



## Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative Instructions for Application Form

*EPA developed the Safer Detergents Stewardship Initiative (SDSI) to recognize environmental leaders who voluntarily commit to the use of safer surfactants. Leading product manufacturers have made great progress in developing safer, highly effective cleaners. These manufacturers believe that producing the safest products possible is important to their role as stewards of the environment and public health. A number of U.S. corporations have acted in advance of SDSI to use safer surfactants in their entire product lines.*

Safer surfactants are surfactants that break down quickly to non-polluting compounds<sup>1</sup>. CleanGredients™ is a resource for information on safer surfactants ([www.cleangredients.org](http://www.cleangredients.org)).

- o Candidates should complete this application and have it signed by a company authority (e.g., CEO or vice president for health and environment).
- o Candidates should post a statement on their website describing the actions that qualify them for recognition under SDSI.
- o EPA reserves the right to request at any time, on a confidential basis, appropriate documentation (including but not limited to bills of lading, invoices, material safety data sheets, and list of ingredients) to confirm that candidates have achieved the appropriate criteria for recognition. If documentation is requested but not received within a reasonable time, EPA may deny or withdraw recognition from that candidate.

There are two categories for recognition under SDSI: Champion and Partner.

- **Champion** is the highest level of recognition offered under SDSI. At this level, the participant is invited to the SDSI Awards ceremony, listed on the EPA SDSI website as a champion, and may use a special logo in their literature to help explain their participation in the program.
- The **Partner** category provides recognition of significant accomplishment towards the use of safer surfactants. Partners will be listed on the EPA SDSI website and may be granted recognition as a Champion in the future, if appropriate. Partner recognition will sunset on the commitment date provided in Section 3 of the Application.

Guidelines for achieving Champion or Partner Status are provided in Table 1. Both Champions and Partners will receive a certificate of recognition from DfE. To be eligible for the awards ceremony, which will be held in the 2008, candidates for Champion status should submit their application by the date provided on the DfE website

<sup>1</sup> An example of a class of safer surfactants is linear alcohol ethoxylates (LAE). LAEs are toxic to aquatic life, but break down quickly to non-polluting compounds. Nonylphenol ethoxylates, commonly referred to as NPEs, are a surfactant class that does not meet the definition of a safer surfactant. Both NPEs and their breakdown products, such as nonylphenol, are toxic to aquatic life.

(<http://www.epa.gov/dfe/pubs/projects/formulat/sdsi.htm>).

**Application Process:** The application will be available online and may be filled out and submitted in hard copy or electronically to SDSI@epa.gov. Unless you claim information as confidential, all applications received will be considered public information and no materials submitted will be returned. For security purposes, confidential information may not be submitted electronically. If you choose to send the application electronically, the signed signature page must be scanned in and reattached to the electronic application.

If you choose to submit a hard copy application, send your completed application to the appropriate address below. Please note that irradiation of federal mail may damage electronic media or other materials. It is highly recommended that a package delivery service be used, especially if you are sending a disk.

Submit this form to the following address:

US Environmental Protection Agency  
Safer Detergent Stewardship Initiative  
(7406M)  
Attn: DfE

Via regular/certified mail:  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20460

Via overnight mail:  
1201 Constitution Ave., NW  
EPA East, Room 5326  
Washington, DC 20004  
Phone: 202-564-9910

**Confirmation of Receipt:** EPA will confirm receipt of applications, usually by email. If you have not received an acknowledgment within two weeks of sending your applications, please contact DfE Contact at [contact.dfe@epa.gov](mailto:contact.dfe@epa.gov) or 202-564-9910

**Notification:** Winners will be notified prior to the official public announcement.

Awards will be presented to the primary sponsor of the application.

**Questions:** Questions about eligibility, nomination procedures, or the Safer Detergent Stewardship Initiative should be directed to DfE Contact of EPA's Design for the Environment Program at [contact.dfe@epa.gov](mailto:contact.dfe@epa.gov) or 202-564-9910

### **Paperwork Reduction Act Notice**

The public reporting and recordkeeping burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering information, posting information to the internet, and reviewing and completing the application. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Send comments on the Agency's need for this information, the accuracy of the provided burden estimates, and any suggested methods for minimizing respondent burden, including through the use of automated collection techniques to the Director, Collection Strategies Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2822T), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Include the OMB control number in any correspondence.

**Do not send the completed application to this address.**

Participant Type	Table 1: Guidelines for Achieving:	
	Champion Status	Partner Status
Chemical Manufacturers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate that you only manufacture safer surfactants<sup>1</sup></li> <li>▪ Document a strategy for ensuring that you manufacture only safer surfactants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commit to producing only safer surfactants<sup>1</sup> by a date that is reasonable for your circumstances</li> <li>▪ Document a strategy for ensuring that you will manufacture only safer surfactants</li> </ul>
Formulators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate that you only use safer surfactants in products<sup>1,2,3</sup></li> <li>▪ Document a strategy for ensuring that only safer surfactants are used in products</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commit to using only safer surfactants in your products<sup>1,3</sup> by a date that is reasonable for your circumstances</li> <li>▪ Document a strategy for ensuring that only safer surfactants will be used in products</li> </ul>
Retailers / Distributors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate that only safer surfactants are included in products<sup>2,3</sup> intended for sale</li> <li>▪ Document a strategy for ensuring that only safer surfactants are included in products<sup>3</sup> intended for sale</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commit to sell only products<sup>3</sup> containing safer surfactants by a date that is reasonable for your circumstances</li> <li>▪ Document your active encouragement of the use of safer surfactants</li> </ul>
Institutional Purchasers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate that you only purchase products containing safer surfactants</li> <li>▪ Document a strategy<sup>4</sup> for ensuring that purchased products only contain safer surfactants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commit to only use products<sup>3</sup> that only contain safer surfactants by a date that is reasonable for your circumstances</li> <li>▪ Document your active encouragement of the use of safer surfactants</li> </ul>
Others (e.g., non-profits, unions, academia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Demonstrate outstanding efforts<sup>5</sup> to encourage the use of safer surfactants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Document your active encouragement of the use of safer surfactants</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> CleanGredients™ is a resource for information on safer surfactants.

