The FEA (*Fédération Européenne des Aérosols* or *European Aerosol Federation*) was founded in 1959. Today, the FEA represents 18 European countries which include more than 350 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and multinationals active in the aerosol industry. It has also close links with aerosol associations worldwide.
Our Vision & Mission

The FEA provides the leading expertise for the European aerosol industry and aims to be recognised as a centre of excellence. FEA functions as the European voice for the aerosol industry and as the European coordination office for its national aerosol associations in order to:

• improve the understanding of the European aerosol industry’s point of view mainly towards the UN and EU Institutions
• collaborate with other business associations on an ad hoc basis
• develop the positive awareness of the European aerosol industry’s values

Our Values

Within the aerosol industry, the FEA community works towards achieving sustainable economic growth by focusing on social and environmental responsibilities. In practice this means:

• placing safe aerosol products on the market
• offering a unique, convenient and high performance product for everyday life
• constantly working towards technical and economic solutions to reduce the environmental footprint of aerosol products
• developing guidelines on industrial safety and promoting good industrial safety practices
• supporting safe and sustainable innovations by proactively proposing updated legal frame
Europe on its way forward

The political Europe is going through a reorganization after last year’s European elections. FEA is closely monitoring and does its best to get in contact where new counterparts are defined as well as staying in regular exchange with its well-established contacts to promote our aerosol topics.

FEA and a strong network of national associations are crucially important to allow a continuous progress in this direction. Over the past years, FEA put a lot of effort and brainwork into the future development of its organization since there seemed to be an underlying trend of companies to focus on only few or eventually single memberships in national associations.

Thanks to the high level of expertise and strong foundation of trustful collaboration with EU and UN authorities we still could manage a larger number of topics successfully in the past year.

Among those examples, we would like to highlight the implementation of the CLP warning label. Due to repeated minor and uncritical changes in the warning statements, the industry suffers extensive costs for the continuous adaptations of their labels. Thanks to the leading FEA intervention, supported by other industry associations, the UN GHS subcommittee has agreed to discuss flexibility for minor linguistic variations on labels. The industry objective is to avoid frequent minor changes of artworks without any positive impact on consumers’ safety. The CLP Regulation will nonetheless continue to require the FEA involvement to keep an eye on the upcoming changes.

The importance of a constant involvement of all parties has appeared clearly in the context of the Adaptation to the Technical Progress (ATP) for the Aerosol Dispensers Directive. Maybe everybody felt comfortable with the outcome of a Member States meeting in 2010, when the industry proposals for an ATP were initially discussed. At that time, FEA had already supported the discussion with a comprehensive and extensive
set of data and a basic agreement seemed to be achieved. Four years later, a similarly constituted meeting resulted in doubts that are now causing serious delays in the regulatory definition of tests and criteria for plastic aerosols above 220ml capacity.

The relevance of national associations in such situations becomes evident when taking a closer look. The questions raised by the Member States in 2014 highlighted that some fundamental information did not reach several national authorities. Communication is key and we are a firm believer that sufficient capacities within national associations could have resolved that issue upfront if the resources would have been made available.

The decision to focus its membership on few key countries remains in companies’ hand. Here, we have to do our individual balance sheet, asking ourselves which consequence hurts most: Loss of business potential or partially extended investment into more aerosol associations.

The Federation can only be as strong as its national members are. Therefore, we are encouraging everybody reading this to foster the internal discussions and to promote a strong representation, which will also result in an improved communication of your company’s point of views.

Pursuing the vision of promoting aerosols, innovations on technology and sustainability as well as globalization, FEA has decided to take over the responsibility on the organization of the International Congresses and Exhibitions. Our objective is to boost the event to a global and innovation dedicated event becoming the true meeting point of the industry. While providing enough space and rooms for individual business meetings and attractive high-level presentations and exhibitions packages, the frequency will reflect the market needs.

