

Testing Inspection Certification Newsletter by



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Dear members & contacts,

We finished May with the 57th CEOC General Assembly, bringing new organisational changes and a refreshing wind to CEOC International, including the election of a new President, Board Members as well as TC Chairs. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stefan Haas as the new President. We would also like to thank Simo Hassi for his valuable contribution to the work of CEOC International and wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

Likewise, the existence of IFIA reached the milestone of its 35th Anniversary on the 8th of June. Indeed, amidst rapidly changing global trends, the TIC federations are also adapting and evolving to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Hanane Taidi

**Director General
IFIA**



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➔ **“The first step towards getting somewhere is to decide that you are not going to stay where you are.”**

J. Pierpont Morgan

Focus of the Month

57th CEOC International General Assembly in Lyon

CEOC International held its 57th General Assembly on 30 May 2017 in Lyon. Around 100 delegates, representing 29 members from 18 countries, attended the event to elect a new President, members of the Board of Directors, TC Chairmen and a new Auditor, and to welcome a new member of CEOC International.



Simo Hassi,
CEOC International
President

Simo Hassi (Inspecta) announced that this was his last General Assembly as CEOC International President as he would retire. He shared he has enjoyed his six years of presidency, during which he has built a great professional and personal network. He thanked the members and the Secretariat for their continuous support and valuable contribution over the years and expressed his best wishes for a successful future of CEOC International.

Hanane Taidi (IFIA) presented the outcome of the work of the Combined Communications Group. On behalf of IFIA, CEOC International, ETICS and EUROLAB, this group worked on this initiative in an effort to increase the awareness of the Testing, Inspection and Certification (TIC) sector and its role among key players. It also aims at providing a single voice of the whole sector to promote its contribution to safety and quality. The CEOC International members warmly welcomed the work done so far by the group.



Hanane Taidi, IFIA
Director General



Alexander Velijanashvili, Optimal Group +,
Newest CEOC International member

CEOC International welcomed **Optimal Group +**, Georgia, as its Associate member, thus increasing its membership to 30 member companies and associations from 19 countries.

Stefan Haas (TÜV AUSTRIA) was unanimously elected as the **new CEOC International President**. Van Phuc Lê (APAVE) was re-elected as **Vice-President**.

The General Assembly re-elected Stephan Schmitt (TÜV Rheinland), Tomáš Hruška (SZU), Marc Van Overmeire (Vinçotte) and welcomed Raffael Schubiger (SVTI), Pedro Matias (ISQ) and Marcello Manca (UL) as new members of the **Board of Directors**.

Additionally, the General Assembly elected Richard Hulmes (SAFed) as the **new Auditor**.

Simon Emeny (Lloyd's Register) was re-elected as Chairman of the **Technical Committee (TC)** on Energy and Environment. Additionally, Arzu Yağci (PGM Inspection) was elected as the new Chairwoman of TC Non-Destructive Testing (CND).



Stefan Haas,
Newly elected
President of CEOC
International



Raffael Schubiger,
Newly elected Member
of the Board of
Directors



Pedro Matias,
Newly elected Member
of the Board of
Directors



Marcello Manca,
Newly elected Member
of the Board of
Directors



Arzu Yağci,
Newly elected
Chairwoman of TC CND



Richard Hulmes,
Newly elected
Auditor



Stefan Haas and Simo Hassi

On behalf of CEOC International and its members the new President, Stefan Haas, thanked Simo Hassi for successfully leading CEOC International for six years. He also thanked Herbert Egolf and Hans-Hermann Ueffing for their valuable and much appreciated contributions over many years to the association.

Stefan Haas announced that the next CEOC International General Assembly and events will take place from 9 to 12 June 2018 in Lisbon, Portugal on the invitation of Pedro Matias, ISQ President.

Stefan Haas thanked Van Phuc Lê, APAVE and CEOC International for the excellent organisation of this year's General Assembly and accompanying events and closed the 57th General Assembly.



Accreditation & Standardisation

Accreditation

- The following EA NWI proposals have been approved by the EA Board:
 - ⇒ **EAAB(17)01: Elaboration of EA Guidance for the Accreditation of Pesticide Residues Analysis in Food and Feed;**
 - ⇒ **EAAB(17)02: Revision of EA-4/17: EA position paper on the description of scopes of accreditation of medical laboratories;**
 - ⇒ **EAAB(17)03: NWIP Revision of EA-4/20: Guidance for the Assessment of Laboratories against EN ISO 15189 and EN ISO 22870 Point-of-Care Testing (POCT).**
- As agreed by the **EA Certification (CC) and Executive Committees**, the EACC Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), i.e. the questions submitted by CC Members on application of certification-specific standards and answered during CC meetings, have been published on the EA website, section Publications. Click [here](#) to view them.
- The **EA Multilateral Agreement (EA MLA) Report 2016** is now released.
- The ballot on **EA-7/04** has been successfully completed, adopted and published on the EA website.
- The IAF Technical Committee is submitting the draft Mandatory Document titled **IAF MD X:201X: Control of Entities Operating on behalf of Accredited Certification Bodies** to all IAF members for a second 60-day comment period in accordance with **IAF PR2**.
- The IAF Technical Committee is submitting the revised IAF Mandatory Document titled **IAF Mandatory Document for the Transfer of Accredited Certification of Management Systems** to all IAF Voting Members for a 30-day voting period in accordance with the IAF rules.
- The **IAF Board** has endorsed a revision to the **IAF Strategic Plan** to include reference to 'protection of consumers and the environment' and 'facilitating sustainable development' in the IAF Mission statement. The changes were made to clarify IAF involvement/status in these areas in support of the IAF application for observer status in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
- The comments provided by **IFIA to IAF** with regard to the ballots for **IAF/ILAC A1 and A2** relating the use of the word program rather than scheme have been accepted and published in the final version of the document.
- The document **Joint ISO-ILAC-IAF Communiqué on the Management Systems Requirements of ISO/IEC 17025, General Requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories** is now [available](#).
- The IAF Executive Committee is submitting the draft revised Policy Document titled **Rules for Annual IAF Membership Fees**, to all IAF members for a 60-day comment period in accordance with IAF PR2.
- Result of IAF Ballots:
 - ⇒ **IAF MD9:201X Application of ISO/IEC 17021-1** in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485) (Issue 3) – Approved 65 to 0 (21 abstained);
 - ⇒ **IAF MD8:201X Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004** in the Field of Medical Device Quality Management Systems (ISO 13485) (Issue 3) – Approved 65 to 0 (21 abstained).
- ILAC Arrangement Committee (ARC) is submitting the following documents titled: **ILAC-P4:/201X Draft Dec 2015 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management** and **ILAC-P5:/201X Draft Dec 2015 - ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations** to ILAC Full Members and Associates for a 30-day voting period.
- The document, **ILAC-P8:xx/201x, Supplementary Requirements and Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Conformity Assessment Bodies** is currently in circulation for a 30-day comment period
- The **ILAC MRA 2016** Annual report has been published.

