Corporate Social Responsibility Is Important to Not Only Customers But Also Employees



Corporate social responsibility, such as a company's commitment to environmentally friendly practices, is often described as a quality that customers, clients and stockholders look for in the companies they buy from, invest in or hire. But a new <u>Ipsos survey</u> shows that corporate social responsibility'including making workplace safety a priority'is also important to employees.

The study, conducted among 18,150 adults in 24 countries including Canada, asked respondents for their views of large companies. The poll found that a majority of respondents indicated that they 'strongly agree' that, in general, companies should pay more attention to the environment (61%) and do more to contribute to society (52%).

In terms of their own employers, 37% said it was 'very important' for their companies to be responsible to society and the environment. This importance rises to 80% when it's combined with the 43% of employees who believe it's somewhat important their employer is responsible.

On a country by country basis, Brazil (65%), Mexico (59%), Argentina (57%), Indonesia (55%) and India (51%) top the

charts for proportions of employed respondents indicating it's very important their employer is responsible to society and the environment, while Japan (11%), France (17%), China (19%) and South Korea (22%) have the lowest proportions of advocacy among employees.

Of respondents from Canada, 37% said it was very important and 43% said it was fairly important that their employer was socially responsible.

Safety professionals should take special note that when asked to consider what the two most important things a company must do to be respected, the top items among all survey respondents were:

- Prioritize workplace safety (25% marked it as first priority)
- Contribute to the socioeconomic development of the countries where it operates (25%)
- Respect and adhere to local laws and rights (24%).

But when looking solely at respondents from Canada, the top priority was respect and adhere to local laws and rights (27%), with prioritizing workplace safety coming in a close second at 26%.

Learn about three steps you can take to develop an effective social responsibility framework for your company, including a checklist to assess the gaps in its current social responsibility performance.