

# CMA Weekly Update



## CMA Weekly Update – March 12, 2021

Earlier this week we were excited to announce that **Shonzia Thompson** will become the new Executive Director of the Council of Manufacturing Associations, starting next week. Shonzia has worked closely with many CMA partners in her current role as the NAM's VP of Conference and Office Operations and throughout her 20 years at the NAM.

[Learn more](#) about Shonzia, connect with her on [LinkedIn](#), and get in touch with her at [SThompson@nam.org](mailto:SThompson@nam.org) and at (202) 637-3070.

Shonzia is excited to support our CMA partners at this important time for manufacturers and manufacturing associations. Look to hear more from her directly in the near future!

### Key Issues

**Economic Outlook** As vaccines roll out at a faster pace and amid signs of an improving economy, the NAM's [Manufacturers Quarterly Outlook Survey](#) showed manufacturers' **optimism is rising fast**. Key survey findings include:

- In the first quarter, nearly 88% of manufacturers said they were either somewhat or very positive about the outlook for their company.
- **Increased costs of raw materials** (76%) and the **inability to attract and retain talent** (66%) were the top-two biggest challenges facing manufacturers in 2021.
- Other top worries included rising health care and insurance costs (50.9%), transportation and logistics costs (50.2%), supply chain challenges with inventory management (48.7%) and an unfavorable business climate, including taxes and regulations (44.0%).
- 96.8% of manufacturers say the **PRO Act** would have a negative impact on their business operations and with their existing relationships with employees.

**PRO Act** On Tuesday, the House passed the Protecting the Right to Organize Act by a vote of 225 to 206, despite strong opposition from manufacturers. Leading up to the vote, [130 manufacturing associations](#) urged members of Congress to stand up for manufacturing workers by opposing the proposal. As our efforts turn to stopping the bill in the Senate, our focus is on those Democratic senators who haven't sponsored the bill including: Sens. Kelly (AZ), King (ME), Manchin (WV), Sinema (AZ) and Warner (VA).

We appreciate the hard work of our CMA partners who helped their members flood House offices with phone calls, e-mails and messages of strong opposition. Please contact the NAM's [Mike O'Brien](#) for information on how your association can get involved.

**EPA Eases Chemical Ban** Manufacturers across many sectors were surprised in recent weeks by a ban on products containing a flame retardant chemical called **PIP** (3:1), slated to go into effect after March 8, 2021. Faced with the prospect of a sudden ban that would disrupt supply chains, manufacturers pressed the agency to allow for more time to formalize the rule and a reasonable compliance timeframe. At the same time, several CMA partners and the NAM [moved forward](#) in court to preserve relief options and to ensure that manufacturers affected by the rule can be made whole. As a result, the **EPA announced a last minute 180-day “No Action Assurance”** and opened a new 60-day comment docket to reexamine the rule. While this victory is short termed, but it gives a critical window of relief for manufacturers and time for us to work with EPA to find a reasonable approach.

**Vaccines** The NAM's vaccine awareness project, *This is Our Shot*, will host the second webinar in our series next week. We will be joined by Dr. Margaret Kitt, MPH, MD, Deputy Director at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH, for a presentation on COVID-19 vaccines on **Tuesday, March 16 at 11:00 am EST** . Dr. Kitt, is currently the Lead for the Essential Workers Team as part of the Vaccine Implementation Unit within the CDC COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force. She will offer expert insights into the science and rollout of these lifesaving defenses. Register [here](#).

New [research](#) confirms the impact of individuals publicly announcing they've been vaccinated against COVID. This study affirms many of the approaches underway by the NAM's awareness campaign. CMA partners can encourage their members to use the hashtag #ThisIsOurShot to share photos, and yellow and red ribbons will soon be distributed to help everyone share that they've gotten the shot—and to encourage those around us to do so as well.

- If you're interested in pre-ordering these new yellow and red ribbon pins, let us know [here](#) More resources can be found [here](#) .

## CMA Updates

**Benchmarking Association Compensation** Based on several requests we've received, the deadline for the [CMA Compensation Survey](#) will be **extended** until **Friday, March 19**. This will allow additional time if your association is interested in participating but have not yet completed your survey inputs. As a reminder, our partners at Quatt Associates sent survey invites by email to CMA CEOs and HR Executives on Wednesday, February 17. Associations that participate will receive a [complimentary copy](#) of the results when the final report is released in late May. *Customized data cuts will be available at cost through Quatt Associates.*

- *If you did not receive the initial invitation, [please let us know](#) and we'll get the materials resent to you.*

## CMA Partner Highlights

- Longtime association leader and CEO of the **National Electrical Manufacturers Association** (NEMA), **Kevin Cosgriff** [announced](#) this week that he will retire from NEMA at the end of 2021. In his seven years at the helm, Kevin strengthened the electrical equipment and medical imaging industries by modernizing NEMA industry Standards processes, expanding market analytical offerings, and overseeing focused and effective advocacy.
- As part of the cleaning product supply chain's commitment to a more circular economy, the **American Cleaning Institute** (ACI) announced a new roadmap for sustainable packaging, details [here](#). In partnership with the American Chemistry Council's Center for Biocide Chemistries (CBC), ACI has also [launched](#) a [new resource](#) to better understand common disinfectant ingredients known as quaternary ammonium compounds, also referred to as QACs or quats.

*The NAM provides this weekly update with key content for our association partners. This is also a platform to highlight work of our CMA partners. [Shoot us a note](#) on any initiatives or messages that your organization has launched that we can share with others.*

## Coming up

- March 16: NAM CEO Jay Timmons testifies before the Senate Finance Committee [hearing](#): *Made in America: Effect of the U.S. Tax Code on Domestic Manufacturing*
- March 16: NAM's *Executive Insights Series* featuring Air Liquide Executive Vice President Mike Graff (2:00 – 3:00pm eastern) [Click here](#) for details.
- March 18: Chemical Users and Manufacturers Task Force Meeting. This members only meeting will feature exclusive perspectives from NAM state partners in New Jersey, Ohio, Illinois and Washington. Our state partners will discuss issues ranging from recycling and single use plastics, to emerging contaminants and PFAS to facility security. (1:00pm eastern) **To register for the meeting, [click here](#).**
- March 19: Manufacturing Institute holds a **Diversity and Inclusion Webinar** on Workplace Flexibility (12:00pm eastern) Click [here](#) for details. Information on other related D&I opportunities from the Manufacturing Institute can be found [here](#).
- April 1: CMA CEO Roundtable (3:00-4:00pm eastern) *Registration details forthcoming*
- April 29: Chemical Users and Manufacturers Task Force Meeting Meeting This members only meeting will include staff from EPA's Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery to discuss the agency's sustainable materials management and recycling priorities and initiatives. (1:00pm eastern) To register for the meeting, [click here](#).

- August 4-6: Mark your calendars for The CMA's 2021 Summer Leadership Conference (Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado)