

CATALYST

SPIK NEWSLETTER



SPIK and TUP Strengthen Industry-Academia Connection by Signing MOU

AUG 14

The Technological University of the Philippines (TUP) and Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 14, 2025 symbolizing years of partnership. This cooperation took place at the TUP's Manila Campus, with top leaders in attendance from both sides. The MOU stresses their desire to upgrade the Philippines by developing its chemical industry, and calls on TUP and SPIK to collaborate on research and innovation.

The TUP delegation was led by Engr. Reynaldo P. Ramos, PhD, EnP, President of the Technological University of the Philippines with Campus Director, Engr. Rexmelle F. Decapia Jr., Ph.D., Dr. Emmanuel Ferrer, Assistant Director for Research and Extension, Dr. Ryan Reyes, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Atty. Christian Calingasan, Assistant Director for Administration and Finance, and Ms. Mona Purganan, OIC for VP Finance and Board Secretary.

They were joined by SPIK's President Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, Director Romeo G. Dela Cruz, Engr. Albert Samuela, Former Vice President for External Affairs, Mr. Christopher Zaratan, and

Ms. Antonette Fallarme. This three-year partnership was created in order to help raise capacity-building in academic institutions, improve curricula design, provide internships, and develop research and development programs with the goals of the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap.



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The signing ceremony of August 14, 2025, led by Engr. Reynaldo P. Ramos, PhD, EnP, President of the Technological University of the Philippines and SPIK's President Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, expresses the joint ambitions of TUP and SPIK for a forward-looking, competitive chemical industry in the Philippines. The results of this strategic move are expected to lead to economic development in the country through the production of highly trained professionals skilled in the complex global environment of chemical production and product innovation.

The partnership seeks to create an optimum-level of education for students and an internship experience for both the teaching staff and students. Through bridging the gap between the school and industry, TUP and SPIK hope to cultivate graduates who are capable of entering the chemical sector and making a contribution to its growth and sustainability. This joint effort also sets the stage for new research areas that can address industrial needs, to speed up the spread of fresh technologies and solutions.



AUG 06

Philippines Engages in 35th APEC Chemical Dialogue, Fostering Regional Industry Collaboration



A significant event for the Asia-Pacific chemical sector, the 35th APEC Chemical Dialogue (APEC CD), was held on August 06. The event was well attended by a delegation from the Philippines, including officials from the Philippine Board of Investments (BOI), Department of Foreign Affairs, Food and Drug Administration, and Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK). The delegation was also supported by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB).



Hosted by the Republic of Korea, the conference aimed at elaborating new trends, threats and opportunities across regional chemical industry. APEC economies underlined their commitment to enhancing chemical trade and environmental stewardship, during the dialogue which also addressed key issues concerning innovation, sustainability and regulatory harmonization within the sector. This contributed a greater meeting of government with chemical industry sector, and provided a platform for knowledge-sharing in effective policy making.



The participation of the Philippines highlighted its commitment to enhancing the Philippine chemical industry development and regional economic growth through sound chemical management programs that protect the environment and public health. These insights are anticipated to guide future national strategies and improve the competitiveness of companies in the chemical marketplace worldwide.

SPIK, Saltegra, and PCAPI Conduct Successful Process Safety Management Webinar Series 3

AUG 06



The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), together with Saltegra Consulting LLC and the Pollution Control Association of the Philippines (PCAPI) held its 3rd PSM Webinar Series last August 6, 2025.

Centered on the core topics of Incident Learning & Response and Participation & Management, the event attracted 80 attendees keen to up-skill in this vital field.



The event began with a brief but inspiring opening message SPIK's Director, Joel Malaluan, who reminded those present on the importance of process safety management in their respective companies.



Exploring the depths of PSM with Operations Manager, Saltegra Consulting LLC, Engr Reyson Dave G. Dela Cruz on the virtual podium. In this presentation, he also covered the 14 essential

elements of PSM, incident investigation methodologies, emergency planning and response fundamentals, and compliance audits.



