**European Sealing Association**Activity report for Standards and Legislation Director - David Mitchell –November 2020.

Activity	Current status
Environmental Goods Act (EGA) and USA Trade Import duties	<ul> <li>Sealing Devices appear to be on "A" list for EGA</li> <li>Paris Climate Change Agreement. New meeting held in Madrid, agreed targets for 2050, which seems weak.</li> <li>President elect, Joe Biden confirms that USA will re-join Paris Climate change agreement</li> <li>USA/China tariff trade war what might change now? Tariffs have been reduced to 7.5% on \$120bn worth, but 25% remains on \$250bn. China agreed to increase purchases on Industrial components and farm goods China retains tariffs on \$100bn worth.</li> <li>Mexico, Canada NAFTA agreement. Steel tariff stopped</li> <li>US imposing up to 25% tariffs on Mexican goods \$352B</li> <li>USA imposing \$11b tariffs(25%) on EU Wine, Whisky, Cheese. 15% tariffs on Airbus plane because of unfair support to Boeings disadvantage. EU retaliation \$20B Euros on US goods, including \$4B on Boeing sales, and tariffs on Cars and foodstuffs. EU hopeful of change in US policy. What will happen now?</li> </ul>
European Drinking Water directive DWD 98/83/TC	<ul> <li>ESA joined the European Drinking Water association. (EDW). web site: www.europeandrinkingwater.eu.</li> <li>New DWD issued 31.1.18. Article 10 of EC98/83 deleted, and "mutual recognition" removed.</li> <li>New standardisation mandate issued under CPR.</li> <li>EDW issues are: <ul> <li>CPR does not cover Pumps &amp; Seals etc,</li> <li>Need agreed single test based on 4MS tests</li> <li>4 tests is too expensive.</li> </ul> </li> <li>EDW responded to 10 MS proposal. ESA has submitted a strong support for 4MS style single testing.</li> <li>EDW has issued a strong support presentation on all the key issues and ESA fully supports this.</li> <li>The EU ENVI committee new revision of the Drinking Water Directive adopted by European Parliament on 27.3.19. All materials and products to be subject to the same high Hygenic standards, and harmonised tests.</li> <li>Provisional agreement reached at Trilogue on 18.12.19</li> <li>New Article 10 written covering products and materials, covering regulation EU 305/2011</li> <li>Luca Ibelli replaced by Guy Parker. Volker Meyer still leading EDW.</li> <li>Some movement on UK test facilities to meet WRAS standards for water in UK</li> </ul>

Activity	Current status	Next steps
BREF updates	<ul> <li>Mark Neal is member of Article 13 technical forum on BREFs and BATs.</li> <li>WGC: EIPPCB held meeting confirmed 2 chemical BREFs:</li> <li>WGC evaluation process has received all comment back. 78% of these were on BAT conclusions and leak rates!</li> <li>Site visits arranged by CEFIC in Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, took place via video link in October 2020</li> <li>Data assessment workshop now taking place on line on 1st and 2nd December.</li> <li>The final WGC TWG in Seville will now be Qtr2 2021 at the earliest, but only when safe for face to face meet.</li> <li>New BREF programme issued with Large Volume Inorganic Chemicals (LVIC) re-write to start 20/21, with 5 further BREF reviews announced</li> <li>TXT (Textiles) BREF revision awaiting final issue</li> <li>CER(Ceramics) 2007 BREF review started.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>MN has circulated list of BREFs that ESA should follow.</li> <li>Follow up WGC BREF evaluation process</li> <li>Some concern on how to measure Emissions accurately. Article 13 forum confirmed that measurement uncertainty is addressed in JRC Reference Report on Monitoring Emissions to Air and Water from IED installations. We should get a copy of this.</li> <li>ESA responded to IED stakeholder consultation survey, highlighting the need for Sealing BAT and training</li> <li>Suggestion is that Data Assessment workshop should take place in Seville with face to face meeting. After quarter 2 2021</li> <li>ESA fugitive emission reduction document now issued and accepted in BATIS system.</li> <li>Most BREF work now in slow lane</li> </ul>
ESA and EU Government Affairs activities	<ul> <li>DCM visited Brussels and met with:         DG Environment; FIECA; Europump; Orgalime</li> <li>ESA FERD document added to BATIS system for WGC         BREF, and by implication registered as a BAT.</li> <li>Current focus on EDW; Single use Plastic by members;         BREXIT trade deal; Covid-19</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Do we need ESA Code of Conduct document?</li> <li>ESA has begun a new initiative on restricting single use plastic packaging materials. Currently on hold</li> <li>ESA published links to local help for financial support on ESA website</li> </ul>
ESA Diffuse Fugitive Emission Reduction Document (FERD) and IPPC 1996/61/EC and IED 2010/75/EU.	<ul> <li>ESA Fugitive emission reduction document (FERD) now complete and issued. Any feedback comments?</li> <li>FERD accepted into EU BATIS system as BAT</li> <li>FERD is now on ESA website</li> <li>Industrial Emissions Directive evaluation Draft 1 out for consultation with meeting held 17.12.19 in Brussels</li> <li>ESA presented FERD at Fluid Sealing conference in Manchester in March 2020 as response to IED/75/2010.</li> <li>FSA following state regulations (Ohio, Pennsylvania, California, Colorado, Wyoming) on Methane.</li> <li>Canada rule issued 9 May 2018. Reductions by 2025.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Final version of Fugitive Emissions Reduction Document (FERD V2 /4) now issued</li> <li>ESA has responded to public consultation on IED</li> <li>Action on reduction of Methane emissions gathering speed in North America.</li> </ul>

