

# Environmental Social Governance

Online Meeting 25th September 2024 - Düsseldorf



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**ESG DIRECTOR**

# AGENDA

**1. PFAS Update – Sandy V.d. Broeck**

**2. Standards & Legislations - Sandy V.d. Broeck**

Update from EDW

Update from EU Industrial Deal

**3. Reducing Carbon footprints – ALL**

Update on Replacing plastic foils in packaging

Update on SWG spacer replacement

**4. Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) - Sandy V.d. Broeck**

**5. David Mitchell – Young Minds Scholarship - Sandy V.d. Broeck**

**6. ESA Careers webpage modification – Sandy V.d. Broeck**

**7. AOB ? – Date and venue next meeting ?**



# 1. PFAS – LATEST UPDATE FROM ECHA

- The Committees for Risk Assessment (RAC) and Socio-Economic Analysis (SEAC) met in June and have provisionally concluded on four sectors that could be impacted by the PFAS restriction proposal.
- The sectors covered are **consumer mixtures, cosmetics, ski wax, metal plating and manufacture of metal products.**
- RAC also provisionally concluded on the scope of the proposal and the hazards of PFAS, emphasizing that the primary concern with PFAS is their persistence in the environment.

# 1. PFAS – LATEST UPDATE FROM ECHA

- **September 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> - 2024 Meetings:**
  - Examination of textiles, upholstery, leather, apparel, carpets
  - Food contact materials, packaging
  - Petroleum and mining.
- **Next Sectors**
  - Fluorinated gases, Transport and Construction products.
- **SEAC draft opinion will be published after the last sector has been completed in Sept 2024, the RAC will then publish its opinion and SEAC will publish its draft opinion, which is the basis for the 2 months public consultation on socio-economic impacts.**
- More information about the committees' plans to evaluate the remaining sectors and the next steps will be announced as work advances. As soon as the ECHA committees have finalized their opinions, the EC will decide on the restriction together with the EU Member States.





# 1. PFAS UPDATE FROM THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- The USCC engaged third-party experts in environmental and economic policy to evaluate the economic and fiscal impacts of specific sectors reliant on essential fluorochemistries across the U.S. economy.
- This report examines the dependence of 7 critical U.S. sectors;

**aerospace manufacturing,  
defense equipment and systems  
data centers  
energy transition  
health care  
mobility, and semiconductors**



on essential fluorochemistries including PFAS.

This study primarily addresses the key uses of fluoropolymers, F-gases, and other fluorinated substances, such as heat transfer fluids.



# 1. PFAS UPDATE FROM THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Table 1 – The Economic and Fiscal Impact of Selected Sectors Dependent on Fluorochemistries**

Metric	Total Impacts	Unit
Employment	6.1	Million Jobs
Output	\$2,413	(2024 \$ billions)
GDP	\$988	(2024 \$ billions)
Labor Income	\$553	(2024 \$ billions)
Federal Tax Revenues	\$140	(2024 \$ billions)
State and Local Tax Revenues	\$69	(2024 \$ billions)

**Table 2 – The Employment Impact of Selected Sectors Dependent on Fluorochemistries**

Sector	Direct Jobs (thousands)	Indirect Jobs (thousands)	Induced Jobs (thousands)	Total Jobs (thousands)
Mobility	977.8	856.7	723.5	2,557.9
Semiconductors	293.2	526.0	531.2	1,350.4
Air Travel	387.1	76.8	251.5	715.4
Data Centers	139.5	324.7	191.5	655.6
Health Care	126.1	108.8	130.5	365.4
Defense	99.6	50.9	92.2	242.7
Energy Transition	77.0	67.0	68.4	212.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,100.2</b>	<b>2,010.7</b>	<b>1,988.8</b>	<b>6,099.7</b>

Table 2 depicts the U.S. job contribution of each of the seven sectors dependent on essential fluorochemistries.



# 1. PFAS UPDATE FROM THE U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## CONCLUSION:

- The seven sectors chosen for analysis in this report highlight how crucial aspects of the U.S. economy rely on essential fluorochemistries.
- Collectively, essential fluorochemistries support nearly 4% of the U.S. GDP while upholding the jobs of over 6 million workers across these seven sectors.
- Interrupting the use of essential fluorochemistries will impact all 50 U.S. states plus D.C.
- The states that will experience the most significant impacts from any sudden policy changes include California, Michigan, Texas, Ohio, and Indiana .



