

# CATALYST

## SPIK NEWSLETTER



# 2024

## CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

# Night

Celebrating Sustainability and Partnerships

# SPIK's Chemical Industry Night 2024: Celebrating Sustainability and Partnerships



*Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, SPIK President, warmly welcomed the attendees and emphasized the pivotal role of the chemical industry in shaping the nation's future and emphasizing the need for collective innovation and responsibility.*



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) recently hosted its 3rd Chemical Industry Night at the Citadines Bay City in Manila. The event, themed "Driving Sustainability and Partnerships Toward Progress," brought together business leaders, chemical industry associations, academe, professional organizations, and government partners to celebrate and bolster the sector's commitment to responsible and sustainable practices.



The evening's highlight was the signing of the Declaration to the Responsible Care Global Charter by thirty SPIK member companies, signifying their dedication to the highest safety, health, and environmental standards. This collective pledge underscores the industry's commitment to the responsible management of chemicals and their contributions to sustainable development.

*Ms. Doris P. Torres of Stamm International, Inc., and Mr. Romeo Dela Cruz of Mabuhay Vinyl Corporation delivered the Pledge of Commitment on behalf of the signatories, reaffirming their intent to integrate Responsible Care principles into their business strategies and daily operations.*





# RESPONSIBLE CARE

Driving Safety & Sustainability



The event also saw the launch of SPIK's unique and enhanced **Responsible Care logo**, designed by 18-year-old senior high school student Anna Mikaela Benitez. The new logo reflects the association's renewed focus on global Responsible Care initiative and in driving safety and sustainability, in line with the International Council of Chemical Associations' (ICCA) updated guidelines.

Undersecretary and Executive Director of the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center, **Ma. Cynthia C. Hernandez**, delivered an enlightening keynote address, discussing the PPP Center's role and its efforts in advocating for policy reforms to bolster the chemical industry's contributions to the country's GDP.



Meanwhile, Mr. Ronaldo DC Buluran, Director of the Board of Investments' Manufacturing Industries, recognized the chemical manufacturing sector's substantial contribution to the country's GDP and applauded SPIK's efforts in the implementation of the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap.

Awards were given to member companies who have exemplified their dedication to the Responsible Care initiative through the submission of Self-Assessment Reports and Key Performance Indicators. Twenty-seven corporations received Certificate of Recognition for their submission of Self-Assessment Report (SAR) and Key Performance Indicator (KPI)



Notably, Atlantic Coatings, Inc., JG Summit Olefins Corporation, Mabuhay Vinyl Corporation, and Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc., were honored with commemorative plaques for their consistent annual submissions over a five-year period.



SPIK also launched the Human Reliability Program (HRP) Manual, a project funded by the Health Security Partners (HSP) in 2023. This manual is a significant tool for advancing chemical security within the industry. Engr. **Ma. Arlene V. Ramirez** of Dow Chemical Philippines Inc., **Mr. Pio Ramirez**, and **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle** of Atlantic Coatings, Inc., were recognized as key contributors to the HRP Manual. Their work is vital in ensuring the industry's continuous improvement in safety and security standards.

*The event concluded with closing remarks by Engr. Dennis G. Tirthdas, Director and SPIK Ways and Means Committee Chairman. Following the successful night, the SPIK Golf Tournament took place at the Manila Golf and Country Club, serving as an excellent networking opportunity for the chemical industry's key stakeholders.*



*Following the awarding ceremony, Engr. Albert A. Samuela, the Vice President for External Affairs, presented a comprehensive update titled "Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap: Strategic Updates and Growth Imperatives for a Thriving Future." Throughout his presentation, Engr. Samuela highlighted the ongoing efforts of the Small Working Groups, which are working towards the realization of the PCIR's seven key strategies.*



The Chemical Industry Night 2024 was a resounding success, serving as a powerful platform and showcasing the collective efforts of SPIK members and their commitment to fostering sustainable growth and enhancing the lives of all stakeholders. Through initiatives like the Responsible Care Global Charter and the Human Reliability Program, the chemical industry in the Philippines continues to lead the way in responsible chemical management and innovation.

