

ADVOCATING FOR SPECIALTIES



INTRODUCTION



Robert F. Helminiak

Vice President, Legal and Government Relations
SOCMA

SOCMA continues to be a strong voice for the specialty chemical industry in a rapidly evolving regulatory landscape, navigating the complexities of Congress and the Administration, and working to ensure an improved business environment for our members. From influencing legislation to fostering constructive dialogues with policymakers, our commitment to advancing the interests of chemical manufacturers remains unwavering. In this report, we capture highlights from a year of impactful initiatives led by SOCMA's government relations team. In 2023 we created a new, more robust committee structure that better reflects our member companies' operations and created a new committee with a distinct focus on high-level education of elected officials. We look forward to building on this progress and our collaboration with members as we continue to shape the future of our industry through effective advocacy.

As the Chair of SOCMA's newly formed Advocacy Committee, I am honored to share the strides we've made in championing the interests of our industry. Throughout the year, our dedicated committee has engaged in advocacy efforts, forged strategic alliances, and influenced legislation and regulations that shape the landscape for our members. In addition to launching the Advocacy committee, SOCMA has also revamped its committee structure to better align with members priorities. I encourage you to participate in SOCMA's newly restructured committees to help guide our advocacy work. Together, we navigate challenges, celebrate successes, and pave the way for a prosperous future. This report encapsulates our collective commitment to fostering a thriving business environment. Thank you for your unwavering support as we continue to be the driving force behind positive change.



Adam Pingel

Vice President, Manufacturing Operations
Monument Chemical, LLC.
Chair, SOCMA Advocacy Committee and
Secretary, SOCMA Board of Governors

2023 | HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 4 - MAY 2

SOCMA holds Legislative and Regulatory Town Hall Series providing members direct access to congressional committees and federal regulators.

JUNE 1

SOCMA meets with Lael Brainard, Director of the National Economic Council at the White House, to discuss the need for regulatory reform.

JUNE 22

SOCMA joins a coalition letter to Jeff Zients, White House Chief of Staff, to express our concern with the regulatory burden facing industry.

SEPTEMBER 8

SOCMA Advocacy Committee convenes inaugural congressional education meeting with the House of Representatives Committee on Energy & Commerce.

SEPTEMBER 12

SOCMA member companies present industry views to OSHA Small Business Advocacy Review panel on Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings.

OCTOBER 18

SOCMA staff and member companies meet with the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs to discuss challenges with the proposed Risk Management Program (RMP) rule.

NOVEMBER 28

SOCMA meets with Katherine Tai, U.S. Trade Representative, to advocate for fair policies to support growth of specialty chemical manufacturers.

2023 | BY THE NUMBERS



SOCMA SAVED 1,000 HOURS AND \$45,000 PER MEMBER COMPANY ON REGULATORY ANALYSIS AND COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE.

IN 2023, SOCMA:

Held **4** White House Meetings

Sent **20+** Letters to Congress and the Administration

Issued **8** Regulatory and Legislative Updates

Lobbied **12+** Federal Agencies

Focused on **4** Policy Areas

Tracked **25+** Policy Issues

Launched **5** New Committees

Held **15** Committee Meetings

Issued **3** Member Alerts

Published **16** Blog Articles

Convened **6** Town Halls

MEDIA MENTIONS

MARCH 7, 2023

Adhesives & Sealants Industry
Chemical Industry Innovates Amid Logistics, Labor, and Raw Materials Challenges

JULY 3, 2023

Adhesives & Sealants Industry
SOCMA Issues Statement on Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Program

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

Chemistry World
Lapsed US chemical security programme leaves facilities vulnerable

OCTOBER 10, 2023

National Association of Manufacturers
Chemical Manufacturers Push EPA for Faster Action

DECEMBER 18, 2023

Packaging Dive
How the EPA's New PFAS Reporting Rule Impacts Manufacturers

MEMBER | ADVOCACY

Member advocacy allows for legislators and regulators to hear the powerful stories of how companies are impacted by their regulations. Thank you to the member companies who joined SOCMA in advocating for the specialty chemical industry in 2023.

— JUNE

Adam Pingel, V.P. of Manufacturing Operations, Monument Chemical, becomes the first chair of SOCMA's Advocacy Committee with Alan Dyke, V.P. of Business Development & Marketing, ProChem, Inc., joined by Brian Burkhart, V.P. of Fine Chemical Products, Milliken & Company, and Jeff Barnes, President & CEO, NASi.