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Central ESA projects	<ul> <li>Consider projects that can help all members without contradicting ESA Statutes. Suggestions:         <ul> <li>Replacement of single use plastics</li> <li>Negotiate exhibition space for members</li> <li>How to help ESA members fight cheap import seals</li> <li>Confirm REACH regulations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Executive committee issued approved project list
BREXIT	<ul> <li>Exit process finally approved by UK parliament and EU.</li> <li>Fishing Rights, Influence of European Court of Appeal, New Irish border regulations for goods transfer, equal rules for government support and Trade deal are main issues</li> <li>UK/EU trade negotiations at final stage - London meetings</li> <li>UK Government trying to introduce legislation to prevent EU interfering with trade between Eire and Northern Ireland,. This appears to break international law. Watch this space!</li> <li>BPMA/EURIS continue to issue rules updates for UK traders</li> <li>New UK approval (UKCA) for goods in UK is to replace CE mark (For equipment that requires it), at 31.12.2020. Full compliance will be required by 1.1.23</li> <li>Note goods MUST meet CE mark standards (where required) to be allowed into EU market place.</li> <li>More details available at <a href="https://www.goodsregulation@BEIS.gov.uk">www.goodsregulation@BEIS.gov.uk</a></li> <li>Check <a href="https://www.gov.uk/check-tariffs-1-January-2021 for">www.gov.uk/check-tariffs-1-January-2021 for</a> UK Global Tariffs. Seals UKGT: 0%; Common Tariff: 1.7%</li> <li>Check <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/our-approach-to-the-future-relationship/with-the-EU">www.gov.uk/government/publications/our-approach-to-the-future-relationship/with-the-EU</a> for details of UK views</li> <li>New UK trade deal signed with Japan, but trade deal with USA is big prize for UK, if it is possible?</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>UK left EU at 23.00hrs on 31.1.20. EU rules apply till 31.12.20.</li> <li>Negotiations with EU on Trade Deal started 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Face to face meetings resumed in July - more positive attitudes, but UK refuse to move on fishing, level playing field (no subsidies), European Court of Appeal, worker protection rights where EU wants control over UK laws, and talks now appear at a critical stage before year end, although Mr. Barnier stayed on in London to finalise details</li> <li>EU issued an injunction against UK for breach of agreement over Irish border issues</li> <li>UK still hope for a EU trade deal with zero tariffs by year end.</li> <li>New UK Global Tariff (UKGT) announced for all countries without a trade deal with UK. Seals UKGT: 0%; General Tariff: 1.7% tax</li> <li>UK must comply with Rules of Origin(problem for UK car manufacturers, Nisan, Honda and Datsun), mutual Conformity Assessments, and with all relevant international standards</li> <li>UK ESA Members should apply for Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) trusted trader status, and update customs forms</li> <li>HMRC to issue Economic Operator Registration &amp; Identification numbers (EORI) in UK. Businesses MUST have this number to allow both Importing and Exporting</li> <li>Ensure ESA UK members use Single Administrative document.</li> <li>All ESA members supplying into the UK need to be aware of the rules for importing into UK, and the UKCA product marking and where it will apply (where CE marking applied)</li> </ul>