

**STAPLES**

**Advantage**

# **Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA) Chemicals Management Reform Core Needs of Downstream Users**

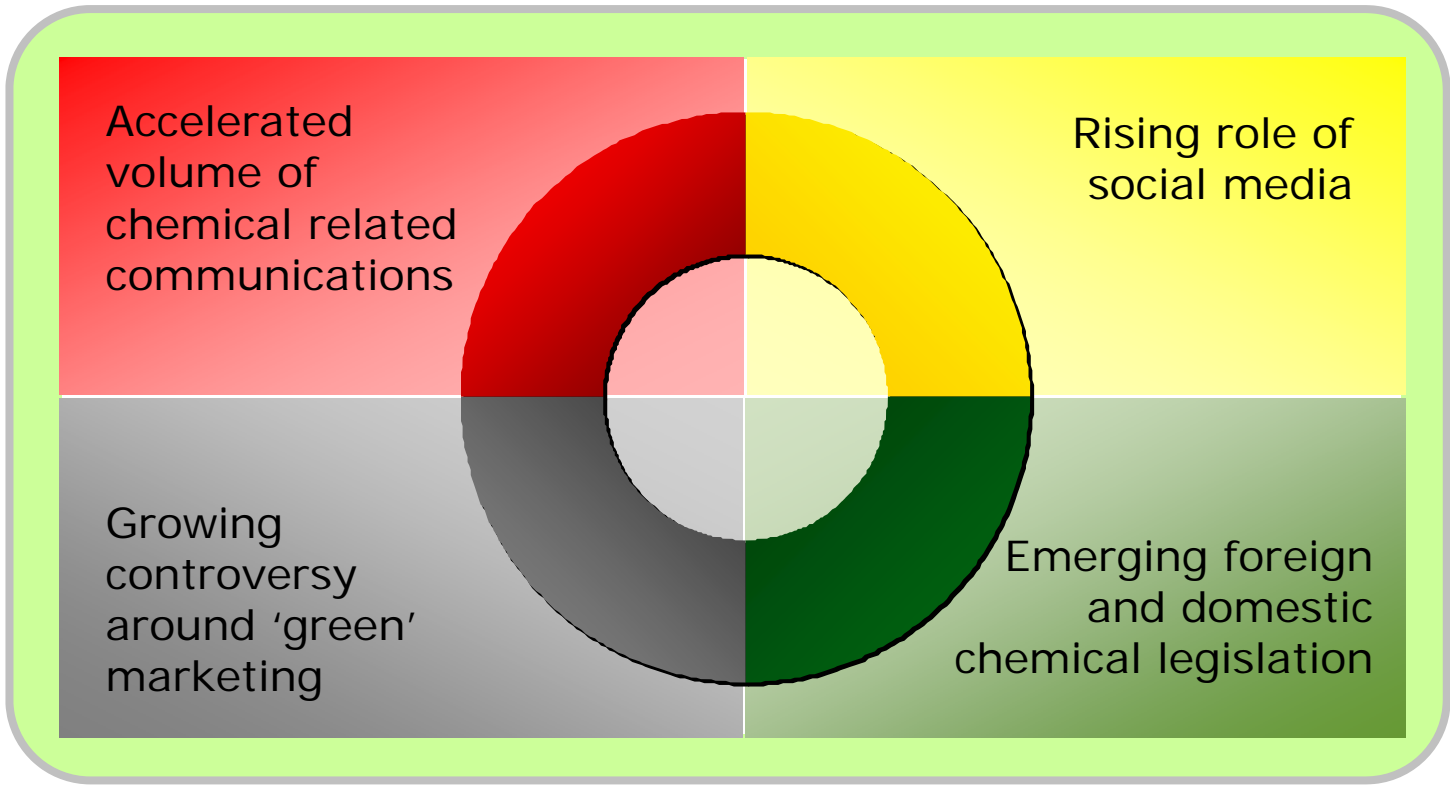
Roger McFadden  
Vice President, Senior Scientist  
Staples, Inc.