To guarantee all that progress, the continuous work of the experts and above all the FEA staff is a must. We would like to express our sincere appreciation of all the work done to keep us being successful by providing safe products to the market and developing innovations for a global market place.

Dr. Rolf Bayersdörfer
President
Alain D’haese
Secretary General
Secretariat & Board of Directors

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Mr Alain D’haese

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Mr Cristiano Siviero | AIA (Italy)

*Co-opted Members*
Mrs Pamela Bloor | BAMA (United Kingdom)
Mr Matthias Ibel | IGA (Germany)
Mrs Laurence Joly | CFA (France)
Mr Volker Krampe | IGA (Germany)
In the network of the European Aerosol Industry, National Associations are essential as they are making FEA’s messages heard and understood in their respective Member States. The Committee of National Associations Directors (CNAD) not only coordinates FEA’s advocacy activities but also serves as an important platform for the exchange of information on issues which come up at national level.
In 2014/2015 CNAD members worked again on several issues facing the aerosol industry. Many advocacy activities were related to the necessary adaptations to technical progress of the Aerosol Dispensers Directive (ADD) both, before and after the EC ADD Expert Group meeting on 2 July 2014. Unfortunately, the ADD is treated as a low priority dossier in several Member States but considerable efforts have been made by CNAD members to raise interest in these topics, which are of great importance to our industry. CNAD members were also deeply involved in the preparation of the PAIR project, an independent review of the necessary safety criteria for plastic aerosols, which will be undertaken in cooperation with both the EU Commission and Member States Representatives.

Another key issue was the discussion on minor linguistic variations of H- and P-statements at UN level. It is deplorable that the problem of substantial inconsistencies in different language versions of the CLP Regulation and the ADD has still not been resolved by the European legislator. Therefore, FEA’s proposal to allow for a certain flexibility in the wording of the GHS labelling is vital for our industry. CNAD members have not only collected information on their national authorities’ views on their respective language versions, they have also advocated a solution that is pragmatic without jeopardising consumer safety.

It is the Expert Committee of FEA which develops the messages to be conveyed to the European Commission, the UN and to all national government experts. To spread these messages and to explain their technical and legal background can be quite a challenge, in particular for the representatives of smaller national associations, who have extremely limited resources. However, all CNAD members do their best in transmitting the industry’s positions to their respective counterparts at national level. As every country in the EU and the UN has an individual vote, it is essential to maintain such a coherent presence in each country to represent the industry effectively.

Thanks to the active participation of its members the CNAD also provides a very useful forum by sharing know-how and by pointing to best practice in other associations. The regular exchange on national issues and communication activities of national associations which takes place in this Committee is beneficial for the whole FEA network and helps secure our industry’s licence to operate.

Matthias Ibel
Chairperson of the National Associations Committee
When the internal decision was made to merge the three FEA technical Committees into one larger Expert Committee it was not clear how successful this change would be. Three meetings of the Expert Committee later, this streamlined structure has demonstrated its advantages.
We would like to give an overview in this report about the major topics, managed by the Expert Committee.

Concerning the CLP Regulation, despite detailed FEA input to the European Commission, as well as National Associations timely and coordinated dialogue with their national Competent Authorities to correct the numerous translation errors in the hazard and precautionary statements applicable to aerosols within EU, no correction has been published prior to the 1st of June 2015 deadline for mixtures. The flexibility to implement these future corrections remains uncertain.

FEA commissioned and endorsed a legal opinion concerning the new specific CLP provision on the health classification of aerosols. Additionally a pragmatic decision tree was developed.

At global level FEA submitted a proposal to amend the UN GHS Purple Book to tolerate minor linguistic variations in labelling provisions and consequently to allow the needed flexibility to achieve a real global harmonisation on the topic.

For the Aerosol Dispensers Directive, the European Commission decided to separate the legislative processes concerning the increase of the internal pressure from 13.2 to 15 bar for aerosols using compressed gases, and a definition of updated provisions for plastic aerosols beyond the current limit of 220ml capacity. For the ‘15 bar’ topic, the focus will be on metal aerosol containers only at this stage. This legislative change will be implemented through an adaptation to technical progress in a near future. When adopted, FEA intends to bring this issue on the agenda of the UN Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods to achieve a global harmonised solution for all modes of transport.

