

THE DISPERSER

No. 93 Volume 114 April 2025
“Dispersing ideas among friends”



PROGRESS THROUGH COOPERATION

FPCA President Letter

It is a true honor to address you for the first time as President of the Florida Paints and Coatings Association. I step into this role with enthusiasm, gratitude, and a deep commitment to serving our members.

I'd like to begin by sincerely thanking Allison Lyman for her outstanding leadership and many valuable contributions. Her dedication has left a lasting impact, and I know I have big shoes to fill as I follow in her footsteps.

The past few months have brought significant uncertainty, and the ever-shifting tariff landscape continues to present real challenges for our industry—affecting everything from raw material pricing to supply chain reliability. While we remain hopeful that more clarity is on the horizon, it's in times like these that the strength of our association becomes especially important—bringing us together to exchange insight, advocate effectively, and support one another through change.

Looking ahead, the board is already hard at work planning for our September 2025 meeting in Longboat Key. We're focused on bringing in timely, relevant, and engaging speakers, and we welcome your input. If there are specific topics or presenters you'd like to see, please don't hesitate to share your suggestions with us. You can email us at info@fpca.club.

Please save the date: our next meeting will take place at the Longboat Key Resort from **September 26–28, 2025**. We hope to see you there.

If you haven't already, be sure to visit our newly updated website at fpca.club and follow us on LinkedIn to stay up to date with the latest announcements, events, and industry news.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement.

Warm regards,
Gabriela Blanco
President
Florida Paints and Coatings Association

[WWW.FPCA.CLUB](http://www.fpca.club)

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Statement of the American Coatings Association on Tariffs Imposed on Canada, Mexico and China

- March 4, 2025
- [Government Affairs](#)
- Contact: [Heidi McAuliffe](#)

New tariffs imposed on the paint and coatings industry's largest trading partners will introduce disruptions and increased costs into the production of essential consumer products, including medical devices and pharmaceuticals, food production equipment and grocery items, automobiles, and aerospace applications, among others. Average Americans and our domestic manufacturing industry will be negatively impacted by higher costs on countless products used daily as a result of new tariffs imposed on Canada, Mexico and China.

Canada and Mexico are the U.S. coatings industry's largest trading partners, valued at \$1.26 billion with \$815 million, respectively; and China is the third largest trading partner, valued at \$117 million. The coatings industry enjoys a positive trade surplus of \$1.7 billion, a strong sign that our industry is profiting from international trade.

The coatings industry overwhelmingly supported the United States-Canada-Mexico Agreement and has enjoyed the benefits that the certainty of a trade agreement provides. The production of automobiles – for which coatings play a pivotal role, from automotive paint, to specialized “lightweighting” coatings systems – is only one example of an industry that relies on a strong integrated North American supply chain as vehicle parts and inputs are routinely forwarded across borders to assembly facilities.

Many of the raw materials for coatings formulas cannot be produced in the United States and originate in China. Consequently, there are limited options to procure these raw material inputs elsewhere.

The American Coatings Association and the U.S. paint and coatings industry are prepared to assist the Trump Administration in seeking appropriate solutions to trade issues. Fair trade agreements provide level playing fields as well as certainty and predictability in commercial behavior.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

DISNEY

When: TBD

Where:

**Hilton Orlando Buena Vista Palace
1900 E. Buena Vista Drive
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830
(855) 757-4984**

LONG BOAT

When: September 26 – 28, 2025

Where:

**Longboat Key Club
220 SANDS POINT ROAD,
LONGBOAT KEY, FL 34228
(941) 383-8821**



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Does Time Go Faster As You Get Older?

Have you ever felt that time seems to go by faster as you get older? Many people experience this phenomenon, which can make our lives feel busy and rushed. But why does this happen?

Neural signal processing

One possible answer comes from physics. Professor Adrian Bejan, a mechanical engineer at Duke University, has proposed a theory based on the physics of neural signal processing. He hypothesizes that, over time, the rate at which we process visual information slows down, and this is what makes time “speed up” as we grow older.

According to Bejan, our perception of time is related to the number of mental images we form in our brains. When we are young, we form more images and time seems to be passing more slowly. As we age, our brains become more complex, which slows down the processing of visual information. This means we form fewer images and time seems to be passing more quickly.

What Else Influences Time Perception?

Memory

When we recall events from the past, we tend to remember more details from our childhood. This may create an illusion that time was slower when we were younger.