**October 2, 2009, Webinar  
Hosted by BizNGO Working Group**

# Impact of Ineffective Chemical Management on People, Planet, Performance and Profit

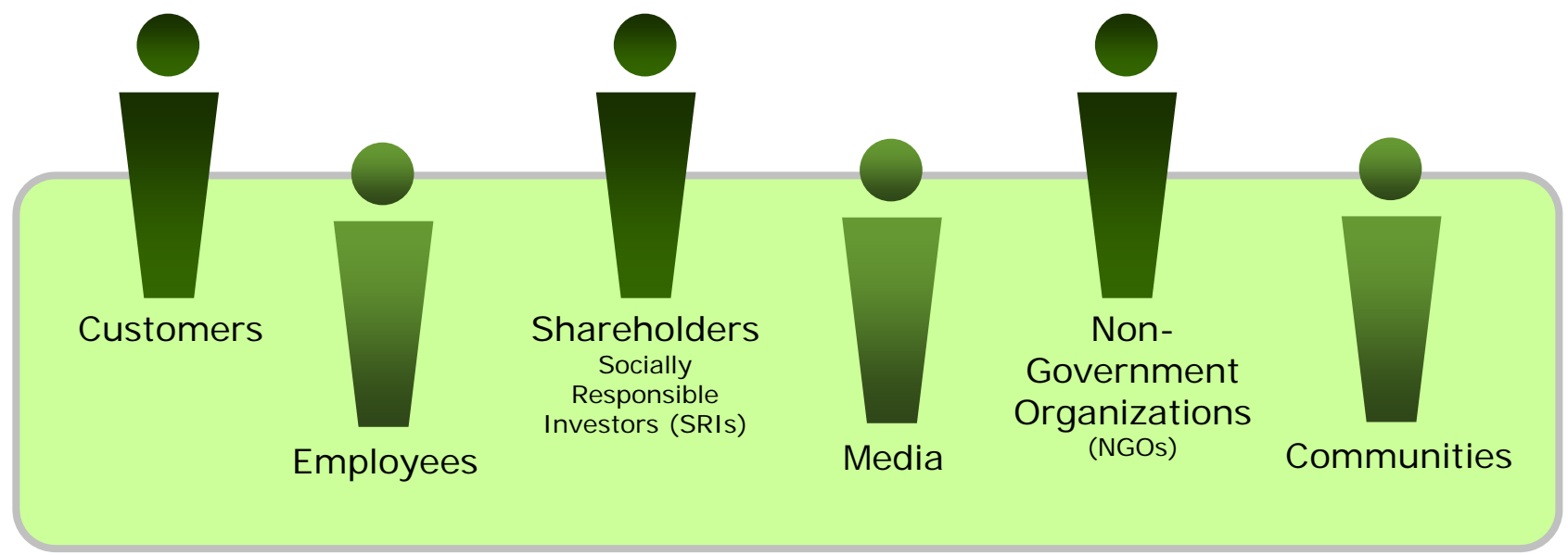
- Harms human and animal health
- Harms natural and built environment
- Harms business reputation and brand
- Decreases enterprise return on investments
  - ✓ Supply chain disruption and company remediation costs
  - ✓ Product recall and replenishment costs
  - ✓ Product re-design or modification costs
  - ✓ Increases product life cycle costs
- Increases product cost to consumers
- Increases cost to community
  - ✓ Increases publicly owned treatment and disposal costs
  - ✓ Increases environmental remediation costs
  - ✓ Increases health care costs associated with chemical hazards and exposures

