

CONFERENCE  
Hazardous chemicals in products  
The need for enhanced EU regulations  
Tuesday, 29 October 2013 (9 am- 5 pm)

# Speakers' Biographies

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**Arnold Pindar, ANEC and the UK National Consumer Federation**

He trained as an analytical chemist and worked for many years at the Department of Trade & Industry, much of this time dealing with consumer safety. He joined the British Standards Institution in 1996 as Head of Consumer & Societal Policy (retired 2006).

He has represented the UK at European Council and Commission Working Parties developing safety related harmonization Directives, and has been a member of many British and European (CEN) Standards Technical Committees. He has also had a leading role in consumer activities, related to standardisation, in Europe and throughout the world.

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**Franz Fiala, ASI Consumer Council**

Dr Franz Fiala graduated in chemistry and passed a postgraduate study in toxicology. He is the Head of the department "Consumer Council" at the Austrian Standards Institute since October 1991. The purpose of the institution funded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection is to represent consumer interests both in standardisation and regulation in the technical field.

He is the Chair of the ANEC Environment Working Group and of the ANEC Nanotechnology Project Team and had a leading role in the development of ANEC position papers including those on chemicals in consumer products for many years.

His personal practical experience with standardisation and regulation includes about 80 national, European and international committees in the fields of product safety, environment, social responsibility and services. He represents the European consumers in the chemicals sub group of the Expert Group on Toy Safety.

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**Julien de Cruz, DG Environment,  
European Commission**

Julien de Cruz graduated in European law and in Comparative law. He is a lawyer at DG Environment of the European Commission in the Chemicals unit since 2010. He is responsible there for legal issues on REACH Registration, the interface between REACH and product legislation and on nanomaterials.

He has previously worked in law firms in Brussels representing clients in the environmental and consumer sector notably on REACH and RoHS.

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**Katarina Piršelová, DG Environment,  
European Commission**

Ms Piršelová has a background in biochemical technology and bioengineering.

She is working as a Policy Officer in Chemicals unit of DG Environment since 2007. She has first been dealing with the REACH registration, international aspects of chemicals policy and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), currently mainly with REACH authorisation issues and interlinks with restrictions.

Prior to working in the European Commission she has worked in customs field, in the area of tariff classification of chemicals, foodstuffs and other goods.

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**Annette Schäfer, DG Health and Consumers,  
European Commission**

Dr Annette Schäfer is the Head of Sector Food Contact Material within DG Health and Consumers and has been working for the European Commission since 2002.

Since 2006 she is managing legislation and developing new European initiatives in legislation as regards the safety of food contact materials.

She coordinates on this subject, relations with Member States, industry, research organisations and EFSA. Since 2011 she is Head of Sector for Food Contact Materials. Before joining the European Commission, she worked in academics. Dr Schäfer studied Food chemistry at the University of Stuttgart and holds a PhD in Chemistry.

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**Jelka Appelman, Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, Netherlands**

Ir. Jelka Appelman graduated in Environmental Sciences. She worked for the Board of the Authorization of plant protection products and biocides for five years. Since 2003 she is Policy Officer at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment.

She works in the field of drinking water policy for two years and is involved with the Drinking Water Directive and policy for materials and products in contact with drinking water.

She is the focal point of the Dutch delegation in the Joint Management Committee of 5 Member States. France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom Great Britain agreed in 2007 to pursue a common approach to product assessment with the intention of achieving the hygienic safety aims of the EAS in their countries. Portugal joined as aspirant member.



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**Christine Däumling, Federal Environment Agency (UBA), Germany**

Christine Däumling graduated in Languages, Literature, History of Art, and Biology at the Eberhard Karl's University of Tübingen (Germany) and made her thesis in the field of immunology. She holds a diploma in Biology.

Since 1993, Ms Däumling is a Senior Scientist at the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA). Her key activities and responsibilities relate to toxicology and Environmental Hygiene, in particular Indoor Air Quality. She is Secretary of the Committee for Health-related Evaluation of Building Products (AgBB) within UBA. She is also a member of several expert commissions in the area of environment and health of the German Institute for Building Technology (DIBt), development and implementation of the AgBB-evaluation scheme at national and international levels. Furthermore, she participated as member in international panels related to emission control of (building) products and took part in initiatives in fostering a harmonisation process on labelling schemes with four European countries. Christine Däumling has also been working on European harmonisation of emission evaluation within nine European countries.