— JUNE 7TH, 2023

Chris Banach, EHSQS Director, VanDeMark Chemical, Inc., and Wanda Smith, Product Stewardship Specialist, Halocarbon Products Corporation, testified in an EPA hearing on the proposed Methylene Chloride Rule.

— SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2023

Sedra Beckman, Health, Safety & Environmental Specialist, CJB Industries, Inc., participated on a Small Business Advocacy Review Panel on OSHA's proposed Heat Illness Standard.

— SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2023

Jay Dickson, President, Nation Ford Chemical Company, met with Congressman Ralph Norman's office on the importance of passing a bill re-instating the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB) and the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) programs.

— OCTOBER 18TH, 2023

Matt Manna, EHS&S Manager, Ascensus Specialties LLC. and Wanda Smith, Product Stewardship Specialist, Halocarbon Products Corporation, met with the White House's Office of Management and Budget to discuss the adverse effects of EPA's Risk Management Program (RMP) Rule on the specialty chemical industry.



MEMBER | SITE VISITS

SOCMA's government relations team engaged in face-to-face meetings at member facilities to better understand the challenges facing industry and provide regulatory insights on an individual company basis. We would like to thank our members for hosting us this year, giving us a chance to meet with them to discuss pertinent issues they are facing.



Sigfried
Pennsville, NJ



Pressure Chemical
Pittsburg, PA



Proviron
Friendly, WV



Advanced Polymer
East Rutherford, NJ



Iofina
Covington, KY

VISITS

Milliken	Spartanburg, SC
Toll Solutions	Duncan, SC
Ortec	Piedmont, SC
Pressure Chemical	Pittsburg, PA
Ascensus Specialties	Evans City, PA
Proviron	Friendly, WV
Advanced Polymer	East Rutherford, NJ
Veranova	West Deptford, NJ
Sigfried	Pennsville, NJ
Iofina	Covington, KY

COMMITTEES | PEER GROUPS

As a committee member, you can voice your company's concerns and help steer our policy initiatives in a tangible and measurable way. Effective participation brings together member viewpoints, creates effective advocacy, and generates idea sharing. Get involved with SOCMA and participate in one of our committees by reaching out to us at government.relations@socma.org.



CHEMICAL REGULATIONS COMMITTEE

This committee is the guiding force for SOCMA's activities to support the specialty chemical industry on chemical regulations. The two focus areas of the committee are:

- EPA's new and existing chemicals programs
- Chemical restrictions and bans

Chair: Allison Betancourt

Regulatory Affairs Manager, Colonial Chemical, Inc.



ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

This committee focuses on SOCMA's activities to support the specialty chemical industry on environmental policy. The four focus areas of the group are:

- Environmental Justice
- Air regulations
- Water regulations
- Waste regulations

Chair: Bill Atkins

Manager, Global Product Stewardship,
Ascensus Specialties

Vice: Norman Guest

Director, EHS, Halocarbon Products Corporation



HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

This committee provides insight and education related to SOCMA's activities to support the specialty chemical industry on worker health and safety policy. The three focus areas of the committee are:

- Worker health and safety
- Facility site security
- Hazard communication and labeling

Chair: Sedra Beckman

Health, Safety & Environmental Specialist,
CJB Industries, Inc.

Vice: Arielle Golod

EHS Manager, Polysciences



TRADE, TAX AND SUPPLY CHAIN COMMITTEE

This committee guides SOCMA's activities to support the specialty chemical industry on international trade policy, domestic tax policy and supply chain policy. The three focus areas of the committee are:

- Tariffs, duties, and free trade agreements including 301 China Tariffs and the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill
- R&D tax credit, Superfund tax, and any other tax barriers to industry growth
- Ocean, rail, and trucking issues