Standardisation

- The European Parliament's Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection adopted the draft report on **European standards for the 21st Century by 34 votes in favour and 2 abstentions**. In the own initiative report, the Committee focused on improving a standardisation system that everyone agreed was already well functioning. The Rapporteur had proposed 31 compromise amendments that were all adopted.
- **A new clarification request on ISO/IEC 17065 has been addressed by the maintenance group of WG29 and their answers are available.**
- **Committee Internal Ballot opens on ANSI appeal to CASCO on ISO/IEC 17011.**
- **Ms. Dandan ZHENG, nominated by SAC, (China) will co-convene the WG49 with Ms. Cynthia Woodley.** The WG49 will be revising ISO/IEC 17000:2004, Conformity assessment - Vocabulary and general principles.
- **Mr. Graeme Drake, nominated by SA (Australia) and Mr. Heribert Schorn, nominated by DIN (Germany) will co-convene the WG23.** The WG23 will be revising Common Elements in ISO CASCO standards.
- BSI, the UK's national standards organisation, has launched a new standard for the circular economy, **BS 8001:2017: Framework for implementing the principles of the circular economy in organisations – guide**, the world's first for implementing circular economy principles. <http://tinyurl.com/yddw34o6>

Mergers & Acquisitions

- **ALS Tribology announced the recent acquisition of OILCHECK in Belo Horizonte, Brasil.** Oilcheck is a in-service lubricant testing business serving approximately 35% of the Brasil market. The business has partnerships with several large equipment manufacturers and provides testing services to end-users in a variety of markets including agriculture, mining, construction, energy, forestry, and marine. <http://tinyurl.com/yb4qhzsn>
- **ALS has acquired Marshfield Food Safety in USA.** With this acquisition, ALS Limited makes its entrance into the USA food testing market. Based in Marshfield, Wisconsin, Marshfield Food Safety brings a wealth of experience and expertise to major clients in the food industry. They have earned an outstanding reputation with many loyal clients over the years, offering a comprehensive array of testing capabilities at on-site and off-site laboratory locations throughout the country. <http://tinyurl.com/y8xjl87w>
- **AmSpec announced the acquisition of CR Cox Pty Ltd., an independent marine surveying and inspection company in Australia.** Headquartered in Fremantle, Western Australia, CR Cox has over 60 years' experience in providing services to the marine industry across Australia. <http://tinyurl.com/yag2tls>
- **DEKRA has acquired a 25.1% share in Magility.** Magility and DEKRA are partners since May 1. <http://tinyurl.com/laeyvjv>
- **Core Laboratories N.V. repurchased a total of 15,000 of its common shares during the period beginning Friday, 19 May 2017 through Tuesday, 30 May 2017, at an average price stated in USD of \$103.90 per share.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7nal54p>
- **The SOCOTEC Group has announced the acquisition of ESG, the UK's provider of TIC services in the Construction and Infrastructure sectors.** <http://tinyurl.com/ktp97u7>
- **TÜV Rheinland announced that it has expanded its global wireless communication testing capabilities by acquiring a facility from Tech Mahindra.** <http://tinyurl.com/y96msxf>
- **TÜV Rheinland has expanded its global involvement in the field of wireless communication technologies by acquiring a wireless lab in the Swedish city of Lund.** The acquisition of the laboratory also constitutes the foundation for TÜV Rheinland's newly established national subsidiary in Sweden. <http://tinyurl.com/y92lhmbd>
- **TÜV SÜD has acquired MiW Rail Technology, expanding its services to the Scandinavian region.** MiW is an independent consulting firm that focuses on vehicle dynamics and computer-simulation-based services. <http://tinyurl.com/y8qsb3kv>
- **TÜV SÜD has acquired Atlanta-based ASC Inc. and expanded its EMC testing reach and capabilities.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybtz43yt>
- **UL announced the acquisition of CLEB, the Canadian Building Science and Building Envelope service provider.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7l3k2vb>

Business Developments

- **ALS has announced the opening of a new sample preparation laboratory in Rouyn-Noranda, located in the heart of the Abitibi Gold Belt.** This new location allows to provide fast, efficient service to clients in Western Quebec. <http://tinyurl.com/ya4evybo>
- **AmSpec announced the continuation of inspection and testing services in their new state of the art facility serving Philadelphia Harbor.** The new location is triple the size of the previous building and is strategically located to better serve neighbouring refineries, terminals and the Philadelphia harbour in general. <http://tinyurl.com/yawlwlm>
- **AmSpec announced the commencement of inspection and testing services in Montreal, Canada; another Canadian office and laboratory adding to AmSpec's expanding international resume.** Montreal is the sixth Canadian facility which complements the existing branches in Come by Chance-Newfoundland; Point Tupper and Halifax-Nova Scotia; Saint John-New Brunswick and Quebec City-Quebec. <http://tinyurl.com/y72o99hr>
- **The Marine & Offshore Business Review 2016 has been released by Bureau Veritas.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7jfmblx>
- **Bureau Veritas has published its 2016 Annual Report.** <http://tinyurl.com/yap62lhe>
- **The Responsible Wool Standard focuses on animal welfare and land management at farm level, in addition to traceability of the supply chain. Control Union has announced that it has certified 10 projects for this program.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybx5zomf>
- **DNV GL announced its launch of Forecaster NOW, the industry's first forecast on-demand web portal with e-commerce enabled transactions.** Forecaster NOW is part of a suite of DNV GL subscription-based short-term forecasting services which also includes: Forecaster Live, Forecaster Plus and Forecaster Solutions. <http://tinyurl.com/kba7tms>
- **DNV GL invites industry partners to start a Joint Industry Project (JIP) for improving the collection and assessment of site conditions data for offshore wind farms.** Aiming to increase the efficiency of collecting site conditions, the new JIP will work with stakeholders from across the wind industry. <http://tinyurl.com/k4nl3q8>
- **DNV GL and Samsung Heavy Industries. Co., Ltd (SHI) signed a joint development project (JDP) agreement focused on the development of new LNG carrier designs.** Mun-Keun Ha, Senior Executive Vice President of SHI, and Tommy Bjørnsen, DNV GL's Regional Manager Maritime Korea & Japan, signed the agreement at the DNV GL Group head office in Høvik, during Nor-Shipping week. <http://tinyurl.com/y76nbq5h>
- **Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) and Lloyd's Register (LR) have announced at Nor-Shipping 2017 a joint development project (JDP) to design 180k DWT class bulk carriers.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7so5hmo>
- **Lloyd's Register (LR) has launched its Virtual Reality (VR) Safety Simulator to help further support training and knowledge transfer in the energy industry.** Through the application of the latest innovation and technology advancements, LR has built a virtual environment to help illustrate the need for a continued focus on safety and risk assessments in the industry. <http://tinyurl.com/y6uy8g8q>

