Manufactured Capital

Ramping up Responsibly

Managing our facilities based on the principles of operational excellence and a strong dedication to quality, we use advanced technology to optimise productivity and improve efficiency. At Grasim, we prioritise continuous process improvements to maximise output and effectiveness. With consistent capacity expansion and process enhancements, we have become a leader in multiple global segments, setting ourselves apart from competitors.



STAKEHOLDERS IMPACTED | MATERIAL ISSUES

- Employees
- Suppliers and Value Chain Partners
- Customers
- Shareholders and Investors
- Resource Efficiency
- Raw Material Sourcing and
 Product Carbon Footprint
- Responsible Supply Chain
- Occupational Health
 and Safety
- Product Stewardship
- Energy Consumption and GHG Emissions Management

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KEY RISKS

- Strategic Risk
- Operational Risk
- Compliance Risk

ALIGNMENT WITH SDGs



FY23 Highlights

711 Viscose Staple Fibre (VSF) (KTPA)

OUR APPROACH

At Grasim, we deliver exceptional

enabling us to evolve sustainable

industry leading practices and

state-of-the-art technology,

manufacturing principles. Our

focus on sustainability ensures

that our manufacturing processes

are environmentally responsible,

conditions across all our facilities,

which proudly hold ISO 14001:2015

standards. Furthermore, we actively

environmental impact and optimise

work towards enhancing our Higg

Facility Environmental Module

(FEM) score to minimise our

resource utilisation.

while promoting safe working

certification. It is a testament

to our stringent environmental

products by seamlessly integrating

1,145 Caustic Soda (KTPA)

88% **Capacity Utilisation** (Caustic Soda)

60% **Chlorine Integration**

Striving Continuous Operational Excellence

Our cutting-edge facilities and advanced technology ensure maximum output and efficiency. Through continuous process improvements and de-bottlenecking, we expand our capacities across various businesses, establishing ourselves as industry leaders. Our commitment to innovation and optimisation allows us to deliver exceptional products that surpass global environment and quality standards.



PRUDENT CAPACITY ADDITIONS - CONSISTENTLY **HIGHER UTILISATIONS VSF**



CAUSTIC SODA (%)





*Net basis



OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Operational efficiency is a fundamental pillar of our success and a vital component of our business strategy enabling us to maintain a competitive edge and drive sustainable growth. Our goal is to optimise Ð and improve our processes, to enhance efficiencies. This facilitates the delivery of top-quality products, helping us to maintain our market leadership position across segments.

With a significant presence in several segments, we can boast a large production capacity to cater to high-growth markets and industrial sectors.

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CAPACITY EXPANSION

Our commitment to capacity expansion is further solidified as we maintain our position as the top player in India's Viscose and Chemicals sector, with the largest production capacity of VSF, VFY, and Caustic Soda in the country. We are enhancing our operations by making significant investments in modernising our existing facilities and establishing new production units, leveraging advanced technologies, and embracing sustainable practices to ensure our continued success in the industry.

To read about our existing manufacturing prowess, refer to Pg 26

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2022-

Interventions

• In VSF business, we are committed to improving the mix of Speciality Fibres from the current 19%.

• In our Chemicals business, we are strategically focusing on enhancing our chlorine integration, with a target of reaching 72% integration, post the commissioning of our ongoing projects.

• In Speciality Chemicals, we are increasing our focus on the unique applications of Epoxy polymers and curing agents.

• The demand for Caustic Soda is on a rapid and steady rise, fuelled by escalating demand from various industries. Recognising this growth potential, we have set our sights on achieving a capacity of 1,530 Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) by FY24. This will enable us to effectively cater to the growing needs of our diverse customer base.

• We take pride in being the largest producer of Speciality Chemicals (Epoxy polymers and curing agents). Our strong market presence is set to be further reinforced as we embark on doubling our production capacity to 246,000 Tonnes Per Annum (TPA) by FY24.

