

Inviting the neighbors in Vaasa

The Ostrobothnia Rescue Department and Kemira's Vaasa office updated their external, Seveso II directive-compliant emergency plan. The Rescue Department regularly informs, and organizes briefings for, the public. At the open day event, the neighbourhood was introduced to Kemira's safety management principles and the internal emergency plan.



During the open door event, the Rescue Department related, how rescue operations are managed in a disaster. Kemira and the department organize a statutory disaster exercise at least once in three years.

"Our safety target is smooth operation without accidents.

If an accident does happen, it is limited by structural and technological means, as well as a skilled staff," says **Mervi Talus**, [Head of the Vaasa office](#). Safe operation is based on detecting hazards and risks, and various risk and operational error analyses. It is important to constantly analyze accidents and near misses and carry out necessary measures.

Security management is based on continuous improvement. "We monitor our performance with Kemira's internal audits. In addition to Lloyd's audits, we are also monitored by Tukes, the fire department, the occupational safety and environmental authorities and insurance companies," says EHSQ Manager **Terttu Saukko-Vähämäki**.

There can be two kinds of accidents classified as major disasters in Vaasa: large-scale fires or chemical spills, resulting in an epichlorohydrin gas cloud. Other at-risk chemicals in Vaasa are acrylic acid, acrylamide, sodium hydroxide, hydrogen peroxide and sulfuric acid.

At the open door event, Kemira also told about the renovation of Pukinjärvi (Infjärden), for which environmental and work permits have been granted. Kemira has agreed on lake restoration with Ekokem Services Oy and work has begun, says project manager **Sirpa Muotio**.