## 2. STANDARDS AND LEGISLATIONS

### 2.a UPDATE EDW



ESA aligns with EU Drinking Water Regulations as an associate member of the European Drinking Water (EDW) association.

- **The Guidance document “Materials in Contact with Drinking Water: Testing of Final Materials and Conformity Assessment”**
- **Regulatory Framework**  
The guidance supports the implementation of Article 11 of Directive (EU) 2020/2184, effective from December 31, 2026, and associated EU regulations (2024/368 and 2024/370).  
It is intended for conformity assessment bodies, notifying authorities, manufacturers, and upstream producers involved in water-related products.
- **Legal Context**  
While the guidance is not legally binding, it aligns with the existing EU regulations and does not conflict with them.



## 2. STANDARDS AND LEGISLATIONS

### 2.a UPDATE EDW



Reflections of meeting on 12th September & EDW Plenary meeting on 19th in Paris.

- Drinking Water Expert Group (DWEAG) meeting on September 11th 2024. From relevance for EDW was the discussion about the guidance document related to testing and conformity assessment. The working group for this Guidance Document consists of reps. of nine the member states, certifiers and manufacturers.
- **Conclusion:**
- Latest draft version of the Guidance Documents needs a lot of improvements to be really helpful.
- The biggest concern from certifiers and industry is the timing. Until end of 2026 all necessary processes must be in place, as from the 1st of January 2027 it is only possible to bring new products on the market which are tested and certified according to the new regulations of article 11 of the DWD EU 2020/2184.
- The Plenary agreed to a mandate for the EDW Advocacy Group to develop a political action plan. Based on the outcome of the Advocacy Group the Plenary will decide about the next steps

## 2. STANDARDS AND LEGISLATIONS

### 2.b UPDATE EU INDUSTRIAL DEAL



- **EU Industrial Deal** declaration signed at BASF plant during EU Industrial summit 20/02/2024 in Antwerp with following objectives:
  - put the Industrial Deal at the core of the new EU Strategic Agenda for 2024-2029
  - include a strong public funding chapter with a Clean Tech Deployment Fund
  - make Europe a globally provider of energy
  - focus on the infrastructure Europe needs
  - increase the EU's raw material security
  - boost demand for net zero, low Carbon and circular products
  - leverage, enforce, revive and improve the Single Market
  - make the innovation framework smarter
  - a new spirit of law-making
  - ensure the structure allows to achieve result
- **So far 1278 organisations from 25 sectors ; 859 companies and 359 associations signed up incl. ESA !**



## 3. REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINT

### 3.a Plastics Reduction Initiative

- The Packings Division together with DENSIQ, IDT, General Packing and AVKO are evaluating together with their customers the sustainable new box and packaging method without the use of plastics and even eliminating the use of the metal flange on the cardboard coil.
- A specification sheet of the composition materials and dimensions has been prepared.



**Sustainable Packaging for Braided Packings.**

**Consisting of:**

- Internal wax coated thin (3,0 and 5,0mm) corrugated cardboard box with eco green printing.
- Matt 80 Oil proof coated woodfree paper to wrap around the braided packing (replacing shrink plastic foil)
- Packing can be either wound around a cardboard tube or placed within the wax coated box.

**Matt 80**

Description: Matt coated woodfree paper.

Applications: Standard label applications with matt finish.

Printing techniques: Suitable for printing on laser, flexo (all types), letterpress (conventional and UV), conventional offset, offset UV, screen printing, hot stamping.