Statutory Reports

3 **PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP**

We are deeply committed to the principles of product stewardship, ensuring the responsible management of our products throughout their lifecycle. We prioritise safety, health, and environmental impact of our products from production to disposal. Our practices include comprehensive risk assessments, adherence to regulatory requirements, and continuous monitoring of product performance.



🤿 To delve deeper into our commitment to product stewardship, please refer to the Intellectual Capital chapter on Pg 87

4 **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Resource management is the cornerstone of our operations. We optimise the use of resources such as energy, water, and raw materials throughout our manufacturing processes. Through innovative technologies and efficient practices, we strive to minimise waste generation and promote circularity. Our dedicated teams continuously monitor and evaluate resource consumption, implementing initiatives to reduce our environmental footprint. Additionally, we actively engage in recycling and reuse programmes to maximise resource efficiency.



Interventions

Optimising Yarn Spinning Output

Birla Cellulose, a unit of Grasim, is addressing key challenges faced by Multiple Vortex Spinning (MVS)-based mills:

CHALLENGE 1

Production of Soft Waste

The soft waste consists of fibres that cannot be reused in the spinning process and are sold at a considerably lower price compared to yarn.

Solution

We undertook multiple trials with varying MVS feed ratios, and established benchmark levels for optimal outputs. Additionally, staff training on work practices helped us reduce soft waste production by up to 44%.

CHALLENGE 2

Idle Spindle Time

Lower productivity is another major concern for MVS spinning mills, primarily due to higher spindle idle time.

Solution

To address this issue, we conducted training sessions, introduced SOPs and event charts, and provided training to floor-level operators. These efforts significantly reduced spindle idle time and increased average productivity by up to 4%.

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QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

By placing a strong emphasis on quality improvement across all our operations, we deliver products and services of the highest standards that not only meet but even exceed customer expectations. Through continuous research, development, and innovation, we strive to enhance the quality, performance, and reliability of our offerings. Our robust quality management systems ensure adherence to stringent industry standards and regulatory requirements. We actively engage in data-driven analysis, process optimisation, and employee training to drive a culture of continuous improvement.

Interventions

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Grasim has successfully implemented the 5S Model (Sort, Set, Shine, Standardise, and Sustain) as part of its quality control initiatives. Our primary objective is to create a clean, organised, and efficient work environment that promotes productivity and minimises waste. Our employee training programmes enhance understanding and foster a culture of efficiency, quality, and continuous on-the-job improvement. This approach has resulted in increased productivity, reduced errors, and overall operational excellence.

Moreover, we actively encourage our employees to identify areas for improvement, allowing us to enhance product quality, process efficiency, and the safety of our facilities. By engaging our workforce in these improvement initiatives, we create an environment that values their expertise and actively seeks their input for optimising operations.

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CHALLENGE 3

Power Consumption

High power consumption and its associated costs pose a significant challenge in the MVS spinning process. Power consumption accounts for 35-45% of the total production cost from fibre to yarn.

Solution

The Company tackled this challenge by reducing the MVS waste suction blower motor speed, effectively preventing suction leakage, reducing twisting pressure, and optimising compressor output pressure. These measures led to a remarkable reduction in power consumption of up to 20%.

Statutory Reports

6 **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**

At Grasim, the well-being and safety of the Company's employees are of paramount importance. We are deeply committed to maintaining a workplace that prioritises Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) at every level of our operations. To ensure the highest standards of OHS, we have implemented comprehensive policies and practices that comply with all relevant regulations and industry best practices. Our OHS management system is designed to identify, assess, and mitigate workplace hazards, thereby reducing the risk of accidents, injuries, and occupational illnesses.

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SUPPLY-CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Delivering high-quality products while also prioritising sustainable practices in material sourcing is our prime objective. Recognising the global concern for responsible sourcing, we have implemented transparent and best-in-class practices across our diverse range of businesses.

Interventions

We provide regular training and awareness programmes to our employees, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and safe working skills. Our OHS training covers a range of topics, including hazard identification, emergency preparedness, safe work practices, and the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

To continuously improve our OHS performance, we regularly conduct audits and inspections to identify areas of improvement. We encourage employee participation through safety committees and feedback mechanisms, fostering a culture of shared responsibility for OHS.

