



Solvents Industry  
Association

CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS, COMMON RESPONSIBILITY

# Welcome to the SIA Spring 2024 News



## From the SIA Chair



Dear Colleagues

It has been 6 months or so since I became Chair and I continue to be impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of our members in driving the Association forward.

There's a lot of work that goes on across the organisation – much of this by our members who are also holding down full time day jobs! Your effective contribution is not going unnoticed.

It is great to see a very motivated (and almost every position filled) Board and Technical Committee – addressing issues of relevance to the membership. I find it a privilege to be part of such an expert forum who generate great ideas for the SIA to think about!

Many might see the SIA as a 'small' Association, but we have a strong network across other organisations and are able to add our voice at the table when meeting with other bodies. Take a look below are some of the meetings we participated in since December – to name just a few.

- Chemical & Downstream Oil Industries Forum – 8th January
- EISG Stakeholder Day – Solvents & the Green Deal – 16th January
- Department for Business & Trade (DBT) Roundtable – 18th January, 27th March
- ESIG Steering Committee, Leuven – 6-7th February
- Alliance of Chemical Associations (ACA) – 8th March
- Environment Agency Chemical Industry Liaison Group – 20th March
- Volatile Substance Abuse Working Group – 26th March

Looking ahead we have our AGM on 26 September which is already being planned and speakers selected. It is a not to be missed event and so please do make sure you have this date in the diary.

As always, a BIG thank you to our Chief Executive Andrew Norman who is instrumental to our success and always ready to support you the members!

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Key". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nick Key

Univar Solutions

Chair 2023 – 2025



# Spring Dinner

The IWM Churchill War Rooms in London was at full capacity as the backdrop for the SIA Annual Spring Dinner on 14th March.

Attracting Members and Guests from 30 companies to the first event in the 2024 SIA calendar, the dinner included a tour of the award-winning museum, housing the underground nerve-centre where the British government directed the Second World War, beneath the streets of London.

SIA Chair, Nick Key said, 'It's a fascinating glimpse into Britain's wartime history and it was great to be able to spend time here. I'd like to thank everyone who was able to join us for a lovely evening.'

As part of the evening, we held a raffle for a nominated charity, WaterAid, chosen by our Chair, Nick Key. Nick said "WaterAid is an international not-for-profit organisation, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere. Their vision is of a world where everyone, everywhere has safe and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene. Thank you to all those who were able to give something towards this charity and we raised more than £1,200".

SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman said, 'It is always great to catch up with our Members at such occasions and the support we receive is huge, particularly in such testing times for the chemical industry. I would like to thank everyone for coming along and I look forward to the same again and more at the SIA Conference in September.'



## SIA Board and Technical Committee

In the afternoon of 14 March, a **joint meeting of the SIA Board and Technical Committee** was held at Make UK.

27 attendees were present and top of the Agenda was Safety Share, where members share and discuss recent examples of poor industry practice, to help to reduce the number of incidents.

In a change to the standard format, the group took part in a brainstorming exercise to review the Association's current activities and to prioritise the ones for the future.

The members split into 2 groups to review:

- What are the SIA's best achievements?
- What could we do better?
- What tools / resources are the 'Best Sellers?'
- Where do we want to be in 2 years' time?
- Why do we need SIA and how do we benefit members?
- What are our main priorities?
- What do we need to meet these priorities?

The resulting discussions, captured in flip charts, will certainly give us a range of ideas to work on.



## SIA Members Raise £1,230 for WaterAid Charity

The recent Spring Dinner event at Churchill War Rooms saw SIA Members raise a whopping £1,230 for the charity WaterAid.

SIA Chair Nick Key said, 'I had the privilege of choosing WaterAid as the recipient of this year's charity donation. WaterAid is an international not-for-profit organisation, determined to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere. Their vision is of a world where everyone, everywhere, has safe and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene. Thank you to all those who were able to give something towards this charity'.



WaterAid Chief Executive, Tim Wainwright said, 'Thank you so much for choosing to fundraise for WaterAid – we're so grateful for your generous support. Your donation will help us to continue to transform lives around the world with water, toilets and hygiene'.

'The ripple of change that comes from these three basic things really is incredible. Health. Happiness. Safety. The chance of an education or a better job. It's just the beginning of breaking the cycle of poverty, and because of gifts like yours, we're able to make this difference a reality for even more communities', he added.

The SIA would like to thank Alcohols Limited, Kimia and Bernadette Goudy at Auriga for their kind donations of raffle prizes, with special thanks going to Elaflex Limited for their donation of the top prize of a Ferrari driving experience! A great evening was had by all.

If you would like to learn more about WaterAid, visit the website [here](#).

## Free SIA Lunch & Learn Webinar

### **The Importance of Hose Safety Awareness in the Solvents Industry - took place on Tuesday 27th February 2024.**

The flammability of solvents, the hazards of static discharge and the need for earthing and bonding is widely documented within the industry. However, the safety, suitability and longevity of hoses and connections is often overlooked. This Lunch & Learn session looked at this topic with a webinar presentation from market leader and SIA Associate Member, Elaflex Limited.

During the event, we learned about how regular maintenance and inspection of hoses can lead to safer and more sustainable solvent transfer processes.

The session covered the following areas:

- What is a hose?
- Types of hose
- Sustainability
- Influences on service life and longevity
- End connections and retention
- Best Practice
- Electrical continuity
- Assembling, testing and inspection

**Our Speaker was David Ratcliffe, Business Development Manager (Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals) – Elaflex Limited.**

David Ratcliffe is the Elaflex Ltd. Business Development Manager for hoses in Chemical and other Manufacturing Process Industries. He started in the fluid transfer industry in 1983 and has experience across all genres of hoses, from hydraulics to pharmaceuticals and everything in between, including fuels and solvents. The SIA would like to express our sincere thanks to David and Elaflex for an interesting and informative session.



