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What's on Apical

Collective Effort, Shared Achievements

As the year comes to a close, the past few months at Apical have been marked by time spent together. Across our sites, teams took part in Founder's Day activities, giving back to nearby communities while connecting with colleagues outside of daily routines.

We also shared moments that brought people together in simpler ways, through employee gatherings and informal celebrations. These occasions created space to connect, reflect, and appreciate the effort everyone puts in throughout the year. They reminded us that strong working relationships grow from everyday interactions, not just formal milestones.

Alongside these moments, we reached important achievements as an organization. Apical received recognition through several industry awards, reflecting the work done across teams, from operations and partnerships to sustainability and supply chains. These achievements belong to everyone who contributes behind the scenes, day in and day out.

Looking ahead to next year, these shared experiences and milestones give us a solid starting point for the months to come. They reflect the care, teamwork, and consistency within our teams as we continue moving forward together.

Apical Highlight

RGE Founder's Day: Strengthening Communities Through Purposeful Volunteering

On 17 October, Apical joined the Royal Golden Eagle (RGE) group to celebrate RGE Founder's Day, marking over **58 years** since the group was established. More than just an anniversary, Founder's Day is a tradition that honors RGE's journey and the values set by its founder—using the occasion to give back to the communities where we live and work.

This year, under the theme "**Better Together – Strengthening Community through Purposeful Volunteering,**" the celebration took shape not as a single event, but as a series of meaningful activities across Jakarta. Teams of Apical employees split into groups and spent the day reaching out to different communities, bringing the company's purpose to life through action.

That morning, some teams visited several elderly homes. Colleagues spent time chatting with residents, handed over donation packages (including adult diapers), and shared in light-hearted games that brought plenty of smiles. Those simple moments of connection set the tone for a day focused on tangible, human impact.

At the same time in Kelurahan Marunda, our teams concentrated on nutrition and stunting prevention. Working with local health authorities, they ran awareness sessions for pregnant women and parents, distributed supplementary nutrition, and even took part in a fun cooking competition to create egg-based dishes that appeal to children—combining nutrition with a bit of creativity.

Also in Marunda, volunteers visited SDN 03 and SMPN 162. At the elementary school, we handed out book donations and held storytelling sessions that turned reading into a morning adventure for the kids. At the junior high, the focus shifted to health, with anemia screening offered to students, especially girls, to help identify and address nutritional deficiencies during this critical stage of growth.

Caring for people went hand-in-hand with caring for the environment. Together with our business unit PT Asianagro Agungjaya (PT AAJ), Apical organized a mangrove planting at Hutan Kota Rorotan, Jakarta Utara. Planting 500 mangrove saplings wasn't just about planting trees—it was a collective effort to protect the coastline and leave a greener legacy for future generations.

The day closed on a high note with a lively gathering in Kelapa Gading. Colleagues from different business units swapped stories from the day, played games, and celebrated long service awards. It was a moment to laugh, reflect, and appreciate how small acts done together create real change.

Founder's Day wasn't about headlines or grand gestures. It was about people, with employees, partners, and community members coming together to listen, help, and plant a little hope, showing that teamwork and care can strengthen both communities and the bonds within our company.

Founder's Day Celebration in Balikpapan, Dumai, and Padang

Across Apical's operations, the spirit of Founder's Day was already alive even before the main celebration in Jakarta. Throughout September until October employees in Balikpapan, Dumai, and Padang, teamed up with local communities, schools, and partners to make a difference in simple, meaningful ways. Each place had its own story, but all shared the same sense of togetherness and care.

In Balikpapan, the team from PT Kutai Refinery Nusantara (PT KRN) started early with activities that brought people closer. They helped clean and brighten up nearby schools, organized a Literacy Festival full of reading and storytelling fun, and spent time with residents at a local orphanage, offering health checks and donations. To wrap things up, volunteers planted fruit trees around the orphanage and joined a mangrove planting along the coast, small actions that spoke of big commitment to the community and environment.

In Dumai, Apical and its teams from PT Sari Dumai Sejati (PT SDS) and PT Sari Dumai Oleo (PT SDO) kept the energy going with a month-long series of volunteer activities. They supported local small businesses with new equipment, provided educational savings for outstanding students, and helped raise awareness about nutrition and stunting prevention for expectant mothers. The team also planted matoa trees along village roads, adding more greenery to the area while encouraging others to care for their surroundings.

Meanwhile in Padang, PT Padang Raya Cakrawala (PT PRC) focused on creating a cleaner, healthier, and greener city. The team joined the local Environmental Agency to plant 1,000 trees along main roads and worked together to refresh a kindergarten's facilities, giving children a safer and brighter place to learn. Employees also rolled up their sleeves for a blood donation drive with the Indonesian Red Cross, showing that even simple gestures can make a lasting difference.