Business Developments

- **Odisha Mining Corporation Limited, a Gold Category State run PSU, appointed MSK Bhubaneswar for Quality check of their entire Chrome Ore Mines work.** OMC caters to the requirement of mineral based industries like Steel, Sponge Iron, Pig Iron, Ferro Manganese, Ferro Chrome, etc. This contract includes OMC's Bangur and J. K. Road Region mines. <http://www.mitrisk.com/msknews/>
- **Hikvision and SGS signed a memorandum agreement for joint laboratory collaboration.** The memorandum will pave the way for joint efforts in testing, inspection, verification, and certification of Hikvision products. It will also see the two companies cooperating strategically in various areas, including: mutual technology exchange, training, information sharing and platform establishment. <http://tinyurl.com/yahap3ka>
- **SGS has announced the opening of a sample preparation facility in Lagos, Nigeria, strategically located to service the growing needs of the exploration and mining industry in Nigeria.** The Lagos Sample Preparation facility will process exploration samples from Nigeria and ship the prepared pulps to SGS's existing commercial laboratory in Tarkwa, Ghana for geochemical analysis. <http://tinyurl.com/ybfaloex>
- **SGS has announced the opening of a new vehicle inspection station in Nabbingo, Uganda, the second of seven-fixed vehicle inspection test stations being constructed around the country.** The facility is located on Masaka road about 19 kilometers from the capital city, to the southwest of Kampala. Light vehicles, such as private cars, minivans and motorcycles, will be inspected there. <http://tinyurl.com/y7vrqgtd>
- **SGS has launched its Zero Discharge Holistic Solution, using an assertive approach supported by a diverse range of technical solutions to assist textile and footwear brands and retailers to move a step closer to their zero-discharge goal.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8hzsbqj>
- **SZU was approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) both as an EPA-approved Test Lab and as an EPA-approved Third Party Certifier.** The scope of the recognition applies to performing the tests of heating appliances burning solid (biomas) fuels as well as to subsequent certification of these appliances intended to be marketed in the USA. <http://tinyurl.com/l59ls38>
- **TÜV Nord Group, is conducting an assessment of a 25-MW solar photovoltaic (PV) power project 160 kilometers from Bengaluru spread across 90 acres.** TÜV Nord Group is a technical service provider working in 70 countries. <http://tinyurl.com/ycml83m7>
- **TÜV Rheinland announced that it is now offering chemical analysis of beer for craft brewers, in order to remain compliant with new FDA and Beer Institute guidelines.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybwnr62g>
- **TÜV SÜD is launching a partnership with Virtual Forge GmbH and dr. Fuchs Senior Advisors GmbH, overseen by its subsidiary TÜV SÜD Sec-IT GmbH.** Virtual Forge, a German company based in Heidelberg, is a provider of IT security and compliance products for SAP environments, while dr. Fuchs Senior Advisors supply independent, impartial SAP-related management consultancy. By entering the partnership, TÜV SÜD is expanding its cybersecurity portfolio and can provide its own customers with high-level services in the field of application security. <http://tinyurl.com/ybennw4k>
- **UL has received a grant from the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) for cybersecurity testing of Internet of Things (IoT) gateways for industrial control system (ICS) applications to help mitigate security risks.** <http://tinyurl.com/ych9ecr4>

Agriculture

- **MEPs objected to EU Commission plans to authorise imports of products made from genetically modified maize and cotton which are herbicide-resistant.** <http://tinyurl.com/y9jeldxj>
- **DG Agri presented the EU Cereals Balance sheet 2016/17 and forecast 2017/18:** <http://tinyurl.com/ya5dcj7t>
- **A new strategic partnership between the EU and Africa was launched on 4 May with agriculture one of the main pillars of the new strategy.** The agri-food sector is seen as a key area through which the EU can support rural and urban development in Africa. According to a joint [paper](#) the EU will facilitate investments from the private sector in the African agri-food sector, building on initiatives such as the existing Agriculture Financing Instrument (AgriFI), in order to help boost jobs and address food security.
- **EU agri-food exports reached a record value of almost €12.7 billion in March 2017, according to the latest [agri-food trade report](#) published by the European Commission on 18 May 2017.** This is €1.31 billion (+11.3%) higher than in March 2016, and the highest monthly export value seen over the last five years.
- **European fruit and vegetable producer organisations will benefit from simpler rules, a reduced administrative burden and greater financial support** in times of crisis thanks to new legislation that comes into force on 1 June 2017. In particular, the updated and simplified delegated regulation of the European fruit and vegetable sector will further strengthen the role of producer organisations (POs) by making them more attractive to non-members, while at the same time improving the functioning of the existing market management scheme. <http://tinyurl.com/ycngvbm>

Chemicals

- **ECHA's report on the use of alternatives to animal testing shows that registrants have used alternatives for at least one endpoint in 89 % of the substances analysed.** However, industry needs to improve the quality and robustness of alternative data. <http://tinyurl.com/y9m7t6qs>
- **ECHA has published five documents that will help registrants preparing dossiers that cover nanomaterials ahead of the 2018 registration deadline.** The documents include two new pieces of guidance as well as recommendations and updates of the existing guidance on nanomaterials. <http://tinyurl.com/ycwtsfet>
- **ECHA has received 9,034 dossiers covering 4,454 substances for the 2018 REACH registration deadline, which is one year from today.** <http://tinyurl.com/ya6sa4ar>
- **Environmental NGO Greenpeace has found high concentrations of phthalates in toys marketed in the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) countries of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7pbzxhh>

Digital

- **The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission reached a political agreement on the WiFi4EU initiative and its funding which supports installing free public Wi-Fi hotspots in local communities across the EU: in public squares, piazzas, parks, hospitals and other public spaces.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8mp7v8g>
- **The EU Agency for Network and Information security – ENISA – together with industry recently reached a common position on cybersecurity, that reflects the concerns of industry and provides a set of suggestions for policy makers.** The paper focuses on four main areas actively debated at the EU level: standardisation and certification, security processes and services, security requirements and implementation, and the economic dimensions. <http://tinyurl.com/y9ln85tx>
- **The European Commission has published mid-term review of the 2015 Digital Single Market strategy:** <http://tinyurl.com/ycl95mag>

