



DECONews

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SocietyNews

Annual Board Meeting Highlights

The SGCDpro Board met July 23-24 in Pittsburgh to outline initiatives for the new fiscal year. A budget was approved and plans discussed for Deco '26 which will be held April 13-15 in Pittsburgh. Among the highlights:

- Membership expansion
- Changes in Society Bylaws
- Appointment of new Board member
- Social media engagement
- Search Engine Optimization
- Deco 27 site selection

Ryan Reed Joins Board

Ryan Reed of Byquest was appointed at the annual board meeting to fulfill the recent vacancy created by the departure of Jim Shaner. A longtime member, Reed looks forward to working with the Board and fellow members to fulfill the Society's objectives. He will be installed at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh. Additionally, the board nominated Ryan Burgoon for the vacancy which will occur in April.

Bylaw Changes Proposed

The SGCDpro Board voted to propose several bylaw changes at the Annual Meeting of Members in Pittsburgh. Suggested changes include expanding the definition of membership, reducing the number of directors and officers, and reducing the number of board meetings required per year. Members will receive proposed changes ahead of the meeting via email.

Directory Access Streamlined

Access to the SGCDpro Annual Membership Directory has been streamlined

on the home page of the Society website. By completing the form and confirming your email, you can immediately download the directory and latest newsletter. You can also access it through the member only section of the website using the code CBJ2025

Board Seeks Engagement in Membership Drive

Plans were developed at the Board meeting for expanding membership to include companies who decorate glass, ceramic, and related products including stainless, plastic, and other substrates. The Board seeks help from members to identify and invite new members. You can help by promoting the Society on your website and social media, and by sending prospective member names to Executive Director, Myra Warne at info@sgcd.org.

King Appointed CEO of Fusion Ceramics



Fusion Ceramics, Inc. recently announced the appointment of Wesley A. King, PhD, to the position of CEO. Dr. King joined Fusion in 2012 and had served as the Vice President

for Sales and Marketing since 2013. Previous assignments include Dal-Tile, Saint-Gobain Abrasives and GE Quartz, as well as start-ups OmniGuide and Demodulation. A graduate of the Ohio State University (BS-Ceramic Eng., 1992) and the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University (PhD-Glass Science, 1996), Dr. King has served on the Board of SGCD since 2021 and is the current Vice President.

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IndustryNews

Libbey Faces Labor Strife

The International Association of Machinists (IAM) voted on August 9th to authorize a strike against the Libbey Glass Toledo plant. The union cites unfair wages, mandatory overtime, and rising healthcare costs according to a press release issued following the vote. A strike is authorized to begin August 22nd at 11:59 p.m. This action follows the rejection of a last, best, final offer by the company to members of the United Steel Workers who overwhelmingly rebuffed the offer which makes changes to the basic labor agreement. USW leadership stated it is not their intention to conduct a strike against the company.

O-I Portland Plant to Close

Owens-Illinois (O-I) announced the closure of its Portland, OR plant with layoffs commencing in early August. The move will cost the company \$45 million. O-I also plans to shut down one furnace in the Americas this year as part of its Fit to Win initiative. In other news, the company abandoned its commitment to

President's *Perspective*



Dear Fellow Member:

I'm pleased to share an update following our recent annual board meeting in Pittsburgh where the Board gathered to discuss the business of the Society, plan for the year ahead, and strengthen our shared vision for SGCDpro's future. One of the highlights appointing our newest board member, **Ryan Reed of ByQuest**, to replace the vacancy of Jim Shaner who recently left the industry. Ryan brings valuable expertise and industry experience, and we are excited for the fresh perspective he will bring to our work.

Our goals for the year are ambitious—and we've already begun making meaningful progress. Updates to our website are underway to make Society resources more useful and engaging for members and visitors alike. We're increasing our social media presence to better connect with our community, share industry news, and showcase the remarkable work of our members.

We're also launching a **membership growth campaign**—because the stronger our membership, the stronger our voice, our programs, and our impact. We encourage every member to invite colleagues, peers, and industry partners to join SGCDpro. Whether you've been a part of this community for decades or just a short while, you know the value of the resources, expertise, and connections we share. Let's work together to extend those benefits to more professionals in our field.

Here's my challenge to you: before our next board meeting, help us welcome at least one new member. Think of someone in

your network—a supplier, a customer, or a fellow decorator—who would benefit from SGCDpro, and personally invite them to join. A personal invitation is powerful, and together, if each of us brings in just one new member, we can significantly strengthen our community and our industry.

We're also excited to announce an important change for **DECO '26**—the event will now be held during the week, **April 13–15, 2026**, at the Sheraton Station Square in Pittsburgh, PA. We believe this shift from a weekend schedule will make it easier for more members and industry partners to attend, network, and fully participate.

