

WA TAAG-Industry AA Webinar Series

SPEAKER BIOS:

Alex Stone, Sc.D. - Washington Department of Ecology Senior Chemist
"TAAG Team Presentation"

Alex Stone, Sc.D., is a senior chemist at the Washington State Department of Ecology. Dr. Stone has a BS in chemistry from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy New York, an MS in Environmental Engineering and Science from the University of Washington in Seattle and a Doctor of Science degree in chemistry from the University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway. He has worked as a chemist for the Washington State Department of Ecology for the past 18 years. He currently functions as the Safer Chemical Alternative Chemist for the Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program. He has been selected as the chair by members of an association of eight states working together on an alternative assessment guidance document and is Ecology's representative to the Toxics in Packaging Clearinghouse. Alex works on a number of chemistry related projects including Washington's Chemical Action Plans, safer chemical alternative assessments and Children's Safe Product Act. Alex also acts as an advisor to Ecology management on chemical policy and other chemistry-related issues.

Carl D'Ruiz, MPH Research Fellow, Regulatory Affairs (Henkel Consumer Goods)
"The Product Improvement Process as a Driver for Green Chemistry Innovation"

Carl D'Ruiz is currently a Research Fellow in regulatory affairs with Henkel Consumer Goods Inc. where he provides strategic scientific, health and regulatory direction for the development, advocacy, commercialization and sustainability of personal care, cosmetic & OTC drug products & technologies in the US and Canada. Previously, he was Director of Product Stewardship, Regulatory Affairs and Product Safety at Ciba Specialty Chemicals where he championed the development and implementation of global, regional and local programs, policies and best practices related to product stewardship, sustainability, and Good Manufacturing Practices/Environmental Health & Safety for four specialty chemical divisions with annual sales of over \$4 billion. Prior to this, Mr. D'Ruiz worked for the US EPA, where he contributed to the improvement the US EPA's strategic planning and priority setting process and managed human & environmental health policy & regulatory issues related to: stratospheric ozone depletion; chlorinated solvent alternatives; lead in drinking water; protection of sensitive ecosystems and endangered species; regulatory negotiation; chemical risk screening; exposure assessment; and risk management.

Mr. D'Ruiz's education & accomplishments include a Master of Public Health Degree from Yale University and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science & Biology from Fordham University. Currently, Mr. D'Ruiz is a member of the Global Institute of Sustainability, Home and Personal Care Sector, Life Cycle Management of Chemicals Workgroup, American Public Health Association and various other industry, trade & professional associations. He is also a recipient of EPA's Bronze Medal for Commendable Service.

Steve Gutsell, Ph.D. – Scientist Computational Chemist, Safety and Environmental Assurance Centre UK (Unilever)

“Overview of Product Safety Assessment of Consumer Products”

Dr Steve Gutsell, Ph.D., has been with Unilever's Safety and Environmental Assurance Centre for almost 8 years. With a background in Organic Chemistry Dr Gutsell has expertise in the area of Computational Chemistry, specifically using predictive methods such as (Quantitative) Structure-Activity Relationships ((Q)SAR), Read Across and other techniques to predict both toxicological and ecotoxicological endpoints from chemical structure. He has published several papers in this area and presented at numerous scientific conferences. Dr Gutsell is also responsible for managing the relationship between the Safety and Environment group in the UK and the Unilever Americas Regulatory Affairs groups.

Bob Hamilton, Regulatory Policy Director (Amway / Access Business Group)

“Dead Zones and Dirty Dishes: A Brief Case Study in United States Phosphate Regulation”

Bob Hamilton has served 40 years in Research & Development for the consumer chemical products industry – the last 35 years at Amway where he is now and oversees Amway relationships globally with government scientists, regulators and legislators with the goal of producing more effective regulatory policy. Bob has been widely recognized for work in standards development, industry trade associations and government advisory committees.

Bob has extensive experience in consumer product development in both inventor and category supervisory roles. He is a patent holder and has been directly responsible for the development of dozens of successful products in categories as diverse as household laundry, personal care and home appliances.

Mark Lafranconi, Ph.D. - Central Product Safety (P&G)

“Designing Safety Into Products - A continuous analysis of alternatives”

Mark Lafranconi is a Section Head in the Central Product Safety organization at Procter & Gamble. He currently has responsibilities for programs fostering acceptance of alternatives to animal testing, developing policy and practices for nanotechnology, and promoting the use of sound science for regulatory and public policy decision making.

Mark received a Bachelors degree in Environmental Toxicology from the University of California at Davis in 1976 and earned a Masters in 1981 and PhD in 1983 from the University of Arizona. He was awarded an Alexander von Humboldt research fellowship and completed post doctoral training at the University of Mainz Toxicology department in Mainz, Germany where he studied the biochemical heterogeneity of the liver.

In 1986 he joined the Procter & Gamble Company where he has developed toxicology programs and capabilities in a variety of technologies and product categories including foods, cleaning products, enzymes, absorbent polymers, and paper products. He is Certified with the American Board of Toxicology, past president of the Ohio Valley Society of Toxicology and a member of the Society of Toxicology.

Jack Linard, Ph.D. – Head Regulatory Affairs Home and Personal Care NA (Unilever/Personal Care Products Council)

“Alternative Assessment in Personal Care: A Case Study”

Dr. Jack Linard obtained his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from Northwestern University, after receiving his B.S. in Chemistry from Davidson College, Davidson North Carolina. He has worked for Unilever for over 28 years in a variety of assignments, primarily in the laundry category.

Although much of his career focused on U.S. detergent and personal care products, he did spend 2.5 years working on European laundry detergents while seconded to Unilever’s Pt. Sunlight laboratories in the U.K.

Jack’s current Regulatory Affairs responsibilities within Unilever include the management of Unilever “Over the Counter Drug” programs in North America, technical compliance activities, and the management of external issues impacting Unilever on both a North American and global scale. In addition, he has been an active participant in Wal-Mart’s Chemical Intensive Products Sustainability Network since its inception in October 2005.

In his role Jack is currently Unilever’s primary technical representative to several key trade associations for its consumer products. He served as the first chairperson of the Soap and Detergent Association’s Strategic Advisory Committee and was the co-chair of the SDA International committee for many years, until last year. He currently represents Unilever on a number of Personal Care Products Council and GMA committees, and is the chair of the Consumer Specialty Products Association Green Chemistry Task Force and vice-chair of GMA’s Consumer Product Policy Committee.

Kevin J. Renskers, Ph.D. (*remote presenter from within U.S.*) - Vice President, Corporate Safety & Regulatory Affairs (Takasago International Corporation/International Fragrance Association)

“The Fragrance Industry’s Approach to Safety”

Kevin Renskers is Vice President of Corporate Safety & Regulatory Affairs for Takasago International Corporation. He is responsible for the safety and regulatory compliance of all fragrances, flavors and chemicals manufactured or sold by Takasago (Americas), as well as worker health and safety, and environmental compliance, at all Takasago (Americas) facilities.

Dr. Renskers chairs the Scientific Committee of the International Fragrance Association (IFRA) and the Scientific Affairs Committee of IFRA-North America. He is also a member of the Science Board of the International Organization of the Flavor Industry and the Board of Governors of the US Flavor and Extract Manufacturers Association.

Dr. Renskers has a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Illinois and received his Doctorate in Pharmacology & Toxicology from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Don Versteeg, Ph.D. – Principal Scientist (P&G)
“Household Detergents”

Donald J. Versteeg is a Principal Research Scientist in the Environmental Stewardship Organization of The Procter & Gamble Company. Don is an aquatic toxicologist, environmental risk assessor, and sustainability expert with over 25 years of experience. His research has ranged from the use of ecotoxicogenomics to understand the mode of toxic action in fish to the generation of quantitative structure activity relationships to reduce animal use in toxicology. He led the company’s environmental risk assessment team through a period of growth and change in the tools and techniques used to assess risk to organisms in the environment. Currently, he is working to understand and improve the sustainability of company products and processes. Don has more than 40 publications in refereed journals on the fate, effects, and environmental risk assessment of pharmaceuticals, personal care products and emerging contaminants. He earned his Ph.D. from Michigan State University, is a member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), and serves as an editor of aquatic toxicology for the journal, **Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry**.

Maia Jack, Ph.D. – Senior Manager, Science Policy Chemical Safety (Grocery Manufacturers Association)
“Industry’s Product R&D Process, Alternatives Analysis!”

Maia Jack joined the Grocery Manufacturers Association in 2007. She provides strategic leadership to the foods, beverage, and consumer products industry on international, federal, and state science and policy issues relating to chemicals management and green chemistry, and international food additives standards development.

Maia was a post-doctoral fellow at the National Institutes of Health, Diabetes Branch. She received her doctorate in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from The Pennsylvania State University, and her B.Sc. degree in Chemistry from Carleton University, Canada. She is also a registered patent agent at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Bill Greggs – Consultant (Grocery Manufacturers Association)
“Product R&D: Innovation, Trade-offs and Avoiding Unintended Consequences”

Bill Greggs is a Chemical and Environmental Policy Consultant focusing on federal and state chemical policy issues and Product Safety, Stewardship and Sustainability efforts by businesses. Active in TSCA modernization discussions, Bill has helped to develop proposed approaches to chemical prioritization and assessment. He has also been active on state Green Chemistry programs in California, Maine and elsewhere. Bill has testified in Congressional hearings, state regulatory proceedings and given numerous public presentations.

