



PRESS RELEASE

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The World Coatings Council Supports WHO International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action *"Say no to lead poisoning"*

October 23, 2022 — Washington, DC — The World Coatings Council (WCC) supports the World Health Organization's (WHO) International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week of Action, Oct. 23-29, 2022. During the campaign week, the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (also known as the Lead Paint Alliance or LPA) reminds governments, civil society organizations, health partners, industry, and others of the unacceptable risks of lead exposure and the need for action. The campaign builds on the success in outlawing the use of lead in petrol and the progress achieved by many countries in establishing laws that limit the use of lead in paint, particularly those paints to which children are exposed in their homes, schools, and playgrounds. WCC applauds the WHO's "say no to lead poisoning" campaign.

WCC is an organization whose membership is comprised of trade associations from around the globe representing the paint and printing ink industries. WCC member associations have long had an interest in addressing the health, safety and environmental impacts associated with the manufacture and use of paints and printing inks, including the recognition, evaluation and control of hazards arising from the use of lead in paint.

WCC actively supports the efforts of the LPA to engage governments and implement effective and enforceable legislation and regulation. This work is centered in countries not currently restricting lead use in paint, and WCC has committed to support industry outreach and education efforts in key regions. To this end, WCC supports the UN's LPA "Model Law" as a useful starting point for both government and industry to collaborate on developing restrictions that ensure widespread and verifiable compliance.

Historically, the WCC has participated in workshops around the globe in an effort to educate industry on the LPA goals to:

- Raise awareness about health effects of lead exposure;
- Highlight the efforts of countries and partners to prevent lead exposure, particularly in children; and
- Urge further action to eliminate lead paint through regulatory action at the country level.

Working with fellow LPA partners, WCC will continue the work to establish effective controls and formalize the necessary technical aspects of regulations to support reliable industry compliance. Notably, WCC is a recognized Non-governmental Organization (NGO) that has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

About WCC: WCC is comprised of members representing associations from Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, EU, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States. The Secretariat position is currently conducted by the American Coatings Association.

WCC provides a forum for information exchange and cooperation on the major issues and priorities facing the paint and printing ink industries worldwide. For information about WCC and the activities it is involved in on behalf of the global paint and coatings industry, go to www.worldcoatingscouncil.org.

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