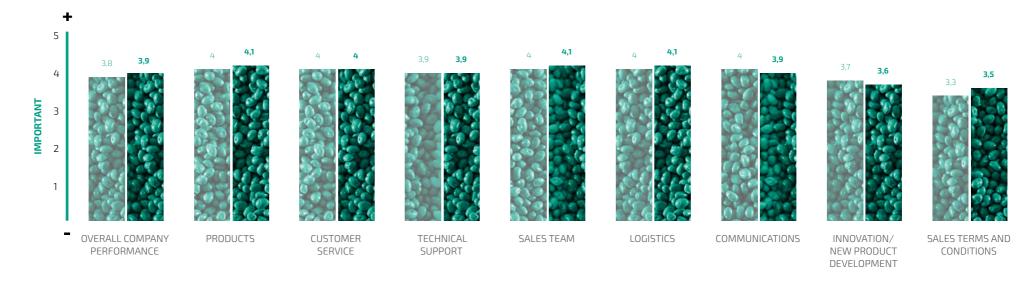
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# **COMPARISON OF SATISFACTION RESULTS**



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# ELIX COMPLIES WITH THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

Regulation 1935/2004 Regulation (EU) no 10/201

US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

US FDA 21 Code of Federal Regulations Section 181.32

**CLP Regulation (EC)** 

nº 1272/2008

CONEG Legislation for containers and their residues

94/62/CEand modifications

Montreal Protocol (substances that deplete the ozone layer)

# **OUR SERVICE QUALITY**

Through our post-sales service we assist and inform customers on the correct handling and use of our products as well as product characteristics and applications. We continue to publish brochures and update our Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) with information about chemical compounds, usage, storage, handling, emergency protocol and potential health hazards regarding dangerous materials (see brochures <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>). In addition, customers who download our MSDS receive notifications with updates on their products.

With the objective of creating technical know-how and knowledge of our processes on one hand, and on the other hand improving our communication with customers to transmit our professionalism and capacity for innovation, in 2018 we developed the following elements:

Document support
files for the different
work action plans we
are developing based on
information gathered from
visits, applications and

materials.

- Technical newsletter
   "Transferring knowledge,
   giving solutions" to keep
   customers updated on a
   quarterly basis, covering
   their technical needs
   concerning new products
   and developments at ELIX.
- An ecolabel for the most sustainable products.
- Improvements in the labeling and packaging of octobins, due to a change in the yellow "end of hatch" label which was

- replaced with "do not pile" red tape clearly visible from all angles.
- Yellow Cards with information on product safety and the flammability of active products in our portfolio, highly rated by our customers.
- An updated version of the **Healthcare** brochure with an expanded list of services for this field.
- "Samples made for you"

   an initiative consisting
   of new containers and
   package designs for
   the samples we send to
   customers, improving
   visibility and presentation.



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# 5.2 RESPONSIBLE INNOVATION

Plastics are currently in the public eye due to their impact on health and the environment. Therefore, after 40 years of experience in the manufacture of ABS, we remain committed to research and development in order to innovate and improve our portfolio.

We identify, develop and embrace new opportunities that demonstrate a clear dedication to sustainability with the aim of developing business plans and products that are respectful of people and the environment.

In this way, we incorporate sustainability as a strategy for innovation and for the development of a differentiating, specialised thermoplastics product catalogue with high added value that satisfies market demand and the needs of our customers.

We contribute positively to sustainability through Responsible Innovation.

	INVESTMENT INTENSITY IN R+D+I (PERCENTAGE OF TURNOVER)	CATALOGUE RENEWAL: MORE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS (PERCENTAGE OF SALES)	NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (PERCENTAGE OF SALES)
OBJECTIVE 2018	1,1%	30,3%	10,0%
PERFORMANCE 2018	× 0,88%	30,3%	5,3%
OBJECTIVE 2019	0,90%	30,0%	We have decided to not use this indicator

Responsible Innovation at ELIX means that all products must incorporate the priorities established in our innovation policy, which we define according to three vectors:

- Environmentally friendly manufacturing
- A portfolio with more sustainable products
- Health impact awareness

We incorporate sustainability into the development of new products thanks to **Value Sensitive Design (VSD)**; this method allows for product design integrating the evaluation of sustainable principles in their environmental, social and economic aspects. In 2017 we began to employ VSD and by 2018 we managed to apply it to each and every one of our products.

# Sustainable principles are integrated into all of our products thanks to VSD.

We apply this procedure to new products with added value, prioritising environmentally friendly manufacturing processes (evaluation survey) as well as the specific requirements of customers (product development requirement), implementing it in all phases of design. In addition, this method includes a life cycle analysis which helps in decision making as it makes an objective comparison of the environmental impacts of different products and services.

## PRODUCT/SERVICE SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE



LASER MARKING

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## PRODUCT INNOVATION

Within the framework of our Responsible Innovation strategy initiated in 2017, this year we developed new, more sustainable products and materials, some based on non-renewable but more sustainable raw materials and others based on totally renewable raw materials. These developments have allowed us to renew our portfolio, adding diversity and quality to the thermoplastics market. We also created the Intellectual Property area, which will be in charge of evaluating the intellectual property and patents of our products.

Our innovation at ELIX generates a positive impact

**WE INVESTED IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE PORTFOLIO** 

**WE DEVELOPED ECOLABELS FOR OUR MOST SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS** 





# **ECOLABEL SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS**

ELIX contributes to the transition towards a circular economy within the industry. We understand a circular economy to be a tool for assessing and reutilising waste, as well as including raw materials from renewable

We are working on the ecodesign of plastics to develop new materials which are more environmentally sustainable, either because of low greenhouse gas emissions or because they incorporate natural fibres.

Within this framework, we implemented our first symbol for the sustainable products in our portfolio with a **type II** ecolabel, which is our own environmental statement. This symbol helps to identify the products that comply with the specific criteria of ISO 14021:2017.

-			ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT					+	
PORTFOLIO TO DATE			ABS STANDARD & SPECIALTIES ABS			ABS-PC			
NEW PRODUCTS	ECO-ABS BIO-ABS	REINFORCED ABS	ABS STANDARD & SPECIALTIES ABS	NEW HIGH HEAT ABS		NEW ABS-PC	PC/ABS		
OLD PRODUCTS			ABS STANDARD & SPECIALTIES ABS		OLD HIGH HEAT ABS BASED ON AMS	TS	OLD HIGH HEAT ABS-PC BASED ON AMS	PA/ABS	ABS FLAME RETARDANT

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Our ecolabels highlight the recyclability of our products, their content of renewable material and their low carbon footprint compared to other products in our portfolio. ELIX ABS-NF, ELIX ABS/PLA and ELIX M730RP are the products that fulfil these

to encourage the demand for and supply verifiable and precise information helping to avoid errors or confusion.

three requisites.

With this environmental label we hope

In 2018 we closed five important product innovation projects that we began in 2016 and 2017; of these, "Deep black" and "Very high Flow ABS" successfully entered into the Consumer Goods industry.

In 2018 we continued to work on various innovation and improvement projects initiated between 2016 and 2017; we hope to see the results of these projects throughout 2019. In addition, we started new product development in response to detected market demand:

- ABS and PC/ABS with permanent conductive, dissipative and antistatic properties
- ABS with greater dimensional stability
- ABS/PC wth high flow for electroplating
- ABS with greater scratch resistance

In order to reach the level of innovation we believe is necessary for our company, we rely on a network of collaborators in technological centres and clusters, with whom we foster collaborative innovation.

**WE FOSTER COLLABORATIVE INNOVATION THROUGH INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK WITH TECHNOLOGICAL CENTRES AND SPECIALISED CLUSTERS** 

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# **INNOVATIVE PROJECTS**

In 2018 we initiated the Fund 3D and Flash 3D projects with subsidies from the European Union. The Flash 3D project is an example of a strategic commitment to the development of halogen-free flame retardant ABS, a totally new product on the iter

Sulw

and collaborating companies.

The project started in 2018 and is currently in the planning phase with trials and sampling. The plan is to launch the finished product into the market in 2020. Research work for this product is being carried out in collaboration with technological centres





VSD methods allow our customers to get involved in the design of more sustainable products and the search for concrete solutions adapted to their needs. Therefore, Responsible Innovation naturally develops in a way that is totally in line with our objective of ensuring speed and efficiency for our customers and enables us to proactively propose optimal solutions based on flexibility and reliability.

# We collaborate with our customers to develop more sustainable products.

In 2018 we participated in joint projects as part of our collaborative service, enabling us to build loyalty among our customers and gain greater mutual knowledge to help us advance in the development of new products.



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A perfect example of this collaboration between customers and ELIX is the following project which was developed in 2018:

#### **COMPARISON OF ABS AND ASA**

A customer needed to compare the environmental sustainability of two types of polymers: ABS and ASA. The Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) tool was used for the comparison, specifically to calculate the environmental impacts of these products. Of all the impacts, carbon footprint was considered to be the most relevant and is where we have put our emphasis as this indicator gives us information on the contribution to climate change.

The result of this study showed that ABS leaves 9% less of a carbon footprint than ASA. Furthermore, if we take into account other environmental impacts such as water contamination or toxicity, ABS ends up in its totality, as 16% better than ASA. Therefore, the conclusion is that ABS is more sustainable than ASA.

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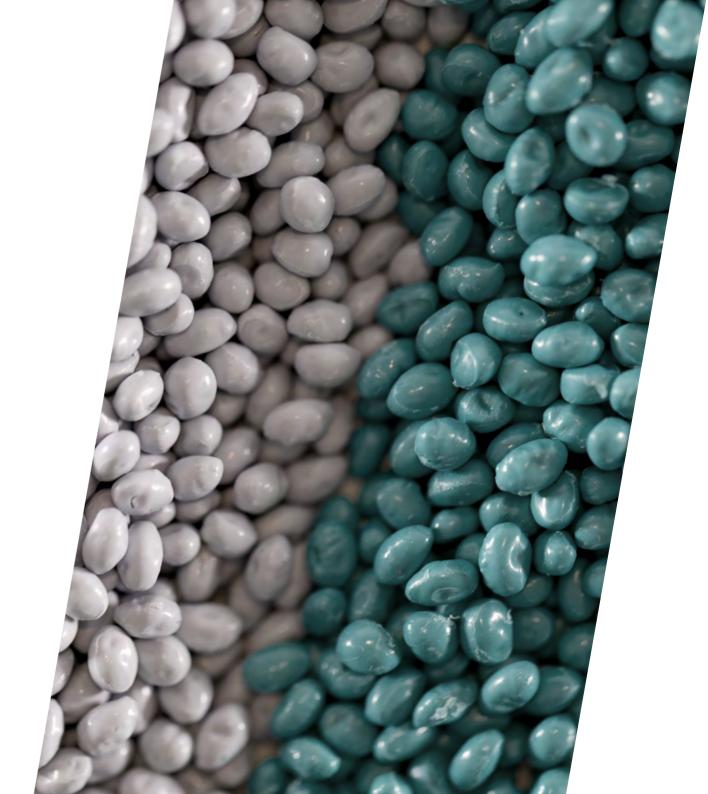
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# THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TEAM

At ELIX we promote the personal and professional development of all our employees and strive to attain a collaborative work environment, encouraging trust and a positive atmosphere.