SPIK Director Jose Raquel Santos capped off the webinar with an optimistic note on the importance of furthering education, training, and cooperation in the chemical sector to build a safer and more sustainable world.

Through interactive discussions of topics and sharing of insights, the webinar series supports the strengthening of the chemical sector awareness in the Philippines — promoting a culture for environmental stewardship and safety management from an industry-led initiative.

AUG 07

Philippine Aerospace Industry Gathers for 1st Sectoral Working Group Meeting



The first meeting of the Aerospace Industry Sectoral Working Group (SWG) meeting held at Board of Investments (BOI) on August 7, 2025, signaled a major advance for the domestic aerospace industry. Acting Director Mr. Reynaldo D. Lignes of the BOI-MIS and Mr. John Lee from Aerospace Industries Association of the Philippines (AIAP) co-chaired this event. Key participants included representatives from the government (PDEA, PNP-FEO, DND, PhilSA), and the chemical industry (Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika, SPIK).



The primary focus of the meeting was on the opportunities provided by RA 12024, a self-reliant defense posture. Assistant Secretary Augusto V. Gaite of the Department of National Defense (DND), introduced the salient features of that law while Mr. Willie Estoque, Executive Director of AIAP presented the Aerospace Industry Roadmap.



Attention was also directed toward EODB's concern for the industry, highlighting collaborative efforts of government and private industry partners to push the Philippines into a competitive international player in aerospace and defense technology. For national security and economic development, the SWG is designed to address problems, assist development, and form a formidable and innovative aerospace sector.

EODB SWG Discusses Industry Inputs for Amendments to DDB Regulation No. 1 of 2014

AUG 11



On August 11, 2025, the Ease of Doing Business Small Working Group (EODB SWG) of the Philippine Chemical Industry Roadmap (PCIR) conducted an important meeting that centred on possible amendments to DDB Regulation No. 1 Series of 2014 entitled "Comprehensive Amendments to Board Regulation No. 3 Series 2003, 'Comprehensive Guidelines on Importation, Distribution, Manufacture, Prescription, Dispensing and Sale of, and Other Lawful Acts in Connection with Any Dangerous Drugs, Controlled Precursors and Essential Chemicals and Other Similar or Analogous Substances,' as Amended, and Other Related Board Issuances"

Key players in the chemical industry, including representatives from the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) and Association of Petrochemical Manufacturers of the Philippines (APMP), came together for the event facilitated by the Board of Investments (BOI). The meeting marked an opportunity to wrap up the formal amendment of the regulation with the last comments and recommendations from the chemical sector. The feedback gathered will help fulfill a delivery item under PCIR's Strategy 8, simplifying and harmonizing regulations to improve the business climate for chemical firms.

BOI, under Acting Director Reynaldo D. Lignes, spearheads discussions between industry stakeholders to ensure amendments align with the pursuit of high-impact investments and competitiveness for the Philippines.



AUG 12

EMB and UNDP Launch Project to Curb POPs and U-POPs



The national inception workshop for the project Reduction of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants (U-POPs) through Integrated Sound Management of Chemicals kicked off on August 12, 2025 in Quezon City. This is part of the collaboration between the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to address environmental degradation associated with chemicals.

The project aims to implement the process of Green Chemistry (GC) in a few key manufacturing sectors like copper, plastics, paper, paint, furniture and automotive (in particular steel plating technologies) carried out by the micro small medium enterprises (MSMEs). The sectors were identified as major sources of emissions include POPs, U-POPs and GHGs.



The event started with an opening speech of introduction by Engr. Gilbert Gonzales, OIC Assistant Secretary for Field Operations – Luzon-Visayas followed by messages of Atty. By Analiza Rebuerta-Teh, Undersecretary for Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change and Mr. Selva Ramchandran, UNDP Resident Representative

The Pledge of Support wall was then unveiled and the participating government officials, industry leaders, and representatives from various financing institutions and civil society organizations signed on to their commitment behind the project.