# Other trends impacting chemical management policy

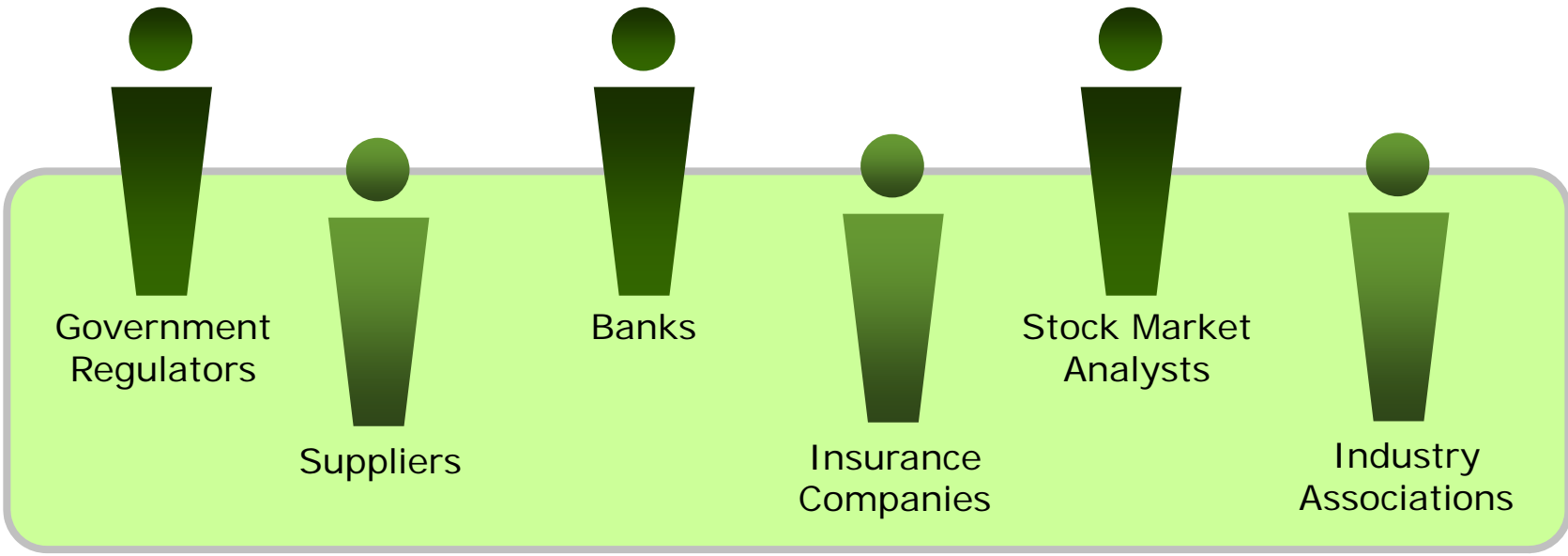


Graphic provided by Key Communications

# The growing list of stakeholders to engage



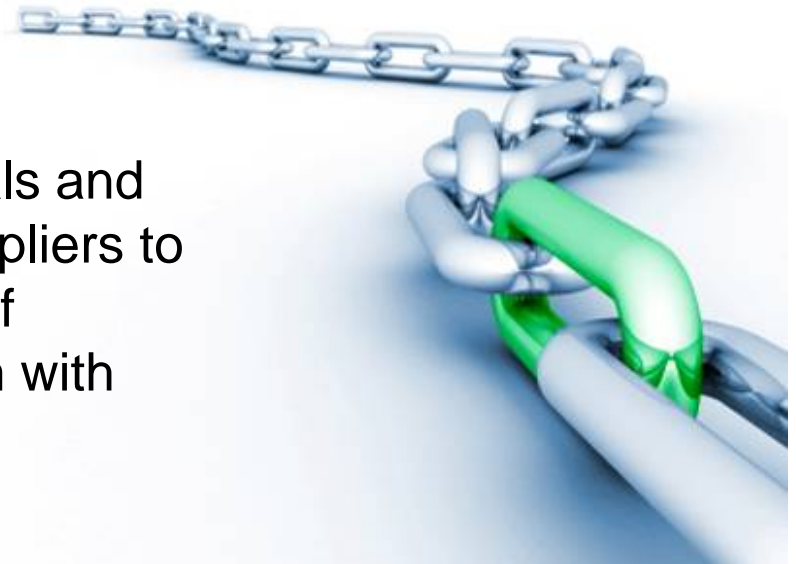
# Expanding stakeholders



## Forces of Change

Basic consumer awareness and higher expectations

Many consumers of chemicals, materials and products are beginning to ask their suppliers to work towards eliminating the hazards of chemicals of concern and replace them with safer alternatives.



## Forces of Change

Leadership consumers want to go above and beyond compliance



Some of these consumers are asking their suppliers to go above and beyond compliance when it comes to the elimination of chemicals of concern from their supply chain.

Here is a list of questions that retail and business supply chain consumers are beginning to ask retailers and product providers

- What chemicals of concern are in the products that you offer?
- Have you eliminated the worst chemicals and replaced them with safer alternatives while committing to continuous improvement on the others?
- Do you fully disclose chemicals and/or ingredients in your product?
- How can we recognize a product made from safer and/or greener alternatives?
- Who is accountable for the quality, accuracy and comprehensiveness of the chemical information being provided for your product?
- Does the Material Safety Data Sheet for the product you are offering contain accurate, comprehensive and quality information to inform the users about the potential human and environmental health hazards of the product?

Here is a list of additional questions that leadership supply chain companies are beginning to ask retailers and product providers:

- Does your product contain any of the following chemicals that our company has identified on our restricted substances list (RSL) or banned substances list (BSL)?
- Have all the chemicals used to make the product been prescreened before being selected for use in the product?
- What assurance do we have that a “hazard assessment” has been done for all chemical components in existing products you are offering us?
- Do you or your product manufacturer have a clearly defined chemical management policy that specifically prohibits chemicals with a high hazard profile and commits to continuous improvement on the others?
- Do you require a credible, independent, third-party review of the toxicological and environmental fate information you are given or communicate?
- What is the specific criteria used to identify a safer chemical, material or product?

# Getting and Communicating Chemical Information to Consumers

## Obstacles and Barriers

- MSDSs do not contain comprehensive and accurate data.
- Many companies don't have comprehensive hazard data on the chemicals, materials and/or products they make and use.
- Many organizations don't have a system for evaluating their chemical products for hazard characteristics.
- Many organizations don't have a system for prioritizing chemicals for substitution or elimination.
- Lack of access to credible information about the human and environmental hazards and impacts of chemicals in products.
- Lack of effective chemicals management policies in government and industry to help buyers make more informed product decisions.

# Benefits of Effective Chemical Management Policy

## **ASSURE COMPLIANCE**

- Minimize risk
- Maintain health
- Protect the environment
- Control exposure

## **CREATE VALUE**

- Go above and beyond compliance
- Stay ahead of regulations
- Create market opportunities
- Driving innovation
- Create and maintain brand value
- Reducing toxics footprint
- Increasing transparency
- Enable growth
- Eliminate hazard

- Prevent human and animal exposure to chemical hazards.
- Sustain and preserve natural and built environment.
- Protect business reputation and brand.
- Avoid costs associated with chemicals of concern remediation.
- Reduce operating costs associated with chemical hazards.

## Effective Chemical Management Policy Based on Scientifically Sound and Credible Information is Essential

“To have no information is risky, but to have the wrong information is dangerous.”

# Thank You