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MISSION

To promote personal and professional development.





#### SUSTAINABILITY

# PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND LEARNING

We develop a professional training plan for all of our employees and support personal initiatives such as sports and solidarity activities, studies, occupational training sessions and others. In addition, we work together to find ways to achieve a worklife balance.

# RESPONSIBILITY AND INTEGRITY

We apply a responsible Human Resources policy to get our team involved in the overall objectives of the company.

# MOTIVATION AND COHESION ON OUR TEAM

We constantly work towards the satisfaction of our employees at ELIX through a Human Resources model that supports training, continuous workplace evaluation and improvement, as well as job stability, professional performance and job position description.

# WE SUPPORT EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Our policy on equal opportunity addresses different areas such as access to job positions, training, professional development and salary.

# THE WELL-BEING OF OUR EMPLOYEES

Our management strategy aims to establish a healthy work environment oriented towards the physical, social and emotional well-being of the people who make up our team.



The human factor is essential in our organization. The consolidation of a cohesive, professional and committed team has been and continues to be one of our strategic objectives at ELIX.

We work to create an atmosphere of cooperation, transparency, trust and respect among all of our company's employees. To achieve this, it is fundamental that they are empowered. Therefore, we guide them in their professional growth, detect their training needs, encourage their participation and integration in the organization and foster work-life balance, with the aim of creating dynamic and motivated teams.

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#### 2018

PERFORMANCE	•	•
OBJECTIVES	IMPLEMENT SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES MATRIX	EXPAND ACCESS TO EMPLOYEE WEB MILENA TO ENTIRE STAFF AT FI IX

#### 2019

OBJECTIVES	UPDATE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PLAN AND MOBBING PROTOCOL	LAUNCH TALENT MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT
	1 L/W/WB WBBMAT NOTOCOL	PLAN

# A HEALTHY COMPANY

We are very pleased with a project we initiated in 2018 which spans across the whole company and whose goal is to foster the emotional, physical and social well-being of each and every person at all levels of the organization.

This project was ambitious in terms of its implementation as it involves all levels of ELIX and concerns all the people within the company as well as in our immediate social environment.

Thanks to this project, we will be able to consolidate our team, promoting health and quality of life, and encouraging personal and professional growth. In this way, we hope to stimulate a sense of pride and satisfaction in job performance as well as a sense of belonging at ELIX.

Diversity, participation, creativity, leadership and empowerment are the key values of the project, and its main strategic concepts are:

- Improving physical wellbeing through job safety and excellent prevention measures.
- Fostering a positive psychosocial environment through personal development and emotional well-being.
- Attaining optimal social well-being through the promotion of healthy habits and common illness prevention.
- Extending this model of a healthy work environment to our stakeholders and immediate social environment.





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# 6.1 PERSONAL DEVELOP-MENT AND PROFESSIONAL **GROWTH**

We want to provide all the people at ELIX with an excellent employee experience. To fulfil this commitment, we developed a labour policy based on work performance evaluation which supports training and growth, continuous work environment evaluation and improvement, and job stability.

During the course of 2018 we incorporated new Human Resources software, MILENA WEB, to provide closer, more personalised attention to all ELIX staff, this way accomplishing our mission.

Meanwhile, the employee website makes it easy to access personal and professional information and helps process medical leaves or holidays for all employees including operators, who previously didn't have access. This website, in addition to facilitating communication within the organization, enables middle management to have a quick view of the comings and goings of the people on their teams.

Employee representation in our company is mediated by various committees at ELIX: The Negotiation Committee, the Permanent Committee, the Employment and Professional Category Committee, the Equality Committee, the Job Training Committee, the Health and Safety Committee and the Social Committee.



# A STRONG WORK-LIFE BALANCE POLICY AND FAIRNESS IN WORK REINTEGRATION

Recent legislation has extended paternity leave, now granting five uninterrupted weeks, with two additional days for each child after the second one in the case of multiple birth, adoption or legal guardianship. At ELIX we do all we can so that our employees may move a week within the first nine months of maternity in order to guarantee a work lifefamily life balance. The right to these periods is independent of the shared rights of maternity leave.

When returing to work after maternity leave, employees at ELIX have the right to accumulate nursing hours, which translates to work days. They can also use their unused holiday time and even request leave without pay to take care of their newborns. All of this with a 100% guarantee of work reintegration, respecting their seniority.

At ELIX we continue to support internal promotion. According to employee job performance, we offer opportunities to continue growing within the organization. Nonetheless, the generational shift has produced a decrease in staff, due to recent changes in full retirement eligibility.

We also support new talent with the incorporation of young candidates and the creation of opportunities for them. For this reason, we have hired ELIX students who carried out internships in our facilities through the Compte de Rius Institute.

<b>STAFF</b> (31/12/2018) <sup>1</sup>	2016	2017	2018
TOTAL EMPLOYEES	272	288	252
CONTRACTORS <sup>2</sup>	76	79	78

1 The information displayed here refers to the employees in Tarragona (Spain), the main and only office of the company. Total employees include those who are semiretired; in all other graphs of this section these employees are not included as though they are still employees of ELIX, their level of dedication is not the same as the rest. **2** With the exception of this graph, all others in this section do not include external employees (contractors) since we do not have direct management capacity over them.

#### **NEW HIRES**



BY AGE	2016	2017	2018
UNDER 30	1	3	3
30 TO 50	30	23	15
OVER 50	-	-	-

BY GENDER	2016	2017	2018
MEN	18	22	11
WOMEN	13	4	7

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<b>↓12,5%</b>
<b>EMPLOYEE</b>
COMPARED
TO 2017

WOMEN -MEN **↓15,5%** 



233 197

<b>↓1,3%</b>	
CONTRACTORS	

COMPARED TO 2017

WOMEN **↑11,1%** MEN **↓2,9%** 









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TURNOVER RATE	2016	2017	2018
BY AGE			
UNDER 30	0%	0%	0%
30 TO 50	1%	1%	1%
OVER 50	0%	0%	0%
BY GENDER			
MEN	0%	0%	0%
WOMEN	1%	1%	1%

<b>BY CONTRACT TYPE</b> (31/12/2018)	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
% OF STAFF WITH INDEFINITE CONTRACTS	89,9%	90,6%	93,5%	3,3%
INDEFINITE	205	230	217	-5,7%
MEN	165	178	168	-5,6%
WOMEN	40	52	49	-5,8%
TEMPORARY	23	24	15	-37,5%
MEN	12	16	10	-37,5%
WOMEN	11	8	5	-37,5%

Note: Semiretired employees not included.

<b>BY TIMETABLE TYPE</b> (31/12/2018)	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
% OF FULL TIME STAFF	96,5%	95,7%	94,8%	-0,9%
FULLTIME	220	243	220	-9,5%
MEN	177	194	178	-8,2%
WOMEN	43	49	42	-14,3%
PART TIME	8	8	12	8%
MEN	0	0	0	-
WOMEN	8	8	12	8%

Note: Semiretired employees not included.



**WE SUPPORT JOB STABILITY ON OUR STAFF** 

93,5% WITH INDEFINITE CONTRACTS

# THE MOTIVATION AND COMMITMENT OF OUR TEAM

With the slogan "People make ELIX" we want to reinforce the importance of our team as a key factor in the success of our business. Work environment directly influences the well-being of people, and consequently, their job performance and involvement in the company.

For this reason, we conducted a Work Environment and Commitment Survey in 2018, which measured employees' levels of comfort and satisfaction in terms of adaptation capacity, mission, coherence and participation.

Survey results revealed a higher level of staff dedication when their participation was higher. Employees were asked about the generation of changes, the focus on customers and the capacity for learning, and from their answers we concluded that there were improvements among employees regarding these external aspects. Another aspect that saw growth was the company mission, which analyses strategic intention and orientation, goals and objectives, and our vision at ELIX.

With the aim of creating a positive work environment, we also encouraged participation in sports, solidarity and integration activities which help to motivate and get employees involved, strengthening a sense of belonging at ELIX.

ABSENTEEISM RATE 3,6 2,0 2,1 **5,1** 

# Our level of employee absenteeism is much lower than the national average in the industry.

For two consecutive years we obtained positive results from our incorporation of policies and strategies for promoting health and safety at work. Positive results also came from our work to improve our attention to the people who make up our team, supporting them and encouraging their motivation and sense of empowerment. Proof of all this work is our low level of employee absenteeism, much lower than the national average for the industry.

We also support training on our team, promoting the talent of our professionals whose knowledge and competencies guarantee the solid growth of our company.

In 2018, 18 ELIX employees completed vocational training programs and received official accreditation in Industrial Chemistry, validating their development within the company. For this reason, the company hosted a recognition ceremony for their effort and commitment.

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# **SOCIAL BENEFITS FOR OUR TEAM**

At ELIX our entire staff operates under the General State Agreement for the Chemical Industry and have at their disposal a Complementary Agreement drafted by the Legal Representation of Employees, which improves the conditions established in the General Agreement. During the last quarter of 2018 we negotiated the revision and improvement of our Complementary Agreement at ELIX, which will come into effect in 2019, once it is approved by our new owner, Sinochem International.

During the course of negotiations with social agents, company representatives and works council, we held assemblies and meetings with the negotiation committee and made the corresponding minutes public and available to all staff.

# 100% OF OUR STAFF **IS COVERED BY** THE COLLECTIVE **AGREEMENT**

The most relevant points of the agreement can be summarised as follows:

- We maintained social benefits, even improving certain points such as extending family member medical leave to include second degree relatives.
- We established a variable income system for 2019 -2020 for ELIX staff, connected to the achievement of set indicators/objectives. We will carry out a monthly follow up on the achievement of these objectives using special boards specificlly for this purpose.

These are the main social benefits we offer at ELIX:

- Assistance for employees prolonging their studies
- First time home buyer
- Assistance for people with physical or intellectual disability
- Seniority or loyalty rewards
- Christmas gift sets
- Holiday flats
- Employee Pension Plan
- Collective health insurance
- Life Assurance
- Day care assistance
- School assistance
- · Employee dining hall service

## In 2018 we held elections for trade works council.

In compliance with labour laws regarding employee representation and fully supporting trade union presence in the heart of our company, this year we held elections for works council.