Other voices of support during the workshop came from the Department of Trade and Industry-Board of Investments, Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), Landbank of the Philippines, Development Bank of the Philippines, and the Bureau of Customs. SPIK President, Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, meanwhile highlighted that science has to be integrated in policy-making as well as the need for a government-private sector partnership for it to work effectively.

The workshop was organized to enable stakeholders to share information and experiences on strategies for minimizing the generation, use & release of their resources. The implementation of the project is a very important stride in the country's march towards reaping environmental and sustainability gains which will be followed by others in its industrial sector.

Assistant Secretary for Environment Director Jacqueline A. Caancan, in her role as OIC EMB Director, delivered the closing message and stressed the need for active participation by all attendees to ensure project success during the workshop and breakout sessions.



AUG 12

FDA-CCHUHSRR's "Kapihan at Talakayan with Industry 2025" Fosters Dialogue on HUHS



On August 12, 2025, the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Cosmetics and Household/Urban Hazardous Substances Regulation and Research (FDA-CCHUHSRR) held the "Kapihan at Talakayan with Industry 2025". This meeting provided an important opportunity for the FDA to have meaningful discussions with the Household Urban Hazardous Substances (HUHS) industry.

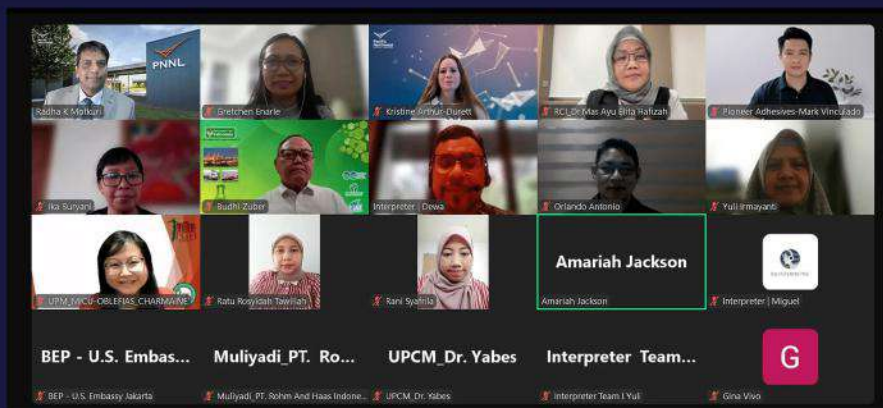
The key focus of the discussion was to cover multiple areas in this field such as licensing, registration updates, post-marketing surveillance and policy changes. This interactive panel session provided an opportunity for attendees to express their opinions and comments and raise questions about these important regulations, as they impede on the operations and product quality of industry participants.



The discussion was led by FDA-CCHUHSRR Director IV Engr. Ana Trinidad F. Rivera. In attendance were members of the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), namely Director Aldrich Bentalanon and Director Jose Raquel Santos. The event was anticipated to foster closer working relationships and knowledge sharing with the government and HUHS industry, to strengthen public health and safety standards of the nation.

AUG 19

Virtual Workshop Boosts Chemical Supply Chain Security in Southeast Asia



The U.S. Department of State's Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction (CTR) with support from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) completed a virtual 3-day workshop entitled **"Strengthening Chemical Supply Chain Security Capability - Maturity Models."** The purpose of the event, which took place on August 19-21, 2025, was to train facilitators from Southeast Asian countries, including the Philippines and Indonesia, in improving the security of their chemical supply chains.

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Virtual Workshop Cont....



Two new self-assessment tools, the **Chemical Security Assessment Model (CSAM)** and the **Chemical Life Cycle and Supply Chain Security (CLICS) Maturity Model** were presented at the workshop. These models are designed to evaluate and improve the resilience of organizations and facilities handling chemicals against potential threats from malicious actors.



