

Taggant Stakeholders

Aside from federal government (ATF, FBI, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Secret Service, State, Defense, etc.) and (federal, state, local, and foreign) law enforcement agency interest, a number of other stakeholders have expressed interest and/or noted various concerns about taggant options. To date, the committee has held discussions (see Appendix C) with a number of stakeholder groups, including the following:

- American Pyrotechnics Association (APA)
- Chemical Manufacturers Association (CMA)
- El Dorado Chemical
- Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME)
- International Society of Explosives Engineers (ISEE)
- Law Enforcement Agencies (Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department)
- National Mining Association (NMA)
- National Rifle Association (NRA)
- Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI)
- The Fertilizer Institute (TFI)

Given below are brief descriptions of each stakeholder group's position culled from presentations and written materials supplied by the stakeholders.

American Pyrotechnics Association

John A. Conkling, executive director, presented the APA viewpoint. Concerns raised included the possible wide dispersion of taggants into the environment if they are used in fireworks, thus reducing their effectiveness for law enforcement; taggant effects on sales and recordkeeping requirements for consumer fireworks; effects on the economic competitiveness of U.S. fireworks companies faced with significant pressure from imports; and effects on fireworks distribution methods.

Chemical Manufacturers Association

Marybeth Kelliher, manager of international trade, presented the CMA viewpoint about the use of taggants and possible imposition of additional precursor controls on the chemical industry. Her main concerns were product liability and integrity, and she also discussed the effectiveness of taggants for law enforcement. She also noted concerns (costs and man-hours) required to address the possible recordkeeping requirements, and the effects on the competitiveness of the chemical industry, particularly from required reporting as it relates to proprietary business relations.