# PCCI E3 Awards Honoring Top Businesses in Sustainability and



The E3 Awards are designed to celebrate corporate efforts in sustainable practices, with a focus on sustainable packaging, solid waste management, climate change mitigation, and resource optimization. Winning companies exemplify how environmental responsibility, and economic growth can coexist harmoniously, setting a high benchmark for future business endeavors in the country.

This year's competition highlighted the growing commitment of the business sector to integrate ecological considerations into their strategies, fostering a greener and more resilient economy for the Philippines.

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) successfully concluded the "E3 Excellence in Ecology and Economy" Award finals on October 3rd, 2024, Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika served as one of the judges. The event drew participation from various enterprises across large, medium, and small scales, all vying for recognition in the categories of Excellence, Environmental Stewardship, and Environmental Innovation.

## Third Technical Working Group Meeting on Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap



The third assembly of the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap, held on October 9, 2024 at the DKSH Office in Taguig, showcased the dynamic efforts towards advancing the sector. Under the esteemed guidance of Executive Director Ma. Corazon Dichosa of the DTI- Board of Investments and Engr. Gretchen Enarle from the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), the TWG met to discuss the progression of various projects and initiatives.

Key updates were provided by the Small Working Group (SWG) leaders, including Engr. Albert Samuela on the industry-academe collaboration, Director Ronaldo Buluran on investment promotion, and Engr. Gretchen Enarle herself, addressing the ease of doing business within the chemical industry. The assembly aimed to align strategies and ensure the roadmap's successful implementation to bolster the country's chemical sector growth and competitiveness. Key stakeholders shared insights and addressed challenges to foster a conducive environment for innovation and sustainable development.

# SPIK JOINS PH-CWC MEETING TO STRENGTHEN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMPLIANCE



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), with President **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle** at the helm, recently attended an introductory meeting concerning the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). As a significant player in the chemical sector, SPIK's presence underscored the importance of collaboration in ensuring national security and environmental safety.

The gathering, which included representatives from the Philippine CBRN Team and partners from the US Department of State's ISN-Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR), Health Security Partners (HSP), and Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), aimed to foster a robust exchange of knowledge and strategies post-CWC ratification. The discussion focused on SPIK's role in providing essential data on chemicals under CWC purview, thereby enhancing the nation's commitment to the treaty.



The event marked the beginning of a series of engagements to bolster the chemical industry's adherence to international regulations and reinforce the Philippines' stance against chemical warfare.