The train-the-trainer course convened personnel from industry, academia, and government to teach them how to assess their security measures systematically. They participated in interactive discussions and tabletop exercises, facilitated by **Dr. Radha Motkuri** and **Kristine Arthur-Durett**, to explore the practical application of the models. Among the participants were officers from the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK), Pigmentex, Inc., RI Chemicals, TNC Chemicals, Pioneer Adhesives, Caldic Philippines, and the UP Manila.



The event also served as an opportunity for SPIK President **Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle** and **Dr. Mas Ayu Elita Hafizah** from Responsible Care Indonesia (RCI) to present the current state of chemical security within their countries. This webinar demonstrates the value of international cooperation in confronting the worldwide threat to chemical facilities and supply chains posed by potential security risks. Through equipping local actors with sophisticated security mechanisms, the workshop adds to the overall stability and security of the critical infrastructure of the region.

AUG 20

SPIK CONDUCTS SUCCESSFUL 8TH BOARD MEETING, ADDRESSES INDUSTRY UPDATES AND FUTURE INITIATIVES



At the Elk's Club in Manila, on August 20 2025, the 8th SPIK Board Meeting commenced under the leadership of Engr. Gretchen F. Enarle, President of the association. The meeting touched on several key matters, including membership invitations for the following year.

The NITIC report highlighted key events, such as the Kapihan and Talakayan with HUHS Stakeholders, attended by Director Aldrich Bentalanon and Jose Raquel Santos, as well as seminars, position papers, and invitations to public consultations. The meetings promoted SPIK's efforts to develop the local chemical industry and cooperate with different units of this industry. Director Reinier Bagabay, Chairperson of Responsible Care, discussed the activities as well as the upcoming activities, a coastline clean-up event with Rezcoat, Inc., and an ARCP workshop, both in September. SPIK is also set to sign MOUs with TUP and MMC Mindanao to be attended by Director Romeo Dela Cruz, thus expanding its linkages in the academe. Lastly, a golf event on October 17th at Hallow Ridge Golf in San Pedro, Laguna was discussed by Director Jose Raquel Santos, Ways and Means Committee Chairperson.

The meeting served as a reminder of SPIK's active participation in the development of the chemical industry, and it was an opportunity to reflect on progress with different stakeholders throughout different countries.



