DELIVERING ON OUR PROMISES FOR EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

Voice

- Represented the U.S. feed equipment industry's interests in the development of voluntary international standards on feed machinery at the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).
- Ensured AFIA member companies could express U.S. industry views within the ISO/TC 293 technical committee, through a Market Development Cooperator Program grant awarded from the Department of Commerce. Many AFIA member companies are involved in the committee work and Gary Huddleston, AFIA's director of feed manufacturing and regulatory affairs, serves as the U.S. Technical Advisory Group (TAG) chair.

Representation

- Protected U.S. equipment manufacturers' global competitiveness by preventing overly cumbersome international standards from being applied to U.S. equipment manufacturers. Guided international TAG working group discussions to prevent Chinese efforts to disadvantage non-Chinese companies. Initially, Chinese delegates proposed nine different equipment terminology standards, 30 safety standards and 17 hygiene standards. U.S. and international delegates successfully convinced the international committee to adopt a strategy of only 3 standards (one standard for each area), streamlining the standards that companies would need to monitor.
- Protected U.S. equipment manufacturers from tariffs levied on steel and aluminum products under Section 232, facilitating their ability to produce quality machinery.
- Assured U.S. equipment manufacturers' continued access to major export markets by successful engagement in the passage of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and the U.S.-China phase one trade negotiations.
- Tackled regulatory compliance issues through Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on topics such as COVID-19.

Expertise

- Provided interpretation and guidance on a variety of regulatory requirements, including the OSHA's "Working Surfaces Rule" fixed ladder requirements.

Engagement

- Provided educational and networking opportunities to equipment manufacturers to hear the latest industry news and trends and think strategically about the future at the annual industry-led AFIA Equipment Manufacturers Conference.
- Hosted the largest annual international trade show for the feed, pet food, poultry and meat industries – the International Production & Processing Expo – attracting more than 32,000 attendees and 1,200 exhibitors, including equipment manufacturers.
- Maintained commitment to employee safety by sponsoring the national safety sign program and continued development of new safety signs and placement guidelines at the Equipment Manufacturers Conference.
- Advanced the industry's next generation of leaders by awarding scholarships to deserving students pursuing careers in the animal food industry, through the Equipment Manufacturers Scholarship Fund.
- Held regular member webinars on AFIA priority legislative and regulatory issues.

Our Industry. Our Passion. Our Voice.

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