SGCDpro remains strong because of the commitment and creativity of its members. Together, we're building on a proud history while adapting to the needs of a changing industry. With your continued engagement, we will make this year one of connection, innovation, and growth.

Thank you for your support, and I look forward to seeing what we will achieve together.

Sincerely,
Paul Bolduc
President, 2025-26

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2025-2026 Board of Directors and Officers:

President - Paul Bolduc, *Koenig & Bauer Kammann*

Vice President - Wes King, *Fusion Ceramics, Inc.*

Treasurer - Cam Simmons, *Stanpac Incorporated*

Secretary - James Shaner, *The Fiesta Tableware Company*

Past President - Sean Weir, *Glass Coatings and Concepts LLC*

Directors:

Jonathan Weiner, *Maryland China Company*

Nathan Ruetz, *Custom Deco*

Executive Director: Myra Warne, Zanesville, OH

Legislative Liaison: Walt Sanders, Washington, DC

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IndustryNews (continued)

MAGMA technology, the linchpin of its new plant in Bowling Green, KY, citing lack of operational efficiency. Both actions were highlighted in the company's quarterly report.

Stanpac Celebrates Loggerhead Acquisition

Stanpac Ink celebrates the one-year anniversary of its acquisition of Loggerhead Deco in Wisconsin. The acquisition allowed the company to broaden its product line and capabilities. Stanpac now offers spray coating, UV decoration, and decal, medallion, and 360-degree wrap printing. Stanpac celebrated 75 years in business in 2024.

Registration Open for Glass Problems Conference

The 86th Annual Conference on Glass Problems will be held October 6-9 in Toledo, OH. The conference features technical papers, networking opportunities, and exhibits. Visit [Glass Problems Conference Registration 2025 - Glass Manufacturing Industry Council](#) to register for the conference.

O-I Announces Sustainability Goals

Owens-Illinois (O-I) recently announced ambitious sustainability goals for 2030, affirming their commitment to the Paris agreement. The company is committed to a 47% reduction in GHG emissions and 80% use of renewable electricity. O-I will also rely on technology improvements and increased use of cullet in manufacturing processes.

O-I, Verallia Report Quarterly Results

O-I Glass reported second quarter 2025 net sales of \$1.7 billion, consistent with the prior year. Selling prices and an approximately 3 percent decline in shipment volume (in tons). While demand increased in the Americas, it softened in Europe. On a year-to-date basis, shipment volumes were up nearly 1 percent compared to the prior year. Earnings before income taxes totaled \$7 million, down from \$104 million in the same period last year. This decline primarily reflected items not considered representative of ongoing operations, including \$108 million in restructuring and asset impairment charges, largely associated with the discontinuation of the MAGMA program. Additionally, segment operating profit was modestly lower, though this was partially offset by improved retained corporate and other costs. Segment operating profit was \$225 million in the second quarter compared to \$233 million in the same period of 2024. In late July 2025, and in addition to halting MAGMA, the company finalized its plans for the indefinite suspension of operations of one furnace as well as the closure of one plant in its Americas segment.

Verallia reported growth in the second quarter with the beer segment leading growth. Sales of food containers and non-alcoholic containers also increased. Adjusted EBITDA in Q2 2025 reached €204 million, an increase of €57 million compared to Q1 2025. According to Group CEO Patrice Lucas, "In the second quarter, Verallia confirmed its organic volume growth and posted materially stronger profitability than in Q1." Lucas cited the company's Performance Action Plan and strict cost discipline as factors.

Walmart Recalls Bottles

Walmart has recalled Ozark Trail 64oz water bottles due to exploding caps. The company received three consumer injury reports. Two individuals suffered permanent vision loss from the caps exploding and striking them in the eye. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) states "The lid can forcefully eject, posing serious impact and laceration hazards, when a consumer attempts to open the capped bottles after food, carbonated beverages or perishable beverages, such as juice or milk, are stored inside over time." The bottles were manufactured in China and have been available for sale since 2017.

Legislation and Policy

FTC Issues Warning on Made in USA Compliance

The Federal Trade Commission has sent warning letters to four companies who claim their consumer goods are of U.S. origin, reminding them to comply with the FTC's "Made in USA" requirements. Additionally, the FTC sent letters to Amazon and Walmart regarding third-party sellers who appear to be making deceptive "Made in USA" claims about their products on those online marketplaces.

"'Made in the USA' is not just a slogan – it's a sign that a product connects us to the workers and businesses that make America great," said FTC Chairman Andrew N. Ferguson. "Consumers want to have confidence that when they buy something labelled 'Made in the USA' they are actually supporting American workers and the American economy. Companies that falsely claim their products are 'Made in the USA' can expect to hear from the FTC."