Emotion

Positive emotions tend to make time seem shorter, while negative emotions tend to make time seem longer. Positive emotions enhance our attention, while negative emotions diminish our attention.

Attention

When we are focused on a task or an activity, we may lose track of time and feel that it passes faster than when we are bored or distracted.

Culture

Different cultures may have different attitudes and values regarding time. These cultural differences influence how people plan their lives, manage their schedules, and cope with stress.

Takeaway

As the poet Henry Van Dyke wrote: “Time is too slow for those who wait, too swift for those who fear, too long for those who grieve, too short for those who rejoice; but for those who love, time is eternity.”

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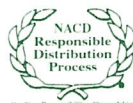
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EPA Publishes Preliminary List of Companies Subject to TSCA Risk Evaluation Fees

- February 3, 2025
- [Government Affairs](#)
- Contact: [Riaz Zaman](#)

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published [preliminary lists identifying manufacturers \(including importers\) that may be subject to fee obligations](#) under [40 CFR 700.45](#), associated with each EPA-initiated risk evaluation of the following five High-Priority Substances under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Section 6 (Refs. 2):

- Acetaldehyde (CASRN 75-07-0)
- Acrylonitrile (CASRN 107-13-1)
- Benzenamine (CASRN 62-53-3)
- Vinyl chloride (CASRN 75-01-4)
- 4,4'-Methylene bis(2-chloroaniline) (CASRN 101-14-4)

Regardless of whether a company is listed, any company that has manufactured or imported a listed chemical in the prior five years must report to EPA via the [CDX](#) (Central Data Exchange). All five chemicals are either directly used in the manufacture of paint, coatings, sealants and adhesives and/or used in the manufacture of resins. Companies that do not qualify for an exemption from fee payment must also provide manufacture or import volumes for the three (3) years prior to publication of this list.

EPA is accepting comments on its preliminary lists by **March 3, 2025**. The agency expects to publish final lists of manufacturers (including importers) subject to fees no later than concurrently with the publication of the final scope documents for risk evaluations of these five High-Priority Substances. Manufacturers (including importers) identified on the final lists will be subject to the applicable fees.

Exemptions

Companies that qualify for an exemption will not be required to pay fees. To qualify for certain exemptions, companies must report to EPA regardless of whether the company is on the preliminary list. EPA recognizes the following exemptions from fee payment:

1. Import of articles containing the chemical;
2. Manufacture as a non-commercial by-product;
3. Manufacture as an impurity;
4. Manufacture as a non-isolated intermediate;



EPA Publishes Preliminary List of Companies Subject to TSCA Risk Evaluation Fees Continued

5. Manufacture as an R&D substance in “small quantities” – **NOTE:** EPA implemented a new definition related to R&D substances for fees that varies from the general TSCA definition. The TSCA Fee Rule includes a new definition of *small quantities solely for research and development* specifying that amounts cannot be greater than “reasonably necessary for such purposes.” EPA includes a record-keeping requirement to establish reasonably necessary amounts; and
6. Manufacture for an otherwise non-exempt purpose in amounts of 2,500 lbs or less.

To be eligible for Exemptions 1-5:

- Companies must meet one or more of the exemptions (Exemptions 1-5) as of the certification cut-off of Dec. 18, 2023; and
- Qualify for an exemption during the subsequent five years.

Additionally, any manufacturer or importer qualifying for Exemptions 4-6 must self-identify to EPA via CDX (Central Data Exchange), regardless of whether it is included on the preliminary list. Those manufacturers (including importers) meeting the production volume exemption (Exemption 6 above), must report their production volume for the three calendar years prior to publication of the preliminary list. This enables EPA to better track volumes for the purpose of fee allocation. Also, if all manufacturer and import is at or below the 2,500 lb. threshold, the exemption will no longer apply, triggering a fee payment obligation.

Companies that are on the preliminary list, but that qualify for Exemptions 1-3, can submit an exemption certification on the [CDX](#) to be removed from the final list. Otherwise, companies meeting Exemptions 1-3 do not need to submit notification.

Companies that qualify for exemptions must maintain records of production volumes for five years from the date of submitting notification (See 40 CFR 700.43(b)(10)). In addition, companies that qualify for the R&D exemption must maintain manufacturing and other business records for five years, such as production volume, plans of study, information from R&D notebooks, study reports or notice for R&D use. Records would establish amounts necessary for R&D purposes.

Contact ACA's [Riaz Zaman](#) for more information.



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