

Welcome to the SIA Autumn 2023 News



SIA News Autumn 2023

Welcome from the Chair:



Welcome to the latest newsletter of The Solvents Industry Association, where we look back on a memorable AGM and Conference that rounded off the celebration of 50 years as a Trade Association.

This was the largest event in our history, which included the Annual Golf Day, an informal evening at the UNESCO World Heritage site, Jodrell Bank Observatory, featuring a very special immersive show, celebrating Pink Floyd's 50th Anniversary of Dark Side of The Moon and culminated with the largest ever Conference, where we enjoyed presentations from some old friends of the Association and many new faces, all of whom we look forward to seeing as we head into our 6th decade.

I cannot believe how quickly the last two years have gone.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be the Association's Chair for these past two years, meeting up with both members and non-members, along with other Chemical Trade Associations and people associated with our industry.

I now pass on the baton to Nick Key of Univar Solutions, who will continue the great work of our Association, alongside our very hard-working Chief Executive Andrew Norman.

All the best to you and yours.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew M. Ford".

Andrew Ford

Outgoing SIA Chair 2021 – 2023

Kimia



And from the Incoming SIA Chair...

Hello, I am Nick Key of Univar Solutions and have taken over as Chair of our Trade Association following another enjoyable and informative AGM and Conference. This year was extra special for us, with 2023 being our 50th Anniversary Year. The last two years has seen Andrew Ford of Kimia as our Chair and I'd like to thank him for all of his help and guidance with the transition.



Andrew, working closely with our Chief Executive, Andrew Norman, has done a first-class job over the last couple of years with the number of members increasing, as have our LinkedIn followers. Andrew has 30 years of chemical industry experience, working for both a producer and a distributor, so will be a hard act to follow!

My first dealings with the SIA were shortly after I joined Chemitrade 20 years or so ago. I joined as a Product Manager at Chemitrade and started working with the SIA Technical Committee. I had spent about 10 years on the Technical Committee, then space became available on the SIA Board and I was voted on. 10 years or so later, here I am writing as the 25th Chair of the SIA. I'm proud to be joining this distinguished group of Chairs, some of whom were able to join us a couple of weeks ago at Mottram Hall for the AGM and Conference.

I've taken part in my first technical committee meeting as Chair, and it is great to see that the engine room of the SIA as it was once described to me, remains dynamic and with strong representation from member companies.

We have some new faces on the Board and whilst it is sad to see some long-serving members leave, there remains a wealth of experience, whilst encompassing those who can bring their new ideas, so we can continue to evolve as a Trade Association.

Thank you for voting me as your Chair.

Nick



50th Anniversary AGM and Conference

The 50th Anniversary Solvents Industry Association Annual General Meeting and Conference took place on 13th September at Champney's Mottram Hall, Cheshire.

Featuring high-quality industry guest speakers from Ricardo, The Royal Society of Chemistry, BASF, NewNormal Consulting, Suttons Tankers and Cefic, more than 100 delegates from 38 companies were present to celebrate 50 Years of the Association.



SIA Chair **Andrew Ford** kicked off proceedings with the formal Annual General Meeting, which highlighted the activities of the Association from the past 12 months and detailed plans for our activities and initiatives in the coming year.



SIA Chairman Andrew Ford



Jennifer Creek

The first guest speaker was **Jennifer Creek**, Technical Director and Head of ESG at Ricardo, who addressed Members on 'Why Materiality Matters for the Chemical Sector'.

Continuing in the theme of ESG, **Nigel Gilhooley**, Commercial Manager at Suttons Tankers, gave an insight in the ESG work currently being carried out by Suttons and the challenges facing the haulage industry.



Nigel Gilhooley



Ian Knibbs

It was clear from the speakers during the day that the Chemical Industry is a fantastic industry to work in and **Ian Knibbs** of the Royal Society of Chemistry addressed delegates on what companies can do to attract more young people as apprentices and through other initiatives.

It wouldn't be the SIA Conference without an address from the excellent **Paul Hodges**, of NewNormal Consulting, who gave us a glimpse of how the industry has evolved over the past 50 years, what challenges we face now and what we can expect in the future.



Paul Hodges



Tony Heslop

Also looking at the future was **Tony Heslop**, Senior Sustainability Manager with BASF, who told us more about the latest initiatives to reduce the impact of chemical production on the environment and how the industry is progressing on the road to Net Zero.

Rounding off proceedings was keynote speaker, **Marco Mensink**, Director General of Cefic, with a key insight into what the Chemical Industry in Europe might look like and the major challenges faced as we strive to meet net zero targets and tighter regulation.