#### **PROFESSIONAL GROWTH**

One of the pillars of our company is to provide value to our employees through professional training. This year we started the project "Competency and Capacity Matrix Implementation", focused on reinforcing the strong points, capacities and competencies of our employees so that they can perform their jobs in the most effective way. We conducted individual assessments to identify areas needing improvement and skills to develop, and then defined the training requirements for members of each team.

# We increased total training hours for employees by 40%.

In 2018 a total of 6.745 hours went to employee training in the most relevant areas for the company, such as personal skills, health and safety and technical competencies.

# We doubled our training hours devoted to the areas of health and safety, strengthening one of our basic pillars at ELIX through specific professional training.

This year our investment in training was less than the previous year as currently at ELIX we have qualified professionals able to conduct internal workshops and courses to help develop the talents of their colleagues.

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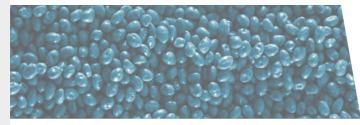
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# **TOTAL EMPLOYEE TRAINING HOURS**



4.812 h 2017



6.745h 2018

AVERAGE TRAINING HOURS	ſ			
EXECUTIVES	40,9	18,0	80,3	42,0
SKILLED WORKERS, TECHNICIANS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	22,8	41,8	27,2	37,9
OPERATORS	10,2	23,3	9,0	31,0
SALES REPRESENTATIVES	22,0	9,0	31,5	2,7



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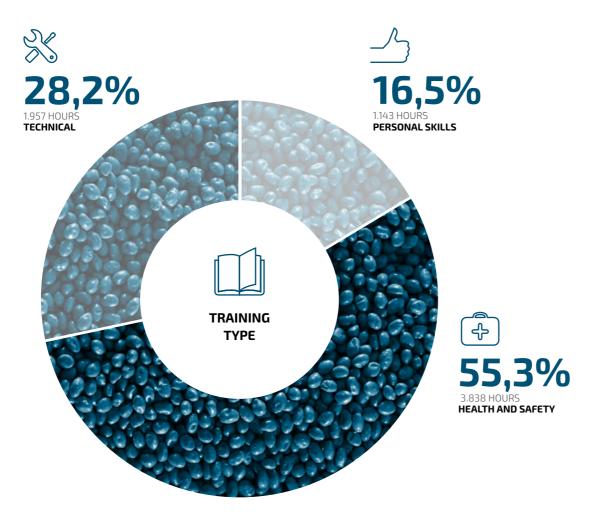
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# **INVESTMENT IN TRAINING**



140.256€ 93.487€





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At ELIX we are committed to equal opportunity and do not discriminate based on gender. Through our **Equality Committee** –made up of works council, company representatives and the special figure of the **Equality** Agent - we ensure compliance with our Equality Plan, approved in 2012.

The Equality Commission holds regular meetings to ensure equality principles and procedures for established actions.

Within the legal framework of our Equality Plan, we developed the Action Protocol against Sexual Harassment as a guarantee of our company's prevention and action in the face of any behaviour that could be construed as a sexual offence or violation of the dignity and respect of an employee.

With the aim of compliance with the Integration Law for people with disabilities, at ELIX we collaborate with Special Employment Centres (CEE) to support the employability and work integration of this collective.

## PRESENCE OF WOMEN BY JOB CATEGORY



20,0% - 2018

**EXECUTIVES** 

**20.0%** - 2017 **20,0%** - 2016



**51,2%** - 2018 SKILLED WORKERS. TECHNICIANS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**42,6%** - 2017 **48.3%** - 2016



**2,4%** - 2018

**OPERATORS** 

**2,3%** - 2017 **2.5%** - 2016



**60,0%** - 2018

REPRESENTATIVES

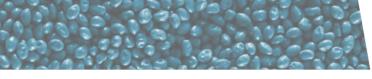
**66.7%** - 2017 **66,7%** - 2016

WE HAVE INCREASED FEMALE PRESENCE IN A PREDOMINANTLY **MALE INDUSTRY** 

## **WOMEN ON STAFF**



21,3% 2017





30,3% 2018



## **DIVERSITY IN GOVERNING ORGANS**

# 20% **3 WOMEN IN GOVERNING ORGANS** 12 MEN IN GOVERNING ORGANS

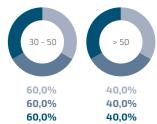
# **COMPARISON OF AVERAGE SALARY AT ELIX\*** TO AVERAGE INTERPROFESSIONAL SALARY





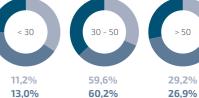
## AGE DISTRIBUTION BY JOB CATEGORY





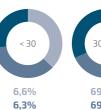


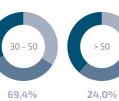
SKILLED WORKERS, **TECHNICIANS** AND ADMINISTRATIVE 8,1% STAFF



69,8%







22,1%

4,8%

69,5% 65,1%

24,2% 30,2%



100,0% 100,0%

100,0%

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#### MISSION

To generate a collaborative, safe and sustainable work environment.





#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

## WE HAVE INCORPORATED A PHILOSOPHY OF CONTINUOUS **IMPROVEMENT IN OUR COMPANY**

The application of LEAN methods in different company processes.

Standardising the creation of continuous improvement teams in the daily operations of our facilities.

#### **WE GUARANTEE WORKPLACE SAFETY FOR OUR EMPLOYEES**

The incorporation of "Healthy Company" strategies.

The incorporation of the Strategic Plan for Safety Culture: safety based on human behaviour.

The definition and incorporation of Safety Rules.

Continuous improvement in workplace conditions.

#### WE PROTECT THE **ENVIRONMENT**

Energy Efficiency Program.

Waste reduction and evaluation program.

## WE INCORPORATE **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY** THROUGHOUT THE SUPPLY CHAIN

The incorporation of Corporate Social Responsibility criteria in all new contracts with suppliers.

# 7.1 LEAN CULTURE

At ELIX we incorporate **LEAN culture**, a method of continuous learning and improvement in the services we offer our customers, allowing us to strenghthen management processes and at the same time promote the development of our professional team. This initiative forms part of our global mission for the personal and professional growth of our employees.

We employ this method by means of multidisciplinary teams who look for solutions to problems that affect the different plants and through the virtual tool "LEAN Community", a corporate intranet space for initiative sharing and mutual learning.

In addition, every year we organise LEAN Day, where representatives from different areas of the company share their experiences and impart what they have learned.

The positive impact generated by this method can be observed in the commitment and participation of all team members, which means the achievement of results and consequently a positive contribution to the fulfillment of our mission.

In 2018, participation in work teams to collaborate on continuous improvement reports (called A3s) increased by 58% with respect to the previous year. It is worth noting that the number of A3s has doubled since 2017.

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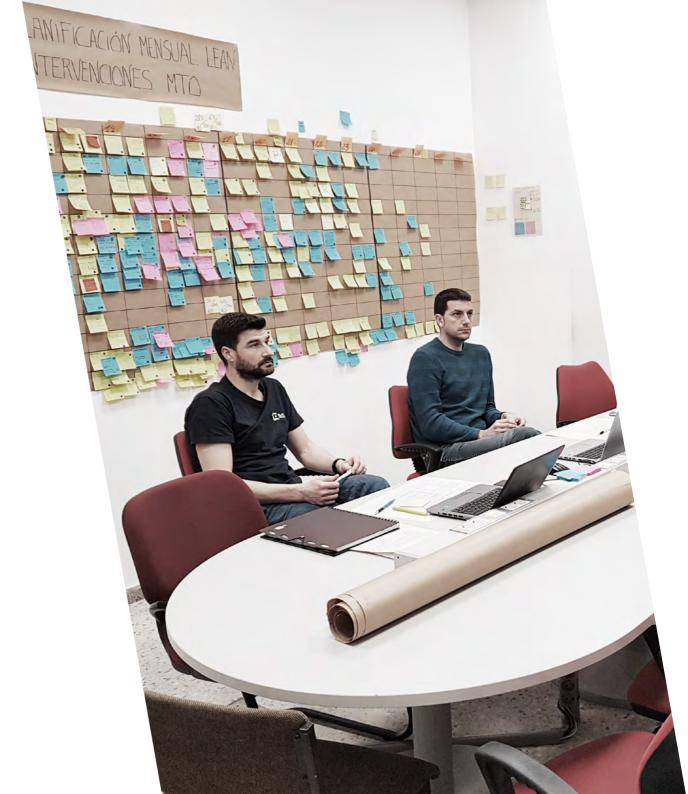
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# 7.2 A SAFE AND HEALTHY **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

Safety is one of the key pillars of our corporate strategy at ELIX and it is even more relevant for us particularly as it is a highly sensitive issue in the chemical industry.

Our mission establishes safety in our production processes and for our employees as core priorities which are also included in the strategic objectives of our sustainability policy. Our goal is to avoid accidents and incidents and continuously improve workplace conditions.

We have a management system where we define the responsibilities, objectives and actions related to Occupational Health and Safety (OHS). Year after year, we conduct regular checks using specific indicators to ensure compliance with annual objectives.

#### 2018

**HEALTH AND SAFETY** TRIPLE ZERO **OBJECTIVES** 

Occupational accidents

Process Safety Incidents

In 2018 there were two registered process incidents<sup>1</sup> and one accident with medical leave.

Environmental incidents

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENTS IN WORKPLACE CONDITIONS

**PERFORMANCE** 







Incorporation of workplace, maintenance and production safety training.

1 Indicator in accordance with the Responsible Care committee standards of FEIOUE

#### 2019

**HEALTH AND SAFETY** TRIPLE ZERO **OBJECTIVES** 

CONTINUOUS **IMPROVEMENTS IN** WORKPLACE CONDITIONS

**IMPLEMENT HSE ALERT SYSTEMS** AND PARTICIPATORY **CAMPAIGNS** (improvements in communication strategy of OHS) IMPLEMENT "HEALTHY COMPANY" STRATEGIES

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INDEX OF GRI STANDARDS This year we were audited for compliance with legal requisites on prevention, safety and the environment, as well as with the Prevention Law of our own Occupational Health and Safety Service. In addition, we obtained a "favourable" score in the annual safety report, in accordance with Serious Accidents regulations.

Under these regulations, legal compliance is checked with regard to the adoption of appropriate measures for preventing serious accidents, minimising consequences in and out of company facilities, the veracity of data and information included in the Safety Report and the programs and information provided to our employees on protection and action measures in case of an accident.

With the aim of going beyond what the law establishes and creating an excellent preventive culture that allows us to reduce our annual rate of occupational accidents to zero, we conducted an analysis of annual accidents to examine the results of our Job Safety and Risk Prevention actions and identify the main causes of accidents.

