



International Zinc Association

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The International Zinc Association (IZA) was founded in 1990 and is a non-profit organization based in Brussels, Belgium. IZA has regional offices in China, Europe, Latin America, North America, Middle East and Southern Africa.

IZA is the only global industry association dedicated exclusively to the interests of zinc and its users. Operating internationally and locally through its regional affiliates, IZA helps sustain the long-term global demand for zinc and its markets by promoting such key end uses as corrosion protection for steel and the essentiality of zinc in human health and crop nutrition.

IZA's main programs are Sustainability & Environment, Technology & Market Development and Communications. IZA staff, a team of internationally recognized experts, is dedicated to assisting the Industry with its many challenges and opportunities.

Membership

Types of Membership

IZA has three categories of membership: full, affiliate and associate.

Full members include mining and refining companies. IZA has 40 full members. For both mining and refining these members represent about 80% of Western World production and 50% of total world production. Each full member has a Board seat and is eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting. Affiliate members include exploration companies, firms that are about to commence production, recyclers, oxide producers, first users of zinc, and other companies interested in developing and promoting zinc and its uses.

Associate members include national zinc associations, and such other industry organizations as environmental associations or industry customer associations.

Organizational Structure

IZA is governed by a Board of Directors, which is composed of a representative of the top management from each full member company. The Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors Meeting and a Directors' Dinner are held each year during LME week in London.

An Executive Committee is elected annually by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee is made up of selected Board Members, regional representatives, a corporate secretary, a treasurer, the chairs of the technical committees and the IZA Executive Director. The Executive Committee meets twice annually.

There are two technical committees: the Sustainability & Environment Committee and the Technology & Market Development Committee. These committees are composed of specialists from IZA member companies in these respective areas who oversee the specific programs and projects.

Sustainability and Environment

The Sustainability & Environment program aims at positioning zinc as a material of environmental choice, by identifying, understanding and managing environmental issues that may impact the zinc industry and increasing the awareness of zinc deficiency issues in human health and crop nutrition.

Sustainability

IZA member companies agreed on a Sustainability Charter that is complemented by nine guiding principles or codes of practice. Zinc recycling is part of the sustainability efforts.

'Zinc for Life'

This initiative is aimed at generating and communicating all relevant data to position zinc as a material of environmental choice for engineers, architects and other specifiers. 'Zinc for Life' includes generating Life Cycle Inventory (LCI) data from member companies and conducting Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) on selected zinc products. IZA is also tracking various environmental building assessment tools and automotive programs worldwide.

Health and Crop Nutrition

IZA provides financial support to the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group (IZiNCG) which advises aid agencies and national governments in developing countries to correct zinc deficiency. IZA also sponsors specific supplementation programs and organizes international conferences such as "Zinc Crops 2007" in Turkey, where scientists highlighted the correlation between zinc deficiency in crops and zinc deficiency in humans.

Environmental Research

A number of research programs are conducted in support of key information requirements. An Environment Advisory Group consisting of member company representatives oversees these programs.

Regulatory Affairs

IZA coordinates industry responses to environmental developments and regulations such as the EU Risk Assessment and Risk Management processes. IZA also coordinates the technical and administrative issues for REACH, the new European legislation on the Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals.

Technology and Market Development

The aim of the Technology & Market Development program is to grow and protect the global markets for zinc through research and market development activities. Programs are developed with a 3-to-5 year time frame and are targeted at key market applications and geographical regions. IZA solicits contributions from other partners.

Galvanized Steel

Galvanizing is zinc's largest use, accounting for over 50% of demand. A number of IZA programs are conducted in partnership with the steel industry focusing on protecting galvanized steel markets in the automotive sector, and expanding galvanized steel use in construction - including framing for housing, utility poles and galvanized reinforcing bar. IZA has also developed a new thin-galvanized coating that should provide new growth opportunities. IZA has also embarked upon a major general galvanizing program in China, which is funded in large part by the Common Fund for Commodities.

Die Casting

Numerous die casting programs are directed at protecting established markets and growing new ones. IZA has developed a new thin-wall die cast alloy that will meet these objectives. A series of technical brochures together with an interactive web-based system have been developed for specifiers and designers. IZA organizes also an International Die Casting Conference and a number of regional technical seminars.

New Technologies

IZA also explores potential new zinc applications such as zinc in fertilizers and zinc in battery and metallic fuel-cell applications.

Geographical Markets

Special emphasis is devoted to developing markets. IZA staff conducts numerous seminars on all zinc applications in Latin America, Southern Africa, China, South-East Asia, Russia and the Middle East. The aim is to increase the per capita consumption.

Communications

The objective of IZA's Communications program is to ensure key messages about zinc are disseminated globally. IZA plays an important role as an information hub serving the global zinc industry and its communication efforts focus on the information needs of targeted stakeholder groups and the communications priorities identified within the Technology & Market Development and Sustainability & Environment programs.

IZA Websites

IZA manages the primary website for the zinc industry, www.zincworld.org and the IZA Members' site - which among other items contains the minutes of all key committee meetings and project updates. IZA also manages numerous other sites including:

www.zinc-health.org

www.zinc-crops.org

www.zincforlife.org

www.galvanizedrebar.org

www.zincenergystorage.org

Publications

A number of regular publications are produced including the annual "Progress Report"; the quarterly "Network" which features zinc applications and innovations; the "Communiqué", which provides monthly updates on IZA projects; the "Environmental Update" which

provides environmental regulatory news; and technical briefing notes. Information newsletters are also published in regions such as Latin America. IZA produces a series of posters for use by member companies or at conferences and exhibitions.

IZA publishes also a number of brochures on specific topics – all with the aim of promoting the essentiality of zinc in specific applications. Recent publications include Sustainability Guidelines, technical brochures on galvanized reinforcing steel and diecastings, and promotional brochures on Zinc in Fertilizers, Zinc Energy Storage Systems and Zinc and Health.

Conferences

IZA organizes international zinc conferences and seminars. Each year the International Zinc Conference brings together commercial executives from mining and refining companies, consumers, analysts, and brokers. The conference is held every year in February/March in the U.S.A. The Latin American Metals & Market Conference is also held annually. Every other year IZA organizes Zinc College, a 5-day training program for managers in the industry. A number of technical conferences, seminars and workshops on key issues such as die casting or continuous galvanizing are held throughout the year.

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