Energy and Environment

- **The EU and Vietnam conclude negotiations on a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT).** The agreement will help improve forest governance, address illegal logging and promote trade in verified legal timber products from Vietnam to the EU, and other markets. <http://tinyurl.com/yc2l4pq5>
- **The European Commission is moving to end the export of old raw ivory as of 1 July, with the adoption of new guidance on the EU rules governing ivory trade.** The decision, foreseen in the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking, will help to prevent that legal ivory trade fuels international ivory trafficking, which has risen significantly over the last decade. <http://tinyurl.com/y8ftuwjq>
- **The European Commission is taking Italy to the Court of Justice of the EU for its failure to rehabilitate or close down 44 landfills, which represent a serious risk for human health and the environment.** Despite earlier warnings from the Commission, Italy has failed to take measures to rehabilitate or close down 44 non-compliant landfills, as required by article 14 of the Landfill Directive (Council Directive 1999/31/EC). <http://tinyurl.com/y8bvvg9b>
- **The European Commission and the European Investment Bank (EIB) have signed a new delegation agreement reinforcing the ELENA (European Local Energy Assistance) facility.** ELENA provides grant funding to support the preparation of large-scale investment programmes in the area of energy efficiency, distributed renewables, and sustainable urban transport. <http://tinyurl.com/k8ddx54>
- **New [statistics](#) published by Eurostat show that CO2 emissions from burning fossil fuels decreased in 2016, compared with the previous year.** Eurostat estimates that in 2016 carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from fossil fuel combustion decreased by 0.4% in the EU, compared with the previous year. CO2 emissions are a major contributor to global warming and account for around 80% of all EU greenhouse gas emissions. They are influenced by factors such as climate conditions, economic growth, size of the population, transport and industrial activities. <http://tinyurl.com/mpnz4jg>
- **The European Commission, together with 14 EU countries (Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Portu-**

gal, Spain, and Sweden) have signed a political declaration to launch the new 'Clean Energy for EU Islands' initiative. Aimed at accelerating the clean energy transition on Europe's more than 2700 islands, this initiative will help islands reduce their dependency on energy imports by making better use of their own renewable energy sources and embracing more modern and innovative energy systems. <http://tinyurl.com/y9ju3y6r>

Food

- The ENVI committee held the annual exchange of views with the Executive Director of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Dr. Bernhard Url. This exchange of views gave Members an opportunity to discuss the main issues that EFSA worked on in 2016 ([Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2016](#)) and the [Programming Document 2017-2019](#) (including the Multi-annual Programming 2017-2020 and the Work Programme 2017). <http://tinyurl.com/c8mphx6>
- Thermo Fisher Scientific joins the INTELLtrace Work Package (WP) 18, part of the European Food Integrity Project aimed at developing a validation of untargeted methods to assure the quality, authenticity and safety of the food chain. <https://tinyurl.com/kqqnpzi>
- On the occasion of the European Business Summit, as part of a panel on “Sustainable Living: Foresights for 2050”, FoodDrinkEurope launched a Call for Action to help improve diets and promote good nutrition and health. In so doing, the organisation of Europe's food and drink industry calls upon all interested parties and stakeholders to join forces and look ahead to tackle today's societal challenges related to nutrition and health. <https://tinyurl.com/m7gszt7>
- Irish and international food group Dawn Meats has agreed a strategic partnership with Dunbia, the Northern Ireland-based meat processor, to establish a majority owned joint venture in the United Kingdom comprising the UK operations of both organisations. Dawn Meats will separately acquire Dunbia's operations in the Republic of Ireland. The deal is subject to approval by the relevant competition authorities. <https://tinyurl.com/kco2t8w>
- Nestlé has inaugurated its new SFr145 million (€132 million) Al-Maha factory in Dubai, which produces Nescafé coffee and Maggi cooking aids for the local and regional market. Now operating at full capacity, the site employs 340 people from 20 countries. 60% of the team are under 30 years of age. The environmental performance of the factory will contribute to Nestlé's 2030 ambition to strive for zero impact in our operations. The plant recycles 100 percent of waste from products and raw materials, reaching zero waste to landfill in that area and helping fulfil the company's commitment to send zero waste for disposal by 2020. <https://tinyurl.com/kb4l8fg>
- MEPs advocate efforts to halve by 2030 food waste in the EU, by lifting existing restrictions on food donations and eliminating confusion about “best before” and “use by” labels. <http://tinyurl.com/yaa4ng3t>
- The Commission adopted a delegated act specifying the conditions under which the name of the teran wine grape variety may appear on wine labels of the Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) Hrvatska Istra, a Croatian wine, allowing its producers to use the name teran in the labelling of their wines under specific conditions. <http://tinyurl.com/yae7gckg>
- EFSA scientists have devised a way to more accurately estimate consumer exposure to enzymes used in food production, improving their safety evaluation as required by EU law. <http://tinyurl.com/y84exmzt>
- The EU Food Fraud Network and the System for Administrative Assistance & Food Fraud published its Annual Report 2016: <http://tinyurl.com/ybfsnrwn>

Health, Safety, Environment (HSE)

- EU-OSHA has published a report under its current foresight activity. The project is looking at how changes in information and communication technologies and work location will affect occupational safety and health (OSH). The report presents the results of the first phase of the project. The aim was to identify and describe key trends and drivers of these changes. The findings will be used in phase 2 to develop a set of scenarios describing possible and plausible visions of the world of work in 2025 and the associated OSH challenges. <https://tinyurl.com/lnl80ka>
- The booklet of the Healthy Workplaces Good Practice Awards 2016-2017 is now available in the English version. You can read the document and download it for free from the EU-OSHA website: <https://tinyurl.com/k6wq48v>
- International Scientific Conference and Workshop on Occupational Health and Safety in Formal and Informal Mining will take place from 22 to 25 August in Odense, Denmark. The scientific program will cover major topics of interest related to current research and solution implementation in occupational health and safety (OHS) in mining. <https://niva.org/conference/mining/>
- EU-OSHA wishes to draw on the services of one or more companies able to provide strategic advice for its pan-European information, communication and awareness-raising activities and to increase and strengthen the relationships with its various stakeholders and involve them actively in its communication, promotion, events and campaigning activities. Application deadline: 9 June 2017. <https://tinyurl.com/kucx9ox>
- A comprehensive overview of occupational safety and health (OSH) aspects related to the challenges of an ageing workforce is presented in [country infographics](#) uploaded on EU-OSHA website [visualisation tool on ageing and OSH](#). The 31 country infographics depict thought-provoking facts and figures about the working conditions and health, labour market participation and policies linked to ageing at work in the corresponding European country. One more infographic illustrates the full EU landscape of the subject.
- The European Commission flanks the European Pillar of Social Rights with a [number of further concrete legislative and non-legislative initiatives](#). The following topics/areas are covered: the [work-life balance](#) of working parents and carers, the [information of workers](#), the [access to social protection](#) and the [working time](#). The [explanatory fiches](#) on the 20 principles of the European Pillar sets out the ambition to go beyond the actual acquis, fostering a high level of protection for workers from **occupational safety and health (OSH) risks**. Workers have the right to a working environment adapted to their specific occupational circumstances and in accordance with the principle of active ageing, there is also a need to adapt the working environment to enable workers to have sustainable and longer working careers. <https://tinyurl.com/n8k2gag>