The results of the analysis revealed that the main causes of accidents have to do with the conditions and design of equipment and facilities, as well as with prevention management. By contrast, personal factors, such as acquired habits, are improving in this area.

The conclusions of the analysis done in 2018 made it clear to us what strategic lines we need to follow to reduce accidents in the upcoming year:

Risk identification and perception to establish action plans so that employees are capable of identifying and communicating risks and proposing preventive measures to avoid potential accidents.

Generate a preventive culture and leadership to transmit the concept of safety as a priority and generate actions which are appropriate and visible.

Foster the communication of preventive measures.

Revision of equipment design and processes wherever human intervention is required, incorporating safety and ergonomic aspects.

**Training** in specific operational procedures where safety aspects are incorporated.

We also investigated incidents and Unsafe Situation Alerts (ASI), establishing a plan for action and for communicating report results to technicians and Operations Area staff.

# PLAN E, GENERATING A PREVENTIVE CULTURE AND LEADERSHIP

In 2017 we created a strategic Organizatior Based Safety project, refered to internally as Plan E, with the objective of changing safety-related behaviour as a whole, through changes in personal attitude and the acquisition of positive group values regarding well-being in the workplace.

In 2018 we began on the path to this profound cultural transformation which represents an opportunity to make ELIX as afer, more comfortable workplace.

To achieve this, we set up **CONECTA-T,** a participatory forum to communicate and suggest improvements, as well as a tool for applying knowledge management the poosts participation. In 2019 we plan to adapt and improve this platform.







activities such as the **Lego Serious Play** 

HEALTH AND SAFETY INDEX	2016	2017	2018
N° OF ACCIDENTS WITH MEDICAL LEAVE	2	0 and o	2 One internal ne contractor
N° OF ACCIDENTS WITHOUT MEDICAL LEAVE	6	4	6
FREQUENCY RATE <sup>1</sup>	5,29	0	2,65
RATE OF SERIOUSNESS <sup>2</sup>	0,17	0	0,06

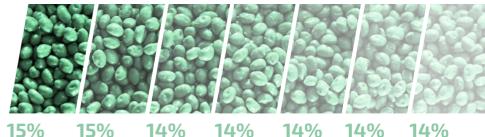
**1.** Calculated as F.R. =  $10^6$  x  $n^\circ$  accidents /  $n^\circ$  hours worked

**2.** Calculated as R.S. =  $10^3$  x  $n^0$  missed work days /  $n^0$  hours worked

In 2018, one internal employee had an accident requiring medical leave. We maintained a positive trend in reducing the seriousness of incidents, the majority due to physical contact of head and hands.



# **ACCIDENT TYPES 2018**



15% Bangs,

blows to the body

Struck Being by moving trapped

objects

14% Thermal contact

14% Particle or fluid

projection

Cuts

Same level falls

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## **ACTIONS FOR ACCIDENT PREVENTION**

We doubled our hours of safety training with respect to last year.

One of the highlights of 2018 was **the amount of hours devoted to safety training** our staff took part in. During this year we invested 3.838 hours in training, which comes out to 16,8 hours of training per employee.

Specific actions we carried out:

- Safety training for 18 new hires.
- 12 safety lectures with a participatory focus for maintenance staff to encourage their contribution in identifying risks and improving procedures and preventive actions.

1 Cumulative training hours.

- 103 training sessions on specific risks for service companies, with a total of 545 participants.
- sessions on OHS for 18 employees in the areas of production, maintenance and laboratories, designating them as preventive resources.

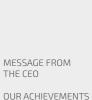
# SAFETY WEEK, A WEEK OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT ELIX

For the second year in a row, as part of the International Day for Workplace Health an Safety, we celebrated **Safety Week.** 

Safety Week at ELIX allows us to strengther safety culture in the company and reinforce the concept of well-being, highlighting our commitment to the people who form part of our company by creating a safe and sustainable work environment. The goal of this week is to bring visibility to our incorporation of healthy workplace habits, physically, psychologically and socially. To achieve this, during Safety Week we organised a wide variety of events such as workshops promoting healthy habits, labour risk awareness activities, conferences and guided tours of the facilities, salsa classes, Mindfulness workshops and others. All with a participatory nature and with the idea of capturing the interest of our employees and getting them involved, since success in the area of safety is only possible with the collective effort of everyone at ELIX.

In addition, we held a recognition ceremony, with an award for the employee with the most participation in the Unsafe Situation Alert (ASI) program, an award that recognises and encourages employee involvement and proactiveness in the continuous improvement of workplace safety conditions. Another award was the Safety award for the Best Service Company, which evaluates the daliy incorporation of good safety practises.

Safety Week 2018 was truly valued by our employees and participation was high, which motivates us to continue organisin this event along the same lines of action.



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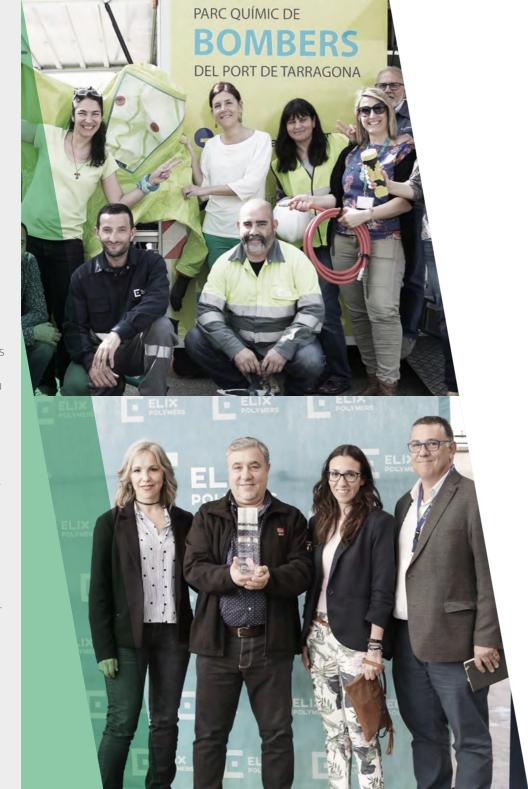
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## OTHER OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH **AND SAFETY ACTIVITIES:**

- 18 audits for the coordination of OHS activities and incorporation aimed at service companies who operate in our facilities.
- We increased our safety preventive observations to 446 and housekeeping rounds to 289, with the participation of middle management, production and maintenance technicians, and Senior Management members.
- 10 work site risk assessments, where we made improvements in the design of installations and tasks, for jobs using screens in the laboratories and for specific ergonomic issues in the polymerisation plant.

- The creation of new maps identifying Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be used for specific tasks.
- Revision of authorised protection equipment and ensuring it is easily accessible to employees.
- There were 69 Unsafe Situation Alerts (ASI), representing a 97% increase with respect to previous years.

## **PROCESS SAFETY** PERFORMANCE:

- 186 equipment evaluations in accordance with RD1215/97 and 50 evaluations of changes in installations and processes.
- 10 process safety analyses.
- Total revision of ELIX Polymers Emergency Plan in accordance with Decree 30/2015; based on this we are currently designing a corresponding training course.
- 5 internal emergency exercises and 1 annual drill where all employees and the on-site contractor participated.
- · Diagnosis and revision of fire load using quantitative methodology.



#### **HEALTH RELATED TOPICS:**

- We continued to incorporate First Aid Assistance and Health Monitoring Services, initiated in 2017.
- For the second time we held different health promotion campaigns:
  - Early detection of colon cancer.
  - Identification of skin phototypes.
  - Emotional well-being test (TEST DASS-42).

- Blood donation day.
- Heat stroke prevention.
- Talk on breast cancer: repercussions on patients and their immediate environment.
- Early diabetes detection.
- Flu vaccination.
- Early Glaucoma and retinal disease detection.
- Glaucoma prevention.

• We signed a collaborative We supported initiatives such as the family agreement with the Spanish Cancer walkathon to raise Association: through funds for breast cancer this association we sent prevention, and the talk on a monthly newsletter nutritional chronobiology "Your health comes during the healthy first" with the aim of solidarity breakfast we spreading information organised as part of the on the prevention and TV3 Marathon. early detection of cancer, helping to adopt a healthy lifestyle and providing

information on the

association (AECC).

# We extend our safety standards to include collaborating companies.

All external companies who collaborate with ELIX sign a collaboration contract, confirming their compliance with our regulations and policies on safety and environmental protection.

We conduct job evaluation and supervision jointly and carry out regular safety audits. In this way, in 2018 **we increased by 24% our joint safety preventive observations**, carried out by our Occupational Health and Safety Service technicians in conjunction with our habitual service companies.

In addition, we use **CAE** (Coordination of Business Activities), the online platform for document management, which allows us to guarantee compliance in the coordination of activities by contractors in our company facilities. Through this platform, we have managed 209 companies and 1.648 workers.



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# 7.3 OUR COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT

The objective of our environmental protection strategy is to progressively prevent and reduce the negative impacts our business has on our natural environment. This strategy consists of two levels:



## **OPERATIONAL LEVEL**

Focused on reducing the environmental impact of our manufacturing processes.

#### PRODUCT LEVEL

Connected to our commitment to develop more sustainable products and services (see section 5.2).

Our policies on the environment, sustainability and energy are the main action plans in our overall environmental strategy. The objectives of these policies are to improve efficiency in the consumption of resources during the manufacture of our products and to reach optimal energetic performance in our facilitites and activities. These policies are incorporated into our management systems through regulations certifications ISO 14001 (environmental management) and ISO 50001 (efficient energy management).

To measure our performance at ELIX in applying these policies, we defined a tracking system for the environmental aspects we identified as significant for our business, enabling us to annually assess the degree to which we have attained our environmental goals. One of these systems is the Life Cycle Analysis for our products, where we focus on Carbon Footprint measurement and volume of generated waste.

The analysis of environmental risks shows that the preventive measures we have been applying since 2016 have reduced the risk of potentially hazardous situations due to spills or leaks of the materials we use and the waste we produce.



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#### 2018

**OBJECTIVES** 

↓1,5% OVERALL REDUCTION OF ENERGETIC COSTS

WORK TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE REUTILISATION OF FILTERCAKES AS RAW MATERIAL FOR INDUSTRIAL

DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VALUE SENSITIVE DESIGN (VSD)

PROJECT TO IMPLEMENT THE "OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP" (OCS) PROGRAM

**PERFORMANCE** 

-0,93%

**IN COURSE** 

USE



100%



100%

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**OBJECTIVES** 

↓1,5% OVERALL REDUCTION OF ENERGETIC COSTS

**WORK TOWARDS** A CIRCULAR **ECONOMY THROUGH** PARTICIPATION IN PILOT PROGRAM FOR THE REUTILISATION OF FILTERCAKES AS RAW MATERIAL FOR INDUSTRIAL USE

VIABILITY STUDY ON THE REUTILISATION OF EMPTY DRUMS FOR LIQUIDS MADE OF **AUXILIARY MATERIALS** TO USE AS WASTE CONTAINERS, WITH SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

PROJECT TO USE RECYCLED PALLETS IN THE PACKAGING OF FINISHED PRODUCTS.

"OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP - ZERO RESIN PELLETS" PROGRAM: IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN FOR MINIMISING RESIN PELLET AND MICROPLASTIC LOSS IN OUR FACILITIES.



**OUR RAW MATERIAL INDEX, WHICH MEASURES** THE EFFICIENCY OF RAW MATERIAL USE DURING PRODUCTION PROCESSES. HAS REMAINED AT LEVELS **SIMILAR TO THOSE OF** 





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# **RATIONALISING MATERIAL CONSUMPTION**

We continued to work on the efficient use of resources through the rationalising of raw material consumption. In 2018, we maintained levels similar to those of 2017 in terms of raw and auxiliary material consumption, except in the consumption of styrene and butadiene which increased due to an increase in the sales of our product ELIX158i.

ELIX, as a chemical company, is fully aware of the high socioenvironmental implications of any mistake in handling raw materials, particularly those considered dangerous. To avoid this, we have mechanisms in place that allow us to comply with applicable regulations regarding the handling of these types of substances and to monitor the application of required measures from their safety information sheets.

For an even higher level of safety, we also perform regular checks to measure levels of soil contamination.

MAIN RAW MATERIAL CONSUMPTION (T)	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
ACRYLONITRILE	19.223	21.877	21.897	0,1%
BUTADIENE	16.651	18.660	19.344	3,7%
STYRENE	55.625	62.781	62.928	0,2%
TOTAL MAIN RAW MATERIALS (T)	91.499	103.318	104.169	1%



# **OVERVIEW OF EFFICIENT RAW MATERIAL CONSUMPTION RATES**

96,3% 97,1% 96.9%





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# We reduced our consumption of paper by 31%.

In 2018 we started a successful campaign to reduce paper consumption, getting different managers in our company involved to define reduction objectives with their work teams.

stemmed out of this campaign:

- The Installation of double PC screens to reduce printing.
- The default setting on all printers for double sided printing.
- departments to carry out audits and revisions.

These are some of the actions that

- The incorporation of tablets in certain
- The replacement of paper documents with digital documents.



As part of our **energy policy**, we set specific objectives every year for reducing energy consumption and we define the criteria for tracking these objectives.

In 2018 we planned several actions for reducing energy consumption, such as leak detection, operational checks and purger revisions. Though we had satisfactory results, we didn't reach our specific energy efficiency objectives for 2018. Nonetheless, these actions allowed us to reduce the absolute value of steam, natural gas and electricity consumption and maintain a stable level of energy consumption per tonne of ABS produced.

Electricity, steam and natural gas consumption make up more than 90% of our organisation's total energy consumption.

#### **OVERVIEW OF PAPER** $\uparrow \uparrow$ CONSUMPTION 2017 2018 NON-RECYCLED PAPER 18 18 0% 18 RECYCLED PAPER 815 986 675 -32% -31% TOTAL PAPER CONSUMPTION 833 1.004 693

**IN 2018 WE CONTINUED TO REDUCE OUR OVERALL ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND MAINTAINED LEVELS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF 2017 IN CONSUMPTION PER TONNE OF ABS** 



 $\uparrow \uparrow$ **ENERGY CONSUMPTION** 2017 2018 PLANT TOTAL (kWh/YEAR) 101.458.142 104.117.104 102.298.187 -1,8% TOTAL (kWh/T ABS PRODUCED) 1.054,4 940,5 941,6 0,11%

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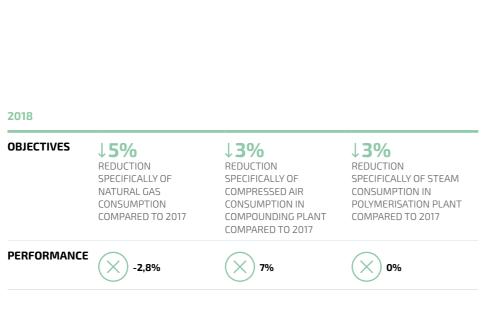
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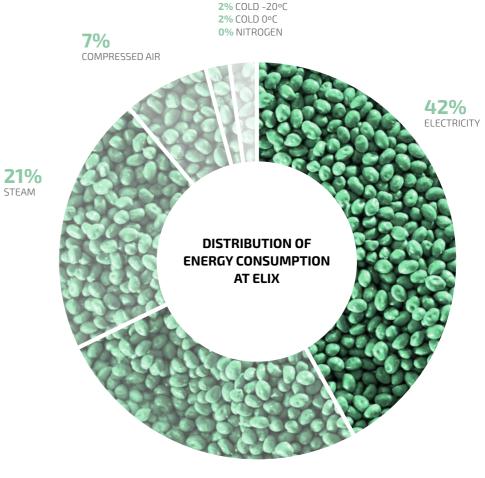
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26% NATURAL GAS

#### 2019

**OBJECTIVES** 

**↓1,5%** OVERALL REDUCTION OF SPECIFIC ENERGETIC COSTS, BASED ON CONSUMPTION IN €/T

↓1,5% REDUCTION SPECIFICALLY OF MOST SIGNIFICANT ENERGY CONSUMPTION: ELECTRICITY

↓3% REDUCTION SPECIFICALLY OF STEAM **CONSUMPTION IN** DRYING UNIT

22,5 Nm<sup>3</sup>/t MAINTAIN 2018 LEVELS OF SPECIFIC NATURAL GAS CONSUMPTION IN SAN PLANT

#### MANAGEMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS

#### THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF OUR ORGANISATION

Tackling the issue of climate change, whose impact extends across the whole planet, is a fundamental aspect of our environmental performance at ELIX and we demonstrate it through our membership in the Volunteer Agreement Program for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions of the Catalan Climate Change Office of the Catalan government (Generalitat). To maintain our membership, we presented a new inventory of our emissions and information on the improvement measures we incorporated as well as proposals for new actions.

**Carbon footprint calculation** provides us with useful information for identifying the phases of our operations and lifecycle of our products where impact is highest and at the same time, helps us focus our efforts on diminishing the impact our business has on climate change.



WE REDUCED THE CARBON **FOOTPRINT OF THE ORGANIZATION BY 12% WITH RESPECT TO 2017** 

This calculation, in turn, has additional benefits for our organization:

- Reduction of energy costs.
- Reduction of dependence on fossil fuels and susceptibility due to its price volatility.
- · Strategic positioning.
- Added value for our services, products and projects, and our relationship with workers.
- Improvements in environmental management thanks to the involvement of suppliers and customers.

In 2018 we reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in our organization by 12%. This decrease is greater than our reduction of energy consumption and is due to a decrease in the Spanish electricity mix in 2018.

#### **GHG EMISSION** $\downarrow \uparrow$ INTENSITY 2017 2018 **EMISSIONS PER PRODUCTION** 0.2289 0.2385 0.2141 -10.3% (TCO, eq./TABS+sales) **EMISSIONS PER EMPLOYEE** 82.8 101.8 88.8 -12.8% (T CO, eq./employee)

Source: Calculations based on consumption of natural gas and diesel oil including road transport (scope 1), electricity and other types of energy consumption (scope 2). Emission factors used are those contained in the 2018 version of the Practical guide for calculating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

#### **CARBON FOOTPRINT OF PRODUCTS**

The carbon footprint of our ABS manufacturing processes, as well as transport and distribution of ABS to our customers grew with respect to the previous year, due to an increase in raw material consumption and road transport of finished products<sup>1</sup>.

Carbon footprint levels associated with transport from ELIX facilities to customers rose in 2018 given the increase in road transport and decrease in intermodal transport. This situation was due to strikes in France during the second and third quarters of the year.

**1** Economic allocation of ABS slightly increased with respect to the previous year, making environmental impact more attributable to ABS than to sales to intermediaries

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#### **CARBON FOOTPRINT OF ABS MANUFACTURING PROCESSES AND DISTRIBUTION**

Source: Calculations based on consumption associated with ABS production and transport, including raw material consumption and transport to ELIX, energy use, air and water emissions, waste management and transport to authorised waste facilities, and transport of final products to customers. Data is expressed in KG Co<sub>2</sub>eq. per 1 KG of ABS produced.

0,001

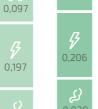
0,128

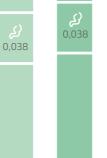
0,244

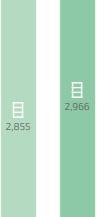
0.047

3,122







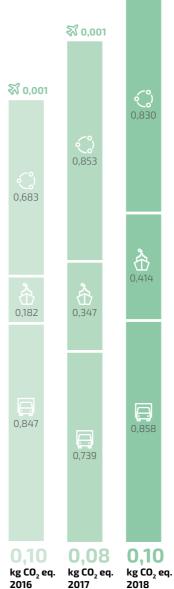


3,34

kg CO, eq. kg CO, eq.

#### **CARBON FOOTPRINT OF FINAL PRODUCT TRANSPORT**

Source: Calculations based on fuel consumption associated with the transport of ABS to customers.



₹ 0,001



Emissions



consumption





Raw material









consumption



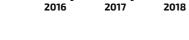
Waste management





( Intermodal





kg CO, eq.

3,19



















#### OTHER ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS

Our atmospheric emissions of contaminants (NO, y CO) remain much lower than established regulation limits.

change, has hazardous consequences on the health of we regularly monitor our atmospheric emissions of contaminants at emission sources to ensure that they remain within regulation limits.

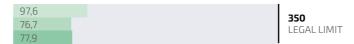
The contamination of the atmosphere, besides climate people and the environment. Because of our commitment to environmental sustainability as well as legal obligations,

#### NO<sub>x</sub> EMISSIONS (mg/Nm³)



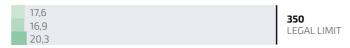
EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **↑0,3%** 

**SAN 2 PLANT** 



EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **1,4%** 

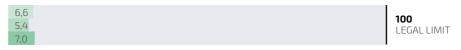
TAR PLANT



EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **↑20,5%** 

**RTO PLANT** 

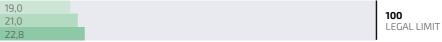
#### CO EMISSIONS (mg/Nm³)



EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **↑29,4% SAN 2 PLANT** 



EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **↓14,8% TAR PLANT** 



EMISSION SOURCE ANNUAL AVERAGE **↑8,6% RTO PLANT** 

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#### **WATER CONSUMPTION**

We evaluate our performance associated with water consumption is the Water Depletion Index (WDI), which analyses the vulnerability of drainage basins in the face of fresh water depletion.

