



2012 DCMME/GSCMI Fall Operations Conference on Sustainability Featured Lead Speaker



Presenter: **Stephen A. Segebarth**, Sr. Vice President, Government Relations, Regulatory Affairs, and Law Verallia North America / Saint-Gobain Containers, Inc.

Title: **Verallia North America (VNA) – Sustainability Opportunities and Challenges**

Abstract:

Verallia North America is headquartered in Muncie, Indiana with a manufacturing facility located in Dunkirk, Indiana and a forming machine assembly shop in Marion, Indiana. Our 4,400 U.S. hourly and salaried employees manufacture more than 9 billion endlessly recyclable glass bottles and jars each year for food, beverage, spirits, wine, and beer customers. Each of VNA's 13 U.S. manufacturing facilities is focused on improving operations through various reduce, reuse, and recycle sustainability programs such as energy, emissions, water, and solid waste reductions; along with packaging innovations.

We are committed to continuous improvement in this regard and one of our key opportunities / challenges is to increase the use of recycled glass ("cullet") in our production process. There are numerous positives associated with substituting recycled glass for virgin raw materials (e.g. reduced energy consumption and air emissions, including greenhouse gas). It is clearly not only the right thing to do from a sustainability perspective, but also enhances our ability to be competitive in the U.S. and global marketplace. That being said, there are many challenges to be addressed if the recyclables recovery rates for feedstock commodities such as aluminum, PET, and glass are to be increased in a meaningful way. For example, across the U.S. the collection and sorting of Municipal Solid Waste is not optimal, as budget constraints and the complexities associated with Single Stream Recycling present more questions than answers these days. In the meantime, more than 125,000,000,000 aluminum, PET, and glass containers will continue to be landfilled each year in the U.S. with a lost commodities market value of around \$3,600,000.00 annually. This is not only wrong, it's irresponsible. We owe it to our businesses, future generations, and the planet to do much better ... and VNA is actively engaged in this dialog at both the federal and state level.



About the Speaker:

Steve has been with Verallia North America (VNA), formerly known as Saint-Gobain Containers, for more than 15 years, first as General Counsel and now as Senior Vice President, Government Relations, Regulatory Affairs, and Law.

Prior to joining VNA, Steve held various positions with Thomson Consumer Electronics and The General Electric Company with special focus on trade regulation, labor law, and government relations matters; and has a broad range of experience in regulatory, compliance, and legal matters. Steve's current focus with VNA is on promoting legislative activity and stakeholder dialog that support the sustainability goals of this multi-national glass container manufacturing company, which traces its origins back more than 300 years.

Steve received his J.D. with Distinction from the University of Iowa and is a member of the Indiana, Virginia, and Iowa Bar Associations. He also holds a Masters in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, a Masters in Political Science, and a BA in History from the University of Northern Iowa. He is currently a trustee on the GMP – Employers Retiree Healthcare Trust, a trustee on the University of Northern Iowa Foundation, a member of the Board of Directors of the Container Recycling Institute, and previously served as a commissioner on the Indiana State Employees Appeals Commission and in the United States Navy.