AUG 22

SPIK and Rezcoat Gear Up for Coastal Cleanup 2025

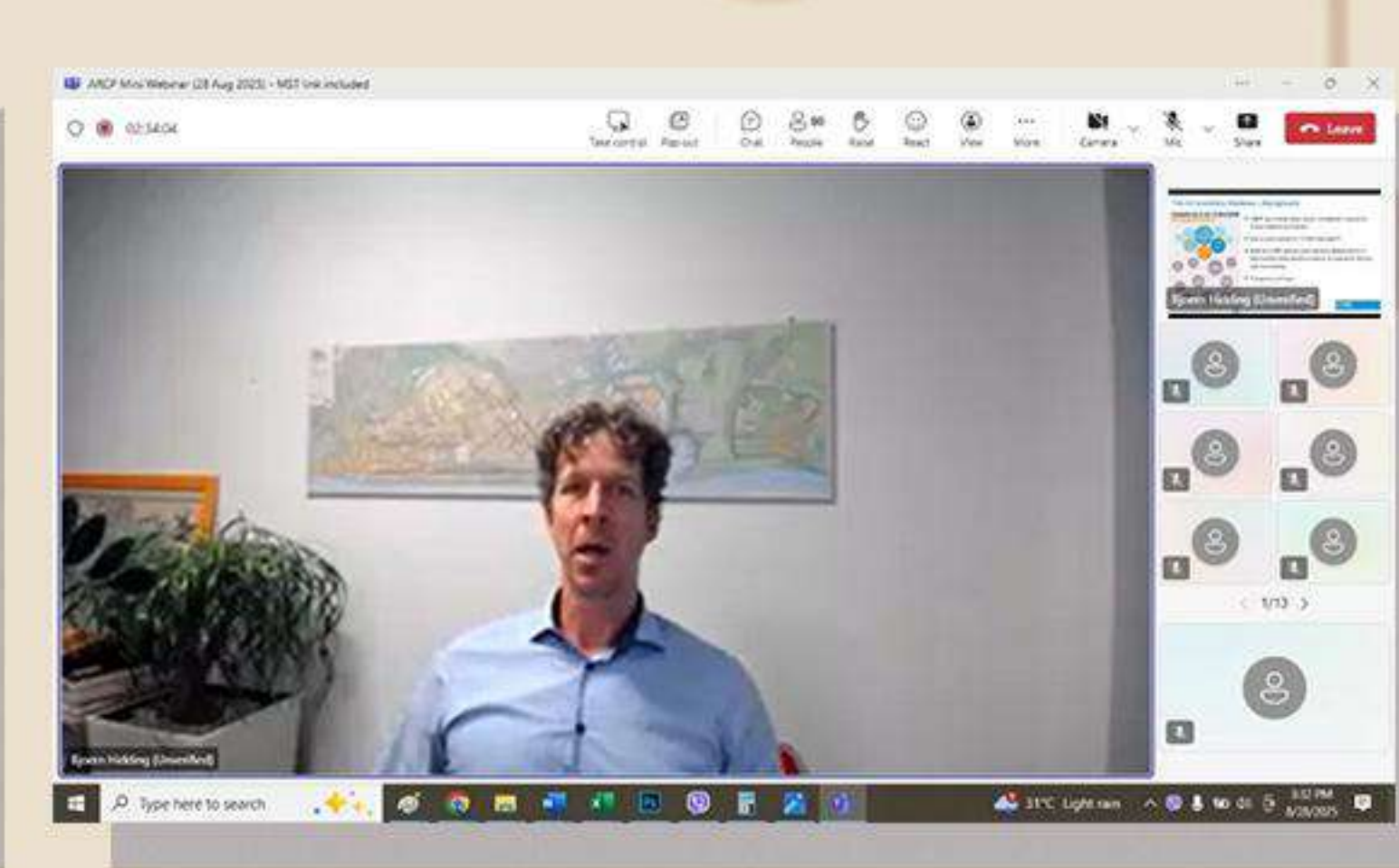