Before joining UBA, she worked as Research Associate at the German Federal Health Office (BGA) and as Studio and Production Manager of several films and documentaries. She was also a Research Associate at the Free University of Berlin.



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**Susan Strömbom, Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI)**

Susan Strömbom has a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering. She is Coordinator of a textile group which mainly includes textile companies, but also trade associations and researchers. The objective of the working group is to reduce chemical risks by voluntary phasing out of hazardous chemicals beyond of what the law requires.

Ms Strömbom was also part of the project group at KemI, which produced the report 'Hazardous chemicals in textiles – a report of a government assignment'. The report suggests how hazardous chemicals in textiles can be regulated at an EU level. Previously, she worked as a law and standards specialist on food contact material requirements at IKEA, ensuring safe use of all products coming into contact with food.

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**Anna Nylander - Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI)**

Anna Nylander has a Master of Science in Ecotoxicology. She has recently started working with toys in the regulatory process, with standardisation and as a coordinator of a working group consisting of toy companies in Sweden.

The objective of the working group is to reduce chemical risks by voluntary phasing out hazardous chemicals beyond of what the law requires. Ms Nylander has been at the Swedish Chemicals Agency for several years and has had numerous different tasks such as environmental risk assessment of pesticides and regulatory procedures in different areas. She has been involved in several government assignments, and in the latest assignment "Hazardous chemicals in textiles" she was the project leader. Anna Nylander has also experience from working with environmental issues at Stockholm's biggest hospital.

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**Daniela Schachner, Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety LSL**

Dr Daniela Schachner has studied chemistry at the Technical University in Vienna. She is working at the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES). There she is Head of the department for Food Analysis at the Institute for Food Safety in Linz (LSL).

AGES is an expert organisation for healthcare, food safety, food security and consumer protection risks. It is a limited liability company which is fully-owned by the Republic of Austria.

Within the AGES there are 3 Institutes for Food Safety (LSV, LSL, LSI) which are responsible for analysis and assessment of samples according to the Food Safety and Consumer Protection Act (LMSVG). LSL is in charge of different kinds of foods and also toys and some child care articles.

Besides dealing with analysis, Dr Schachner is working as appraiser and expert especially in the field of toys for many years. She regularly participates in meetings on toy safety organised from the European Commission and represents Austria in the chemicals sub group of the Expert Group on Toy Safety. As a member of CEN TC 52 WG 5 she is also involved in standardisation procedures regarding toys.

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**Elisabeth Paludan, Danish Environmental Protection Agency, Chemicals Division**

Elisabeth Paludan graduated in pharmacy and passed a postgraduate study in toxicology. She is the head of the team "Consumer Products" at the Danish EPA, Chemicals Division.

The team makes surveys and risk assessments of chemicals in consumer products and information campaigns for consumers.

It is also responsible for the legislation regarding chemicals in toys, cosmetics, electronics and tattoos.

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**Eva Becker, German Federal  
Environment Agency (UBA)**

Eva Becker graduated in environmental technology.

She works at the German Federal Environment Agency (UBA) in section IV 2.3 "Chemicals".

The UBA is responsible for the environment under the EU chemicals regulation REACH and section IV 2.3 is basically concerned with the implementation of REACH. Eva Becker is especially engaged in the identification of substances of very high concern and in the provisions for articles containing such substances.

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**Johanna Wurbs, German Federal Environment Agency (UBA)**

Dr Johanna Wurbs studied chemistry and wrote her thesis about the evaluation of life cycle assessments.

Since 2005 she works at the German Federal Environment Agency in the section called "Substance-related Product-Issues".

Her focus is on dangerous substances in electronics and in construction products. The working field includes the development of test standards, the definition of criteria for environmental labels and the identification of regulatory needs. Dr Wurbs pays special attention to the interface between product specific regulations for chemicals and the chemical regulation REACH.