- **5th Global Healthy Workplace Awards, Singapore 2017.** The Global Healthy Workplace Awards & Certification Program is designed for organisations implementing programs that excel in the creation of healthy workplaces. Both the award and certification allow employers to compare and benchmark their programs to the global standard and, if successful, to celebrate their achievement and to distinguish themselves as an employer-of-choice when seeking to attracting new talent or retain existing employees. The Awards demonstrate an employer's focus on promoting a safe and healthy work environment and the health of its employees while producing business essential outcomes. Two finalists per category will be invited to present their program at the forthcoming 5th Global Healthy Workplace Summit in Singapore on 2nd September 2017 in partnership with Health Promotion Board Singapore. <https://tinyurl.com/m5xc6a8>

Industrial Products

- **The final module has been lowered into place at the 29-story Apex House in the Wembley part of London, marking a milestone for what is now Europe's tallest modular structure.** The building consists of 629 modules and will serve as student housing. <http://tinyurl.com/ycntd2xg>
- **A 168-m-tall tower with 46 above-ground stories is planned by J&T Real Estate on the Danube River in Bratislava, Slovakia.** <http://tinyurl.com/y9btrsf8>

Petroleum and Petrochemicals

- **Spain's ambassador to Tehran Eduardo López Busquets voiced his government's readiness to support Spanish companies willing to join petrochemical projects in Iran.** <http://tinyurl.com/yajlg4j6>
- **Oil extracted from tar sands is far more polluting than conventional hydrocarbons. But the EU's decision to change the way it classifies the fuel is good news for Canadian exports and bad news for the environment.** <http://tinyurl.com/y82znbt4>

Trade Agreements

- **The European Commission has decided to impose definitive anti-subsidy measures on imports from China of certain hot-rolled flat steel products (HRF).** <https://tinyurl.com/yast4fho>
- **The European Commission has proposed texts for the trade deal with Indonesia. The text submitted so far are available on the Commission's website.** These texts only constitute the European Union's initial proposals for legal texts on topics in the EU-Indonesia trade agreement. The EU aims at concluding an agreement similar in coverage to what the EU achieved in its trade agreements with Singapore in 2014 and Vietnam in 2015.
- **The European Commission has announced that the EU would remove a significant part of the remaining import duties on Sri Lankan products as from 19 May.** This will be in exchange for the country's commitment to effectively implement 27 international conventions that it has ratified on human rights, labour conditions, protection of the environment and good governance. <https://tinyurl.com/ycnqlwkp>
- **The European Court of Justice has issued its much-awaited opinion on the EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement.** By unequivocally spelling out which exclusive external competences the EU enjoys and which external competences are shared with the Member States, the Court of Justice has cleared an issue which had clouded EU trade policy for a long time. Trade MEPs have also debated the implications of this sweeping ruling. <https://tinyurl.com/y9d87pq7>
- **Robert Lighthizer was sworn in as the 18th United States Trade Representative (USTR) just after he had been confirmed by the US Senate with 82 votes in favour and 14 against.** The Office of the USTR is in charge of developing U.S. trade policy and supervising negotiations with third countries.
- **The General Court of the European Court of Justice has annulled the Commission decision refusing the registration of the proposed European citizens' initiative 'Stop TTIP'.** In July 2014, a citizens' committee asked the Commission to register a European citizens' initiative entitled 'Stop TTIP'.

Public Consultations and Calls for Tenders

- **The European Commission launches public consultation on Database Directive.** Deadline: 30 August 2017. <http://tinyurl.com/y8cmq3ea>
- **The European Commission has launched a stakeholder consultation for the evaluation of EU legislation on blood, tissues and cells.** Deadline: 31 August 2017
- **The European Commission has launched a public consultation on the evaluation of the TEN-E regulation.** Deadline: 4 September 2017
- **EFSA's Panel on Additives and Products or Substances used in Animal Feed (FEEDAP) has launched an open consultation on a draft guidance on the assessment of the safety of feed additives for the consumer.** This document proposes guidance to applicants for the preparation and the presentation of an application for authorisation of a feed additive. Interested parties are invited to submit written comments by 21 July 2017. <http://tinyurl.com/ybexs3of>
- **EFSA has launched a public consultation on a draft guidance document on the risk assessment of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) present at low levels in food and feed material and not intended for import into the European Union.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8hkuh8r>

Agriculture

- The Department of Agriculture (USDA) is adopting, as a final rule, without change, an interim rule that updated reporting and notification requirements associated with, and made clarifying changes to, the fruit, vegetable, and specialty crop import regulations for certain commodities regulated under section 608(e) (hereinafter referred to as "8e") of the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937. <http://tinyurl.com/y8g9usfl>
- A Proposed Rule by the Agricultural Marketing Service would implement a recommendation from the Peanut Standards Board to revise the minimum quality and handling standards for domestic and imported peanuts marketed in the United States. The Board advises the Secretary of Agriculture regarding potential changes to the Standards and is comprised of producers and industry representatives. This action would relax the allowance for damaged kernels in farmers' stock peanuts when determining segregation. <http://tinyurl.com/ybzbsslx6>
- Brazil will produce an estimated 87.409 million mt of corn in the 2016-2017 crop year, the latest data from national crop agency Conab showed, 3.47% above its January estimate of 84.480 million mt. <http://tinyurl.com/y9dzgafa>
- U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue welcomed the agreement between the United States and China on several key trade issues, most notably the return of American beef to the Chinese market after a hiatus that began in 2004. <http://tinyurl.com/yavgofs3>
- U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the creation of an undersecretary for trade and foreign agricultural affairs in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), a recognition of the ever-increasing importance of international trade to American agriculture. <http://tinyurl.com/ya8afpfc>
- Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that the first shipment of fresh U.S. beef has arrived in Brazil following a 13-year hiatus. The entrance of American beef into the Brazilian market ushers in promising long-term economic opportunity for U.S. beef producers. <http://tinyurl.com/y97food3>
- The demand for vegetable oils has witnessed a considerable growth in recent years as they find numerous applications in various sectors such as food, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, etc. The global vegetable oil market is further accelerated due to population growth, improving living standards, rising demand from developing markets and changing dietary habits. <http://tinyurl.com/ybfbrcns>