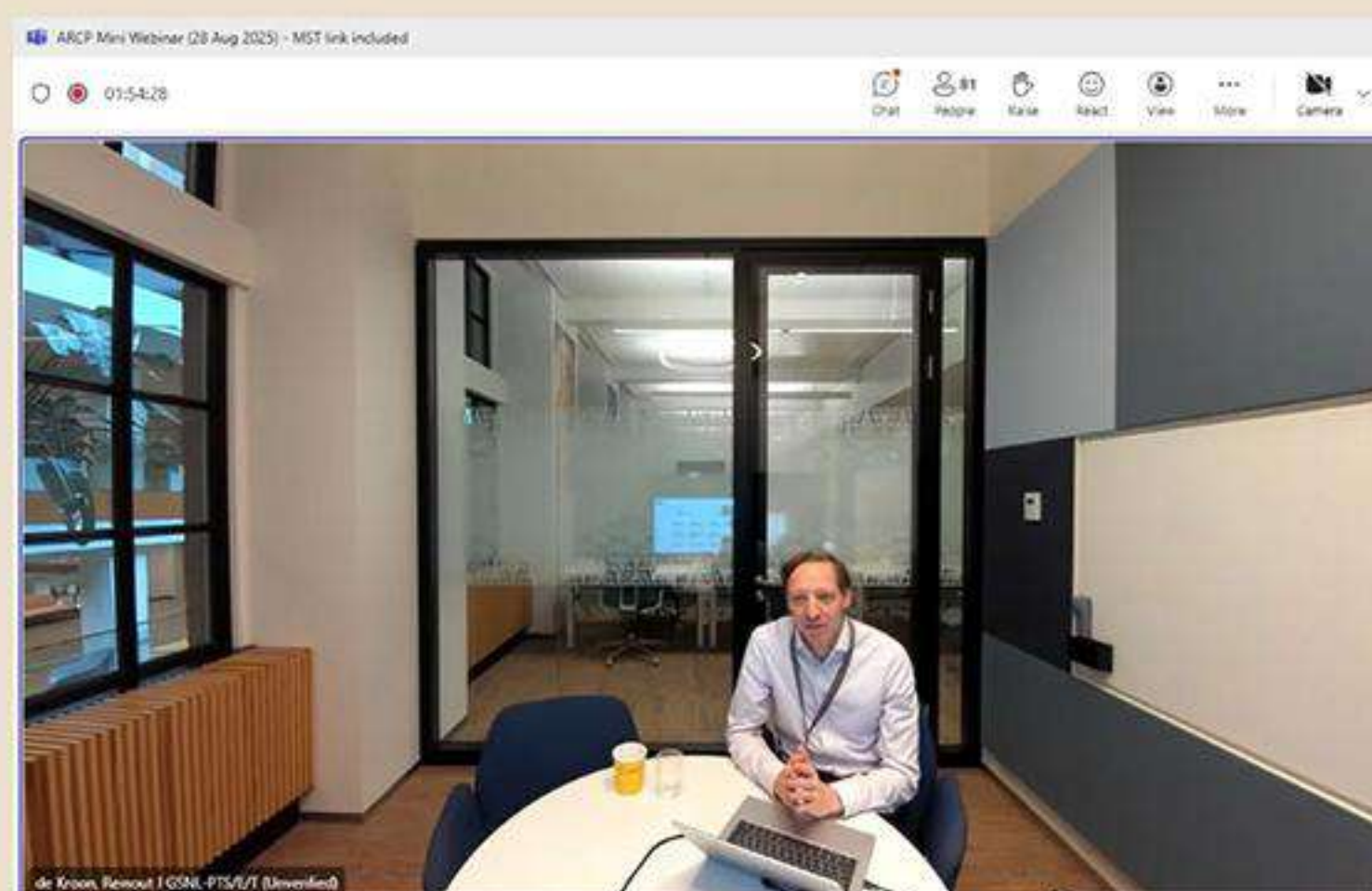
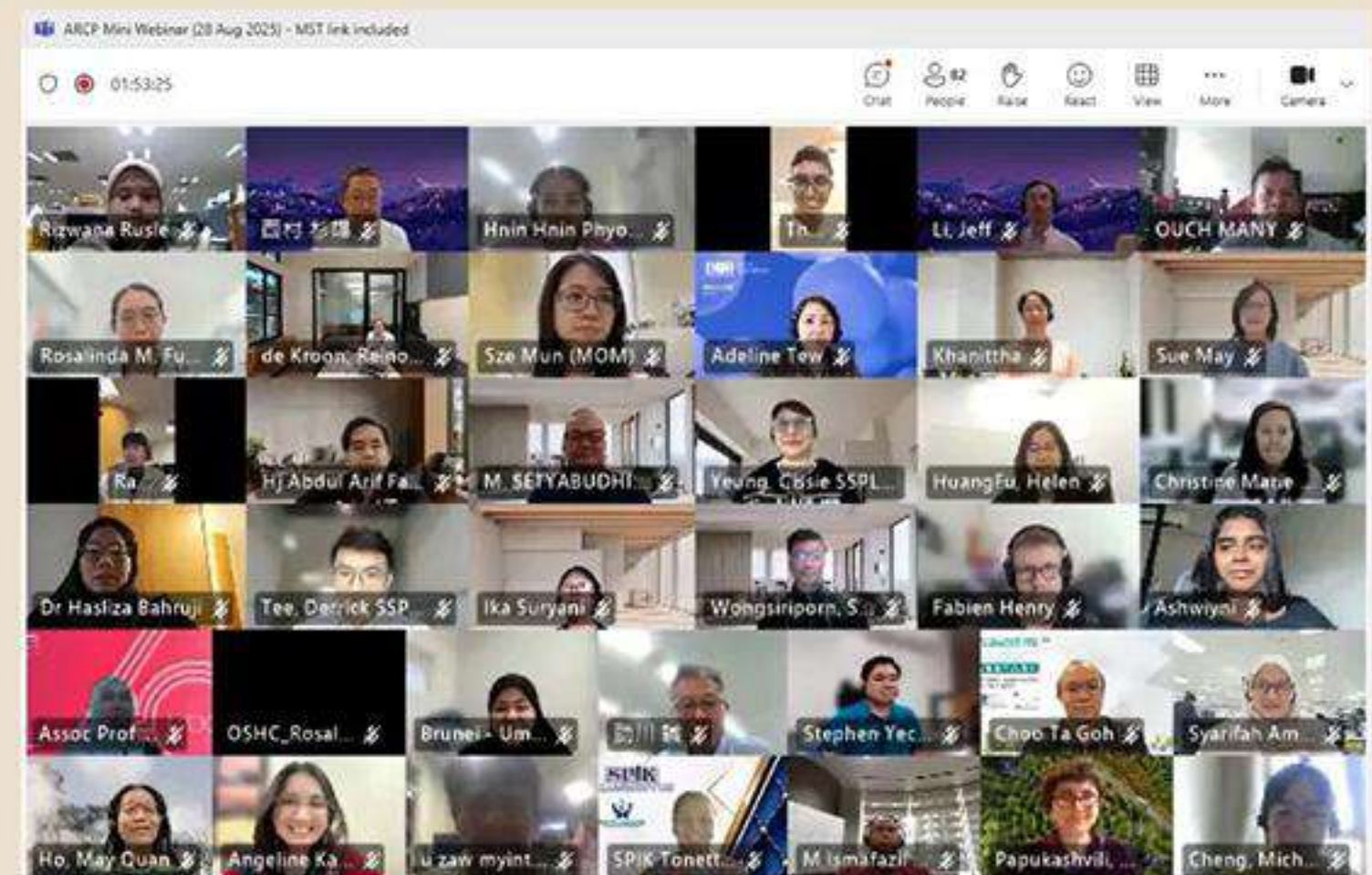


The Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK) and Rezcoat, Inc. held a meeting today, August 22, 2025, in connection to the upcoming International Coastal Cleanup on September 20, 2025 to be held in Calaca, Batangas.

Attending the planning session were the SPIK Chairman of Responsible Care, **Engr. Reinier Bagabay**, **Ms. Antonette Fallarme**, SPIK Executive Officer, and the Rezcoat Vice President of Operations and SPIK Director, **Ms. Maria Lourdes Formalejo**, along with the Officer of Rezcoat, Inc. The group emphasized teamwork, safety, and community involvement as key to making the coastal cleanup in Barangay Salong a success. This collaboration between SPIK and Rezcoat, Inc. represents a united effort to protect marine life and advance sustainable solutions in local communities.

AUG 28

ARCP MINI WEBINARS ADVANCE CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT KNOWLEDGE IN ASEAN



On 28 August 2025, the ASEAN Regulatory Co-operation Platform (ARCP) organized its second mini webinar for the year titled Webinar on Knowledge Building on Chemical Management. 85 representatives from industry and government in ASEAN Member States took part in the event, as well as the Samahan sa Pilipinas ng mga Industriyang Kimika (SPIK). The expert presentations covered the EU CLP Regulation revision, European Sustainability Reporting Standards and the

ICCA

Plastics

Additive

The session was held to promote regional regulatory harmonization and increase awareness of chemical safety. Keynote speakers Dr. Nino Papukashvili and Mr. Reinout de Kroon, of Shell, shared their insights on the European Commission's Sixth Omnibus Simplification Package and the ERSR over time, respectively.

In addition, Mr. Bjoern Hidding presented "The ICCA Plastics Additive Database", a tool to support regulatory compliance and product stewardship.

The alliance is an extension of ARCP's commitment to nurture partnership and knowledge sharing since it was first established in 2021. The series has been a success and an important step towards regulatory harmonization and cooperation within the chemical sector in ASEAN.