## SPIK & ACC Collaborate on Responsible Care Workshop Agenda

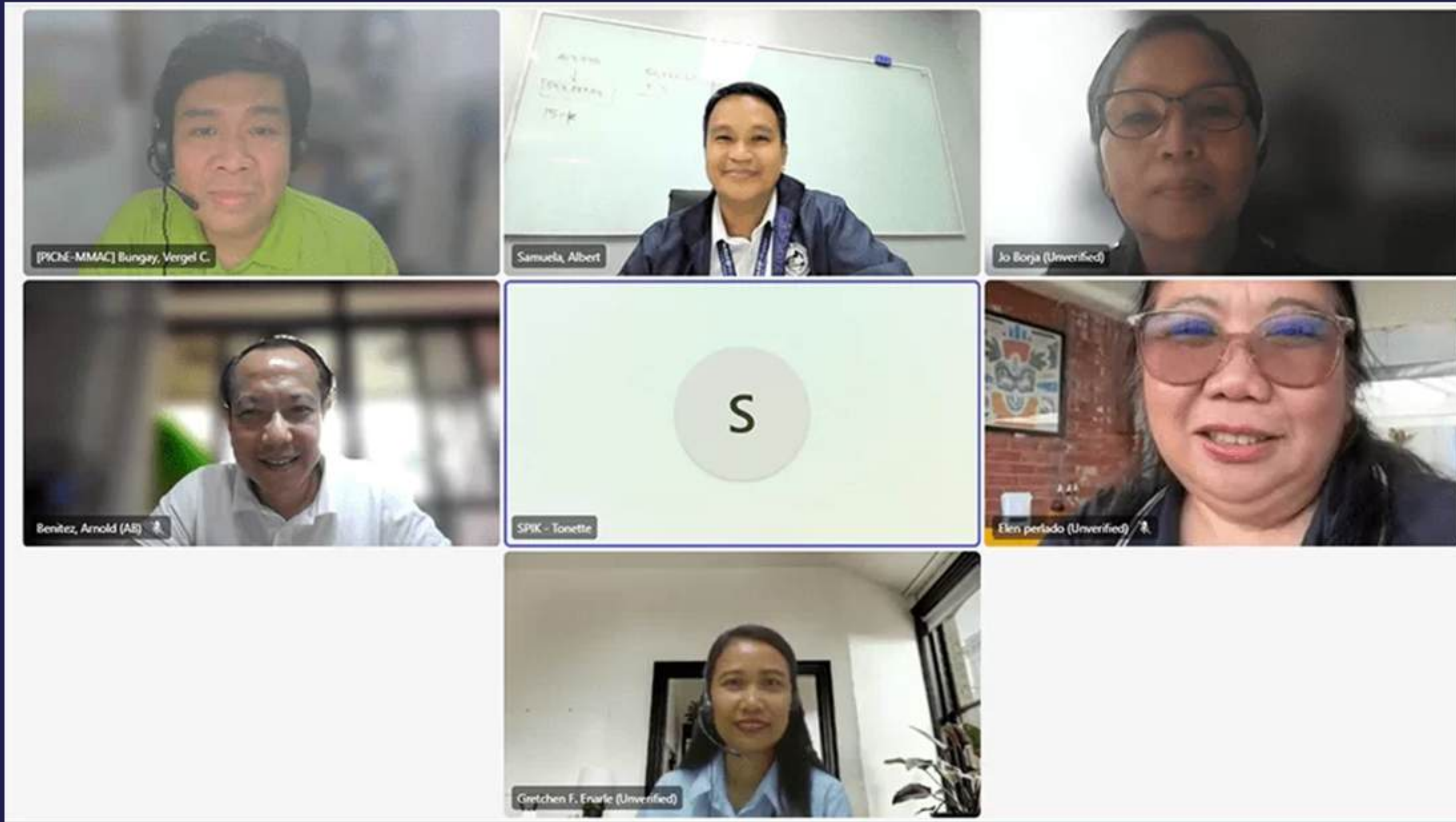


Director, met with Mr. Dan Roczniak, ACC's Senior Director for Responsible Care.

The meeting's primary objective was to finalize the workshop's agenda, which is set to take place in November. This collaboration underscores both associations' commitment to advancing responsible and sustainable practices within the chemical industry. The workshop aims to enhance participant knowledge and ensure compliance with international standards, thereby fostering a safer and more environmentally conscious industry in the Philippines.

The upcoming Responsible Care Verification Workshop saw a preparatory meeting between the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) and the American Chemistry Council (ACC). Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, SPIK President, and Engr. Reinier Jay C. Bagabay, SPIK Responsible Care

# SPIK-PIChE Partnership Progresses with Strategic Collaboration Meeting



On October 17, 2024, the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang (SPIK) and the Philippine Institute of Chemical Engineers (PIChE) held a collaboration meeting to strategize the execution of projects aligned with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in June. This partnership aims to strengthen the local chemical industry's growth through knowledge sharing and joint initiatives.

Key figures from both organizations participated the meeting: PIChE was represented by Dr. Josephine Borja, Dr. Vergel Bungay, and Engr. Elen Perlado, while SPIK was composed of Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, SPIK President, Engr. Albert Samuela, VP for External Affairs, and Engr. Arnold Benitez, VP for Internal Affairs.

The alliance has several webinars in the pipeline, such as the PIChE Registry and PCIR Roadshow in December, which will serve to educate and engage the professional community. Furthermore, a GHS Webinar is scheduled for February 2025 to promote awareness and compliance with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals. In March 2025, the focus shifts to Responsible Care (RC) Awareness, emphasizing the importance of environmental, health, safety, and security practices within the industry.