Chemicals

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a Hazardous Weather Release Prevention and Reporting alert to remind facility operators of certain regulations that require minimization of chemical releases during process shutdown operations. This alert is designed to increase awareness among facility operators about their obligation to operate facilities safely and report chemical releases in a timely manner. <http://tinyurl.com/y7twxt8m>
- Three NGOs have filed a notice of intent to sue Occidental Chemical Corporation (OxyChem) for an alleged failure to inform the US EPA that it had imported nearly 900,000lbs of asbestos. The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization, Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families, and the Environmental Health Strategy Center say that data sourced from US Customs and Border Protection records shows the company imported the substance in shipments from late 2013 through to 2015. They say the materials were destined for use in the chlor-alkali manufacturing process at the company's eight plants producing chlorine. <http://tinyurl.com/yc2y9lvj>
- US Chemical industry trade groups have used the US EPA's regulatory reform exercise to call for regulatory tweaks on a variety of lesser US TSCA provisions. <http://tinyurl.com/y8m99mh8>
- There is an urgent need for "an integrated and hazard-based approach to chemicals management", concludes Greenpeace in a report published today on the emissions from chemical plants in a major industrial park in China. <http://tinyurl.com/yadbk69q>
- US NGOs are increasingly investing in technology which allows them to analyse and identify chemicals in products. Roger McFadden, former senior scientist at retailer Staples, told Chemical Watch that the use of handheld devices, which was previously limited to skilled scientists and engineers, is becoming more widespread. <http://tinyurl.com/ydclmtuw>
- US Industry groups have named the new chemicals programme and the EPA's proposed framework rules among areas of TSCA where it would like to see regulations reformed. <http://tinyurl.com/y8y3m96e>
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt today proposed a 12-month extension for implementation of the revised final. Certification and Training of Pesticide Applicators (C&T) rule. EPA received feedback from states and stakeholders that more time and resources are needed to prepare for compliance with the rule. The extended timeline would enable EPA to work with states and provide adequate compliance and training resources. <http://tinyurl.com/yaw8fval>

Consumer Products

- Incidents involving a popular child's toy known as "fidget spinners" are being investigated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission after two separate reported cases of children swallowing parts of the gadget sparked concerns. <http://tinyurl.com/yaypmzqq>
- There have been numerous recent CPSC product recalls because of faulty lithium ion batteries in products ranging from laptops to electric skateboards to the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 phone recalled last fall. These recalls provide guidance for businesses as they seek to satisfy both the demand for products with lithium ion batteries and their legal obligations in the area of consumer product safety. <http://tinyurl.com/y9m9qzvc>
- As part of its mandate to issue consumer product safety standards for durable infant or toddler products under The Danny Keysar Child Product Safety Notification Act, section 104 of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission ("CPSC") recently approved a new federal standard to improve the safety of infant bath tubs and prevent drownings. <http://tinyurl.com/yagbrhew>

Digital

- On 11 May 2017, the President signed the Executive Order on Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure, which outlines a number of actions to enhance cybersecurity across Federal agencies and critical infrastructure partners. <http://tinyurl.com/y7rku2ub>
- Most industry official surveyed in a poll believe a security incident related to internet-connected devices could be catastrophic. But the [poll](#) found that fewer than half believe their organization is equipped to protect their networks from these risks.
- The Cloud Security Alliance (CSA) released its first ever research and guidance report on connected vehicle security. Authored by the CSA's Internet of Things (IoT) Working Group, [Observations and Recommendations on Connected Vehicle Security](#) is a 35-page report that provides a comprehensive perspective on vehicle security connectivity design, possible attack vectors of concern, and recommendations for securing the connected vehicle environment.

Energy and Environment

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently awarded \$1,031,756 to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) for their air pollution prevention and abatement program. <http://tinyurl.com/yagllmzi>
- In an effort to restore Superfund cleanup to its rightful place at the center of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's core mission, Administrator Scott Pruitt is prioritizing Superfund cleanup and streamlining the approval process for sites with remedies estimated to cost \$50 million or more. <http://tinyurl.com/ybs3vsec>
- EPA has signed a proposed rulemaking to approve North Dakota's application to implement and enforce its own Class VI Underground Injection Control (UIC) program. Class VI injection wells are used for long-term storage of carbon dioxide captured from industrial and energy related sources. This action reinforces Administrator Pruitt's commitment to cooperative federalism, and will help advance carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) technologies. <http://tinyurl.com/y9gj47zm>

Food

- Maryland has become the second U.S. state to pass a law banning the routine use of antibiotics in healthy livestock and poultry, a move aimed at battling the rise of dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacteria known as "superbugs." <http://tinyurl.com/yclb8edg>

Health, Safety, Environment (HSE)

- OSHA, Holder Construction Group partner for safety at northeastern Illinois data center construction site. The strategic partnership will protect and educate workers on [construction hazards](#) during the building of the DuPont CH3 Data Center project in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. The partnership was developed jointly by OSHA and general contractor Holder Construction Group as well as by the state's Labor Department On-site Safety and Health Consultation and several local unions. They include Plumbers Local Union 130; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 134; United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners Local 839; Laborers International Union of North America Local 118; Pipefitters Local Union 597; International Association of Iron Workers Local 1; International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, and International Association of Sheet Metal Workers Local 73. <https://tinyurl.com/ycb4j5>
- A new regulation in California aims to improve workplace safety and health at oil refineries across the state. The state's Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board [approved the rule](#), which provides a standardized framework for anticipating, preventing and responding to hazards within the refinery sector. <https://tinyurl.com/y8dtx3jn>

Industrial Products

- New York City (NYC) lawmakers have been promising more stringent safety measures since 33 construction workers in the city were killed on the job over the past two years. A bill that requires a better database of who gets hurt or killed in a fall was recently passed by the City Council, but a more controversial one requiring safety training and an apprenticeship course for construction workers has not. <http://tinyurl.com/yccg9gotl>
- A new release of Rolls Elevator Safety's Fail Safe Safety Guard (FSSG), FSSG SDC v5, supports the New York City (NYC) requirement to separate the car gate switch from door-lock circuits, where the arrangement of single daisy chains exist (NYC Building Code 3.10.12, Appendix K3). <http://tinyurl.com/y8slcu9j>
- Thyssenkrupp unveiled its net-zero energy elevator solution for modernization, which generates more energy than it consumes, at the annual Energy Efficiency Global Forum in Washington, D.C. Describing it as the first solution to enable conversion of existing elevators to net-zero energy units, thyssenkrupp said it was motivated by the lifecycle of typical elevators, which remain in operation for approximately 15 years. <http://tinyurl.com/yd4c7dpl>
- Insurance claims in the transport and logistics industry remain much the same as 30 years ago, despite considerable efforts to improve safety in ports, terminals and along the supply chain. <http://tinyurl.com/ya5lr4o4>
- According to the audit by New York City (NYC) Controller Scott Stringer, the New York Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is failing to maintain the subway system's escalators and elevators. <http://tinyurl.com/y8onrevw>
- Pending rezoning, the New York City (NYC) Economic Development Corp. is planning a 500-ft.-tall tower at 495 Eleventh Avenue in the Hell's Kitchen part of NYC. <http://tinyurl.com/yccrg633z>
- The New York City (NYC) Housing Authority has chosen Fetner Properties to develop a 47-story tower with 330 residential units adjacent to the only public-housing project on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. <http://tinyurl.com/yalubl9p>

