

2021 GSK Environmental Supplier Awards Winner

Winner of the Indirect Supplier category



About the company

- Zuellig Pharma is one of the largest healthcare services groups in Asia and their purpose is to make healthcare more accessible. They provide world-class distribution, digital and commercial services to support the growing healthcare needs in this region.
- The company was started almost a hundred years ago and has grown to become a US\$13 billion business covering 13 markets with over 12,000 employees. Zuellig serves over 350,000 medical facilities and works with over 1,000 clients

About the project - Greenovate Incubator

Zuellig's sustainability framework is anchored around four key impact pillars. One of these pillars is Respecting the Environment and this pillar is driven in various ways, with one initiative being the internal Greenovate Incubator.

To provide a conducive environment for green initiatives to thrive, the internal incubator was founded for the purpose of accelerating initiatives that contributed this key pillar of Respecting the Environment. These initiatives are kickstarted as pilot projects in optimal countries, with country teams identifying the most suitable partners to support them.

Projects are then assessed based on impact, scalability and relevance to the unique Asia landscape. Following the implementation of the project, the results are tracked and opportunities for improvement are identified. Best practices from the project are then be shared with other countries, with a roadmap for scaling up.

The goal is for Zuellig to finance ground-breaking green technologies which are either not available across Asia or are struggling to reach the right scale, to boost their development, develop proofs of concept and create a steppingstone for their roll-out across Asia.

This project supports GSK's 2030 Net Zero Climate Impact goal, through energy-efficiency and recyclable cold-chain packaging, and its Net Nature Positive Goal through Zuellig's offsetting and renewable energy projects.

The Incubator will continue to scale up in the long-term as they continue to commit to the sustainability pillar of Respecting the Environment.



Environmental achievements

The Malaysia teams at Zuellig have piloted an exclusive solar-powered fleet with their transportation supplier, which is estimated to improve fuel efficiency by up to 22%.

Solar panels installed at selected distribution centres in Taiwan and Vietnam were already generating almost 500,000 kWh in 2020 to power Zuellig's operations. In 2021, this number is expected to increase four-fold, decreasing GSK's indirect footprint by 315 tonnes of CO₂.

Zuellig's R&D efforts in collaboration with their partners have also allowed them to launch eZCooler, a sophisticated new cold chain packaging solution that ensures temperature integrity for up to 96 hours and is reusable and 100% recyclable. 5,000 units are already deployed across seven markets in Asia, which helps prevent the use of 300,000 single-use boxes ever year. This, for GSK alone, has an impact of reducing 53 tonnes of CO₂.

At the very heart of this project is the passion of Zuellig's teams. In 2020, the Zuellig Pharma Sustainability Month saw the active participation of more than 7,000 employees to one or more sustainability initiative. Some of these initiatives have been reforestation projects. In total almost 5,000 trees have been planted over the last year, for a total impact of 84 tonnes of CO₂.