Results are expressed in m³ of freshwater per m³ of water consumed, with 1 being the highest level. In 2018 our water footprint increased due to greater raw material consumption.

In our facilities we only consume regenerated water to avoid the depletion of water resources in our local environment.

At ELIX we are aware of the fact that water is a scarce resource. Therefore, in our facilities we only consume regenerated water and as such do not deplete freshwater resources in our production processes.

Nonetheless we do employ an action plan in our Energy Committee with measures to take for reducing water consumption. Water reduction associated with production shows us that the measures we have taken to improve water management have been effective.

#### **WATER DEPLETION INDEX (WDI)**

$0,025 \mathrm{m}^3$		
0,023 m <sup>3</sup>		
0,023 m <sup>3</sup>		

#### **COOLING WATER**



100% BASE YEAR 2013

#### **INDUSTRIAL WATER**



WATER CONSUMPTION	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
INDUSTRIAL AND TREATED WATER (m³)	113.548	125.914	130.251	3,4%
INDUSTRIAL AND TREATED WATER (m³/T produced)	1,18	1,12	1,21	8,0%
COOLING WATER (m³)	4.117.553	4.649.599	4.489.534	-3,4%
COOLING WATER (m³/T produced)	42,8	41,1	41,4	0,7%

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#### WASTE

Proper waste managment is an important part of our environmental management strategy. Our objective is to decrease our total volume of generated waste and increase its recovery.

We increased waste recovery and substantially decreased incineration or landfill deposit through our strategies for a circular economy.

Fostering waste recovery means working towards a circular economy where the life of raw materials and products is maintained, for example, the use of waste as fuel or the recuperation and regeneration of solvents.

In 2018 we recovered the total volume of generated waste except for the following:

- Fibre cement (30.5 t) used in workplace renovation and refurbishment jobs is not included in production process waste generation, it gets deposited in landfills.
- Waste from filter cakes (308,5 t).
- Waste from absorbents. silicon particles and water with ammonium (6,9 t).

Since 2018 we have had an active project on Circular Economy at the Polytechnic University of Barcelona (UPC) to find a way to recover filter cakes; we hope to have results next year.

#### **TOTAL WASTE**

(t total waste / t produced)

**3.653.5** - 2016

MAIN MANAGEMENT

% RECOVERY

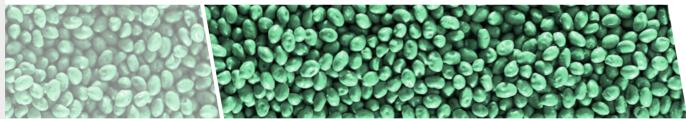
91,2%

87,2%

(t recovered waste / t waste produced)

CHANNELS	2016	2017	2018
INCINERATION	1,7%	2,3%	0,1%
LANDFILL	7,4%	10,5%	9,9%
RECOVERY	91,2%	87,2%	90,0%

#### **RECOVERY TYPES 2018**



**16,8%** SOLVENT REGENERATION

6.3% USE AS FUEL

RECYCLING AND RECLAIMING OF METALS OR METAL COMPOUNDS

RECYCLING OF PAPER AND CARDBOARD

0.7% RECLAMATION. REUSE AND REGENERATION OF PACKAGING

OTHER TYPES OF RECOVERY

REGENERATION OF MINERAL OILS 0,1%

RECLAMATION OF CABLES

68,1%

MATERIALS OF PLASTIC ORIGIN RECYCLED

**WE REDUCED OUR** 

**GENERATED WASTE BY 1,9%** 

**WE REDUCED HAZARDOUS WASTE BY 6%** 

**TOTAL VOLUME OF** 

The nature of our chemical activities requires the use of hazardous products and waste, which if improperly managed, can pose a serious threat to people's health and cause considerable damage to the environment. For this reason, we hold exhaustive training sessions and rounds to ensure proper waste management.

In 2018 we reduced our generation of hazardous waste, in part because tank and reactor cleaning campaigns were not carried out.

**WASTE REDUCTION BEYOND OUR FACILITIES** 

Our use of tankers for product distribution in Europe has reduced our use of packaging materials.

This year we updated our Packaging Waste Prevention Plan. In view of the positive results we observed from measures taken in the previous plan, we will continue prioritising logistic strategies that reduce the use of packaging material, such as the use of tankers for product distribution within the EU. In addition, we commit to analysing unnecessary packaging materials used in pallets and evaluating the possibility of reusing pallets providing customers approve.

The kr/kp indicator gives us information on the amount of packaging put onto the market by ELIX and allows us to establish improvement actions. In 2018, bulk transport in Spain increased by approximately 8% and therefore other types of waste generating packaging processes have decreased, which has meant a **reduction of almost 11% on this indicator, significantly above our initial objective of 5%**.

Analysing the composition of our packaging materials has revealed that they are mostly monomoaterials, the most favourable option for proper recycling.

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## HAZARDOUS WASTE

CHANNELS	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
INCINERATION (t)	59,6	81,2	3,8	-95%
RECOVERY (t)	568,9	658,1	697,8	6%
LANDFILL (t)		36,5	30,9	-15%
TOTAL(t)	628,4	775,8	732,5	-6%

#### WASTE FROM PACKAGING OF PRODUCTS ON THE MARKE

ON THE MARKET	2016	2017	2018	<b>↓</b> ↑
GENERATED PACKAGING WASTE (t/a)	187,4	213,6	159,3	-25,4%
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PRODUCTS ON THE MARKET (t/a)	10.260,9	10.794,9	8.999,3	-16,6%
KR/KP (t PACKAGING/ t PRODUCTS RELEASED TO THE MARKET)*	0,0183	0,0198	0,0177	-10,5%

WE INCREASED
BULK PRODUCT
DISTRIBUTION BY 8%

#### **ZERO RESIN PELLETS IN THE SEA**

Sadly one of the most popular words in 2018 was "microplastics." Numerous news reports and headlines were published on the environmental problem posed by marine litter and the negative impacts it has on marine flora and fauna

In spite of not being direct causes of plastic presence in the sea, we do contribute indirectly to this environmental problem. **Our commitment to sustainability** forces us to assume responsibility for possible resin pellet or plastic powder leaks, and as such, our goal is to reach ZERO resin pellet loss.

In 2017 we joined the "Operation Clean Sweep" (OCS) program, promoted by PlasticsEurope. In 2018, we created a work group through the Chemical Business Association of Tarragona (AEQT) with the participation of all pellet producing companies in Tarragona.

The ojectives of this committee are:

- To improve work place organization with the aim of avoiding and repairing leaks
- To create, modify and publish internal procedures in order to reach our objective of zero pellet loss.
- To provide our employees with information so that they can take responsibility for the prevention, checking, cleaning and elimination of leaks
- To regularly audit our performance.
- To encourage our supply chain (service companies, transport companies, etc.) to support these objectives.

This is a wide ranging program which started in August of 2018 and will go until 2020. Internally at ELIX we created the **Work Committee for the Zero Pellets Program**, comprised of representatives from production, logistics, environmental, engineering and maintenance departments

This initiative includes a publicity campaign, an internal training session to teach all members of our organisation about the program, and the development of different processes to detect risk areas and potential problems in ou facilities.

The program also defines concrete actions and implements a system for monitoring and revising procedures as well as identifying good practises which will help us reach our goal of zero resin pellet loss.

Though our production plants are designed with incorporated containment systems which avoid the spilling of pellets into the sea, the aim of this Committee is to identify where improvements can be made in our production process and to take appropriate actions.





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## 7.4 SUSTAINABILITY IN THE SUPPLY CHAIN

**WE CONTRIBUTE TO** THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY. WITH 63% OF OUR **EXPENDITURE GOING TO SUPPLIERS IN CATALONIA** 

**OUR PRIORITY IS TO WORK WITH COMPANIES WHOSE SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS ARE** IN LINE WITH OUR **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY AT ELIX** 

Sustainability properly understood and practised goes above and beyond the actual company and takes into account the creation of value for society and its local environment in addition to favouring the sustainable practises of suppliers. For this reason, our strategy at ELIX is that our sustainability policy increasingly extends to all of suppliers at all levels.

Currently, the procedure for offical authorisation of raw material suppliers at ELIX requires the certification of management systems based on ISO regulations. To take this even further, we set out to incorporate sustainability standards in the evaluation of new suppliers. At the moment, these standards are not binding but are being highly considered by our purchasing department.

In 2018, we began to apply these standards with our logistics suppliers, by preparing a new transport contract which includes a section on sustainability. By signing this contract, we make them participants in our sustainability policy, as signing suppliers commit to the compliance of standards on human rights, work regulations, the environment and anticorruption, as recognised in the world compact.

Additionally, we comply with **LTD Regulation** (Long Term Declaration), which regulates the use of raw materials from the European Union.

#### 2018

**OBJECTIVES** 

INCORPORATION OF CSR SECTION IN NEW TRANSPORT CONTRACTS

**PERFORMANCE** 



#### 2019

**OBJECTIVES** 

ANALYSE, WITHIN THE PANEL OF SUPPLIERS OF RAW MATERIAL AND INDIRECT PURCHASES. THE SUPPLIERS WHOSE SYSTEMS INCLUDE A CSR POLICY

MONITOR KPI COMPLIANCE IN DIRECT PURCHASES

REVISE RULES IN **CORPORATIVE PURCHASES** MANUAL

Our purchasing policy at ELIX gives preference to materials and products from sources close to our production centre which favours the development of the local economy and consequently reduces emissions associated with transport.

Currently, 17% of our suppliers are located within the province of Tarragona, and more than half are in Catalonia, which means 123 M€ paid to local suppliers: 63% of our total expenditure.

Our relationship with most suppliers is defined by the underlying objective of establishing reliable and longlasting relationships.

Collaborating contractor companies work with a high level
of safety, complying with ELIX and AEQT requisites. Our
transport suppliers are dedicated and have a proactive
attitude in the search for solutions to fulfil our delivery
agreements with customers, this being one of the important $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$
aspects of our differentiation.

