

SAFE & SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN: PERFORMANCE WITH A PURPOSE

Dear Member,

SSbD is now being applied under increasing regulatory and market pressure, with growing expectations to support substitution, anticipate product requirements, and generate actionable data early in the innovation process. At the same time, key questions remain around fit-for-purpose methodologies, data availability, and alignment across value chains. This annual workshop provides a platform to exchange on these challenges, share hands-on experiences, and discuss how SSbD can be applied in a pragmatic and scalable way across both new and existing value chains.

The workshop starts with a policy update given by Geert Boogaerts from essenscia. The first invited speaker, Prof. Christian Stevens from the university of Ghent, will talk about applying SSbD in API production. After a coffee break, Agfa will provide their experience with SSbD showing an industry interpretation of the framework, hurdles and way forward. A walking lunch will provide an opportunity for informal exchange and networking. In the afternoon, JRC will introduce the dedicated Certified Reference Materials Catalogue and VITO will discuss how to apply LCA as part of SSbD. The workshop closes with a roundtable discussion which serves to share experiences and needs.

The workshop will take place in Brussels' city centre at VBO/FEB, Ravensteinstreet 4B, 1000 Brussels. The location is easily reachable by public transport.

The program has been developed for R&D professionals, business developers, innovation managers, and sustainability managers; please feel free to forward this invitation to relevant colleagues.

[To register, please click this link](#); and in case of questions, please contact Annemarie Weise at awe@essenscia.be

We wish you an instructive workshop.

Geert Boogaerts
Director Safety and Sustainability
essenscia Process Academy

Wouter Biesemans
Director Quality, SHE & Compliance
Ajinomoto Omnicem

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02 December 2026 | 08:30 – 13:30
VBO/FEB, Ravensteinstreet 4B, 1000 Brussels

Program Overview:

08.30.....	Welcome Coffee
09.00.....	Introduction and policy update Geert Boogaerts, Director Sustainability and Safety, essenscia
10.00.....	Applying SSbD in API Production Prof. Christian Stevens, Senior Full Professor, Department of Green Chemistry and Technology, University of Ghent
11.00.....	Coffee Break
11.15.....	Industry interpretation of the framework Sophie Lingier, Research Leader in Formulation Chemistry & Chemical Sourcing Manager, Agfa Joke Nelissen, Project Leader Chemical Process Development, Agfa Hurdles and way forward
12.00.....	Sandwiches and Networking
13.00.....	A dedicated Certified Reference Materials Catalogue JRC
13.30.....	LCA as part of SSbD Karolien Peeters, Researcher Sustainable Materials Management, VITO
14.00.....	Round table discussion and open questions led by Wouter Biesemans, Director Quality, SHE & Compliance, Ajinomoto Omnicem, Chair of essenscia's Sustainability Working Group
14:30.....	End of workshop