

## IN THIS ISSUE

[LyondellBasell Embraces The International Year of Chemistry](#)

[Lancement du nouveau site Intranet – C'est aujourd'hui !](#)

[Das neue Intranet geht an den Start – heute!](#)

[Lanciato oggi il nuovo sito intranet](#)

[¡Lanzamiento de la nueva Intranet en el día de hoy!](#)

[The Future of Wire & Cable](#)

[Houston Refinery Gives Process Safety a Renewed Focus](#)

[La Porte Leverages Technology to Make A Bottom line Difference](#)

[Ancient Romans Would Be Envious: Water Management The Modern Way With \*Hostalen\*](#)

[New \*Elements\* Intranet Site Launched](#)

[Caring and Sharing Across Five Continents](#)

PRINT ALL

[return to front page](#)

## Caring and Sharing Across Five Continents

Last year, Global Care Day (GCD) involved thousands of volunteers working on 63 projects in 17 countries. The effort has grown considerably since the first GCD in 2000, which spanned three continents and included 22 projects. As our company grows, so do our abilities to serve and assist our neighboring communities – worldwide. This year we hope to surpass our 2010 contributions of 12,400 volunteer hours, which had an economic impact of \$223,000 (USD).



Global Care Day 2011

Our employees say that they find their GCD experiences enlightening and rewarding. Volunteers from Wesseling and Knapsack cleaned up garbage along the Rhine and sorted the collected trash for plastic recycling. They also painted Kindergarten classrooms. According to Peter Siebert, Site Coordinator, that project earned them an invitation to tea time with the children, and both projects generated positive media coverage. For 2011, they plan similar activities, along with two more: a school bicycle workshop, and implementation of a Wii Fit exercise project with seniors.

In Mumbai, after a day of working with residents in a hutment, volunteers agreed that they had gained a greater awareness of community needs and a greater appreciation for what they generally take for granted. Prachee Murudkar, Site Coordinator for Basell Polyolefins India, said they worked with an organization called Down To Earth (DTE), which facilitates programs for people living in clusters of huts. Among other tasks, volunteers carried buckets of water to households, which children usually do for several hours a day. Some of the volunteers later extended offers to volunteer in the DTE education program.

In Channelview, employees completed five GCD projects. "We wanted to engage as many people and community organizations as we could," said Rose Luvaas, Site Coordinator. "And so we found ways to involve local schools, senior citizens, disabled individuals and children in the area." They partnered with other organizations including two area schools, a local senior citizens center and an organization called Rebuilding Together. According to Luvaas, the children who painted flowerpots for senior citizens especially enjoyed participating.

You can find more information on the [Global Care Day](#) intranet pages.

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