SUPPLY CHAIN COMPOSITION	2017	2018
CATALONIA Province of Tarragona Rest of Catalonia	<b>352</b> 125 227	<b>340</b> 119 221
REST OF SPAIN	134	150
REST OF EUROPE	178	180
REST OF THE WORLD	11	25
GENERAL TOTAL	675	695

N° OF SUPPLIERS

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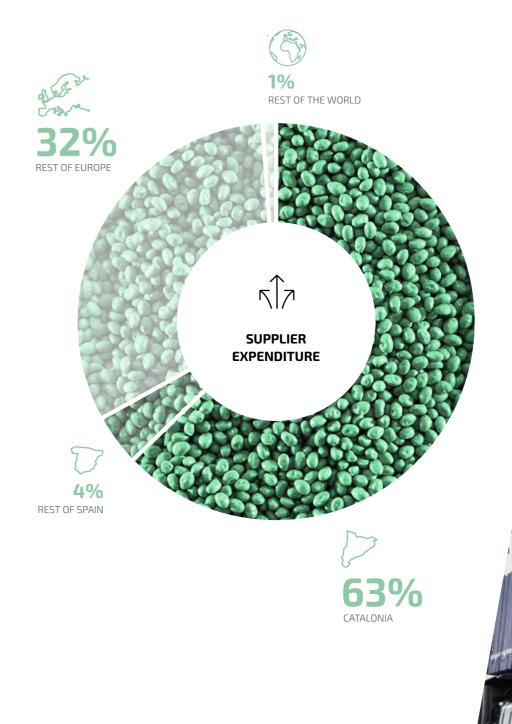
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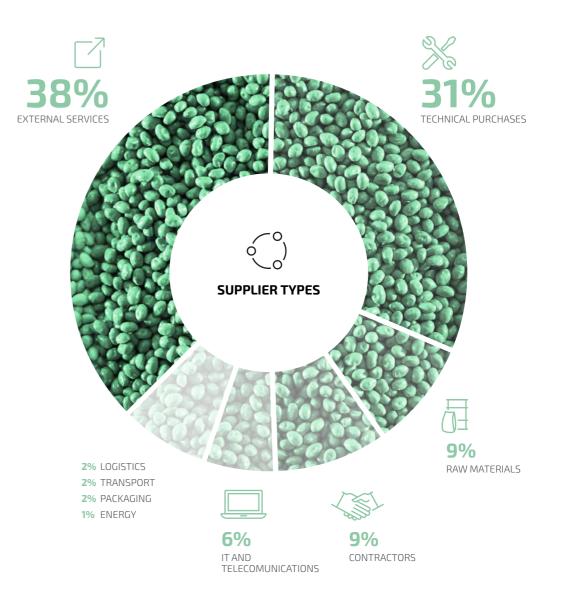
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## **RESPONSIBLE ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT**

The responsible management of economic and risk resources allows us to remain market leaders and reach our goals as a business, ensuring the sustainability of the company.



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## 8.1 ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The growth and optimisation of our company's added value -under the principles of solvency, integrity and a dedicated team, complying rigorously with our legal and contractual obligations- are a guarantee of our commitment at ELIX to our shareholders and other stakeholders.

In 2018 we reached our objectives for sales growth in the strategic sectors we defined and also for structural costs stipulated for this year. All of this was achieved through the responsible management of economic resources,

appropriate management of risks and opportunities in our environment, and the establishment of relationships with our stakeholders on equal terms, which meant EBITDA growth by 8% compared to 2017.

**WE INCREASED OUR REVENUE FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR** 

#### **GROWTH FROM 2017** TO 2018

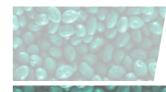
↓0,6% SALES VOLUME BY TONNE

**13,7%** NET SALES

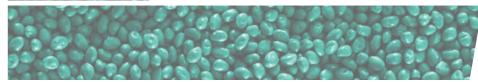
**↑7,7%** 

#### **REVENUE OVERVIEW**

(Data compared to previous year)



↓10,2% 2016





**13,7%** 

**131,4%** 2017

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## In 2018 we invested more than 2 milion euros in environmental protection and improvement.

Our investment in the protection of the environment goes mainly to production processes, with the aim of reducing solid waste and emissions, and increasing the safety of our facilities and business. Some of the noteworthy **improvements we made** were:

- Improvements in precipitate/coagulation and drying (plant) to optimise production and improve safety and environmental aspects.
- The installation of side extruder to improve the handling of degassing condensate.

In 2018 we carried out the following activities in **Research** and **Development**:

- The development of a new ABS plating production system for coating with hexavalent chrome free technologies.
- The development of industrial applications based on graphene and carbonous nanostructures.
- Technological developments for new automotive components with functional finishes.
- The development of innovative 3D printing materials and postprocesses for the construction of moulds and functional tools for indutrial applications.
- The development of fireproof halogen free ABS.
- New AM/3DP technology for the development of very light tools for the transport industry.

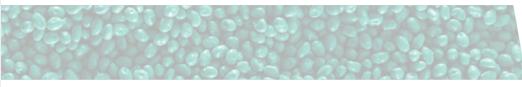
The most relevant aspects that brought **benefits for the** whole team at ELIX in 2018 were:

- Good practise in internal inspection, resulting in the transparency, reliability and traceability of data to facilitate decision ,making on the part of Senior Management and stakeholders, and contribution on the part of departments in their internal processes and decision making.
- Improvement in data forecasting to anticipate possible scenarios of risk or opportunity and if necessary, facilitate the taking of appropriate corrective measures.

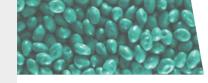
- The implementation of ESKER, a program for billing management.
- The implementation of CAPTIO app, an application for the management of business trips.
- The implementation of SII (Immediate Provision of VAT information) for maintaining VAT registers through the Tax Agency's online platform.



#### **EXPENSES AND INVESTMENTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**



2.451k€ 2016



665 k€



2.299 k€ 2018 In our daily work on economic management, we carry out revisions for internal processes to improve their efficiency and effectiveness with the aim of reaching our set objectives.

#### 2018

#### **OBJECTIVES**

GOOD PRACTISES IN INTERNAL CONTROL. IMPROVEMENTS IN DATA PROJECTION. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT TO OFFER INTERDEPARTMENTAL SERVICE. PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS TO IMPROVE SERVICE FOR OUR CUSTOMERS.

**PERFORMAN** 







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## 8.2 CONTRIBUTION TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Our contribution at ELIX to the local economy is important. It comes as much from our business activity, as a direct economic contribution, as from our participation in social activities carried out in our immediate area.

#### **ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION**

Increase in economic value created was 3,5% compared to 2017.

IN THOUSANDS OF EUROS	2018 VS 2017
ECONOMIC VALUE CREATED	3,5%
GROSS SALES OTHER REVENUE	3,4% 71,1%
ECONOMIC VALUE DISTRIBUTED	3,0%
OPERATIONAL COSTS FINANCIAL EXPENSES CORPORATION TAX	3,2% -9,9% 5,8%
ECONOMIC VALUE RETAINED	13,7%
DEPRECIATION RESERVES	-0,5% 18,0%

Operational costs include: cash discounts + rebates accrual + customer claims & rev. Recognition + outbound freight + sales adjustments (commissions & claims) + material + COGS Other variable costs + COGS Fixed costs + SGA + Non-recurring income/expenses + Management fees

#### CONTRIBUTION TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

With the objective of contributing to and collaborating with our local environment, during the year we held activities promoting and supporting social initiatives developed in our immediate area. In doing this we show our responsibility and involvement with the local community and increase the benefits we can offer it.

90,6% OPERATIONAL COSTS **VALUE ADDED STATUS** 2018

4,7% RESERVES

**1,8%** CORPORATION TAX

**1,7%** FINANCIAL EXPENSES

1,2% DEPRECIATION

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MADE ECONOMIC
CONTRIBUTIONS
TO LOCAL
ORGANISATIONS
FOR A TOTAL OF 8,5K€

These are some of the more representative initiatives we participated in:

#### SUPPORT OF TARRAGONA FOOTBALL CLUB SOCIAL PROJECTS

In 2017 we began our support of this Club and in 2018 renewed our support by participating in several solidarity projects. We centred on benefits for the Congenital Heart Disease Association of the CORAVANT Foundation, in the Running section, and on spreading information about the different social initiatives of the Club. Highlights of these initiatives were the donation of 14 laptops to children at the Voramar Educational Action Residential Centre and the successful toy donation campaign for children in community kitchens in areas near our facilities.

#### PARTICIPATION IN **OXFAM TRAILWALKER EUSKADI. ORGANISED BY** INTERMÓN OXFAM

ELIX participated with two teams in the 2018 edition of Trailwalker, a solidarity project consisting of a sports challenge with the objective of fighting poverty and supporting the right to water. Participating in this activity brought other benefits to our company such as team work and employee cohesion.

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INDEX OF GRI STANDARDS In addition, we contributed to Nadal Park, organised by the town hall of La Canonja, and we supported awareness activities organised by the Spanish Cancer Association (AECC).



## ABOUT THE REPORT

#### **SCOPE OF THE REPORT**

At ELIX, we have produced our third Sustainability report, which covers the period of 1 January to 31 December of 2018. The scope of the information contained in this report corresponds to the business of ELIX Polymers, SL, at its main office and production plant in La Canonja (Tarragona, Spain).

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## CONTENT DEFINITION AND CRITERIA FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT

To compile this report, we counted on the direct participation of key people from different management areas at ELIX, represented under the area of CSR, who have provided information on the different aspects included herein. In this way, it is the result of a collaborative effort, in which all the people involved have contributed with their knowledge and experience.

During the production of this report, the following standards were considered:

- GRI Standards guide of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), in accordance with the Core option.
- Regulation AA1000SES of AccountAbility, during the materiality assessment.

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## CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING REPORT CONTENT

This Sustainability Report 2018 by ELIX complies with the following criteria for determining content for this type of document according to *GRI Standards*:

### STAKEHOLDER INCLUSIVENESS

When the preparation of this sustainability report began, the different stakeholders of our company were directly involved within the framework of the materiality analysis we conducted. A workshop was held where key figures in our organisation participated, ELIX stakeholders were identified, prioritised and finally contacted through a survey. In 2017 there was a revision of stakeholders and material aspects, and there were also in-depth interviews with the town hall of La Canonia, Public Administration and the Chemical Industry of Tarragona. In 2018 there were no changes with respect to previous years.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY CONTEXT**

In identifying the different sustainability topics which were relevant to our organisation, benchmarking was taken into consideration to that effect. During this process, other companies in the same industry as ELIX as well as international sustainability initiatives were analysed with the purpose of knowing the sustainability context of our company and taking it into account for the preparation of this document.

#### **MATERIALITY**

For the preparation of this report, a materiality analysis was conducted in compliance with *GRI Standards* and taking into account regulation AA1000SES of AccountAbility. The analysis conducted as well as the results obtained can be consulted in section 4 of this report.