Property	Norm	Units	Value	Tolerance
Substance	ISO 536	g/m <sup>2</sup>	80	± 4%
Thickness	ISO 534	µm	74	± 4%
Bulk smoothness	ISO 9827	s	≤100	
Brightness ISO	ISO 2470-2	%	98	± 2
Whiteness CIE	ISO 11475	%	119	± 3
Opacity	ISO 2471	%	90	-2

**Dimensions:**

Brand	Ident	Box Weight	Inner Dimension	Thick.
Alternative Box - 1 kg (Coated Paper Inside)	Inner Box	1KG	195 x 210 x 50	3
Alternative Box - 2 kg (Coated Paper Inside)	Inner Box	2KG	195 x 210 x 95	3
Alternative Box - 3 kg (Coated Paper Inside)	Inner Box	3KG	225 x 240 x 110	3
Alternative Box - 5 kg (Coated Paper Inside)	Inner Box	5KG	250 x 250 x 135	5
Alternative Box - 10 kg (Coated Paper Inside)	Inner Box	10KG	303 x 303 x 180	5





## 3. REDUCING CARBON FOOTPRINT

### 3.b SWG Spacers

- The Flange Gaskets Division project, to replace plastic spacers for SWG.
- Burgmann packings have developed silicone alternatives
- VED presented a biodegradable option. Price comparison to be compared with current plastic spacers.
- Approached Flexitallic, James Walker and Flexitallic for following information;
  - average yearly quantity and current price
  - required colour(s) and type to fit 5 and/or 10pcs

→ to be continued



# DAVID MITCHELL “YOUNG MINDS” SCHOLARSHIP

## Re-activating the David Mitchell "Young Minds" Initiative

- **ESA Scholarship:** Established at the University of Strathclyde in memory of David Mitchell, a former Standards and Legislation Director and a respected leader in the Sealing Industry.
- Current student Ms. Ilya Gladkikh successfully completed her 2nd in the **MEng Aero-Mechanical Engineering** 5 years program.
- We remain committed to supporting Ms. Ilya as she continues her studies at the University.
- **Thomas Klenck** – at Mannheim University has been approached to see if we could support one of his DHBW students in a similar way.
- This was positively received by Thomas Klenck and he will come back with his recommendation.





# ESG INITIATIVES SURVEY

## EPD – Environmental Product Declaration

### What is an EPD?

- **EPD (Environmental Product Declaration):**

A manufacturer's commitment to measuring and reducing the environmental impact of their products and services. It involves transparent reporting of these impacts.

### Key Features of an EPD:

- **Transparent Reporting:** Provides clear, comparable, and third-party verified data on the environmental performance of products and services, highlighting both the positive and negative impacts.



## EPD – Environmental Product Declaration

### Developing an EPD:

- **Life Cycle Perspective:**  
The environmental performance is evaluated through a **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)**, which examines the product's impact from production to disposal.
- **Adherence to Standards:** The assessment follows specific guidelines outlined in **Product Category Rules (PCR)** and **General Programme Instructions (GPI)**.

### Verification and Registration:

- **Independent Verification:** An EPD must be verified by an approved independent verifier.
- **Publication:** Once verified, the EPD is registered and published through the International EPD System via the EPD Portal.



## EPD – Environmental Product Declaration

EPD platform follow General Program Instruction (GPI) of the International EPD system acc. to ISO14025.

### Methodology guidelines:

- EN15804 - provides core product category rules (PCR) for Type III environmental declarations for any construction product and construction service
- ISO/TS14027 - Environmental labels and declarations — Development of product category rules.
- ISO14026 - Environmental labels and declarations provides principles, requirements and guidelines for footprint communications for products
- ISO14067 - Carbon footprint of products — Requirements and guidelines for quantification
- ISO14044 - specifies requirements and provides guidelines for life cycle assessment (LCA) definition of the goal and scope of the LCA





## EPD – Environmental Product Declaration

EPD owner, stakeholder has the sole liability and responsibility

- manufacturer or trader
- service provider
- trade or industry **association**

**EPD need to collect and provide LCA data (by stakeholder or LCA consultant)  
List of external LCA consultants available.**

Stakeholder appoints PCR moderator who coordinates work of the PCR committee

EPD = Program operator consists of:

- secretariat
- technical committee, 8 to 20 (TC) LCA, EPD and PCR experts for 3yrs



# EPD – Environmental Product Declaration

**Process of EPD development** – time between 2 and 12 months

1. select PCR
2. conduct LCA study on PCR
3. compile info in EPD reporting format
4. 3<sup>rd</sup> party verification
5. publication within 90 days of version date of EPD

