



Elevating Safer Product Procurement

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Kaiser Permanente

The nation's largest non-profit integrated health system

24K +
physicians

deliver high-quality care
to Kaiser Permanente
members




12.5M
members

get care + coverage from
Kaiser Permanente



\$100B+
revenue



235K +
employees

improving the health of
people + communities




40
Hospitals
+
618
Medical
Offices



73K +
nurses

are at the center of
our care



OUR MISSION

To provide **high-quality, affordable**, health care services and to **improve the health of our members** and the **communities** we serve.



Kaiser Permanente's Sustainable Procurement Approach

We developed our **EPP Criteria** for Medical Products

- There were no comprehensive criteria for medical products in the industry at the time that fully addressed health risks.
- Healthcare Without Harm (HCWH), Practice Greenhealth (PGH), Clean Production Action (CPA), and the Center for Environmental Health (CEH) were all involved in the development of the criteria

We implemented the **EPP Scorecard** for Medical Products

- The scorecard was adopted by our Group Purchasing Organization and the EPP criteria were built into their process

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Principles

This document is meant to convey to manufacturers and suppliers the importance Kaiser Permanente (KP) places on reducing the lifecycle environmental footprint of healthcare and improving overall public health. We count on suppliers and manufacturers to provide us with innovative, environmentally preferable solutions to meet our procurement needs, and expect them to complete our supplier disclosure process and provide us with honest and complete information on corporate social responsibility and product performance as it pertains to environmental and public health.

Revised April 2022 KP Environmental Purchasing Standard

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Standard

Kaiser Permanente has established **eleven (11)** Chemicals of Concern criteria and **eight (8)** Waste criteria. The criteria are applied to electronic and non-electronic products as detailed below:

Electronic products

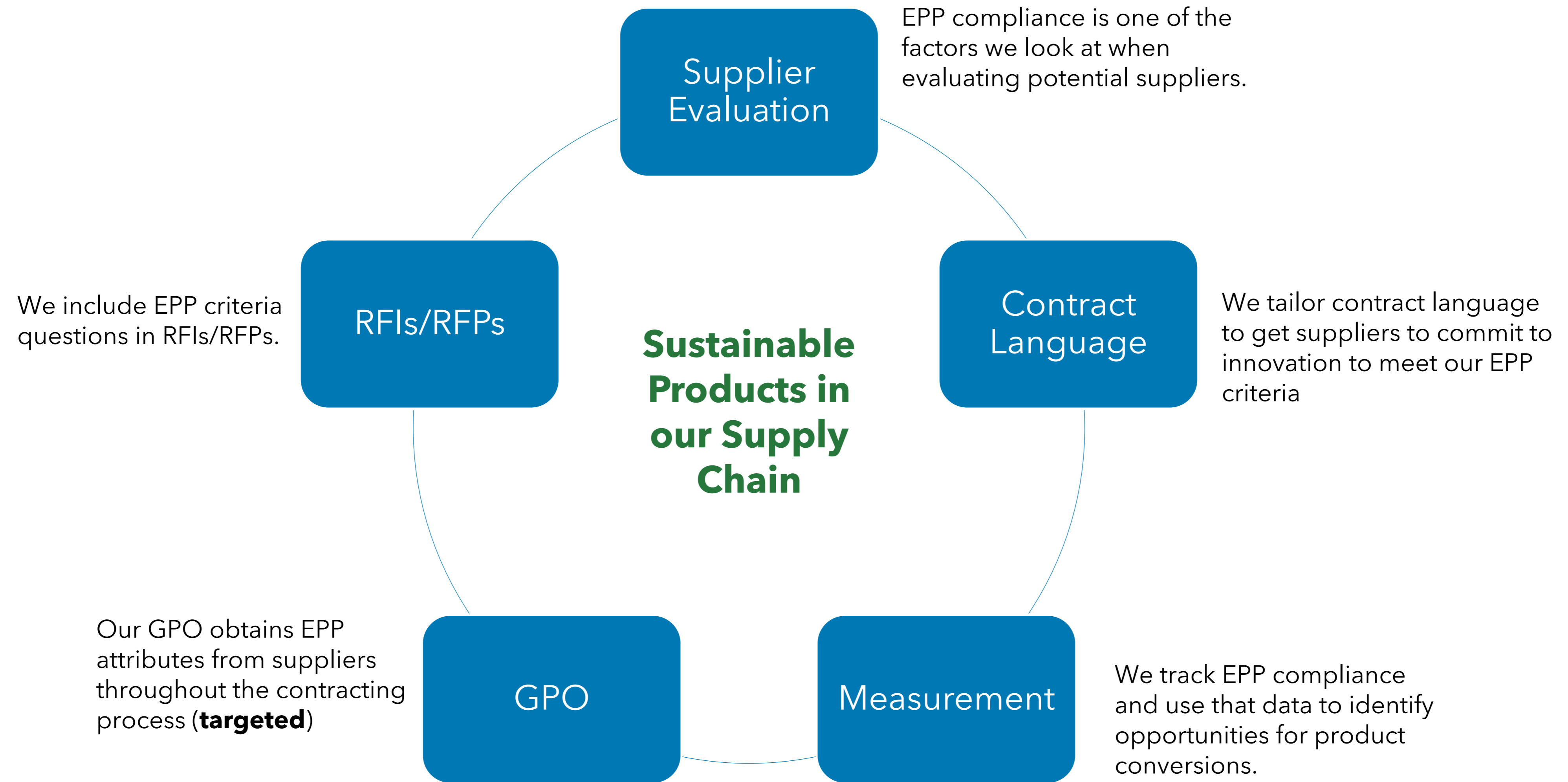
- Defined as products that are in Categories 1 through 11 in the European Union Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directives (EU RoHS 3 or later). (<https://rohsguide.com/rohs-categories.htm>)
- To be considered "Environmentally Preferable" must:
 - Meet Chemicals of Concern criteria #1, #3, and #4.
 - Criteria #2, and #5 through #11, of these criteria.
 - Meet at least 2 of the 8 Waste criteria.

