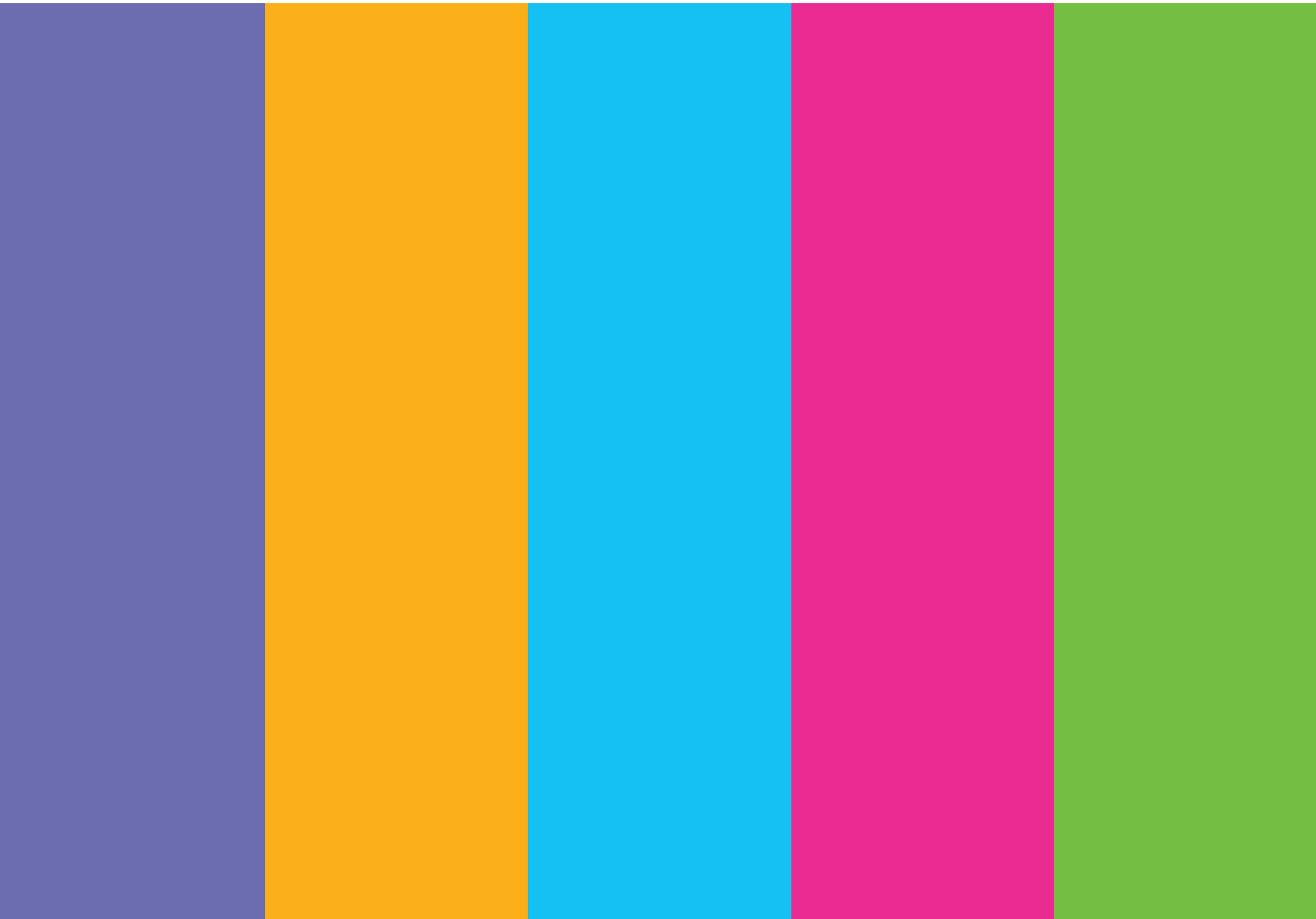


Serving the Global Lead Industry



The International Lead Association

The increasing focus on globalisation in all aspects of business generally, and on health, safety and environmental standards in particular, has driven the need for effective and responsible representation of the world's lead industry at a strategic level.

The International Lead Association (ILA) is a focused and dynamic organisation dedicated to serving lead producers and other companies which have a direct interest in lead.

Welcome



The Lead Industry, represented by the International Lead Association, is committed to the safe production and use of lead. It looks to a sustainable future with confidence in the knowledge that action is being taken to continually improve health, safety and environmental performance and build on the industry's outstanding record of recycling. To that end ILA provides a range of expert services. These include the management of significant research programmes and effective coordinated industry representation in matters concerning regulation and legislation which, despite national and regional development and implementation, is increasingly governed by international standards.

With its roots in the Lead Development Association which was founded in 1946 primarily to support market development, the role of ILA today is significantly broader. This is reflected in a structure which allows engagement at a global level without compromising the regional requirements of Members.



Organisation

ILA is the umbrella global organisation under which regional organisations can operate. For example ILA-Europe provides specific representation at European level. Of particular relevance is ILA-Europe's role in managing the Lead REACH Consortium which is dedicated to fulfilling the lead industry's obligations in respect of the EU Regulation on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals. In addition ILA-Europe makes active contributions to industry inputs affecting the development of numerous EU directives which have potential impacts on the lead industry.

In a similar fashion, the Association of Battery Recyclers (ABR) based in Washington DC represents the regional requirements of North American lead producers within the global context provided by ILA. ABR focuses its efforts on a wide range of regulatory initiatives in the health and environmental fields which could affect the operations and products of its members.

Additionally ILA is responsible for directing the lead-related activities of the International Lead Zinc Research Organization (ILZRO) and for the work of the International Lead Management Center (ILMC). This ensures a coordinated and robust approach to promoting responsible and sustainable uses of lead and the sharing of knowledge and expertise on lead risk reduction, particularly in developing countries.



Member Services

Industry representation and coordination

ILA and ILZRO staff seek participant or observer status in relevant working groups convened by international organisations such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the International Forum for Chemical Safety (IFCS), the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). In this way consensus industry positions previously developed through ILA can be delivered, taking account of differing regional industry interests.

At European level, ILA-Europe works directly with Eurometaux (industry's official communication channel with the European Commission) managing key lead-specific issues such as occupational exposure limits, industrial emissions and environmental quality standards. It has also coordinated a major Voluntary Risk Assessment for Lead to establish a scientific basis for appropriate management of the metal and its major compounds..

Research

ILZRO and ILA staff keep a watching brief on evolving scientific issues to ensure that proactive and timely responses can be developed, based on the industry's expanding bank of scientific knowledge. Expertise on the health and environmental impacts of lead, and on their optimum management and remediation, is freely available to members as is access to specialist contacts and support in the academic, scientific and consulting communities worldwide.

ILZRO also manages research programmes in support of new product development, including important work on the development of lead-acid batteries for use in hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs) and batteries suitable for remote area power supply (RAPS) for communities without connection to electricity grids.

Joint industry funding of research into agreed priority areas ensures that members receive best value for money and professional management of research programmes by ILZRO experts who provide members with regular progress reports and an analysis of the final results. Additional non-core research can be funded by individual members or by a group of members. Moreover, ILZRO has been successful in combining resources with other commodity associations and government funding agencies to support work on issues of common interest. In some research projects, industry funds have been successfully leveraged to the extent that each \$1 of industry funding delivers up to \$10 to \$20 worth of research.

Conferences

Dissemination of information and the provision of opportunities for experts to meet on issues of critical importance to the future of the lead industry are an important part of the Association's activities. With batteries now the dominant market for lead use, biennial European Lead Battery Conferences bring together battery manufacturers, suppliers, and scientists to explore the advances continually expanding their scope and versatility. In the intervening years, International Lead Conferences provide a forum for health and environmental specialists to review developments in their fields and anticipate future directions and needs.

