

# MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Personal Care  
Products Council

## PCPC Welcomes New Chief Scientist

**What happened:** On Nov. 3, Dr. Jaap Venema officially starts as PCPC's new Chief Scientist and Executive Vice President of Science, following the retirement of Alexandra Kowcz from the role this summer.

**The big picture:** Dr. Venema recently served as Chief Science Officer at the U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP), where he led scientific strategy and quality standards development for medicines, biologics, dietary supplements, food ingredients and health care practices.

**What we are saying:** "Jaap brings deep expertise and strategic vision that will further PCPC's leadership in scientific rigor and evidence-based advocacy," said Tom Myers, President and CEO of PCPC. "He has a keen ability to navigate complex scientific landscapes while staying focused on public health and industry impact. His collaborative style and global perspective make him an ideal partner for our member companies and the international cosmetics and personal care products community."

**Dig deeper:** Dr. Venema brings more than 35 years of experience across academia, the pharmaceutical sector and nonprofit leadership. At USP, he led a global scientific division and was instrumental in modernizing quality standards and spearheading initiatives in advanced manufacturing and digital health.

[Learn More](#)

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## Madam C.J. Walker Award for Excellence Applications Are Open

**What happened:** The 2026 Madam C.J. Walker Award for Excellence applications are now open through Jan.12, 2026. Honorees are announced at the PCPC Beauty Collective Summit in March 2026.

**Why it matters:** This award recognizes bold changemakers in the beauty and personal care products industry whose entrepreneurial spirit and community leadership ignite lasting change.

**Dig deeper:** Madam C.J. Walker was an iconic entrepreneur and activist who revolutionized hair care and created economic opportunity for women. The award celebrates individuals of all backgrounds who turn vision into opportunity and purpose into progress.

**Bottom line:** PCPC members can apply or nominate individuals who demonstrate a commitment to uplifting consumers and communities through innovation, leadership and sustained engagement.

[Submit Your Application](#)

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## PCPC Presents on Good Cosmetics Regulatory Practices in Kenya

**What happened:** From Oct. 8–9, Katherine Bedard, PCPC Director of International Trade and Regulatory Affairs, spoke about Good Regulatory Practices (GRPs) at a Cosmetics Regulatory Workshop in Nairobi. Kenya is evaluating the best way to structure its cosmetic framework to oversee the sector, ensuring consumer protection and the development of small- and medium-sized businesses.

**Why it matters:** The presentation highlighted the advantages of an in-market control system, which is the model established under U.S. laws and regulations. PCPC also outlined how government oversight and responsible industry practices work together to ensure that cosmetics are safe, and product claims are accurate.

An immediate outcome of the workshop was PCPC's training of Kenyan officials on cosmetic safety assessments and effective use of the INCI database.

**Dig deeper:** The workshop, organized by PCPC, Cosmetics Europe, the Cosmetic Toiletry and Fragrance Association, and the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM), was the result of several years of successful PCPC outreach with the Kenyan government and included high-level Kenyan officials from the Ministry of Trade, the Pharmacy and Poisons Board and the Kenya Bureau of Standards.

**Bottom line:** PCPC continues to work with Kenyan government officials and KAM as the regulatory framework is developed and implemented.

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## What we are reading:

- U.S. Beauty Industry Returns to Capitol Hill With Focus on MoCRA, Non-Animal Testing, Tariffs, OTC Reform ([Cosmetics Design](#))
- U.S. FDA Sets New Target Dates for MoCRA Rulemakings ([Citeline](#))
- Animal Welfare Is Now Part of RFK Jr.'s MAHA Agenda ([POLITICO](#))
- New Reviews Support Safety of UV Filters Avobenzone, Ensulizole; May Help Fill Data Gaps ([Citeline](#))

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## Member Benefit Spotlight:

### Access On-Demand PCPC Webinars

Did you know PCPC webinar recordings are available to members? Catch up on expert discussions covering topics such as global cosmetic regulations, sustainability and packaging innovations—anytime, anywhere.

[View Webinar Recordings](#)

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## Upcoming Programming and Events

**Nov. 13, 2025, 12:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m., ET: Navigating PCPC's INCIpedia**

**Database: wINCI, InfoBase and IRDB Essentials Webinar**

PCPC offers a suite of powerful member services as part of the INCIpedia database—wINCI, InfoBase, and IRDB—that support data-driven decision-making, regulatory compliance and industry collaboration. This webinar will

provide a comprehensive overview of each system, helping participants understand how to access, interpret and apply the information available.

Participants will learn:

- The purpose and scope of each database:
  - wINCI: The definitive source of INCI names and related technical information
  - InfoBase: Ingredient details from wINCI, plus safety info and news updates
  - IRDB: Access to global regulatory documents and ingredient restrictions

Whether you are new to these tools or looking to refine your use, this session will equip you with the knowledge to maximize the value of PCPC's data resources.

This webinar is free for PCPC members and nonmembers.

Register Today

***March 23-25: 2026 Beauty Collective Summit, The Ritz-Carlton, Key Biscayne, Miami***

**The Agenda is Live!**

Registration is open for **PCPC's 2026 Beauty Collective Summit**, the premier gathering of cosmetics and personal care product industry leaders. The [agenda is now available](#), featuring sessions that highlight the industry's collective impact in advancing global well-being and empowerment.

Register at the Lowest Rate



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