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INTERNATIONAL AEROSPACE
ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP



Environmental Organization and Advocacy of the Aerospace Industries Association

Leslie Riegle, Director of Environmental Policy at the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) addressed IAEG's plenary session at their annual meeting in Fort Worth. Riegle discussed the civil aviation component of AIA, and the reporting structure of her committee relevant to the audience, the Civil Aviation Environmental Committee. This committee houses the Noise, Emissions and Chemicals Subcommittees, as well as monitors the NAS-411 Working Group and is engaged in future technologies via the Supersonic Working Group.

AIA sets annual priorities at the close of each previous year via their Board of Governors. In 2018, priorities for the group include: advocacy for policies that enable NextGen performance objectives and the safe integration of Unmanned Aerospace Systems (UAS) and other new entrants into the National Airspace System (including supersonics); and collaborate with the FAA, regulatory authorities, and Congress to accelerate and streamline product approval processes. Ensuring adequate funding for the environmental portfolios within FAA and NASA are also of critical importance.

After the larger AIA strategy is inked, the Civil Aviation Environmental Committee then sets their agenda, which for this year include passage of the CO₂, Non-volatile Particulate Matter (NvPM) and noise standards, as well as push for the safe introduction of supersonic aircraft into the National Airspace System. Support of airlines on the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) is also a priority on the global and domestic side.

The most pertinent group to IAEG is the Chemicals Subcommittee, which responds to, and develops strategies in response to national and international chemical regulations impacting the aerospace and defense industry. The group acts as a liaison between industry and government authorities; tracks global chemical regulations; assesses impact on the industry; develops industry positions to government; and

when necessary, coordinates efforts with other organizations e.g. AeroSpace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD), Airlines for Europe (A4E).

The Chemicals Subcommittee, comprised of around 70 members, representing approximately 27 member companies, is led by Riegle, Committee Chair, Costa Triantafyllidis (Harris Corporation); and Vice-Chair, Sophia Danenberg (Boeing). The group holds one to two calls monthly on important topics that may warrant further monitoring or strategic response. Liaisons have been created who relay information to and from the group, some of which are within AIA, including the IAEG and the ECHA/EASA initiative. Occasionally a government representative will be invited to brief the group or there will be a mini work session with the regulator focused on a particular topic/material. In order to keep the across-the-pond connection, monthly coordination with ASD is conducted via telecon.

The AIA Chemicals Subcommittee has already submitted a number of comments for the record to the European Chemicals Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2018. In 2015, AIA engaged in the legislation that would impact the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) and pleased to take part in the process as the Lautenberg Chemical Safety Act (LCSA) crossed the finish line in 2016. Since this time, the Association has been preparing for, and responding to the elements which modernize TSCA vis-à-vis LCSA, including the first ten chemical priorities and their inventory “reset”.

Although historically much of the work of the AIA Chemicals Subcommittee has been to monitor and respond to ECHA activity (so much so it was previously the “Reach Working Group”), the group has been given a more permanent “subcommittee” status and now more appropriately entitled “Chemicals (Subcommittee)”, as new chemical regulations outside of Reach have, and will continue to expand across the globe. The Subcommittee shares many resources and goals with the International Aerospace Environmental Group, and has been discussing ways in which to formalize the working arrangement for several years. AIA is an advocacy organization who could potentially utilize much of the detailed work and expertise of member companies through IAEG, to strengthen the depth and power of our messaging. The two organizations will continue to explore options to move forward together towards our mutual goal of a coordinated industry approach to sensible global environmental regulation.