News from the Site

Exploring the Future of Food at Gulfood Manufacturing

In early November, Edmund Zheng, our Head of Functional Fats Business, participated as a panelist at the Food Tech Summit in Dubai, part of the Gulfood Manufacturing event. This international gathering brought together leaders from the food and beverage sector to explore the future of food production and sustainability.

A standout moment of the summit was the “Future of Food” workshop, where Edmund and other industry experts delved into the changing landscape of food production. The discussions touched on everything from creating products that delight consumers to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the industry. There was a strong emphasis on how companies can innovate while balancing responsible sourcing and eco-friendly practices.

A key area of emphasis during these discussions was the versatility of palm oil. Its unique fatty acid composition allows it to be tailored for a wide range of applications, including bakery, chocolate, confectionery, dairy, and frying. By extracting its fat components, we create ingredients that serve as flavor carriers and texture builders, playing a vital role in enhancing mouthfeel and supporting nutrient absorption for consumers.

This versatility is not just about functionality; it’s also a reflection of how palm oil is evolving. Once a traditional staple, it is now being transformed through innovation and collaboration. With a strong commitment to sustainability, palm oil is becoming one of the most adaptable and inclusive ingredients for the future of food.

Our participation in the summit reaffirmed our commitment to staying ahead of industry trends. By connecting with global leaders in food technology, we gain valuable insights that help us refine our strategies. This ensures that we remain leaders in both sustainability and innovation. These conversations also spark new ideas, enabling us to continue improving the sustainability of our supply chain.

Four Independent Smallholder Groups Achieve RSPO Certification

We're excited to share a meaningful milestone from our work in the SMILE program with Asian Agri and Kao Corporation. During the RSPO Roundtable Conference in Kuala Lumpur on November 5, four independent smallholder groups from North Sumatra, Riau, and Jambi received their RSPO certification. Seeing this progress, especially compared to just one group last year, gives us a real sense of how far the program has grown.

From our time on the ground, we know the journey hasn't always been easy for the smallholders. Many of them were unsure at first about joining SMILE or taking on the requirements for certification. With steady guidance, training, and plenty of conversations, we saw their confidence grow. Once the benefits became clearer, more smallholders stepped forward, and the community began moving together toward the same goal.

For us at Apical, achievements like this reinforce why collaboration matters. Working side by side with Asian Agri, Kao Corporation, and the smallholders reminds us that lasting change happens when everyone contributes and stays committed. It also strengthens our own journey toward a responsible and traceable supply chain that supports real improvements in the field.

SMILE has already reached thousands of smallholders since 2020, and many have earned their certification. With a target of empowering 5,000 smallholders by 2030, this latest milestone gives us confidence that we're on the right track. We're proud to be part of a program that helps smallholders grow while strengthening sustainability across the palm oil value chain.

Recognizing Apical's Commitment to Shared Responsibility

Apical has once again received recognition on the international stage from the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, or RSPO. On November 4 at the RSPO Roundtable 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, we were proud to receive the Shared Responsibility Award at the RSPO Excellence Awards.

This award reflects the dedication and teamwork of our employees, smallholder partners, and collaborators who continue to promote sustainability across our operations. It serves as a reminder that the effort we put in every day, from improving farming practices to building responsible supply chains, has a real and lasting impact.

The RSPO Excellence Awards recognize achievements in several categories including Innovation, Conservation Leadership, Smallholder, Communicating for Good, and Shared Responsibility. The selection process is rigorous, with submissions carefully reviewed by independent judges before the final winners are chosen through live voting at the event.

Within the RSPO and sustainable palm oil community, this award carries significant weight. It is regarded as one of the most respected forms of recognition because it highlights meaningful impact, strong collaboration, and genuine progress toward sustainability. Only RSPO members are eligible to participate, and entries must be supported by detailed documentation, evidence, and measurable outcomes.

Since joining RSPO in 2011, Apical has remained committed to transforming the palm oil value chain responsibly. By working closely with smallholders, supply chain partners, and stakeholders, we continue to advance practices that benefit people, communities, and the environment. This achievement is a reflection of our shared values and a motivation to keep moving forward together.

Apical Recognized for

Sustainable Leadership in Supply Chains

Apical was honored with the Sustainable Supply Chain Partnership Award – Singapore at the ESGBusiness Awards 2025 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 25 September 2025. The award celebrates our leadership in creating a responsible, deforestation-free palm oil sourcing model that benefits both our business partners and the communities where we operate.

