



Chairman's Report 2017

2017 saw the threat of the REACH Regulation and uncertainty regarding Brexit impacting on confidence and investment in the sector and made our advocacy efforts even more important. However, we believe that the sector is well placed to take advantage of the opportunities that will arise post-Brexit. We had another strong year financially and our reserves continue to grow thus ensuring that we are well placed to provide our members with the services they require in an exciting future.

Advocacy

Our CEO attended a special event recently held at the House of Lords, titled 'Parliamentary Trade Association Lunch' and saw the coming together of several key trade associations

The event, which took place on the 12th July, was arranged by manufacturing alliance and trade show organisers *Made in the Midlands* and saw attendance of representatives from *Made in Yorkshire* and the *Rubber & Plastics Research Association (RAPRA)*.

Baroness Burt hosted the event, with a purpose to bring together like-minded membership organisations to network, explore opportunities to work together and grow their respective organisations in a way that would benefit their members.

Made in the Midlands and *Made in Yorkshire* were recently appointed to the *All Party Manufacturing Group*, and work closely with Baroness Burt & Lord Whitby to ensure that SMEs get a voice in terms of policy. Following on from this, Lord Whitby agreed to become SEA President and to assist in our advocacy efforts in the UK.



SEA CEO at Parliamentary Trade Association Lunch



SEA President Lord Whitby

International Standards - Accreditation

On 16th March 2017, the SEA obtained accreditation to both ISO 9001 (Quality Management) and ISO 14001 (Environmental Management). This was followed by accreditation to OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management). This achievement reflects the hard work of the SEA staff and their willingness to develop work procedures so that the Association is not a risk from key people within the organisation leaving and taking all the working knowledge with them.



Industry Conference

Our industry conference was a great success with nearly 140 people attending. One of the highlights was a presentation given by Jaguar Land Rover regarding the impact of the REACH Regulations on the automotive supply chain – see photo below:



JLR Speaking at the Industry Conference



Delegates enjoying the ever-popular evening entertainment

Vote of thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members for their continued support in these difficult times and especially those members who work hard and collaborate in our committees and advocacy efforts. I would certainly encourage all members to take a more active role in the running of, what is after all, your trade association. Particular thanks go to our hard working office staff who enable us to run the Association smoothly and efficiently.

Godfrey Evans – Swinton Electroplating Ltd

SEA Chairman