The voice of the European aerosol industry
INTRODUCTION

2019 marks 60 years of the existence of the European Aerosol Federation (FEA) and its many milestones and achievements since its launch in 1959.

FEA positively contributes to the development of EU and international policy related to aerosol dispensers, in both the consumer and industrial areas, through sharing its specific and extensive expertise and building constructive dialogue with authorities, industry partners and other stakeholders.

FEA is dedicated to actively support the aerosol industry and promotes good practices in developing and updating its industry standards, and safety guidance documents.

FEA Global Aerosol Congresses, Exhibitions and Awards are regularly organised throughout Europe to spread best and sustainable practices, foster innovation and business relationship through networking and celebrate successes.
In 1927, Erik Røtheim, a Norwegian engineer filed the patent for what would become a phenomenal success story: the aerosol dispenser. The successful development of mass-produced aerosols started first in the USA during the late 40s with an insecticide called the ‘bug bomb’ developed by Goodhue & Sullivan. American soldiers used it to fight insect borne diseases in the Pacific. The aerosol package expanded soon after the war. Production increased steadily and soon crossed the Atlantic Ocean to reach Europe.

50 MILL units were produced during World War II

4.3 MILL units were manufactured for civilian applications.

Insecticides and hairsprays were the first products to hit the European market in the early 50s. Air fresheners, deodorants and shaving foams soon followed.

70 MILL aerosol were produced in Europe.

The European Economic Community creation in 1957 made aerosol manufacturers co-operating in order to defend their interests at a supranational level.

The FEA (Fédération Européenne des Aérosols or European Aerosol Federation) was founded in 1959. Its aim was to facilitate the economic and technical development of the aerosol industry at European level. First FEA headquarters were in Zurich, Switzerland.
In the early 60s the golden age of the aerosol industry emerged. A wider range of aerosol products came onto the market; they were originally made of extruded aluminium but were soon made of tinplate as well.

A “Commission” within FEA was charged with examining the aerosol issues and adopting measures, which formed later, the basis for a European Directive related to aerosol dispensers.

The fight against pollution intensifies in the 1970s. The EU adopts laws to protect the environment, introducing the notion of ‘the polluter pays’ for the first time.

The Aerosol Dispensers Directive 75/324/EEC was adopted and is still in force today.

A European information centre on aerosols (FEAC) is created in Brussels to inform aerosol manufacturers on the legislative issues within the European Community.

First aerosol standards are actively developed at European level to guarantee product integrity and user safety while allowing innovation.

Production stunned again, reaching a total of 2.2 billion units.
FEA is the first organisation to formalise a voluntary environmental agreement with the European Commission (Commission Recommendation 89/349/EEC).

In the 80s, the aerosol industry voluntarily moved away from CFCs to alternative propellants. European consumer aerosols (except for a small number of medical products such as asthma inhalers) have not contained CFCs since 1989.

The protection of the environment has become a European key issue since the early 90s. Following the use of alternative propellants to CFCs, the aerosol industry demonstrated by various studies that empty aerosols can be included in the normal household waste packaging stream effectively without causing a hazard. As a result, post-consumer aerosols started being recycled successfully around the world.

Research & Development focused on propellants, packaging and ingredients to make the aerosol a high-performance product. The bi-compartmented aerosol offered a new generation of aerosol technology and started to expand rapidly.

Production during this decade rose by 35% and reached 3 BILL UNITS.
FEA did pioneering work in the global harmonization of criteria for the classification of flammable aerosols.

European aerosol production steadily continued, positioning Europe as the production leader worldwide.

12 BILL
Worldwide aerosol production in 2008

FEA has developed and revised numerous standards to help the aerosol industry to place safe products on the market in an efficient way.

FEA develops guides on particle size measurement and inhalation safety assessment.

Compressed gas propellants are used more widely, and the aerosol industry focuses on the production of cost efficient aerosol containers. Efforts are maximised to improve new systems like self-compressing bags while plastic aerosols further develop in the market.

FEA develops the concept of unique and sustainable aerosol.

European aerosol production rose from an estimated 70 million units in the late 50s to more than 5 billion units nowadays!
Actively representing the aerosol supply chain, its area of activity is tightly defined and offers unique expertise on aerosol dispensers for aspects such as flammability, pressure resistance, packaging and components fittings, filling, testing, warehousing, transport, recycling, legal metrology.

In 2019, FEA celebrates 60 years of positive contribution to the development of the EU and international policy related to aerosol dispensers in both consumers and industrial areas.
Actively supporting the aerosol industry in developing briefing papers, standards and safety guidelines

Supporting safe and sustainable innovations by proactively proposing updated legal frame

Organising FEA Global Aerosol Events to offer a networking platform among all actors such as brand owners, fillers, packaging suppliers and other stakeholders, promote innovation, share knowledge and expertise, and celebrate successes.

Constantly working towards technical and economic solutions to reduce the environmental footprint of aerosol products

Offering multiple uses and benefits for society through a unique, convenient and high-performance packaging-format for industrial, professional and consumer’s everyday needs
18 European countries which include

+350 SMEs and multinationals active in the aerosol industry

AAH - Aerosol Association Of Hungary
AEDA - Asociacion Espanola De Aerosoles
AIA - Associazione Italiana Aerosol
AIB - Aerosol Industries Brancheforening
APA - Associacao Portuguesa De Aerosois
ASA - Association Suisse De Aerosol
ASAD - Aerosol Sana Yicileri Dernegi
BAMA - British Aerosol Manufacturers Association
CAS - Ceske Aerosolo Ve Sdruzeni
CFA - Comité Français Des Aerosols
DETIC - Association belgo-luxembourgeoise des producteurs et des distributeurs de cosmétiques, détergents, produits d’entretien, colles et mastics, biocides et aérosols
FAA - Finnish Aerosol Association
FCIO - Fachverband Der Chemischen Industrie Österreichs
HAA - Hellenic Aerosol Association
IGA - Industrie-gemeinschaft Aerosole E.V.
NAV - Nederlandse Aerosol Vereniging
PACDI - Polish Association Of Cosmetic And Detergent Industry
SAA - Swedish Aerosol Association
**Facts & Figures**

**Europe**
leads aerosol innovation

5.7 billion aerosols sold in Europe

Cosmetics and household products represent +75% of the European aerosol production

+11 aerosols dispensers per person are used annually by Europeans

200 approximate number of different aerosol products

Aerosol containers are made of:

- 55% steel
- 44% aluminium
- <1% glass and plastic

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Global aerosol product launches by region (Sept. 2013 - Aug. 2018, %)

- Europe
- Asia Pacific
- Latin America
- North America
- Middle East and Africa

Source: Mintel GNPD
FEA will continue to provide the leading expertise for the European aerosol industry with the aim to be recognised as a centre of excellence.

It remains FEA’s core purpose to remain a true enabler for the aerosol industry and our consumers, to drive innovation and the circular economy; supporting this with numerous standards, guides and an active network beyond EU’s borders.

FEA will keep on engaging with its members and key audiences to promote safe and sustainable practices.

At the same time FEA will maintain its active role in upcoming regulatory issues that concern the aerosol industry and will continue to ensure that the industry’s contribution to developing legislation is communicated to all relevant stakeholders in the most effective way possible.

Thanks to a responsible and convincing advocacy work, FEA will continue to help the aerosol industry to remain innovative, to progress in sustainability and towards a positive business development.

Behind the ‘FEA’ quotes, it is of upmost importance to highlight the expertise, commitment, openness and forward-thinking of all people from the board, national associations and companies involved directly or not - they are ‘FEA’, they are the aerosol industry. Thank you to all of them and to those to come.