## Pricing

Registration per EPD

1<sup>st</sup> EPD : €1000

2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> : €500

>5<sup>th</sup> : €100

Annual registration for Industrial Association: €1000

# ESA CAREERS WEBPAGE MODIFICATION

## Current page

The image shows a side-by-side comparison of the ESA Careers webpage. On the left is the current page, and on the right is a proposed modification. The current page features a navigation menu with 'CAREERS' highlighted, a main heading 'CAREERS', and a list of 'ESA Member Graduate Training Programmes' with columns for company names and locations. The proposed modification on the right shows a different navigation menu where 'GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE ESA' is highlighted, and a comment box with three entries from 'Sandy Van den Broeck' suggesting content changes.

**Current Page:**

- Navigation: NEWS AND EVENTS, ABOUT US, DIVISIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL, CAREERS, KNOWLEDGE BASE, MEMBERSHIP, CONTACT
- Section: CAREERS
- Text: Welcome to the ESA Careers site, where ESA members can advertise new positions within their organisation and upload their CV's.
- Text: The ESA is made up of organisations and companies which in many cases are global, as such they will require individuals for many different disciplines from finance, research, quality, engineering, IT and Sales.
- Text: Many of the member companies within the ESA offer graduate training programmes.
- Text: You can also read stories of people who work for one of the ESA Members and hold positions within the ESA.
- Table: ESA Member Graduate Training Programmes

ESA Member Graduate Training Programmes	Location
James Walker Group	UK
Kastaş Sealing Technologies	Turkey
W.L. Gore & Associates	World Wide

**Proposed Modification:**

- Navigation: NEWS AND EVENTS, ABOUT US, DIVISIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL, GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE ESA, KNOWLEDGE BASE, MEMBERSHIP, CONTACT
- Section: GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE ESA
- Text: Many of the Member companies within the ESA have graduate training programmes. Below we list a number of these programmes. There is also an individual perspective from a number of people who work for one of the ESA Members and also hold positions within the ESA.
- Text: The ESA is made up of organisations and companies which in many cases are global, as such they will require individuals for many different disciplines from finance, research, quality, engineering, IT and Sales.

**Comments:**

- Sandy Van den Broeck: Maintain GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES...and content
- Sandy Van den Broeck: CAREERS to be replaced by PEOPLE
- Sandy Van den Broeck: Remove CAREERS and content from top down menu

# ESA CAREERS WEBPAGE MODIFICATION

## Recommended page ?

ESA European Sealing Association e.V.

NEWS AND EVENTS ABOUT US DIVISIONS ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS KNOWLEDGE BASE MEMBERSHIP CONTACT Q

CAREERS

GRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES WITHIN THE ESA

PEOPLE WITHIN THE ESA AND THEIR STORIES

### / People within the ESA and their stories

People share their stories and experience of working within the Sealing Industry and the ESA.

Ralf Vogel – ESA Technical Director

Involvement with the sealing industry and ESA

After my graduation as a mechanical engineer, I started working as a R&D engineer in the steel industry. My involvement with the sealing industry started 27 years ago when I accepted an R&D position with Merkel (Later to become Burgmann Packing). I received good training by learning from experienced colleagues. My early involvement with the ESA helped me to get a better insight into issues such as legislation and standards. Also working together with other sealing experts helped me to gain a wider knowledge about different aspects of the industry.

After my training I moved the R&D facilities for packings to our manufacturing plant in Ireland. Despite being one of the oldest types of sealing devices, packings are a complex product. As a mechanical engineer I had to learn about different types of yarn materials, chemicals for the impregnations and the different complex steps of manufacturing the product.

Maintain stories of Ralf and Dave.

New stories by ESA members to be approached.

~~Remove Available positions and current candidates plus lower content.~~

### Available positions and current candidates

Here are the currently available positions available within the ESA members together with a link to the company concerned, and current candidates who posted their CVs.

### Current Positions

There are currently no positions available.

### Current Candidate CVs

There are currently no candidates listed



# AGENDA

**5. Any other business?**

**6. Date, time and venue of the next meeting**

