

5 About IACM & Objectives

Who Is the International Association of Color Manufacturers?

- Founded in 1972 by color industry leaders as the Certified Color Manufacturers Association, IACM continues to be a strong voice in support of the safe use of color additives.
- IACM is the only association representing the interests of the color additives industry, both natural and synthetics, as well as the color user community, on the state, national, and international levels.
- We are respected by regulatory bodies around the world for our unparalleled knowledge and access to leading scientific researchers and color industry experts.

IACM is the association of the color industry.

Strategic Plan Objectives

- To protect and expand the worldwide use of colors.
- To serve as a trusted resource to interact with regulatory bodies and global organizations.
- To enhance confidence in the safe use of color.
- To provide members with a central source of scientific and regulatory expertise.
- To advocate global harmonization of standards and regulations.

IACM has a Strategic Plan with Critical Objectives for the Future.

Who Are Our Members?

Active Members: IACM's Active Members are companies or individuals who manufacture or market color additives.

Associate Members: IACM's Associate Members are companies or individuals engaged in a business related to the color additive industry which the Board of Directors shall determine to be appropriate in promoting and carrying out the purposes of the Association.

- Any employee of an IACM member company is entitled to receive benefits such as access to the members-only section of the website, ability to attend quarterly members meetings, and regular electronic communications.
- IACM has 20 member companies and maintains a database of close to 150 individuals who are employed by those companies and receive access to IACM's benefits.

Member Companies



Member Benefits

- Observer NGO status at Codex Alimentarius and active participation in the Codex Committee on Food Additives meetings and working groups.
- Member center on the IACM web site including members only regulatory resources and color monographs.
- Members only updates on international and domestic regulatory activities and access to staff scientific experts.
- An enhanced public communications program that better positions the association as the first line of defense in maintaining the safe use of colors, including standby statements and information on color additives and issues relevant to the industry.
- Involvement in a variety of coalitions dealing with issues such as the Food Safety Modernization Act implementation and international harmonization of color additive regulations.
- Strong relationships with key federal and international agencies, in particular FDA, EFSA, USDA FAS, and JECFA, who look to our staff as key scientific and regulatory experts for the international color industry.
- A collaborative relationship with the FDA Certified Color Lab, through which we have successfully advocated for updates in lab techniques and refunds in certification fees.
- Education and networking opportunities including quarterly members meetings, biennial Global Color Conference, educational webinars, LinkedIn Group, and the annual membership directory.

How Do We Keep Our Members Informed?

IACM is committed to keeping members up to date on what is happening in our industry and other industries that impact how our members do business. We have three main communication tools:

- **IACM Website:** www.iacmcolor.org - A redeveloped website with improved functionality and appearance, and a Members Only resource library.
- **Member Alerts:** Information on industry, regulatory, scientific and communication developments of issue to IACM members distributed as they occur.
- **Quarterly Members Meetings:** Each year IACM holds four quarterly members meetings. Two of these meetings are held via webinar and are brief, 2 hour update opportunities, while the other two are in-person and include a full day members meeting, networking dinner, and associated Committee and Board meetings.

Recent Accomplishments & Ongoing Activities

IACM's scientific and regulatory staff are well respected and viewed as experts internationally on issues relating to the color industry.

Current scientific and regulatory projects include:

- IACM Exposure Project publication
- Responding to EFSA data requests
- Preparation of dossiers for JECFA color re-evaluations
- Nanotechnology Challenges, with a focus on titanium dioxide
- Development of global color regulations spreadsheet for member use

IACM tracks and advocates for and against legislative and regulatory issues that impact the color industry.

A snapshot of recent comments submitted:

- Health Canada on proposed amendments to Food and Drug Regulations re: labeling of colors; specifications; and certification
- China on draft standards for natural colors
- USDA National Organic Standards Board in support of colors remaining on National List
- Gulf Cooperation Council opposing adoption of warning labels
- Thai FDA opposing lowering of MLs for a number of colors
- US FDA on the use of the term "natural" in the labeling of human food products

IACM seeks out appropriate education and outreach opportunities around the globe.

Recent outreach opportunities include:

- Emerging Markets/Standards Alliance programs in El Salvador and Colombia
- Presentations to JETRO and PMCA on natural color regulations and new color approval
- IFT Sunrise Session on the Science Behind the Safety of Colors/Global Challenges
- Coordination with USP and AOAC on development of harmonized color standards and methods

IACM Committees

- Through the active engagement of its membership, IACM provides color manufacturers and consumer product companies with the tools they need to address challenges facing the use of colors.
- IACM emphasizes activities which could not be effectively accomplished by individual companies. Through a dynamic committee structure, the Association calls upon the extensive experience and expertise of industry members to address a wide variety of matters of interest to the industry.

Natural Color Committee

The Natural Color Committee addresses issues associated with the use of exempt from certification colors, including safety, labeling and adulteration.

The committee's objectives include:

- Protect and expand the current approvals for natural color additives in the US, Europe, Asia and elsewhere.
- Participate in the development of official and unofficial analytical methods for natural color additives.
- Create and maintain public information and awareness of all aspects of natural color additives.

Recent committee activities include:

- Updates on active color additive petitions and formation of Carthamus Coalition
- GMO and NOP activity monitoring
- CCFA/INS Number and JECFA review requests for natural colors

Synthetic Color Committee

The Synthetic Color Committee addresses issues associated with the use of certified colors including safety, labeling and allowable limits.

The committee's objectives include:

- To protect and expand the worldwide use of synthetic colors.
- To serve as a trusted resource to interact with regulatory bodies and global organizations on issues related to the acceptance status and specifications for synthetic colors.
- To advocate for global harmonization of standards, regulations and testing protocols.
- To monitor scientific literature and mainstream media for new information on or questions about the safety of synthetic colors and respond in accordance with IACM's Media Relations Policy.
- To review and assess existing safety information on synthetic colors and conduct scientifically robust studies to ensure their safety when necessary.
- To maintain a relationship with the FDA Certified Color Lab, to include monitoring of its activity and finances.

Recent committee activities include:

- Strategic Planning
- Responding to EFSA and JECFA requests for information
- Compiling data on color purity and specifications