Our Skills and Competencies

Our principal resources are located in London, North Carolina and Washington. Our skills base provides a mix of technical and scientific support with lobbying and communications expertise from a dedicated team of professionals. Full-time technical staff come from a variety of disciplines including chemists, electrochemists, toxicologists and environmental specialists. They are supported when required by a network of consultants who bring additional expertise and experience to bear on problem issues. Between them, ILA's full-time staff have over 100 man-years of experience with the Association, plus many more years of prior experience in industry. If an issue should fall outside their direct areas of competence, the staff's extensive external contacts can always be called upon for specialist assistance.

www.ila-lead.org

Environmental and Social Responsibility

The lead industry, represented by ILA, is committed to the safe production and use of lead, enabling society to continue to benefit from its particular properties, whilst safeguarding human health and minimising the impact of its operations on the natural environment.

Lead Action 21 is a continuing programme, signed up to by ILA Members, which sets out to provide a focus for practical steps to turn that commitment into reality. It puts environmental and social responsibility considerations at the centre of business decision making processes.

The three phases of the programme – Inform, Support and Improve – provide for broad stakeholder engagement through effective communications and practical support and guidance.

The application of this practical support and guidance is largely focused through the work of the International Lead Management Centre (ILMC). This body was formed at the request of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) as a consequence of an International Lead Risk Reduction Programme. Under the direction of ILA, ILMC provides technical guidance and industry expertise to national

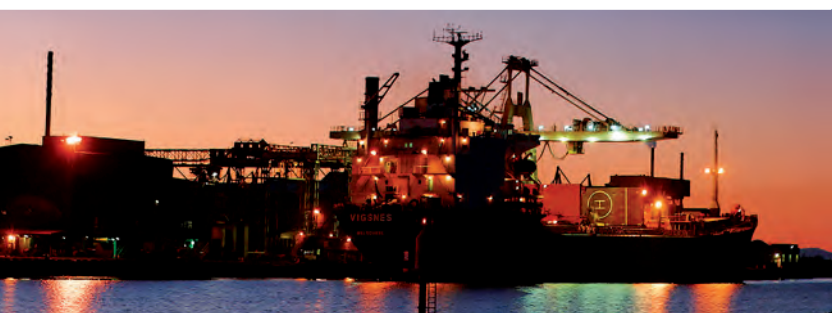
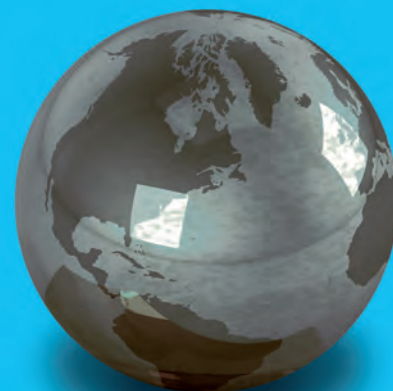
governments and international agencies on risk reduction strategies that can be used to reduce the risks associated with lead production and use in developing countries. It also undertakes practical field work to make a real positive difference to human health and environmental impacts related to activities such as lead recycling in developing countries.



Membership conditions and benefits

Membership of ILA is open to companies involved in the mining, smelting, refining and recycling of lead, wherever they may be located in the world. Members pay an annual subscription based on the quantity of lead they have produced over a prior 12-month period. Lead user companies may also join the ILA as associate members. The budget and subscription rate is determined each year by an elected Executive Committee.

Further details and application forms for membership may be obtained from the Director of the International Lead Association, 17a Welbeck Way, London W1G 9YJ, United Kingdom; Tel: 00 44 (0) 20 7935 6146, Fax: 00 44 (0) 20 7493 1555 or by email at enq@ila-lead.org.



Progress through Knowledge

Since 2000 the lead industry has sponsored over US\$3 million of independent research into the health and environmental impacts of lead, with ILA and ILZRO playing a pivotal role.

Of particular relevance in the interests of progressing scientific understanding of the environmental impacts of metals, new models such as a Lead Biotic Ligand Model (BLM) have been developed and adopted for assessing risk and for standard setting. This will provide regulators and industry with a much more powerful and less conservative tool for assessing aquatic impacts in the standard setting process. An Ecotoxicity Program has also been instrumental in demonstrating that hazard classification criteria such as persistence, bioaccumulation and toxicity are inappropriate for metals, for which special risk assessment frameworks are needed.