## SPIK and Saltegra Consulting Strengthen Ties Through Process Safety Initiatives

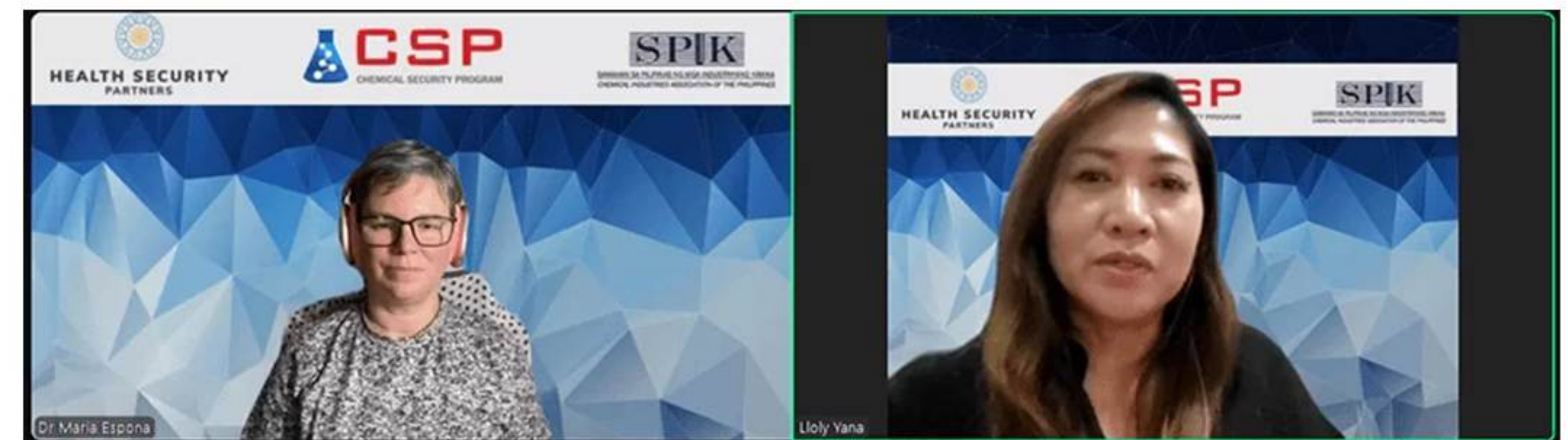


Saltegra Consulting, under the leadership of President Engr. Michael Saura, recently engaged in a strategic meeting with the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), helmed by President Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle together with Engr. Reinier Jay Bagabay. The central theme of the discussion revolved around the advancement of forthcoming projects in process safety management, a critical aspect in bolstering the chemical industry's resilience and sustainability.

In a significant move, the parties are set to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, which will serve as the foundation for a lineup of webinars on process safety, slated to commence in 2025. This collaborative endeavor is aligned with the objectives outlined in the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap, which prioritizes the enhancement of safety protocols and practices within the sector.

Both Saltegra Consulting and SPIK are optimistic about the future, anticipating a synergistic partnership that is poised to yield substantial benefits for the chemical industry as a whole. The meeting concluded on a high note, with a toast to the collaborative spirit that will underpin their joint efforts towards a safer and more robust industrial landscape.

# ENHANCING CHEMICAL SECURITY: KYC WEBINAR EMPOWERS SOUTHEAST ASIAN SMES



The Strengthening Chemical Security Sustainment within Southeast Asia’s Small and Medium Chemical Enterprises Project, funded by Health Security Partners (HSP), recently concluded its third webinar focused on Know Your Customer (KYC) practices. This initiative aims to bolster chemical security in the region by educating small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) on essential practices. The webinar, with around thirty attendees, was warmly welcomed by **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle**, SPIK president, and **Ms. Ashley Avella**, HSP Program Manager. Engr. Enarle highlighted KYC’s crucial role in establishing comprehensive Chemical Security Plans.

Dr. Maria Espona, an esteemed expert from Argentina’s Argentina Information Quality (ArgIQ), provided in-depth insights into Customer Due Diligence (CDD), including customer identification, verification, risk assessment, and profiling, as well as the KYC implementation process. The engaging two-day session on October 17-18, 2024, also featured a practical case study workshop.

**Engr. Reinier Jay C. Bagabay**, SPIK’s Responsible Care Chairman and Director, delivered the closing message, expressing gratitude to Dr. Espona for her invaluable contributions to the project’s success. This collaborative effort is a testament to the region’s commitment to safeguarding chemical industries and enhancing security measures.