Non-electronic products

- Products not defined as electronic products
- To be considered "Environmentally Preferable" must:
 - Meet Chemicals of Concern criteria #1, #3, and #4.
 - Criteria #1 does not apply to non-electronic products.

SKU-level questions:	Desired Answer
NICU Product?	
PICU Product?	
Latex-free?	Yes
Lead, Mercury, Hexavalent chromium, Polybrominated biphenyls, Polybrominated diphenyl ether, <1,000ppm or Cadmium <100ppm	Yes
Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)-free?	Yes
Diethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP) - free?	Yes
California Prop 65 Chemical <threshold or warning level	Yes
If yes to (A), List Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) #'s (separated by ",")	(fewest listed)
Product - Contain more than 10% post-consumer recycled content?	Yes
Primary Packaging - Contain more than 5% post-consumer recycled content?	Yes
Secondary Packaging - Contain more than 30% post-consumer recycled content?	Yes
Product - Designed for multi-use (i.e. not a single-use device) ?	Yes
Manufacturer's product code for environmentally preferable alt.	

The EPP Criteria in Action



Kaiser Permanente's Sustainable Procurement Strategy

Criteria and Scoring

Develop Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Criteria and Scoring and implement them into our sourcing processes

Collaboration

Work with our National Group Purchasing Organization (NGO) to implement the criteria in their processes and to collaboratively engage other health systems to grow demand for sustainable products

Drive Change

Recognize that innovating products can be challenging. First work with suppliers on knowing and reporting their chemicals of concern, then target opportunities to reduce or eliminate those chemicals.

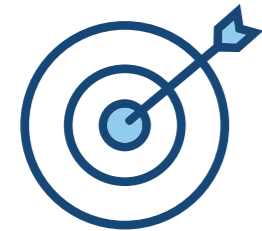
3rd Party Certifications

Where feasible, leverage credible and material independent 3rd party certifications, to reduce the reporting burden on suppliers and further standardize asks across the industry.

Driving Safer Products through 3rd Party Certifications



Independently verified data



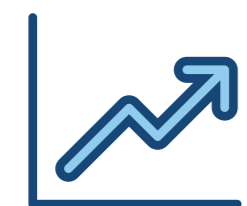
Streamlined data collection process



Less resource intensive for both the buyer and the supplier



Makes it easier to compare products



Helps drive continuous improvement by identifying opportunities



Kaiser Permanente's 2025 Environmental Stewardship Goals

Climate Action

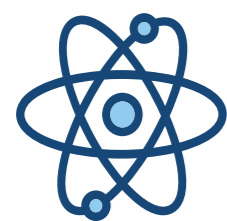


Become "carbon net positive" by buying clean energy and carbon offsets to remove more greenhouse gases from the atmosphere than we emit



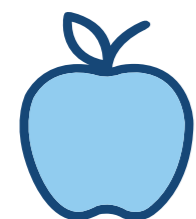
Waste Reduction

Recycle, reuse, or compost 100 percent of our non-hazardous waste



Safer Products

Increase our purchases of products and materials meeting environmental standards to 50 percent