The ESGBusiness Awards recognize companies that excel in environmental, social, and governance initiatives. Winners are assessed on innovation, impact, and dynamism. Apical impressed judges across all three areas by combining strong policies with practical action. Every supplier follows our Sustainability, Human Rights, and sourcing policies, while our A-SIMPLE risk-assessment process helps identify and address environmental, social, and legal risks in real time.

We also put strong focus on traceability and NDPE standards through programs like the Mill Prioritisation Programme, Priority Supplier Engagement Programme, and Traceability Outreach Programme. Our co-developed NDPE Implementation Reporting Framework is now widely used in the industry to improve monitoring and accountability. Beyond our own operations, we collaborate with certification bodies and industry groups including RSPO, ISCC, and POCG to strengthen sustainability standards across the sector.

Supporting smallholders is another key part of our work. The SMILE program, developed with Kao Corporation and Asian Agri, trains 5,000 independent smallholders in North Sumatra, Riau, and Jambi on sustainable farming and reduced herbicide use. Meanwhile, our Sustainable Living Village initiatives in Aceh Singkil, Aceh and East Kutai, East Kalimantan promote alternative livelihoods such as honey and cacao cultivation while protecting local forests.

Awards like this are a welcome recognition, but they are also motivation to keep improving. For Apical, sustainability is a journey, and this achievement reminds us to continue strengthening policies and practices across the supply chain so that our growth remains responsible, inclusive, and sustainable for years to come.

Life at Apical

Family Gathering in Balikpapan and Dumai

As part of fostering a sense of unity and strengthening the bond among employees, Apical recently held a series of Family Gatherings across its operations in the month of October and November. At Balikpapan and Dumai, these events provided an opportunity for employees and their families to come together, celebrate achievements, and enjoy a day of fun and camaraderie. The gatherings featured various activities, including team-building exercises, games, and performances, all designed to create lasting memories and build stronger connections within the Apical family.

Apical Employees in Dumai Gather for Futsal Cup

The Apical Futsal Cup brought together employees from PT Sari Dumai Oleo, PT Sari Dumai Sejati, and PT Apical Kao Chemicals for three days of friendly but energetic competition in Dumai, Riau. Held from 31 October to 2 November 2025 at Popeye Futsal Field, the tournament saw teams from all departments step onto the court with high spirits and plenty of camaraderie.

This year's title went to the AKC Production team from PT Apical Kao Chemicals, who delivered a confident and well-coordinated performance from start to finish. In the final, they outplayed SGI from PT Security Group Indonesia with a solid 3–1 victory. The high-energy match drew loud cheers and steady support from colleagues on the sidelines, creating a lively atmosphere that kept the momentum going until the final whistle.

Beyond the competition, the tournament aimed to strengthen communication and teamwork across departments while promoting a healthy sports culture after working hours. Activities like this not only help employees stay active but also build a stronger sense of togetherness and solidarity throughout the Apical family.

Fun Fact

Optimal Care for Dairy Cows with Optymax Palmitic Series

Cows work hard, and just like us, they need to stay comfortable to perform at their best. When temperatures rise, they can experience heat stress, which affects both their well-being and productivity. Keeping their core body temperature stable is a key part of good livestock care.

Proper nutrition is one practical way to help, especially during hotter periods. Our protected fat for ruminants, derived from the fractionation of oleochemicals, supports these needs. This includes our Optymax Palmitic series (PF-85), which helps maintain cows' nutritional intake even under challenging conditions.

Research from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and SEAFAST–IPB in Indonesia shows that PF-85 not only supports cow health, but also contributes to increased milk production. It's another example of how our products create real value for partners in the dairy industry.

People Feature

Tor Mooi See: Inspiring Sustainability at Apical

Meet Tor Mooi See, our Director of Sustainability since February this year. Based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Mooi See leads Apical's sustainability efforts and works closely with teams across the company. Her role covers a wide range of initiatives, from improving energy efficiency and conserving resources to managing recycling, waste, transportation, education, and sustainable building design.

Mooi See brings with her a wealth of experience. Before joining Apical, she spent years working with companies, organizations, and NGOs involved in forestry, sustainable implementation, and sourcing agricultural commodities. Over the course of her career, she has built a strong track record of turning sustainability goals into practical solutions that create real impact for both businesses and the communities around them.

For Mooi See, sustainability is more than just hitting targets. It is about creating long-term value while protecting natural resources and supporting the people who depend on them. She believes that meaningful change happens when sustainability becomes part of our everyday decisions, rather than something separate from the way we work.

Looking ahead, Mooi See is excited to continue shaping Apical's sustainability journey. Her focus is on driving innovation, building strong partnerships, and creating programs that bring lasting benefits to the environment and society. Through her leadership, she hopes to inspire everyone at Apical to see sustainability not as a responsibility, but as an opportunity to make a positive difference together.

Want to share your story?
Please reach out to us at
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