<sup>2</sup> The deadline for using only safer surfactants in third-party finished goods and Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)-registered products is December 31, 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Products include those whose use routinely results in their discharge to the environment (e.g., all-purpose cleaners, laundry detergents, pesticides, airplane de-icers, fire-fighting foams and gels).

<sup>4</sup> An example of a strategy is a letter that is sent to suppliers requiring them to provide products with only safer surfactants. The retailer/distributor will not be eligible for Champion recognition until it sells products with only safer surfactants.

<sup>5</sup> Examples of contributions that would qualify include those that have developed means for surfactant users to identify safer surfactants, those that have taken action to educate industry or the public about safer surfactants, and those that have encouraged business to move toward safer surfactants.



United States  
Environmental Protection  
Agency

SECTION 1a:  
Enter requested  
information for the  
authorized  
representative

Organization Name	
Contact Name	
Address	
Address	
Phone	Fax
Email	
Website	

SECTION 1b:  
Indicate your type  
of organization

<input type="checkbox"/>	Chemical Manufacturer - Manufactures surfactants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formulator - Purchases and blends chemicals (including surfactants) to create an end-use product for retailers and/or distributors
<input type="checkbox"/>	Retailer / Distributor - Sells products containing surfactants
<input type="checkbox"/>	Institutional Purchaser - Purchases or specifies cleaning products for use in multiple facilities (e.g., janitorial service provider)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Influences use of surfactants (e.g., non-profit, trade association, academia)

SECTION 1c:  
Indicate the level  
of recognition for  
which you are  
applying (refer to  
the instructions for  
a description of  
Champion and  
Partner status for  
each organization  
type)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Champion (go to Section 2)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Partner (go to Section 3)

**SECTION 2:**  
Fill out this section if you are applying for recognition as a Champion

If you are a...	Demonstrate in SECTION 2a that...	And the go to...
Chemical Manufacturer	You only manufacture safer surfactants	Section 2b
Formulator	You only use safer surfactants in products	Section 2b
Retailer / Distributor	Only safer surfactants are included in products intended for sale	Section 2c
Institutional Purchasers	All the products you purchase contain only safer surfactants	Section 2c
Other	You have made outstanding efforts to encourage the use of safer surfactants	Go to Section 4

**SECTION 2a:**  
Use this space to explain how you meet the above requirements. Please include supporting documents when appropriate and note these documents in your statement. You may attach extra sheets as needed.

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**SECTION 2b (Chemical Manufacturers and Formulators only):**  
Indicate or describe your product stewardship strategy for ensuring the manufacture or use of safer surfactants

- Use CleanGredients to choose surfactants

Provide the URL for that section of your website describing the actions that qualify the company or organization for recognition under SDSI:

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- Other, please describe:

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SECTION 2c  
(Retailers/  
Distributors and  
Institutional  
Purchasers only):  
Document your  
strategy for  
ensuring that all of  
your purchased  
products contain  
only safer  
surfactants. You  
may attach extra  
sheets as needed.\*

If you are a...	Document a strategy for ensuring that...
Retailer / Distributor	Only safer surfactants are included in products intended for sale
Institutional Purchaser	Purchased products contain only safer surfactants

\* An example of a strategy would be the establishment of a policy that requires suppliers to provide products that contain only safer surfactants. This strategy may be evidenced by a letter that is sent to suppliers requiring them to provide products with only safer surfactants, or a comparable statement posted on a company's website. The retailer / distributor will not be eligible for Champion recognition until it sells products with only safer surfactants.

SECTION 3:  
Fill out this section  
if you are applying  
for recognition as a  
Partner

If you are a...	Document in SECTION 3a your commitment to...
Chemical Manufacturer	Produce only safer surfactants
Formulator	Use only safer surfactants in your products
Retailer / Distributor	Only sell products that only contain safer surfactants
Institutional Purchasers	Only purchase products that only contain safer surfactants
Other (e.g., trade association, NGO, etc.)	encouragement of safer surfactants

SECTION 3a:  
Use this space to  
describe how you  
meet the above  
requirements.\*

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Provide the URL for that section of your website describing the actions that qualify you for recognition under SDSI:

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\* You should describe your commitment to a complete transition to safer surfactants by a date that is reasonable for your circumstances. Please state this date explicitly and explain briefly why it is a reasonable date for your circumstances.<sup>1</sup> Include supporting materials when appropriate and note these materials in your statement. You may attach extra sheets as needed.

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that Partner recognition will sunset on the commitment date. After this date, companies will need to apply for Champion recognition.

**SECTION 4:  
Certification of  
Application**

Please have the appropriate company authority (e.g., CEO, vice president for health and environment, division head, or other authorized signatory) sign here to verify the accuracy of the application's content.

Signature of Authorizing Entity	Date
Printed Name and Title	Date

I hereby affirm that the contents of this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, and that I am an authorized representative of the company or organization named above and am duly authorized to sign this application.