The Made in USA Labeling Rule requires that products advertised as "Made in the USA" must be "all or virtually all" made in the United States. Companies that violate the FTC Act and the MUSA Labeling Rule may be subject to legal action including the issuance of an administrative subpoena, the filing of a federal lawsuit, injunctive relief, and civil penalties or other monetary relief. (Federal Trade Commission, July 8, 2025). Two notices were sent to companies incorrectly labeling glass and ceramic products as Made in the USA. The full FTC press release is available in the breaking news section of the Society's website.

Tariff Fraud Enforcement Crackdowns Increase

As reported by *The Trade* (American Shipper, 8/9/2025), tariff fraud crackdowns are expected to surge by some 200%. Trade expert Rennie Alston noted it is difficult to stay abreast of tariff changes and US Customs is referring compliance issues to the Department of Justice (DOJ) for enforcement. "Circumvention of tariffs in my professional opinion will be the number one revenue generating penalty that supersedes valuation and record keeping [penalties], which had been the number one and two [penalty categories] over the last 20 years," Alston said. He continued "I anticipate that Department of Justice activity is going to increase by 200% as a result of tariffs and the reaction of the trade community."

Kirti Reddy of Quarles & Brady outlined one scam in particular: "It is where a company talks you into allowing someone else to be the importer of record, and the foreign supplier says,

Legislation and Policy *(continued)*

‘don’t worry about the entry, I’ll be the importer, you just keep buying from me and don’t worry about what I declare to customs.’ Alston warned this is fraud and many of these cases will be prosecuted under the Federal False Claims Act.

Secondary Tariffs Imposed on India

According to the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), President Trump has imposed secondary tariffs of 25% on India in response to the country’s continued purchase of Russian oil. The secondary tariffs are in addition to the 25% reciprocal tariffs in existence. The order includes an “on the water” exception for products loaded and in transit on the final mode of transit prior to that date and that enter the U.S. by Sept. 17.

Railroads Merge in \$85 Billion Deal

Union Pacific railroad has reached an agreement to buy Norfolk Southern in an \$85 billion deal (*NYT*, 7/29/2025). According to the *Times*, the merger creates the first coast to coast railroad, spanning some 50,000 total miles, putting two fifths of the nations rail freight in the hands of one company. According to *FreightWaves* (7/29/2025), a number of shippers are opposed to the merger, fearing shippers may be forced into unregulated contracts.

Proposals to Limit Truck Speeds Axed

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy recently directed the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to cancel proposed rules related to limiting the top speeds of trucks with a gross weight of 26,000 lbs. The rule proposed top speeds of as low as 60 mph. The government cited several reasons for the action including uncertainty regarding the cost/benefit analysis. Independent truckers feared they would not be able to remain competitive with large companies if the rules had been enacted (*FreightWaves*, July 23, 2025).

New LTL Truck Rates in Effect

Major changes to less than truckload (LTL) freight took effect on July 19th. The decades old system was modernized to reflect

the actual cost of shipping goods. “Under the new rules, the number of density-based rating subprovisions has expanded from 11 to 13. Subprovision 11 has been amended to include densities ranging from 30 to less than 35 pounds per cubic foot (assigned class 60). Sub 12 ranges from 35 to less than 50 pounds per cubic foot (class 55), and Sub 13 covers densities greater than 50 pounds per cubic foot (class 50)” (*American Shipper*, 7/18/2025).

English Proficiency Rules Impact Trucking

The federal government stepped up enforcement of English proficiency rules in the trucking industry, citing safety factors. Effective June 25th, drivers who fail to meet English proficiency requirements face immediate grounding. Trucking companies are revising hiring practices; meanwhile, they are concerned about a reduction in the pool of qualified drivers. It is estimated 10% of drivers fall short of these qualifications (*American Shipper*, 6/25/2025).

UPS Extends Buyout Offer Deadline

The Daily (8/11/2025) reports United Parcel Service (UPS) has extended the voluntary separation deadline for drivers to mid-August amid lackluster interest among employees. The company has not announced how many drivers took advantage of the offer by the original July 31st deadline.

Retailers Predict Lower Import Volumes

According to *American Shipper* (8/9/2025), import cargo at major American ports for 2025 is projected to decline 5.6% compared to 2024 levels. The report, released by the National Retail Federation, suggests tariffs and trade policy are having the supply chain.

NAM Reports Economic Indicators

According to the National Association of Manufacturers, the US Trade deficit reached lowest level since September 2023 despite export decline: In June, U.S. exports totaled \$277.3 billion—a \$1.3 billion decrease from May—while imports were \$337.5 billion, down \$12.8 billion from the prior month. This resulted in a goods and services deficit of \$60.2 billion, down \$11.5 billion from May.



Plan Now

April 13-15

DECO '26

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Interested in presenting, exhibiting or sponsoring an event?
Contact Myra Warne at 740-588-0828 or info@sgcd.org

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