We provide the necessary resources and support to maintain a safe and healthy work environment. This includes adequate facilities, well-maintained equipment, and regular health check-ups to monitor and address any potential risks or health concerns.

Within our VSF business, we have embraced a closed-loop process that minimises our environmental footprint and addresses material sourcing challenges. We ensure responsible sourcing for all input materials and services in our operations. Our sourcing strategy is carefully crafted to manage risks related to safety, environmental impact, legal compliance, ethics, human rights, and fair wages. We believe in upholding the highest standards of

functionality for materials and services while also considering their impact on the environment and community.

Our policies reflect global standards and our commitment to the conservation of ancient and endangered forests, high-conservation forests, boreal forests, and biodiversity. By adopting responsible sourcing practices, we aim to contribute to a more sustainable future while maintaining the quality and integrity of our products.

Interventions

The movement of Epichlorohydrin (ECH)-the key raw material for Epoxy resin-in bulk to Hazira port, instead of drums or ISO tankers, leading to the elimination of any packaging and minimising road transportation. In bulk movement, material to the tune of 1,500 MT arrives in one go. If we move

in ISO, only 25 MT comes in one parcel and the barrel is too small, a quantity of just ~200kg. For these reasons, we moved to bulk movement to Hazira port. Inland transportation too is minimised as the port is located close to our factory. So, in a nutshell, with bulk movement to Hazira, we address two problems: Reduced inland

movement (as compared with ISO or container coming to Nhava Sheva port), thus reducing GHG emissions; and the elimination of packing (as would have been in barrels).

NEW BUSINESS UPDATES

Paints Business

In FY22, we announced our entry into the paints business. With effective strategies and steadfast working measures, we are set for a commercial launch in the fourth quarter of FY24. With significant developments across multiple fronts, we are well on our way to establishing a strong presence in the Decorative paints market.



Plant Construction and Statutory Approvals

Construction of the paints manufacturing plants is progressing well across all six sites. We have received the necessary statutory approvals, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements. We will adhere to the highest standards of safety, sustainability, and environmental stewardship throughout the construction process.

Setting up of R&D Facility

Grasim's state-of-the-art research and development (R&D) facility started its operations fully and is actively engaged in developing innovative products to deliver unique and memorable

customer experiences. With a focus on advanced technologies and sustainable practices, the R&D team is geared to creating paints with superior quality, durability, and aesthetic appeal.

Pan-India Go-to-Market Strategy

A comprehensive go-to-market strategy has been formulated to ensure the widest possible reach. By strategically positioning the products in both urban and rural markets, we aim to capture diverse customer segments and drive sustainable growth.

Brand Identity, Advertising and Launch Portfolio

The development of the brand identity for Grasim Paints is near completion.

B2B E-commerce

A B2B E-commerce business plan is under execution for commercial launch by FY24. We have made significant advancements in the development of our B2B e-commerce business. With our well-established and expansive B2B ecosystem, we are poised to leverage this formidable strength and make a substantial impact within the market.

To ensure a seamless launch, we are proactively assembling dedicated teams across various departments,

including sales, marketing, category, and operations. These teams are meticulously crafted to spearhead our initial launch in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. During FY23, we successfully implemented pilot scale operations, achieving satisfactory results. This positive outcome has significantly bolstered our confidence in the imminent full-scale platform launch. Our technology work streams, specifically focused on facilitating commerce transactions, enabling credit, and optimising order fulfilment, are progressing as per plan.

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We aim at crafting a distinct and compelling brand image to resonate with our target audience. Concurrently, we are designing effective advertising campaigns to create awareness and generate buzz around the upcoming launch.

Capex Investments

We have allocated a planned total capital outlay of ₹10,000 crore for the Paints business. As of 31st March 2023, about ₹2,592 crore has been spent. This represents approximately 26% of the total planned investment, reflecting our commitment to ensuring a robust infrastructure and operational setup.