Petroleum and Petrochemicals

- **The US AAA says it found that synthetic oil outperformed conventional oil by an average of nearly 50 percent in its independent evaluation, offering vehicles significantly better engine protection for only \$5 more per month when following a factory-recommended oil change schedule.** To protect vehicle engines, particularly those that operate in extreme conditions, AAA urges drivers to consider a switch to synthetic oil at their next oil change service. <http://tinyurl.com/y8ux3fdq>
- **Exxon Mobil Corp said on Thursday it has reached an agreement to buy a refining and petrochemical plant owned by Jurong Aromatics (JAC) in Singapore that will boost its output and meet demand in Asia.** <http://tinyurl.com/y79rb1c8>
- **U.S. President Donald Trump is proposing to sell off half the oil stored in the U.S.'s strategic petroleum reserve that is used as a buffer against geopolitical oil shocks.** In the budget plan released Monday, the Trump administration says it would raise \$500-million (U.S.) next year and as much as \$16.6-billion over the next decade from the sale of the crude stocks that are held in salt caverns and tanks in Texas and Louisiana. <http://tinyurl.com/y8qkport>

Regulatory Reforms

- **The U.S. Office of Management and Budget released guidance on implementing Executive Order 13783 on the regulation of energy resources.** The guidance instructs agencies on what to include in their plans and reports as they review existing rules for compliance with the EO. In late April, OMB also issued guidance on EO 13777, which created agency Regulatory Reform Task Forces. The guidance clarifies the EO's requirements and establishes minimum performance indicators for agencies' annual performance plans. <http://tinyurl.com/y6v3lr9u>
- **The U.S. Department of Energy is seeking public input on whether its existing regulations can be modified or repealed, consistent with law, to achieve meaningful burden reduction consistent with President Trump's Executive Order 13771.** DOE is seeking comments submitted by July 14. <http://tinyurl.com/y6upekp7>
- **The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is seeking public input on its evaluation of existing rules to assess their compliance costs and reduce regulatory burdens pursuant to President Trump's Executive Order 13777.** HUD is seeking comments submitted before June 14. <http://tinyurl.com/y99k7hyx>
- **The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission is seeking "suggestions from the public about how the Commission's existing rules, regulations, or practices could be applied in a simpler, less burdensome, and less costly manner."** Though CFTC is not bound by Executive Order 13777, the Commission is seeking suggestions to support its efforts to review its rules to "make them simpler, less burdensome, and less costly." <http://tinyurl.com/yd8xzmzq>
- **The U.S. Office of Management and Budget released guidance supplementing its interim guidance on President Trump's Executive Order 13771, which instructs agencies to offset the costs of new regulations.** The new guidance emphasizes that EO 12866 is still the primary executive order governing regulatory review, allows banking of offsets, and clarifies that non-significant rules can be considered "deregulatory actions" to offset new significant rules. <http://tinyurl.com/y8a44wcp>
- **In accordance with Executive Order 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," EPA is seeking input on regulations that may be appropriate for repeal, replacement, or modification.** <http://tinyurl.com/yamfj7sq>
- **The U.S. Senate Commerce Committee approved May 18 the Reinforcing American-Made Products Act (S. 118) concerning the labeling of products as having been made in the U.S.**
- **Under this bill federal law would supersede any state law provisions expressly relating to the extent to which a product is introduced, delivered for introduction, sold, advertised, or offered for sale in interstate or foreign commerce with a "Made in the USA" or "Made in America" label, or equivalent thereof, to represent that the product is of domestic origin in whole or in part.** <http://tinyurl.com/ybjvpww9>
- **The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has determined preliminarily that there may be an unreasonable risk of blade-contact injuries associated with table saws.** In 2015, there were an estimated 33,400 table saw, emergency department-treated injuries. Of these, CPSC staff estimates that 30,800 (92 percent) are likely related to the victim making contact with the saw blade. <http://tinyurl.com/ydaocz2q>
- **The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is reorganizing the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA) and combining the Office of Compliance (OC) and Office of Device Evaluation (ODE) within the Center for Devices and Radiological Health (CDRH).** The changes are part of its mission to better ensure patient safety and quality of medical devices in both the pre- and post-market settings. <http://tinyurl.com/y9zu78sr>
- **U.S. Customs and Border Protection launched the "The Truth Behind Counterfeits" campaign today to raise awareness of the dangers and negative impacts of purchasing counterfeit goods.** The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) initiative is an educational awareness campaign for international travelers, designed to call attention to the growing impacts of purchasing counterfeit goods, including the loss of American jobs and the support of criminal activity. Last year CBP seized more than \$1.3 billion in counterfeit goods. <http://tinyurl.com/y8fhutm6>
- **On May 23, 2017, U.S. President Trump released the Administration's proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2018, which includes significant cuts to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) budgets.** <http://tinyurl.com/ydemmmfj>

Trade Agreements

- **The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) issued a [Federal Register notice](#) requesting stakeholder comments by **June 12** on negotiating objectives regarding the modernization of NAFTA with Canada and Mexico.** USTR will also be holding a public hearing on **June 27** at 9:00 a.m. at the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC)
- **U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross stated that the President's goal in renegotiating the agreement is first "to do no harm."** Secretary Ross noted the Administration will work to ensure any new agreement covers areas that are not addressed by the existing deal, explaining that how they are addressed will be important because these negotiations will serve as guiding principles for subsequent agreements pursued by the Administration. <http://tinyurl.com/y73sqv4s>
- **CETA implementation bill approved by Canadian Senate.** The legislation will now become an official Act of Parliament, after which Canada will need to begin updating its regulatory system in advance of CETA's entry into force. The two sides can begin provisional application of the agreement from the start of the following month after both sides have completed the necessary internal steps. Full application is expected to take far longer, as the relevant EU national and regional legislatures work on their own approval processes. <http://tinyurl.com/y72yqhaw>
- **U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer met with World Trade Organization (WTO) Director-General Roberto Azevêdo to discuss the important role of the WTO in the global economy.** [According](#) to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), "Ambassador Lighthizer reaffirmed his support for improving the WTO and his commitment to working closely with U.S. trading partners to increase the WTO's ability to promote free and fair trade. Ambassador Lighthizer communicated his goal of building a strong working relationship with Director-General Azevêdo and the WTO member economies, and he looks forward to engaging them in further discussion next week in the margins of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Ministerial Council Meeting in Paris." <http://tinyurl.com/y6wccnbv>
- **U.S. Ambassador Lighthizer met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on Tuesday to discuss U.S.-Vietnam trade relations and outstanding bilateral trade issues.** According to USTR, "The two leaders also discussed the challenges presented by the growth in the U.S. trade deficit with Vietnam and the potential for further improvements in the trade relationship, including through initiatives under the U.S.-Vietnam Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). <http://tinyurl.com/ybx89zhw>
- **The U.S. Commerce Department released new trade statistics.** Notably, the Department noted an increasing trade deficit in goods with China, adding it is yet to early for "the numbers to reflect the recent [U.S.] deal with China and other actions of this Administration is taking to level the balance of trade." The Department also reported: "April exports to South Korea were the highest ever on record, while exports to Japan were the largest since August of 2014." <http://tinyurl.com/y9dbxm44>
- **Japan, Vietnam leaders vow unity in bid to bring TPP into force.** Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, pledged to work together toward the rapid passage of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement during a meeting in Tokyo on Tuesday. <http://tinyurl.com/ybq3w2to>
- **OECD LAUDS BENEFITS OF GLOBALIZATION AHEAD OF SUMMIT:** As USTR Robert Lighthizer gears up for his second foreign trip this week to attend the June 7-8 ministerial conference of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, the group has released a report emphasizing the need for urgent action to address the growing backlash against globalization. <http://tinyurl.com/y7mcmfa7>
- **As businesses in the United States, China and beyond sorted through the details of the new U.S.-China trade agreements, many said they are disappointed that the 100-day plan missed larger issues such as overcapacity, forced technology transfer and equal treatment of U.S. companies.** <http://tinyurl.com/y9o793xb>