To avoid new long delays on the ‘plastic aerosols’ topic, FEA successfully proposed to the European Commission and Member States to share the Industry expertise through a project called “PAIR” (Plastic Aerosol Independent Review). European Commission services, volunteer national Competent Authorities and FEA will steer the project. An independent body will evaluate the Industry data and provide an independent expertise in reviewing the FEA proposals on this dossier. A robust data provider group made of 20 companies, ready to share their experience and know how on plastic aerosols, will deliver up-to-date data to match the independent body’s and steering group’s needs of information.

European Commission service will start an evaluation of the Aerosol Dispensers Directive. This long process will keep FEA and its National Associations busy for the coming years.
FEA has pro-actively launched a new Task Force to define safe practices for the recovery or recall of aerosols, which might occur in different steps of the distribution chain. Frequently it is essential to get the original product back from the consumer to investigate the genuine reasons of a defect. The Task Force will make recommendations on how to do so in the safest possible way.

Concerning the transport of aerosols FEA, supported by BAMA, currently monitors the pilot phase in the UK postal service to allow small amounts of aerosols to be shipped by post, which seems successful so far. This approach could then be used as a master class by other country’s postal services.

The UN Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods clarified that the wording “excessive movement” for packages and “dangerous movement” for large packages were used to make clear that aerosol dispensers are robust and safe articles for transport.

FEA has continued to support different DUCC projects related to the implementation of the REACH Regulation, specifically to facilitate exchange of relevant and concise information between chemicals manufacturers/importers and downstream users.
At the end of this brief report we would like to thank again the FEA secretariat for their excellent support as well as the Board of Directors for their confidence in our work. Nothing could have been achieved without active Committee members, active chairpersons and the members of the Working Groups and Task Forces. We also thank them for their time resources, willingness to share experience and co-operation on an international level.

Pamela Bloor        Laurence Joly       Volker Krampe
Chairpersons of the Expert Committee
Facts & Figures

Aerosol containers are primarily made of steel and aluminium whereas glass and plastic containers remain marginal.

Cosmetics and household products represent approximately 80% of the European production.

The European aerosol industry remains strong with a growth rate of 2.2% in 2014. Aerosol product manufacturing in Europe rose to an historic high of 5.65 billion units.

The full FEA statistics report 2014 can be downloaded free of charge on FEA website: [www.aerosol.org](http://www.aerosol.org)
Worldwide production is today estimated at 15 billion units.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND EXPERT REPRESENTATIVES WORKING TOGETHER - FEA MEETINGS IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM - MARCH 2015.
MEMBERSHIP 2015

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ANNUAL REPORT 2015 FEA
Conferences & Exhibitions

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List of publications

Publications available on FEA website: www.aerosol.org

- FEA Annual Report 2013: English Free of charge
- FEA Annual Report 2014: English Free of charge
- FEA Annual Report 2015: English Free of charge
- FEA 2012 Statistics Report: English Free of charge
- FEA 2013 Statistics Report: English Free of charge
- FEA 2014 Statistics Report: English Free of charge
- FEA Standards: English - French - German Free of charge

FEA Guidelines

- Guidelines on Basic Safety Requirements in Aerosol Manufacturing: English 100 €
- Guidelines on Basic Safety Requirements in Aerosol Storage: English 100 €
- Guidelines on Basic Safety Requirements in Laboratories dealing with Aerosols: English 100 €
- Guide on Particle Size Measurement: English 100 €
- Guide on Hot Waterbath Testing and its Alternatives: English 100 €
- Guide to using LCA: English 100 €
- Guide on Inhalation Safety Assessment for Spray Products: English 100 €
- Guide on Recycling Post-Consumer Aerosols: English 100 €