

Women

IN BUSINESS

**An Advocate Group for
Women in Business
at Air Products**

An Employee Network group at
Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Women

IN BUSINESS

MISSION

Fostering Women's professional and leadership development through networking and events, thus enhancing their business contributions to Air Products.

Air Products' Employee Network

Women in Business is sponsored by the Executive Forum for Diversity (EFD) and exists at Air Products to promote and facilitate a dialogue and improved understanding between the company and employees who may not otherwise be heard or have their ideas considered. Employee Networks are part of an overall Diversity program intended to make Air Products a more inclusive, creative, responsive, and efficient organization—one that recognizes and captures all the potential of its human and intellectual resources.

<http://web1.apci.com/diversity/>

Membership

Women in Business members come from all functions and segments of the company. Membership is open to men and women who have a sincere interest in working towards the goals of Women in Business. Women in Business seeks a highly diverse membership from all levels of the organization.

History

The Women in Business Task Force (WIBTF) was formed in 1992 as a grassroots organization to address the absence of women role models in senior management. In 1998, the WIBTF narrowed its focus to address gender imbalances in retention, career development, and advancement and modified its name to Women in Business. After several successful events and fruitful discussions, the group developed a growing interest in women's leadership development and the power of networking. In the year 2000, we updated our mission to reflect this and wrote by-laws to prepare our group for growth and larger accomplishments.

Activities

- Sponsored participation at the annual Women of Distinction Awards dinner in Philadelphia
- Participated in the Diversity Coffee Talk given by members of the Executive Forum for Diversity
- Hold networking events that highlight keynote speakers
- Hold networking luncheons for new female hires and current members
- Conduct quarterly membership meetings with a focus on topics of timely and general interest
- Hold series of discussions on topical articles/ documents at a local off-site location
- Maintain our website to let people know about our current activities and serve as a resource for information on networking and leadership

<http://web1.apci.com/womeninbusns>.

FAQs

Q: How often does Women in Business meet?

A: General membership meetings are held quarterly. Committees meet, on average, every two to three weeks.

Q: What does it mean to be a formal Air Products Employee Network?

A: As a formal Employee Network, Women in Business is sponsored by Air Products as part of the overall Diversity program. We are budgeted and employees are encouraged to participate actively in the network.

Q: Is this an Allentown-only group or does Women in Business have members from other locations?

A: We have members from locations other than Allentown who are on our mailing list and get our communications. Our meetings are held in Allentown, but that doesn't preclude members at other locations from participating.

Q: How can I get involved?

A: The involvement of members is a personal choice. Opportunities include participation in events or quarterly meetings, association in one of our three committees, and coordination or leadership of events.

About WIB

Women in Business is dedicated to improving women's business contributions to Air Products. Our organization consists of four elected officers, general membership, and three standing committees. Our structure and rules are outlined in our by-laws, which were composed and ratified in 2000. In early 2001, the Air Products Executive Forum for Diversity (EFD) recognized **Women in Business** as a formal Air Products Employee Network.

To accomplish our goals, we are organized into three working committees. Involvement in committees offers opportunities for growth outside of standard job responsibilities and lets members get to know each other through working together. The three committees are:

Programs – Coordinates all group events and programs.

Communication – Central channel for information flow to and from the group. Responsible for making our website a place of active knowledge sharing.

Membership – Recruits new membership and works to ensure that needs of current members are being met.

Access the APOne website below for more information.

tell me more

<http://web1.apci.com/womeninbusns>