#### COMPLETENESS

Within the framework of the management systems we implemented for quality (ISO 9001), the environment (ISO 14001), energy management (ISO 50001) and health and safety, at ELIX we have defined a series of tracking indicators, both absolute and relative, with the aim of monitoring the progress of our organsation's behaviour over time and analysing the effects of actions carried out in addition to comparing this information with that of other companies in the industry.

Regarding our application of quality principles in this report, also defined by *GRI Standards*, we have taken into account the balance of information provided, including the positive aspects as well as the negative aspects in our organisation's performance (see "degree of goal achievement in the organisation", for example.)

In this way, the information provided is precise and is used for tracking the correct management of various sustainability topics reflected in the report, which are relevant for ELIX.

Finally and in general terms, data is provided for the year of publication (2018) and the two previous years (2016 and 2017). This gives us a more detailed overview of our organisation's performance progess in each relevant sustainability area. Likewise, we present the information in a way that allows for comparisons with the rest of the industry, for this reason we have chosen specific indexes to that effect.



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The following table summarises the basic universal and topic-specific standards of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), in accordance with GRI standards: Core option.

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## GRI 101: FOUNDATION 2016 BASIC UNIVERSAL STANDARDS

GRI STANDARD INDICATOR		DESCRIPTION	PAGE(S) AND/OR LINKS	OMISSIONS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)	GLOBAL COMPACT	
	ORGAN	ZATION PROFILE					
	102-1	Organization name	11				
	102-2	Activities, brands, products and services	11, 14-15				
	102-3	Main office location	Ctra. de Vilaseca a La Pineda, Pol. Ind., s/n. 43110 La Canonja (España	)			
	102-4	Operations location	Ctra. de Vilaseca a La Pineda, Pol. Ind., s/n. 43110 La Canonja (España	)			
	102-5	Ownership and legal status	90				
	102-6	Served markets	11, 16-17				
	102-7	Organization size	13				
GRI 102: GENERAL DISCLOSURES 2016	102-8	Information on employees and other workers	52-53		8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.	
DISCLUSURES 2010	102-9	Supply chain	82-83				
	102-10	Significant changes in the organisation and its supply chain	12				
	102-11	Precautionary principles or approach	69				
	102-12	External initiatives	29				
	102-13	Memberships in associations	30				
	STRATEGY						
	102-14	Statement by senior executives responsible for decision making	5				
	ETHICS AND INTEGRITY						
	102-16	Values, principles, standards and rules of conduct	23		16. Peace, justice and strong institutions		
	GOVER	NANCE					
	102-18	Structure of governance	21				

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GRI STANDARD INDICATOR		DESCRIPTION	PAGE(S) AND/OR LINKS	OMISSIONS	SDG	GLOBAL COMPACT
	STAKEH	OLDER ENGAGEMENT				
	102-40	Stakeholderlist	24			
	102-41	Collective negotiation agreements	55		8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.
	102-42	Identification and selection of stakeholders	91			
	102-43	Approach for stakeholder engagement	31, 91			
	102-44	Key mentioned topics and concerns	31-33			
	REPORT	ING PRACTICES				
GRI 102: GENERAL	102-45	Entities included in consolidated financial statements	90			
	102-46	Definition of report content and coverage of each aspect	31-33, 90-91			
DISCLOSURES 2016	102-47	List of material topics	32			
	102-48	Restatement of information	There have been no significant changes.			
	102-49	Changes in reporting	There have been no changes.			
	102-50	Reporting period	2018			
	102-51	Date of last report	2017			
	102-52	Reporting cycle	Annual.			
	102-53	Contact point for questions regarding the report	Judith Banus, CSR manager judith.banus@elix-polymers.com			
	102-54	${\it Statement of report preparation in accordance with GRI Standards.}$	92			
	102-55	Index of GRI content	93-103			
	102-56	Externally assured		Not available.		

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#### MATERIAL TOPIC / CATEGORY: ECONOMY

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GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	85-86		No to poverty     Gender equality     B.Decent work and economic growth	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	85-86			
GRI 201: ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE 2016	201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	88	Absolute values for generated and distributed economic value are not provided, only percentages.	Zero hunger     Gender equality     Affordable and clean energy     B.Decent work and economic growth     Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	
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	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	51-52			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	51-52		No to poverty     Gender equality     B.Decent work and economic growth	
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GRI 202: MARKET PRESENCE 2016	202-1	Ratio of initial category salary by gender vs. local minimum wage	59		No to poverty     Gender equality     Affordable and clean energy     B.Decent work and economic growth	
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	103-3	Management approach evaluation	82			
GRI 204: PROCUREMENT PRACTISES 2016	204-1	Proportion of expenditure paid to local suppliers	82		12. Responsible production and consumption	
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GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	81	5	l. No to poverty 5. Gender equality B.Decent work and economic growth	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	81			
GRI 308: ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION OF SUPPLIERS 2016	308-1	New suppliers have passed evaluation and selection filters in accordance with environmental criteria		Information not available.		Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
GRI 414: SOCIAL EVALUATION OF SUPPLIERS 2016	414-1	New suppliers have passed evaluation and selection filters in accordance with social criteria			B.Decent work and economic growth 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights within their area of influence.  Principle 2: Businesses should make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.  Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.





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	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	71, 77			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	71-72, 77		No to poverty     Gender equality     B.Decent work and economic growth	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	71, 77			
GRI 301: MATERIALS 2016	301-1	Materials used by weight or volume	71-72		8.Decent work and economic growth 12. Responsible production and consumption	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
GRI 303: WATER 2016	303-1	Water extraction by source	77		6. Clean water and sanitation	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.





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GRI 103: MANGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	72		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	70, 73			
GRI 302: ENERGY 2016	302-1	Energy consumption in the organization	73		7. Affordable and clean energy 8.Decent work and economic growth 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	302-3	Energy intensity	73		7. Affordable and clean energy 8.Decent work and economic growth 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	302-4	Reduction in energy consumption	73		7. Affordable and clean energy 8.Decent work and economic growth 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

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GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	74, 76		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	74-76			
	305-1	Direct GHG emissions (scope 1)	74-75		3. Good health and well-being 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action 14. Life below water 15. Life on land	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	305-2	Indirect GHG emissions from energy generation (scope 2)	74-75		3. Good health and well-being 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action 14. Life below water 15. Life on land	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	305-4	GHG emission intensity	74		13. Climate action 14. Life below water 15. Life on land	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	305-5	Reduction of GHG emissions	74		13. Climate action 14. Life below water 15. Life on land	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	305-7	Nitrogen oxides (N0 $_{\mbox{\tiny J}}$ ), sulphur oxides (S0 $_{\mbox{\tiny J}}$ ) and other significant air emissions	76		3. Good health and well-being 12. Responsible production and consumption 13. Climate action 14. Life below water 15. Life on land	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

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	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its coverage	78-79			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	78-80		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	78-79			
GRI 306: EFFLUENTS AND WASTE 2016	306-2	Waste by type and disposal method	78-79		3. Good health and well-being 6. Clean water and sanitation 12. Responsible production and consumption	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
	306-4	Hazardous waste transport	79		3.Good health and well-being 12.Responsible production and consumption	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

#### MATERIAL TOPIC / CATEGORY: SOCIAL / SUBCATEGORY: LABOUR PRACTISES

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	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	51			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	51-52, 56		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	52-53, 56			
GRI 401: EMPLOYMENT 2016	401-1	New hires and staff turnover	52-53		5. Gender equality 8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
GRI 404: TRAINING AND EDUCATION 2016	404-1	Average annual hours of training for employees	56		4. Quality education 5. Gender equality 8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

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	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	50, 63			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	50, 63-68		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	63, 65			
GRI 403: OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY 2016	403-2	Accident types, accident frequency rates, occupational illnesses, missed work days, absenteeism and number of deaths associated with occupational accidents or work-related illnesses.	65		Good health and well-being     B.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
LABOUR RELATIONS						
	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	54			
GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	54-56		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	54			
GRI 402: EMPLOYEE- EMPLOYER RELATIONS 2016	402-1	Minimum notice of operational changes	Established minimum notice of organizational changes is 30 days according to union agreement, though in precise, notice is given much more in advance than regulation requirements.		8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining. Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
GRI 407: FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATION	407-1	Operations and suppliers whose right to the freedom of association and collective negotiation could be under threat	Non applicable.		8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights within their area of influence. Principle 2: Businesses should make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses. Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.
FOSTERING EQUALITY						
	103-1	Explanation of material aspect and its boundary	58			
GRI 103:MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	58		No to poverty     Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	58-59			
GRI 405: DIVERSITY AND EQUAL OPPORTINITY 2016	405-1	Diversity in governing organs and staff	58-59		8.Decent work and economic growth	Principle 6: Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

GRI STANDARD INDICADOR		DESCRIPTION	PAGE(S) AND/OR LINKS	OMISSIONS	SDG	GLOBAL COMPACT
GRI 406: NO DISCRIMINATION 2016	406-1	Discrimination cases and corrective actions taken	There have been no discrimination cases.		5. Gender equality 8.Decent work and economic growth 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights within their area of influence.  Principle 2: Businesses should make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

#### MATERIAL TOPIC / CATEGORY: SOCIAL / SUBCATEGORY: SOCIETY

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GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	23, 40		1. No to poverty 5. Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	23			
GRI 205: ANTI-CORRUPTION 2016	205-2	Communication and training on anti-corruption policies and procedures	23		16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.
GRI 206: ANTI-COMPETITIVE BEHAVIOR 2016	206-1	Legal actions concerning unfair competition and monopolising practises against free competition	There have been no legal actions concerning unfair competition practises.		16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	
GRI 307: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE 2016	307-1	Noncompliance with environmental laws and regulations	There have been no nonmonetary fines or sanctions for noncompliance with environmental laws and regulations.		12. Responsible production and consumption 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmenta responsibility. Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
GRI 419: SOCIOECONOMIC COMPLIANCE 2016	419-1	Noncompliance with laws and regulations in social and economic areas	There have been no nonmonetary fines or sanctions for noncompliance with local socioeconomic laws and	,	16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	

regulations.

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GRI 103: MANAGEMENT APPROACH 2016	103-2	Management approach and its components	37-41		No to poverty     Gender equality	
	103-3	Management approach evaluation	38-40			
GRI 416: CUSTOMER HEALTH AND SAFETY 2016	416-1	Evaluation of health and safety impacts in the categories of products and services	40			
GRI 417: MARKETING AND LABELING 2016	417-1	Requirements for the information and labeling of products and services	41		12. Responsible production and consumption 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions	

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Ξ

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the production of this Sustainability Report.

We would also like to extend our thanks to all those who have allowed us to grow in a sustainable way, especially our customers, suppliers and distributors, our professional team and their families, and our shareholders.

Together, day by day, we make a difference!







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