Chair: Jean Yoho

Head of Procurement, Sun Chemical Corporation

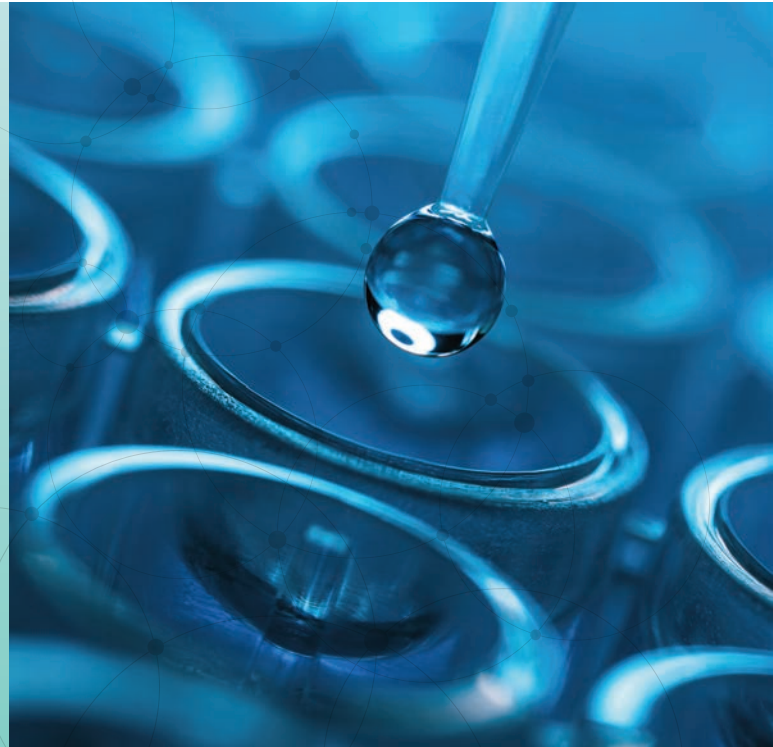
WHAT'S IN STORE | FOR 2024

SOCMA has been tracking over 35 issues that are of interest to our membership including five key issues that are going to be most impactful to the specialty chemical industry in 2024.

1 EPA's Management of New and Existing Chemicals

New Chemicals: EPA continually misses deadlines to review Pre-manufacture notices (PMN's) and Low-Volume Exemptions (LVE's) and requests suspensions with no justification; these perpetual slowdowns make it difficult for SOCMA members to commercialize new products and to meet customer expectations. SOCMA is seeking to improve the procedures and timelines for new chemical reviews, and to support process changes that promote efficiency.

Existing Chemicals: EPA is also completing prioritization, risk evaluation and if necessary risk management for existing chemicals. SOCMA has concerns with the process and is working to ensure EPA uses accurate and complete information when completing these assessments. Additionally, SOCMA is concerned about the "whole chemical" approach and broad bans on chemical uses.



2 Strengthening U.S. Competitiveness in the Specialty Chemical Industry

SOCMA was founded on the principle of supporting the specialty chemical industry on international trade policy and strongly supports fair access to foreign markets. SOCMA works to ensure that tariffs are properly applied to products that are manufactured and available for purchase in the US.

In the coming year, SOCMA will work on legislative and regulatory issues related to strengthening U.S. competitiveness, including restoring the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB), restoring the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), and reopening a fair and transparent exemption process for the Section 301 tariffs.



WHAT'S IN STORE | FOR 2024

3 EPA's Risk Management Program (RMP)

The Risk Management Program (RMP) Rule requires facilities that use extremely hazardous substances to develop a Risk Management Plan. Once developed, these plans must be revised and resubmitted to EPA every five years. SOCMA has four areas of concern in the current proposed rule: Safer Technology Alternatives Analysis (STAAs), third party audit requirements, information disclosures and fence line monitoring. SOCMA's goal is to ensure that the RMP rule does not create subjective standards, or force facilities to misuse resources that can be applied to process safety improvements, or create facility security risks.



4 DHS's Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standard (CFATS)

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program creates a regulatory structure that promotes security and provides tools to companies who manufacture chemicals of interest. The program lapsed in July 2023 and our members believe it is paramount for Congress to reauthorize this program. SOCMA will continue to engage lawmakers to explain the importance of this program to the security of our companies and the citizens of the United States.



5 OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard

OSHA is updating the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS), which mandates information disclosure related to identities and hazards of chemicals. SOCMA has been engaged and educating OSHA on the update for several years, supporting changes to small package labeling and educating OSHA on potential unintended consequences. SOCMA will meet with the White House on the issue in early 2024 and is expecting a final rule in 2024.