Bill recently retired from Procter & Gamble as an Associate Director in P&G’s Global Sustainability organization with responsibility for leading the company’s efforts on global chemical legislative and regulatory policy. He has been active in numerous public programs supporting the development and production of safe and sustainable consumer products.

Mike Levy, Director - Life Cycle Management Issues, Plastics Division (American Chemistry Council)
"Life Cycle Thinking for Packaging Materials in Product Improvement Process"

Mr. Levy is the director for two groups within the American Chemistry Council (ACC) – the Plastics Foodservice Packaging Group (PFPG), a national organization representing major producers and raw material suppliers of plastics food service and packaging products; and the EPS Resin Suppliers Group (ERSG), a national organization of suppliers of expandable polystyrene resin used primarily in packaging, insulation, and building and construction applications. Mr. Levy also serves as director, life cycle management issues, for the Plastics Division of the ACC.

Prior to joining ACC, Mr. Levy has a career that includes experience in consulting (President, Environmental Strategies & Solutions and Vice-President, Franklin Associates), industry (Allied Chemical Company's coke oven/coke plant businesses; Mobil Chemical Company petrochemicals/chemicals/plastics businesses), trade association (American Forest & Paper Association, Society of the Plastics Industry and American Plastics Council), and government (New York State Departments of Environmental Conservation and Transportation).

Mr. Levy holds undergraduate and graduate engineering degrees from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), and pursued an MBA degree at Farleigh Dickinson University. He also serves as an international expert to ISO 14044 standards development (International Standards Organisation) on the Life Cycle Assessment activities, as well as on the executive committee of the American Center for Life Cycle Assessment (ACLCA) and the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative program.

Steven Bennett, Ph.D. – Director of Scientific Affairs (Consumer Specialty Products Association)
"Overview of Consumer Product Industry Product Stewardship Programs"

Steven Bennett serves CSPA and its member companies in the newly created position as Director of Scientific Affairs. In this capacity, Bennett is primarily responsible for managing the Scientific Affairs Committee and all of its related task forces and issues. He is tasked with bolstering the Association's scientific affairs leadership and increasing activities related to the environmental health and safety issues facing the industry. Additionally, Bennett works with CSPA member companies on issues pertaining to green chemistry and the EPA's Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program.

Prior to joining CSPA, Bennett worked as a scientist and chemist for E.A. Engineering (Sparks, MD). He also lectures on the chemistry of natural processes for the Environmental Science and Policy Masters Program at John Hopkins University.

Bennett holds a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Delaware and a bachelors of science in chemistry from Lock Haven University (Pennsylvania).

Alan Kaufman – SVP Technical Affairs (Toy Industry Association)

“Chemical Alternatives Assessment - Practices in the Toy Industry”

Alan P. Kaufman is a toy industry veteran with more than 30 years of experience addressing product safety, quality assurance, regulatory compliance and product testing issues for toy companies and retailers.

In May 2011, Mr. Kaufman joined the Toy Industry Association, Inc. (TIA) as Senior Vice President, Technical Affairs. In this position, he leads the continuing development and implementation of technical policies and strategies relating to toy safety, the environment, supply chain issues, factory processes and other related matters.

Mr. Kaufman previously served as Vice-President for Global Product Safety and Regulatory Affairs at Toys“R”Us, Inc. where he oversaw regulatory and government relations related to quality assurance, product safety and private label product evaluation, served as a key member of the company’s Global Product Safety Leadership Council and as a liaison with the public and government oversight agencies to provide consistency on issues of product safety.

Before joining Toys“R”Us, Mr. Kaufman spent more than a decade directing production, sourcing and technical services within The Walt Disney Company and its affiliated companies. Earlier in his career, he held technical and production positions at a number of toy manufacturers, including Mattel, Knickerbocker and Coleco.

Mr. Kaufman is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization (ICPHSO), an active member of the ASTM International Committee for Consumer Products (F15) and several of its subcommittees involved in toy and juvenile product safety standards.

Mr. Kaufman received his bachelor’s degree in Biology from the University of California, Los Angeles. He is certified as a quality engineer.

INDUSTRY GROUP:



Grocery Manufacturers Association



American Chemistry Council



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