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**Anne-France Rihoux, Belgium Public Service (FPS) Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment**

Anne-France Rihoux holds a Master's degree in History and Archaeology and has completed additional training in environmental management.

Since 2011, she is the Head of the Policy Division of products and chemicals in the Belgian Federal Public Service Health and Environment. The objective of the division is to regulate the market of products and chemicals, to reduce their impact on the health and environment. It mainly uses the legislative tool as a lever for public policy, in consultation with other government's partners (federal departments and regions, stakeholders and civil society organisations).

The division represents Belgium in a major part of the chemical and products legislations like REACH, biocides or RoHS for both scientific and policy points of view and sends the representative to the management board of ECHA.

Ms Rihoux is a Belgian representative in the MSCA directors.

This policy division prepares a legislative act that will record the substances, mixtures and articles containing nanomaterials.



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**Kevin Stairs, Greenpeace European Unit**

Kevin Stairs holds a Bachelor of Science degree, and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence (specializing in environmental law). He has practiced law in the United States, and taught environmental law in Germany.

Kevin worked for Greenpeace International as the Political Advisor on ocean protection and hazardous substances/waste treaties for 20 years before taking up his present position at Greenpeace European Unit in Brussels in 2011. He also was a legal and policy advisor to the Organization of African Unity (OAU), and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) on environmental issues where he assisted in the drafting of the Bamako Convention for Africa.

His work includes the Precautionary Principle, hazard-based phase out programs for chemicals, ocean disposal bans, hazardous waste trade bans, the Stockholm Convention, SAICM, and REACH.

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**Erik Gravenfors, Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI)**

Erik Gravenfors graduated in chemistry and ecotoxicology. Today he is Senior Scientific Officer at the Swedish Chemicals Agency. The Swedish Chemicals Agency is a supervisory authority under the Ministry of the Environment and responsible for ensuring that companies and the society at large conduct chemicals control in an acceptable manner.

The Agency endeavours to limit the health and environmental risks associated with chemicals by promoting rules and legislation in Sweden, in the EU and globally that contribute to achieving the environmental quality objective of 'A Non-Toxic Environment'. Since legislation on chemicals is harmonised within the EU, a large part of the Agency's work takes place in the EU framework.

He has been Project Leader for several Government assignments within the area of risk reduction of chemicals and has been engaged in several working groups and task forces concerning e.g. detergents, construction products and persistent organic pollutants.

Mr Gravenfors has also personal experience from product development at Scania, a Swedish producer of commercial vehicles.

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**Thomas Zimmerling, Jack Wolfskin**

Thomas Zimmerling graduated in Political Sciences, Communication Sciences and Law at University Mainz.

He is Senior Manager Communication and spokesperson at one of Europe's leading suppliers of outdoor apparel, equipment and footwear, Jack Wolfskin (Idstein, Germany).

In his position he is also responsible for CSR communication. The topic of hazardous chemicals in outdoor products came on his agenda when he joined Jack Wolfskin in 2011. Thomas Zimmerling represents Jack Wolfskin at Bundesverband der Sportartikelindustrie (BSI), Fachgruppe Outdoor and in the associations working group on chemicals. In the past he has been active in Public Affairs and stakeholder communication in Germany, Europe and Asia.

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**Stefan Scheuer, Moderator**

Stefan Scheuer is involved in EU policy making since 13 years. He is director of Stefan Scheuer public affairs and management consultancy specialised in environmental and energy policies. His clients include a broad range of governmental, business and civil society organisation at EU and national level.

Since 2011, he is appointed as Secretary General of the Coalition for Energy Savings, the unique voice of European business and environmental associations, local authorities and trade unions for putting energy and efficiency at the centre of Europe's energy and economic policy.

In 2007 Stefan Scheuer lectured EU environmental policies at the University of California and Edinburgh and carried out research on integrated water management.

From 2000 to 2007 he worked at the European Environmental Bureau, lately as its Policy Director, and was chairman of the ECOS, the EU citizens' organisation working on greening technical standardisation.

Stefan Scheuer holds an MSc in Hydrology, Albert-Ludwigs University in Freiburg, Germany.