## Membership Update

Hammond Chemicals, an independent, family-led business based in the West Midlands, is the latest company to join the SIA's growing list of Members.

Specialising in the bespoke blending, packaging, and distribution of industrial solvents in a range of pack sizes from 1 Litre through to 1000 Litre IBCs, the company has been in business since 1969.

James Hammond, Business Manager at Hammond said, "We are eager to be involved with the Solvent Industry Association and gain insights from other members, as we aim for continuous improvement across all areas of our company".

SIA Chief Executive, Andrew Norman said, "Our Membership within the solvents distribution sector has never been stronger and we are delighted to have Hammond on board with us".

If you would like to learn more about Hammond Chemicals, you can find more information on their website <https://www.hammondchemicals.co.uk/>



## Training update

Look out for new dates for training courses later in 2024!

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.

**5 SIA** Solvents Industry Association  
1973-2023  
T: +44 7798 118075 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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## SIA LinkedIn Page

Our LI page followers continue to rise and we hit 2,000 followers in August 2023. By the end of March 2024 we had attracted over 2250 followers and 15% of website traffic comes from our Linked In posts.

This is amazing news – please do like and share our posts:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/solvents-industry-association/?viewAsMember=true>



## CHEMUK 2024

<https://www.chemicalukexpo.com/>

Have you got 15-16 May 2024 in your diary? The SIA will be on Stand N102 at CHEMUK, the biggest event on the chemical industry exhibition calendar. If you are attending why not join us - do come along and say 'hello' where we will be on Stand N102. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Stand no.  
**N102**

**On Thursday 16 May from 12.00 to 13.00 the SIA will be present on Stage 4 with a presentation entitled:**

### **New technologies from the Solvents Industry on the Road to Net Zero**

The session will be introduced by Chief Executive Andrew Norman, and include Speakers from SIA members Brenntag and TotalEnergies:

Karl Shone, Technical Development Manager, Solvents at Brenntag will discuss the **Evolution of Solvent Use for a Safer and More Sustainable Future** and Emmanuel Ehenemba, Technical & Product Quality Manager at TotalEnergies will present the very topical, **Road to net zero: Innovative Low Carbon Solutions**

Thursday:  
12.00  
to 13.00



### **New technologies from the Solvents Industry on the road to Net Zero**

Hosted by Solvents Industry Association (SIA)

[Read more](#)

Stage 4

Introduction – Andrew Norman  
Chief Executive - Solvents Industry  
Association

Karl Shone  
Technical Development Manager, Solvents –  
Brenntag

Emmanuel Ehenemba  
Technical & Product Quality Manager -  
TotalEnergies

Please make a note of the time and come along to support the SIA team!



## Surfex – 4-5 June 2024

### Surface Paint & Coatings Technology

The event takes place between 4-5 June at the Coventry Building Society (formerly Ricoh) Arena.

[www.surfex.com](http://www.surfex.com)

The surface coatings industry accounts for almost 50% of the solvents market and the conference is a great opportunity for the SIA to connect with solvents Downstream Users to promote industry Best Practice.

The Association will be participating in not to be missed speaker sessions over 2 days.

Bill Atkinson and Dan Ellis from Adler & Allan will present **Alternative Fuel and Spill Response** at 11.30 on June 4th.

Sean Makin from Newson Gale will present **Flammable Liquids and the Fundamentals of Static Electricity** at 14.00 on the 5th.

The SIA has an exhibition stand (BZ114) – Why not pop along to see us?



## European Solvents Industry Group (ESIG) update

As ever, the Solvents Industry Association has been working closely with our colleagues in the European Solvents Industry Group (ESIG) and our Chief Executive, Andrew Norman attended the steering committee meeting in Leuven, Belgium in February. This was the final meeting of ESIG Senior Manager, Cornelia Tietz, who has taken a new position outside of the solvents industry.



The SIA would like to thank Cornelia for her close partnership with the Association during her tenure, with the development of our joint training courses in Europe, safety guidance and films. We wish her well in her new role.

## Diary - 2024

Wednesday 25th September	SIA Golf & Activity Day	Worsley Park Country Club
Thursday 26th September	SIA Annual General Meeting & Conference	Worsley Park Country Club

# Members

 Adler & Allan ENVIRONMENTAL RISK REDUCTION	 Alcohols Limited	 alcotra sustainable pioneers   UK	 Banner Chemicals Group Flying the flag of excellence for over 140 years Member of 2M Holdings Ltd	 Barrettine Group
 Berry Promens	 BRENNTAG	 BROCKLEY CHEMICALS	 CALDIC	 CARBIS LOADTEC
 CEPSA	 CORYTON FOR A CLEANER FUTURE	 ELAFLEX	 Elementrix	 exolum
 ExxonMobil Chemical	 FINNCONT® CONTINUITY	 Flotech PERFORMANCE SYSTEMS	 GREIF	 Haltermann Carless
 HAMMOND CHEMICALS LIMITED	 HELM	 ifc inflow	 IMPRATECH Your digital sales solution	 INDAVER SOLVENTS
 innospec specialty chemicals	 Kimia FINE ALCOHOLS	 LEADING SOLVENTS	 MannTek	 Newson Gale HÖCHSTIGER Sales Solutions
 Oxychem	 PH Europe Liquid Assets	 ROMIL PURE CHEMISTRY	 SASOL reaching new frontiers	 scully
 Shell	 SOLVENTIS WORLD CLASS CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS	 Stolt-Nielsen Limited	 STONHARD EST. 1922 FLOORS   WALLS   LININGS	 SUTTONS Delivering life's essentials safely