Similarly in terms of human health concerns, ILZRO has played a leading role in objectively defining the risks associated with exposure to lead. For example, ILZRO research has enabled appropriate classifications to be adopted for lead compounds. Other ILZRO research has been responsible for reducing regulatory concerns over potential effects of lead upon blood pressure, kidney effects and the reproductive effects of lead upon men. ILZRO-sponsored efforts have also questioned

causality and dose-response assumptions in the effects of low level lead exposure upon children. ILZRO-funded research findings on these key health issues were instrumental in defining health risks, or lack thereof, in a Voluntary Risk Assessment for Lead and further played a role in recent decisions that there was no need to lower the “level of concern” for children’s exposure to lead.

The sustainability of the lead industry is aligned to the continuing development and application of knowledge to ensure the safe management of lead production and use. The proactive approach to the management of risk demonstrated by Members through the work of ILA, provides tangible evidence of an industry committed to the principles of responsible care and material stewardship.



Lead Action 21

Inform, Support, Improve

The International Lead Association (ILA) represents the world's foremost lead producing companies. Each of these companies shares a common purpose of working towards a sustainable future for an industry which has learnt to effectively manage issues associated with the safe production, handling and use of this naturally occurring element.

The creation of the Lead Action 21 programme provides a focus for Members to channel the many past, present and future initiatives that encourage and embed the principles of sustainable development throughout the lead producing world.

Levels of lead exposure have declined significantly over the past twenty five years and current uses of lead pose a greatly reduced risk to the general population although, undeniably, historical practices have left their legacy. Protection of workers in the industry does, and always will, require close attention.

The Lead Industry knows that enhanced reputation must be earned through actions not words. This means significant investment in research and the implementation of environmental improvement programmes. There has to be investment in time and effort to demonstrate the same care and commitment in regions that have fewer regulatory standards and control mechanisms than the economically developed world. The protection of workers, users and the environment should have no geographic boundaries.

To this end Lead Action 21's purpose is threefold. Firstly it is to 'Inform'. By that we mean the sharing of knowledge about making a safe contribution to life in the 21st century. We also mean the sharing of best practices to ensure that the highest levels of protection for human health and the environment are known to all producers of lead and lead containing products. Lead Action 21 is aiming to make the highest standards the norm – everywhere.

In phase 2 of this programme, the aim is to provide 'Support'. This will build on the work already undertaken by the International Lead Management Center, broadening the Industry's reach to proactively provide practical help and guidance to all those who need it. Finally, in phase 3, our aim is to put measures in place to ensure sustainability and maintain continuous improvement in the management of lead and leaded products.

Lead has an important role to play in the modern world and there is no doubt it is a sustainable commodity when produced, used and recycled in a responsible manner. The ILA and its Members are committed to achieving this through Lead Action 21.

Visit www.ila-lead.org
for more information



Lead Action 21

ILA Vision and Commitment for a Sustainable Future

The Lead Industry, represented by the International Lead Association, is committed to the safe production and use of lead, enabling society to continue to benefit from its particular properties whilst safeguarding human health and minimising the impact of our operations on the natural environment.

The following principles are the foundation of our endeavour to be responsible to society and enhance the reputation of our industry and its value to all stakeholders:



Environmental and social responsibility considerations are integral to our business decision making processes



We will manage our operations responsibly and safely to continually reduce our impact on human health and the natural environment



In addition to complying with all applicable laws and regulations we encourage the adoption of Best Available Techniques and Best Practice



We actively support scientific research and the application of its findings in the continual drive for improvement in health, safety and environmental performance and in the implementation of risk management strategies



We facilitate and actively promote responsible product design, use, re-use and recycling of lead and lead-containing products



We support openness and transparency in our relationships with our stakeholders, treating them with respect and recognising that cultures, customs, priorities and working practices differ around the world



17A WELBECK WAY
LONDON W1G 9YJ

TEL: +44 (0)20 7499 8422

FAX: +44 (0)20 7493 1555

EMAIL: info@ila-lead.org

www.ila-lead.org