

Vipul Mathur MD & CEO Welspun Corp Limited

What are some innovations that underscore Welspun Corp's commitment to driving sustainable growth?

Welspun Corp Ltd. has a target to become carbon neutral by 2040 for its operational emissions. Our non-renewable energy consumption will become 100% green by 2040 by implementing RE projects across our factories. In Gujarat, we have invested in a special-purpose vehicle to supply 42 MW of renewable energy round-the-clock, expected to cut CO2e emissions by 200 kilotons annually.

Even in the water-scarce region of Anjar, Gujarat, WCL is self-sufficient in its water requirement. At Anjar, we have an advanced, automated Sewage Treatment Plant of 30 MLD capacity which collects and recycles sewage from 3 nearby municipal areas. The treated water is made suitable for plant operations and supplied across Welspun City to meet the 100% processed water requirement.

Our Anjar plant has achieved zero waste to landfill ahead of our 2030 commitment, and our factories in both MP and Karnataka are

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on the same path. Our goal is to achieve water neutrality by 2040, and circularity through enhanced waste management, recycling, and upcycling initiatives.

WCL and Tata Steel have achieved a significant milestone of developing hydrogen-compliant API X65 grade pipes for transportation of 100% pure gaseous hydrogen under high pressure. With this, WCL has become the first Indian pipe mill to produce ERW pipes for the transportation of gaseous hydrogen.

As a result of our sustainability practices, we are ranked among the top 4 percentile in the global steel industry as per S&P Global's DJSI Corporate Sustainability Assessment and highest across the "Basic Industry: Iron & Steel products" category by CRISIL.

How does Welspun Corp leverage digital technologies to improve its manufacturing processes and supply chain efficiencies?

We are fast achieving a complete digital transformation in operations through automation to reduce human intervention. With this, we are enabling data-based decisionmaking, while continuously adopting innovative methods and technologies. We are building a robust roadmap for digital interventions across our value chain with a key focus on becoming process-driven, optimizing costs, and ensuring an enhanced customer experience. Our efforts are to upskill our workforce to adopt digital technologies in daily operations.

With the introduction of Industry 4.0, we are on our way to being a digitalfriendly and efficient organization across businesses and processes. This is in line with our promise to practice lean manufacturing and promote the Six Sigma methodology for a people and process-driven workplace.

What leadership strategies have been key to navigating challenges in a highly competitive industry?

For an organization to keep thriving even in challenging situations, leaders must ensure we have an ambitious, inspiring, and clearly defined vision for our teams. As a leader, one has to set clear expectations with their teams, provide support and mentoring, create a safe space for experimentation, encourage crossfunctional collaboration, empower teams to make decisions and invest in technology and infrastructure.

We are continuously assessing the current skills of our people and mapping them with future needs of the industry to ensure that we bridge gaps, if any. Employees are offered continuous learning opportunities, reskilling and upskilling programs, and clear pathways are created for technological roles.

As a preferred solution provider for Oil&Gas majors globally and an ever-expanding portfolio in Pipe Solutions and Building Materials, our endeavor is to drive customer centricity by meeting key metrics of cost consciousness, quality standards and new innovative offerings.