

CASE STUDY

An experienced partner for a multitude of solutions



Finding a trusted, versatile partner eases business processes

Challenge Summary

With a high percentage of export products classified as dangerous goods, Arkema sought a partner with an expertly proven track record for the handling of these intricate shipments. Although Arkema had worked with several freight forwarders in the past, they needed a partner that could not only handle its dangerous goods, but also provide the highly specialized knowledge and expertise required to harmonize operational procedures.

Services & Technologies Used

- Lead Logistics Provider – Ocean
- Freight Forwarding
- Airfreight
- Fleet Management
- CHB
- Bonded Warehousing operations
- Container Drayage



The Challenge

Approximately 50% of Arkema's export products are classified as dangerous goods, which bring a heightened level of complexity to the shipping process. Due to the sensitive nature of the materials, Arkema sought a partner with an expertly proven track record for the handling of dangerous goods. Prior to working with BDP International (BDP), Arkema utilized the services of several freight forwarders. Although each provider was aware of the rules and regulations surrounding the movement of dangerous goods, Arkema aimed to streamline the business by working with a partner that could provide the highly specialized knowledge and expertise required to harmonize operational procedures.

Arkema also has direct service agreements with ocean carriers, so the need to incorporate the service of a Lead Logistics Provider who could effectively and efficiently execute the booking process while leveraging their carrier relationship was apparent. With so many different moving parts, Arkema required a single service provider who could navigate the complexity of their diversified array of shipping lanes (300 ports of discharge) while managing their intricate product portfolio of specialized dangerous goods.

The Solution

Together with representatives from Arkema, BDP's France team of expertly trained members developed a process to standardize operational procedures across the varying business units. By leveraging the global footprint of its global network, BDP provided global reach with local expertise. BDP team members at offices close to Arkema sites were able to properly vet and consider all unique local mandated requirements for exports to ensure a streamlined facilitation process. Additionally, dedicated BDP account managers assist with channeling each request, leading to improved communication among global production sites.

“Thanks to BDP’s proactive and flexible approach, we are able to deploy creative and alternative solutions when problems arise, whether it’s a strike, lack of equipment, or even a global pandemic.”

–Yves Antoine, Director Global Logistics Procurement, Arkema S.A.

“We have ‘One BDP’ in front of us as opposed to many different providers, with an in-depth knowledge of Arkema and our unique shipment requirements, right down to the site level. The partnership is effective, because we are also ‘One Arkema,’ despite a wide array of complexities, diversity, and of course, a large geographical scope.”

-Didier Bellon, Head of Maritime and Airfreight Procurement, Arkema

Didier Bellon, Head of Maritime and Airfreight Procurement for Arkema shared, “We have ‘One BDP’ in front of us as opposed to many different providers, with an in-depth knowledge of Arkema and our unique shipment requirements, right down to the site level. The partnership is effective, because we are also ‘One Arkema,’ despite a wide array of complexities, diversity, and of course, a large geographical scope.”

By partnering with BDP, Arkema has established a stronger position in the ocean carrier market for leveraging rates and capacity needs, enhanced compliance processes, and greater visibility and control of a very complex supply chain. Integrating a new site or acquisition no longer brings the challenges it once did, as BDP teams are well-versed in the intricacies required for each individual site or product.

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About Arkema

Arkema is a specialty chemicals and advanced materials company headquartered in Colombes, near Paris, France, with a strategic vision to become a leader in Specialty Materials by offering its customers the most sustainable and innovative solutions to meet their needs.

Customer Benefits

- Experienced shipping provides quicker, more dependable delivery
- Access to BDP’s global network, expertise, global process & systems
- Automation & standardization of operational processes
- Smooth integration into existing operational processes
- Minimized supply chain impact
- Proactive approach