ISOPA is the European Diisocyanates and Polyol Producers Association. In this press kit, you will find useful information about who we are and what we do.
**IN A NUTSHELL**

**ABOUT US**

ISOPA is the European trade association for producers of diisocyanates and polyols – the main building blocks of polyurethanes.

The association was founded in 1987 and is based in Brussels, Belgium.

ISOPA’s mission consists of three pillars:
- Product Stewardship
- Advocacy
- Communication.

**OUR TEAM**

Jörg Palmersheim, Secretary General

Brieuc Lits, Communication Officer

Kristine Dewaele, Office and Project Manager

**OUR MEMBERS**
WHAT ARE DIISOCYANATES?

Diisocyanates are one of the main building blocks to make polyurethanes, the sustainable material to provide solutions for many needs of our society.

APPLICATIONS

Polyurethanes can be tailored to be either rigid or flexible. Along with insulation, it is the material of choice for a broad range of end-user applications such as:

- Cushioning for furniture
- Mattresses
- Car parts
- Coatings
- Adhesives
- Rollers and tyres
- Composite wood panels
- Shoe soles
- Sportswear
OUR MISSION

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP
ISOPA works to continuously improve safety, health and environmental standards across the European polyurethanes industry.

ADVOCACY
ISOPA engages with policy makers at EU & national levels to deliver relevant information and represent the interest of the polyurethane industry

COMMUNICATION
ISOPA communicates via various channels to numerous stakeholders inside and outside industry.
OUR STRUCTURE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:
Christopher Metz

Vice-President:
Erik Vangronsveld

Directors:
Rajesh Balan
Tibor Klement
Christine Mendoza-Frohn
Wouter Mineur

ISOPA Structure

General Assembly

Board of Directors

Secretary General

Office

Cluster Chemical Regulation
Cluster Product Stewardship
Cluster Sustainability
Cluster Combustibility
Projects
Ad-Hoc Taskforces
OUR TIMELINE

1987 - ISOPA was founded in Brussels to engage on policy issues.

1990 - ISOPA commissioned a series of research work to assess recycling and recovery options for end-of-life of polyurethane-based articles.

1995 - The Logistics EHS programme was launched to encourage the safe transport and storage of diisocyanates and polyols.

1996 - ISOPA published the first series of life cycle inventories (or eco-profile) of polyurethanes precursors MDI, TDI and polyether polyols.

1998 - One Step Ahead programme encouraged the safe use of TDI by flexible foam makers in Africa.

2006 - ISOPA launched the Walk the Talk product stewardship programme to promote the safe production of polyurethanes.

2009 - ISOPA launched the Polyurethanes communication campaign with the www.polyurethanes.org website and with a YouTube channel.

2011 - ISOPA created an entry on the European Transparency Register.

OUR TIMELINE

2014 - Commissioner Potozcnik visits the ISOPA Booth during the Green Week.

2016 - ISOPA becomes an AISBL.

2018 - ISOPA moves to the European district to be closer to policymakers.

2019 - Advocacy on the process by the EU to introduce an OEL.


2020 - Commission adopted a restriction on Diisocyanates.

2021 - ISOPA created a digital platform to train drivers of diisocyanates.

2022 - ISOPA updated the guidelines on Emergency Responses.

2022 - ISOPA launched the Digital Training Platform www.safeusediisocyanates.eu in the context of the REACH Restriction on Diisocyanates.

2022 - First General Assembly Meeting in person after the Covid-19 Pandemic.