



REGULATORY PROGRAM
Wednesday, August 17

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION – Conference Center Lobby + Coffee & Morning Snacks in the Expo Hall
8:30 – 9:15	<p>SESSION 1: Can STURDY Beat the Clock? Mid-Terms May Hold the Answer Chris Andresen, Senior Vice President Dutko GR, Washington, D.C.</p> <p>An in-depth discussion of how the STURDY Act has impacted both the ASTM voluntary standard process and CPSC's rulemaking process, plus an overview of AHFA's role in building consensus toward a solution.</p>
9:15 – 10:00	<p>SESSION 2: EPA Formaldehyde Update: Unraveling the Relevance of the Formaldehyde Risk Evaluation Robert Courtnage, Lead Physical Scientist & Team Leader Jeffrey Putt, Environmental Protection Specialist U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC</p> <p>Formaldehyde is among the chemicals for which EPA is required to conduct a risk evaluation under the Toxic Substances Control Act. This session will update attendees on EPA's progress and its likelihood of meeting TSCA's December 2022 deadline for the final risk evaluation.</p>
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	MORNING BREAK in the EXPO HALL <i>Sponsored by Insight Quality Services</i>
10:15 – 11:00	<p>SESSION 3: Harmony & Understanding: Bringing Clarity to TSCA VI & CARB Joel Oser, Senior VP/General Manager, Quality Assurance Services Benchmark International, Eugene, OR</p> <p>This update on TSCA VI will detail recent changes and outline the testing certification requirements for fabricators if the industry's laminated products petition is denied, making them "panel producers" under the regulation. Implications for continuing to use a traditional UF resin, a ULEF resin system, or a complete switch to a NAF resin system will be discussed.</p>
11:00 – 12:00	<p>SESSION 4: Strategies for Effectively Managing Your Compliance Risk Michael Sullivan, Partner Womble Bond Dickinson, Atlanta</p> <p>Managing risk means being compliant, being proactive and being informed. Michael Sullivan outlines the steps for putting this strategy in place.</p>
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH <i>Sponsored by UL</i>

1:00 – 1:45	<p>SESSION 5: CPSC's Long & Winding Rulemaking Road Boaz Green, Counsel Neal Cohen Law, Takoma Park, MD</p> <p>The U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission spent decades debating a federal flammability rule for upholstered furniture. Will rulemaking on furniture tip-over be an equally long and winding road?</p>
1:45 – 2:30	<p>SESSION 6: F2057 to the Rescue – Can It Expedite a Mandatory Standard? Richard Rosati, Vice President, Governmental Affairs & Industry Standards Bureau Veritas Chair, ASTM International F15.42 Furniture Safety Subcommittee</p> <p>This review of recent updates to the F2057 voluntary stability standard will be highlighted by a demonstration of proposed new tests and discussion of how the industry is working to expedite a new mandatory stability standard.</p>
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	<p>COOKIE BREAK in the EXPO HALL <i>Sponsored by TÜV Rheinland</i></p>
2:45 – 3:30	<p>SESSION 7: Upholstered Furniture Today: Balancing Health & Fire Safety Dwayne Sloan, Technical Director UL Built Environment Division, Durham, NC Dr. Marilyn Black, Vice President and Senior Technical Advisor UL Chemical Insights Research Institute, Marietta, GA</p> <p>Reprising a presentation earlier this year for the National Fire Protection Association, Dwayne Sloan and Dr. Marilyn Black team up to review current fire performance tests and shed light on new approaches that address the delicate balance between fire safety and the human impacts of chemical exposures.</p>
3:30 – 4:15	<p>SESSION 8: The Complex State of State Chemical Regulation Shawn Swearingen, Government Affairs and Association Management Leader American Chemical Council, Fairfax, VA</p> <p>So-called “everywhere chemicals” aren’t regulated everywhere, and in states where they <i>are</i> regulated, there is little consistency. The American Chemical Council is tracking the increasing pace of state-level efforts to ban or restrict the use of certain chemicals, some of which may impact home furnishings.</p>
4:15 – 5:00	<p>Session 9: Keynote Presentation Ann Marie Buerkle, Principal Williams & Jensen, Washington, D.C.</p> <p>Ann Marie Buerkle spent more than two decades in public service, most recently as the Acting Chair of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. During her six and a half years at the Commission, she strived for more inclusive engagement with all sectors of the regulated community.</p>
5:00 – 5:45 p.m.	<p>COCKTAIL RECEPTION <i>Sponsored by Benchmark International</i></p>



SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM
Thursday, August 18

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION – Conference Center Lobby + Coffee & Morning Snacks in the Expo Hall
8:30 – 9:30	<p>SESSION 1: Anticipating a Sea Change in Performance Fabrics Katelyn Goretzke, Textile Division Compliance Manager, Milliken David Swers, President & COO, Glen Raven</p> <p>An entire class of chemicals used to achieve stain repellency in some performance fabrics is now a focus for elimination or restriction in a growing number of states. Although many performance fabrics for residential use <i>never</i> contained these chemicals, the entire industry faces new marketing and reporting challenges.</p>
9:30 – 10:15	<p>SESSION 2: Raising Residential to the LEVEL® of Commercial Steve Kooy, Director, Health & Sustainability Business & Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association, Grand Rapids, MI</p> <p>This session will review how BIFMA proactively addressed the demand for sustainable furnishings through an ANSI-accredited standard for both large and small companies. LEVEL® certification by BIFMA continues to evolve to address ESG and other sustainability requirements.</p>
10:15 – 10:30	BREAK in the EXPO HALL
10:30 – 11:00	<p>SESSION 3: AHFA's EFEC: Still a Stepping Stone to Greater Sustainability Bill Perdue, Vice President of Regulatory Affairs American Home Furnishings Alliance, High Point, NC</p> <p>EFEC provides a systematic approach for evaluating a facility's environmental footprint at a micro level and an evaluation of the company's overall sustainable business practices and environmental performance at a macro level.</p>
11:00 – 11:45	<p>SESSION 4: Sustainability, ESG & Global Product Compliance Amy Vernon, Director of Sustainability, ESG and Global Product Compliance La-Z-Boy Inc., Monroe, MI</p> <p>As one of the world's leading residential furniture brands, La-Z-Boy has set lofty environmental, social and governance goals and maintains a robust product compliance program. In her role, Amy works with federal and state regulators, retailers large and small, third-party test labs, and an alphabet soup of organizations, including AHFA, ASTM, BIFMA, SASM and UL.</p>

11:45 – 12:45	LUNCH <i>Sponsored by SGS</i>
12:45 – 1:30	<p>SESSION 5: How to Use QC & Compliance As Key Drivers to Brand Success Jacob Nedergaard, Co-Founder Qarma, Denmark</p> <p>Today, quality control and compliance are complicated, time-consuming, expensive <i>and</i> customer-facing, thanks to social media. Qarma's online QC and compliance tools are turning up new best practices for companies in a global marketplace.</p>
1:30 – 2:15	<p>SESSION 6: What's Inside AHFA's Updated Responsible Sourcing Manuel? Sheer Garcia, North America Training Supervisor UL-Responsible Sourcing, Hialeah, FL</p> <p>In 2012, AHFA introduced a Responsible Sourcing Manual designed to provide member companies with a baseline tool to accomplish their social compliance goals. The manual outlined strategies for risk assessment, monitoring and remediation and provided five key country risk profiles. The new version adds a Lacey Act Compliance Manual and updated country risk profiles, including the latest information on the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act.</p>
2:15 – 2:30	BREAK in the EXPO HALL
2:30– 3:00	<p>SESSION 7: Manufacturer Best Practices in Sustainability Tim Copeland, President Copeland Furniture, Bradford, VT</p> <p>As part of its ongoing commitment to sustainability, Copeland Furniture has expanded its solar energy footprint at its plant in Bradford, Vermont, and has made other plant and equipment upgrades that boost energy conservation.</p>
3:00 – 3:45	<p>SESSION 8: Getting a Handle on Environmental Social Governance (ESG) Daniella D. Landers, Partner Womble Bond Dickinson, Houston, TX</p> <p>Every company faces a variety of ESG-related issues, and some of them have the potential to cause financial or reputational damage. No matter the size of your company, integrating ESG factors into company decision-making is good risk management. This session will help you get a handle on this relatively new area of corporate responsibility.</p>
3:45 – 4:00	<p>CLOSE Bill Perdue</p>