## **Chemours**

## Website article

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Chemours Belgium recently formalized a three-year ChemFEST partnership with Technische Scholen Mechelen (Technical School of Mechelen (TSM)), solidifying the commitment to local STEM education. This initiative underscores the significance of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education and encourages students to explore their passion for science and technology.

Through ChemFEST, a sustainable STEM program tailored for underserved middle schools, Chemours Belgium aims to contribute time, talent, and financial resources to nurture the next generation of STEM professionals. The proximity of the Chemours Mechelen plant offers TSM students a unique opportunity to discover the world of chemistry and witness scientific concepts in action within an industrial setting.

As part of this collaboration, Chemours will play a mentoring role, inspiring and supporting teachers and students through various events. These include STEM days at Chemours' Mechelen site for 13–14-year-old students, Think&Do-Days for 11-12-year-old students, and the Smart Women Afternoon event to engage girls and women in science. Chemours will also provide guidance on TSM school safety, lab setups, sustainability, waste collection, and ergonomics. Moreover, a Day of Service will involve Chemours employees assisting with chores and school renovations, and funding will contribute to refurbishing the science and STEM lab.

Bernard Delhaye, Country Leader Chemours Belgium, expressed, "As a leading chemical company, we understand the importance of STEM education and want to inspire young people from all backgrounds to explore their talents in this field. This action aligns with one of our four pillars, investing impactfully in the communities where we operate as an employer. By collaborating closely with TSM, we aim to have a positive impact on the next generation of scientists and technologists."

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Marc Steemans, Pedagogical Director of TSM's first-grade school, added, "This collaboration with Chemours opens new doors for our students and gives them a chance to experience the world of chemistry up close. We are grateful to Chemours for their support and look forward to working together to promote STEM education and stimulate our students' interest in a future in science and chemistry."