INTERNATIONAL

Consumer Products

- **The Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) announced the publication of a new National Adoption of Canada that provides practical guidance to suppliers on assessing and managing the safety of consumer products, including effective documentation of risk assessment and risk management.** <http://tinyurl.com/yb65zg52>

Cybersecurity

- **China's new cybersecurity law will go into effect on 1st June.** The legislation, adopted last November, requires companies to store business data in China, turn over proprietary information about their networks, pass periodic security reviews and offer "technical support" to law enforcement that could include the companies' encryption keys. <http://tinyurl.com/y7ovp4kq>

Industrial Products

- **The Israeli Cabinet has approved a plan to build an elevator and underground tunnel at the Western Wall Plaza in Jerusalem to allow greater accessibility.** <http://tinyurl.com/y7o6g73x>
- **The Philippine Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA) has begun the process of replacing or repairing faulty elevators and escalators at the Manila metro area's LRT Line 2 stations.** <http://tinyurl.com/yb79vla6>
- **Egypt's National Authority for Military Production and Gulf Elevators and Escalator Co. (GEEC) of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, have agreed to manufacture a range of elevators and escalators in Egypt for both domestic and foreign markets.** <http://tinyurl.com/y8ljuq6h>
- **Construction companies from China and Morocco are planning a joint venture to build Africa's tallest skyscraper.** The 45-story, mixed-use tower will be built in the Moroccan capital of Rabat. <http://tinyurl.com/yapuqs26>

- **Meeting with Saybolt** in Brussels, 03 May 2017- IFIA
- **EUIPO WGs** in Alicante, 2-5 May 2017- CEOC
- **China Committee meeting** in Shanghai, 9-10 May 2017- IFIA
- **Meeting with ISQ** in Lisbon, 10-12 May 2017- CEOC
- **Meeting with CCIC** in Shanghai, 11 May 2017- IFIA
- **CPSC-IFIA training to manufacturers** in Shanghai, China, 16 May 2017- IFIA
- **Consumer and Industrial Products Committee meeting** in Milan, 16 - 17 May 2017- IFIA
- **Public Affairs Committee** in Milan, 17 May 2017- IFIA/CEOC
- **Combined Communication WG1 meeting** in Milan, 18 May 2017- IFIA/CEOC
- **ECPA Insights: success factors for EU affairs teams** in Brussels, 23 May 2017
- **CEOC General Assembly and TC meetings** in Lyon, 27- 30 May 2017- CEOC
- **Boosting Cyber Security: Fundament für die Digitale Agenda** in Brussels, 30 May 2017- IFIA
- **Meeting with Eurofins** in Brussels, 31 May 2017- IFIA
- **CEOC International General Assembly and Meetings of the Technical Committees** in Lyon, 27-30 May 2017- IFIA/CEOC
- **Prosafe Annual Market Surveillance Workshop of the Joint Action 2015** in Brussels, 31 May 2017- CEOC

IFIA event in China

IFIA partnered with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) at the international training seminar aimed at manufacturers, product developers and designers of Lithium-Ion Batteries. The seminar, attended by around 125 people, took place on May 16 in Shenzhen, China. IFIA was represented by members from the Consumer and Industrial Product Committee, contributing with technical expertise and positioning the TIC industry as partner to governments and industry in finding solutions to emerging hazards and enhancing product safety.

International Conferences & Meetings

- **Transatlantic Business Works Forum** in Washington, DC, 28-29 June 2017
- **11th annual International Law Enforcement IP Crime Conference** which will be co-hosted by INTERPOL and the U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center (IPR Center), in partnership with UL (Underwriters Laboratories) and the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition (IACC) in New York, 28-30 August 2017
- **XXI World Congress on Safety and Health at Work 2017** in Singapore, 03-06 September 2017
- **6th World Congress of Clinical Safety 2017** in Rome, 6-8 September 2017
- **The 14th International conference "Application of Contemporary Non-destructive Testing in Engineering"** in St. Bernardin/Portož, Slovenia, 04-06 September 2017
- **4th European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion 2017** in Amsterdam, 21-22 September 2017
- **WOS2017 - 9th International Conference on the Prevention of Accidents at Work** in Prague, 03-06 October 2017
- **The 6th International Proficiency Testing Conference** in Cluj-Napoca, 04-06 October 2017
- **Joint IAF-ILAC Annual Meetings** in Vancouver, 21-30 October 2017
- **FOSFA Annual Dinner** in Antwerp, 31 October 2017
- **International Petroleum Week** in London, 21-23 February 2018

Upcoming IFIA - CEOC meetings

- **IFIA Food Committee meeting** in Brussels, 15 June 2017 - IFIA
- **IFIA CIAC Committee meeting** in Brussels, 21 June 2017 - IFIA
- **CIPC Americas Committee meeting** in Washington, DC, 27 June 2017 - IFIA
- **Public Affairs Committee** in Brussels, 28 June 2017 - IFIA/CEOC
- **IFIA Metals and Minerals Committee meeting** in Geneva, 14 September 2017- IFIA
- **IFIA Agriculture and Vegetable Oils Committee meeting** in Geneva, 20 September 2017- IFIA
- **IFIA Consumer and Industrial Products Committee meeting** in Toronto, 26-27 September 2017- IFIA
- **CEOC Board of Directors meeting** in Brussels, 26 September 2017 - CEOC
- **IFIA Government Service Committee meeting** in Paris, 11 October 2017 - IFIA
- **IFIA CIPC Americas Committee meeting** in Washington, DC, 01 November 2017 - IFIA
- **JTC PTC meeting** in Paris, 15-16 November 2017- CEOC