Building a Sustainable Future for Zinc
Chairman’s Remarks

IZA’s mission to its Members is to ensure we have a “license to operate” while growing and protecting zinc markets. Today, more than ever, sustainable development has become a critical component for government authorities and the purchasers of zinc products. It is absolutely essential that the Zinc Industry shows them that zinc is a sustainable metal.

We are fortunate that zinc has so many key advantages. It is essential for human, animal and plant life; and it helps buildings and their steel structure last much longer. Zinc is recyclable; it is responsibly sourced; and there are sufficient zinc reserves to satisfy demand for many decades to come.

I am especially appreciative of the IZA team who continue to deliver superior results with a relatively modest amount of resources. IZA has been able to attract third party funds which finance close to 50% of its total budget.

In addition, I would like to thank the Executive, Advisory, and Functional Committees, as well as the Board of Directors. With IZA’s dedication and expertise, I am confident that we will continue on an upward trajectory and see more positive results for the Zinc Industry in the coming years.

Executive Director’s Letter

2018 was another successful year for the International Zinc Association. IZA’s global programs share a theme of educating key influencer’s and decision makers on the positive attributes of zinc. The awareness of zinc’s tremendous benefits in all market areas, as well as human health, must continually be reinforced.

Zinc faces ongoing competition from substitute materials in many of its markets, and inappropriate labeling by environmental groups and government agencies. Education and knowledge transfer is the key to long-term success. This Annual Report highlights some of those successful efforts during the year that will have impact for years to come.

I want to thank the Board and our Committees for their support and guidance in making IZA a success. I also want to thank IZA’s dedicated staff and consultants who work hard on a daily basis to effectively and efficiently deliver results to our members. Zinc indeed is essential for life, and it has been an essential and important part of my career and life. I have enjoyed serving the industry, and have been privileged to be part of a global zinc family. I thank you all.
IZA has created new key sustainability information — including life cycle, recycling rates and reserves — for use with specifiers and end users, allowing for the continued acceptance of zinc products, especially in the construction and transportation sectors.

The United Nations introduced their Sustainable Development Goals to measure progress toward a more sustainable future. These goals address a wide range of global challenges, many of which can be solved with the help of zinc. Throughout this report, we have indicated which programs overlap with specific goals by notating the icon(s) in the corner of the page.
Regulatory
With the help of others, IZA successfully persuaded the EU to integrate geological background in compliance assessment for metals against the water quality standard, which will reduce pressure on zinc uses.

Following many years of data development, IZA successfully registered Indium metal, four Indium compounds, Germanium metal and Germanium oxide with the REACH authorities.
Health and Crops
Several IZA Member companies introduced zinc fertilizers at their sites in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Results were outstanding, with up to a 75% increase in grain production. New zinc fertilizer programs have commenced in South Africa and Namibia. IZA is working with the World Bank to add zinc to their projects in Africa and India.

IZA’s Zinc Saves Kids initiative in support of UNICEF made great strides in Mexico this year. The aim of this work is to prevent and treat diarrhea and malnutrition in millions of Mexican children under five.
Zinc Coatings
In conjunction with steel and auto companies, IZA is making technical improvements for the galvanizing of new and lightweight steels in order to maintain market position and develop new markets in China and India.

After years of test work by IZA, India’s Ministry of Railways will specify the use of zinc thermal spray for corrosion protection on rails.

IZA’s galvanized reinforcing steel program continues to show success. Companies are seriously evaluating more plants in the USA, as well as in China, India, Europe and Mexico.

IZA is promoting the benefits of zinc thermal spraying for long-term protection of large structures such as ships, bridges, and wind turbines. Siemens now specifies zinc thermal spray for all offshore wind farm installations.
IZA is promoting the use of galvanized vineyard poles and trellis wire to wine producers in Argentina.
IZA organizes 7 conferences each year. These events provide an excellent opportunity for transferring knowledge and networking. Zinc College 2018 in Kokkola, Finland was one of the best of the 13 held.

Social media campaigns are supporting marketing efforts for Galvanized Rebar, Thermal Spraying, and Die Casting. In addition, a new Sustainability microsite has been launched, and IZA’s flagship site Zinc.org has been updated with new content and a new look.

The first North America Die Casting Conference facilitated the transfer of technical and marketing expertise to end users and designers. This complemented other market initiatives such as a website, video, brochure, case studies, and a media outreach effort.
essential

versatile

sustainable

durable

life saving