Marco Mensink



Speaker line-up L to R: Geoff Mackey, Tony Heslop, Andrew Ford, Andrew Norman, Marco Mensink, Ian Knibbs, Paul Hodges, Jennifer Creek

SIA Chief Executive **Andrew Norman** said, 'The 50th Anniversary Conference was the largest that we have ever staged, but the success of the event would not have been possible without the fantastic support of our Members, who continue to make our Association so special'.

'I would also like to extend a huge thank you to our speakers and guests who took time out from their schedules to join us for our 50th Anniversary celebration'.

SIA Gerald Soane Safety Award 2023

Sean Makin of Newson Gale was awarded the 2023 SIA Gerald Soane Award for his outstanding contribution to Health & Safety, at the 50th Anniversary Solvents Industry Association Annual Conference.

The Gerald Soane Award has been in existence since 1999 and was introduced in recognition of the outstanding work of those advocating safe working and Best Practice on behalf of the Association.

The 2023 award is no exception. Sean and his company Newson Gale, have always been strong advocates of the work of the SIA in the prevention of work-related incidents involving the potential for static discharge in the presence of flammable vapours.



Sean Makin (right) receives the Gerald Soane Award from the man himself!

Upon receiving the Award from Gerald Soane himself, Sean said, 'Receiving the Gerald Soane Award is truly an honour. Advocating the safe and sustainable use of solvents is at the heart of the SIA's work, with mitigating the ignition risks posed by static electricity being just one area in which the Technical Committee continues to support solvent users. It is encouraging to see the committee's knowledge base expanding year-on-year and I look forward to continuing our work together.'

SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman said, 'Sean has been a member of the SIA Technical Committee for more than 4 years and has been hugely committed to raising standards within the industry during that time. Protecting those handling solvents from the dangers of static discharge is at the heart of what we do and I would like to thank Sean for the enthusiasm, energy, expertise and professionalism he brings to the Association and we are looking forward to working together on many more projects in the future. Many congratulations on this well deserved award'.

Evening Conference Dinner

The formalities of the Solvents Industry Association Annual General Meeting and Conference were concluded by an informal dinner for Members and guests at Champney's Mottram Hall.

Around 100 Members and guests gathered for an informal dinner to celebrate 50 years of the Solvents Industry Association. Guests included former Chairs (see photo), industry colleagues and speakers from the daytime proceedings.

The traditional Solvents Industry Association Charity Raffle, which took place at the Annual Conference, raised a record £2,010 for MacMillan Cancer Support.

SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman said, 'Cancer will touch all of us at some stage in our lives and MacMillan provides an incredible level of support for the families and those directly affected by this terrible disease in many more ways than we realise. Our Members and guests again broke all records in raising such an amount for this amazing cause.'



Current and Former SIA Chairs. L to R rear Nick Key, Geoff Stamper, Chris Hall, Roger Collis, Mark Brunt, Kevin Morgan, Andrew Ford. Front L to R Phil Davison, Gerald Soane, Jonathan Ward.



Former SIA General Secretary, Peter Davis (left), with Andrew Ford and Andrew Norman

Our thanks go to Champney's Mottram Hall, Alcohols Limited, Kimia, Elaflex Limited, Bernadette Goudy at Auriga Limited and the SIA for their kind donation of raffle prizes on the night.

Want to find out more about MacMillan Cancer Support? [Click here](#)

Finally, the evening was rounded off with after-dinner entertainment from the inimitable Dr. Geoff Mackey.



During the evening the incoming SIA Chair, Nick Key (left) presented the Silver Salver to outgoing Chair, Andrew Ford.



Dr. Geoff Mackey

Golf Day

On 12th September (the day before the AGM) a golf day/competition was held amongst SIA members and the Roger Haskey Memorial Trophy was won by Stephen Kirton of Brenntag.

Barrettine
Group

Sponsored by Barrettine



SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman with Stephen Kirton of Brenntag

Pre-Conference Dinner – 12th September

Celebrations for the 50th Anniversary Solvents Industry Association Annual Conference got underway with a visit to the UNESCO World Heritage Site – The Jodrell Bank Observatory.

SIA Members and guests enjoyed a unique showing of Pink Floyd's specially commissioned 50th Anniversary 'Dark Side of the Moon' immersive film in the 'Space Dome' Theatre, followed by a tour of the interactive museum in the impressive First Light Pavilion.