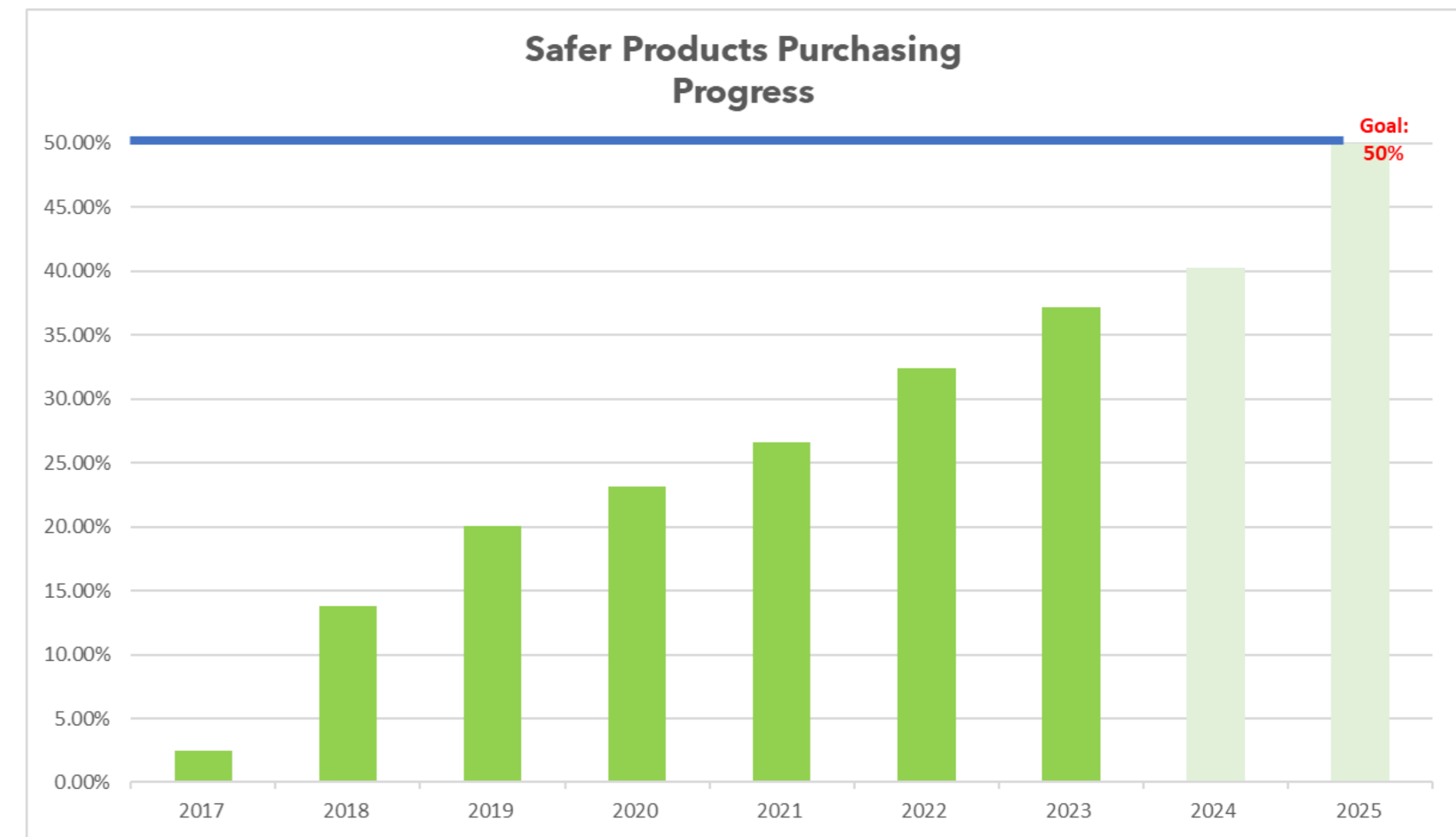
Sustainable Food

Buy all our food locally or from farms and producers that use sustainable practices



Water Conservation

Reduce the amount of water we use by 25 percent per square foot of buildings



Emerging Focus: Reducing Plastics in our Supply Chain

The Value of reducing single-use plastics

- **Toxins:** Healthcare devices made of plastic typically contain carcinogens and developmental/reproductive toxins
- **Waste:** Healthcare plastic waste is difficult to recycle and releases toxins when incinerated.
- **Social Impact:** Manufacturing and incineration plants are typically located in marginalized and low-income areas
- **Climate Impact:** The U.S. plastics industry will be a bigger contributor to climate change than coal-fired power by 2030



Potential actions:

- Enhance remanufacturing of single-use medical devices;
 - Reduce single use plastic food ware;
 - Industry partnerships to drive innovation