

Policy statement

The Manufacture and Supply of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's).

The debate around the production and usage of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO's) continues with no firm nor convincing conclusions reached regarding the detrimental effects such organisms may have on humans or the natural environment versus the overwhelming benefits for mankind in feeding people in parts of the world where normal agricultural policy or mechanisms fails to produce the required yields.

AkzoNobel understands its responsibility within this debate and we wish to make it clear that we do not manufacture any genetically modified organisms, nor sell any products which use GMO organisms to provide any specific functionality. Furthermore, we do not use GMO's in our manufacturing processes to impart any specific variability.

A small proportion of AkzoNobel products may be manufactured from raw materials that could have been originally derived from crops (linseed, soya, etc) which may have been genetically modified. These raw materials are both chemically and technically identical to raw materials derived from non-GMO feed stocks. We believe that the use of such raw materials has no direct detrimental effect on the safety and use of our products

We are continuously monitoring the on-going debate around GMO usage and will act upon any new findings as appropriate. It is our opinion that the use of raw materials derived from GMO feedstock is acceptable both ethically and scientifically and does not impact on the safety of our products. However, we will fulfill all requirements relating to the use of GMO derived materials whenever required, including the possibility of labeling products containing raw materials which could be derived from crops which have been genetically modified if requested by our customers or if required by law.

Julian E Hunter

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