SIA Chief Executive Andrew Norman said, 'The pre-Conference evening activities have become very popular with Members and have grown significantly in recent years. In our 50th year, we thought it very appropriate to celebrate in a science-based environment, coincidentally enjoying the 50th Anniversary 'Dark Side of the Moon' film. A memorable evening, which was very much enjoyed by all. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event'.

Huge thanks to our 2023 Conference Sponsors

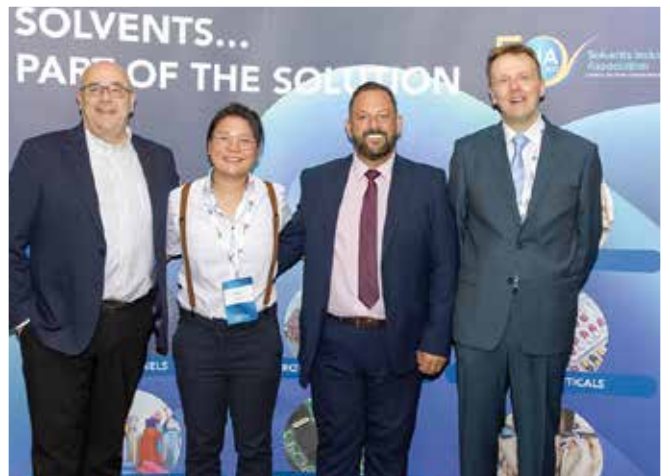
The SIA really appreciates the support of the companies who sponsored our event.

Alcohols Limited | Alcotra | Barrettine | Kimia | MannTek









SIA joins TAF

The Trade Association Forum has welcomed the SIA as its latest member and will give the Association more connections with other membership organisations.

<https://www.taforum.org/directory/solvents-industry-association/>

Membership Update

The Solvents Industry Association is pleased to welcome its latest member Stonhard, the global leader in the manufacture and installation of high-performance floor, wall and lining systems, as an Associate Member.



Stonhard provides chemical resistant floors, walls and lining systems for production, storage, containment and loading areas, both inside and outside the building.

Stonhard's Linings Manager for Europe, Sean McIntyre said, 'Our high performance floor and lining systems are resistant to even the toughest chlorinated solvents and help to protect the environment, the concrete structure and ensure the safety of the workforce with our anti-static, conductive and spark proof solutions. We are delighted to be working with the SIA and its members, to learn more about the needs of the industry as we continue to improve our solutions'.

SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman said, 'We are very much looking forward to working with Stonhard and their UK based Kemtile division, who will be working with members of our Technical Committee to deliver further guidance and assistance to the solvents industry'.

For further information on the products and services offered by Stonhard, visit the website via the link here [Stonhard](#)

CHEMUK 2023

The SIA hosted a panel session at this year's CHEMUK Expo in Birmingham – also meeting up with a few members on the way!

A big thank you to Stuart Barker of Tradebe and Emmanuel Ehenemba of TotalEnergies for their excellent presentations to delegates from the Sustainability Stage on day 1. Standing room only!

Many thanks also to everyone who stopped by at the stand to say hello – it was great to meet you!





Looking forward to ChemUK 2024



<https://www.chemicalukexpo.com/speaker-categories-all/full-programme/>

Training Update

The SIA spent a fantastic couple of days delivering training courses for European Solvents Industry Group (ESIG) Members at Cefic - European Chemical Industry Council in Brussels!

A big thank you to the superb delegates and to Cornelia TIETZ and Helene COLBACH for organising!



SIA Training Courses Update

Throughout the year we organise and run Training Courses – watch out for announcements on upcoming dates as the courses sell out very quickly.

Solvents Industry Association Training Course

An Introduction to the Solvents Industry

Course duration
10.00am – 3.30pm




Everything you always wanted to know about solvents... This is the place to ask!

A one-day course designed to offer an introduction to all aspects of the solvents industry.



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T. +44 7758 118675 E. info@solvents.org.uk W. www.solvents.org.uk
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Solvents Industry Association Training Course

Solvents and their Applications

Course duration
10.00am – 4.00pm








A one-day course designed to offer an insight into the fascinating uses of solvents in our everyday lives.

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Diary Dates

2023

SIA Board Meeting	Wednesday 13th December – Alcohols Limited, Rugby
SIA Technical Committee Meeting	Wednesday 13th December – Alcohols Limited, Rugby

2024

SIA Spring Dinner	Thursday 14th March
CHEMUK	Wednesday 15th – Thursday 16th May
AGM / Conference	Thursday 26th September

Members