## Due Diligence and Know Your Customer Fundamentals



**DR. MARIA ESPONA, PhD**  
 Director, Argentina Information Quality (ArgIQ)  
 Professor, Universities in Argentina, Georgia, and Peru



# ARCP Workshop 2024: Enhancing Regional Chemical Management and Circular Economy



The ARCP Workshop 2024, a significant event focused on advancing chemical management policies and practices, was held at Melia Hanoi Hotel, Vietnam, on October 28-29, 2024. The conference featured a series of regulatory dialogues and technical sessions aimed at fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing among governments and industries in the ASEAN region.

Day 1 commenced with the first Regulatory Dialogue Session on Chemical Management Policy, where speakers discussed the management of Confidential Business Information during the inwards clearance process. This was followed by presentations from Indonesia, the APEC Chemical Dialogue, and the Philippines on various topics such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, online registration for hazardous substances, and updates on policies for impurities and CBI.

The second session on the same day involved discussions on the Circular Economy and the implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). Governments from Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, and Vietnam shared their EPR implementation strategies and challenges.

Day 2 of the workshop was dedicated to technical topics, including an introduction to the Chemical Risk Assessment (CRA) Voluntary Work Group and the ARCP CRA Guidance Document. This session provided a foundation in toxicology, eco-toxicology, and environmental exposure risk assessment. Jeff Li and Sue May Teoh from the Data Sharing/Management NSN VWG discussed New Substance Notification, emphasizing data sharing and management practices.

The Globally Harmonized System (GHS) was another highlight of the workshop. Attendees received updates on the ARCP GHS VWG and APEC CD GHS VWG and were presented with a summary of GHS version 10. Furthermore, Cissie Yeung shared industry practices for SDS quality, check, and assurance, emphasizing the importance of reliable and consistent information for chemical handling and safety.

The ARCP Workshop 2024 underscored the commitment of the ASEAN countries to work towards a planet free from harmful chemicals and waste, with the Global Framework on Chemicals serving as a guiding force. The event also marked the first anniversary of the Global Framework on Chemicals' adoption and announced the opening of the Global Framework on Chemicals Fund's first application round.

The conference, attended by Engr. Joy Pena of the SPIK Responsible Care Council, facilitated open dialogues and collaborations, contributing to the strengthening of chemical policies and practices in the region, and promoting a more sustainable and safer environment.

# SPIK Golf Tournament 2024: Uniting Work and Play at the Manila Golf and Country Club



MANILA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

# GOLF

## TOURNAMENT

# 2024



SAMAHAN SA PILIPINAS NG MGA INDUSTRIYANG KIMIKA  
CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

SPIK hosted an outstanding golf tournament at the Manila Golf and Country Club (MGC) on October 11, 2024. This event, a testament to SPIK's commitment to work-life balance, saw the participation of 80 golf aficionados eager to tee off and strengthen business relationships on the green.

The golf tournament was a masterstroke in networking and entertainment, bringing together clients, colleagues, and friends. The MGC golf course provided the perfect stage for the competition, which was enriched by the camaraderie and wellness-promoting environment that SPIK is known to cultivate.



We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to the 15 esteemed sponsors who made this event possible: Robinsons Land Corporation, C.B. Andrew Philippines, BASF Philippines, Inc., Avestronics Industrial Sales and Services Inc., CV Solutions, Inc., Pacific Paint (Boysen) Philippines, Inc., Philippine Prosperity Chemicals, Inc., Chemlux, Inc., Suntra International Trading Corp., Texicon Agri Ventures Corporation, Mabuhay Vinyl Corporation, 2GO, SNF Floorger Philippines Inc., Trans World Trading Company, Inc., Technopark Industrial Laboratory Inc., and Robinsons Malls. Their unyielding support and generosity were instrumental in creating an exceptional experience for all.

Lastly, a round of applause for the champions of the 2024 SPIK Golf Tournament! Your outstanding performance and sportsmanship embodied the spirit of the event. Your victory will surely inspire many to look forward to our future engagements.

Thank you to all who took part, and we eagerly await the next opportunity to merge business with pleasure.