Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee Update

By Phil Mahoney

The Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee continues to meet on a roughly monthly schedule. Since the last newsletter, meetings were conducted online in mid-September and early December, as well as in person at our Annual Meeting in Charlotte, NC. Some highlights from the committee since our last newsletter include:

- The committee set up a webinar which was offered to all Association members and was presented by Cally Edgren, Vice President of Regulatory and Sustainability for Assent, a company that specializes in reporting tools for regulatory compliance and Supply Chain Sustainability. Cally presented an update on PFAS regulations from around the globe and highlighted aspects that all members may want to consider when choosing tools and resources to help with requirements such as the PFAS reporting challenges all our members are facing today.

- The US EPA has proposed a revision to the TSCA 8(a)(7) PFAS reporting rule with some significant changes. Most notably to members is the proposal to exempt imported articles from reporting, the establishment of a de minimis threshold of 0.1% in mixtures and articles (previously there was no de minimis), and also to shorten the reporting window to 3 months from the previously specified 6 months. The rule is out for comment, and the Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee is working with the Valve Manufacturers Association and the Hydraulic Institute to draft appropriate comments before the comment period ends. Currently, the final rule is expected around April 2026 at which point the 3-month reporting period would begin.

- At our Annual Meeting in Charlotte, Denise Lee from member company John Crane presented a comprehensive update on a range of regulatory requirements from around the globe; the presentation will be included in the meeting minutes for future reference.

- At the state level, we are watching the status of ~~the~~ New Mexico and Minnesota's PFAS reporting proposed requirements. The former is still open for comments which are due in early March; the Flow Control Coalition (comprised of FSA, Valve Manufacturers Association and the Hydraulic Institute) will be meeting in early January to develop comments. The latter apparently had revisions approved by an Administrative Law Judge at the end of October, but we've not yet seen the revisions or new ruling published yet.

- Sandy Van Den Broeck, ESA's ESG Committee Chair, has been joining our meetings whenever possible. He's providing us updates on a number of issues the ESA is focusing on which include the REACH PFAS proposal (next opportunity for comment is the 60-day consultation beginning around March 2026), the Digital Passport Program, plastics reduction efforts (driven via regulatory requirements), etc.

The FSA's Government and Regulatory Affairs Committee's next meeting will be in mid-January. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Pete, Chris and the MMCo team for their assistance with organizing our meetings and our committee members for their input and participation. Happy Holidays to All!