A Special Thank You to Our Members

WE’D LIKE TO THANK OUR members for being part of the Travel Goods Association. There’s strength in numbers, and without your membership we wouldn’t be as effective representing the industry through lobbying, our media outreach or our efforts to help promote and grow the travel goods industry. Your support and participation is vital to the success of the association and our industry. So please, if you have not done so already, renew your TGA membership today. With any questions regarding membership, please contact TGAs Cathy Trecartin at CTTGA@aol.com; 877-842-1938, x-702.

Join TGA and Reap the Benefits of PR

ONE OF THE COUNTLESS benefits of TGA membership is our free public relations program. TGA is the first stop for journalists covering the travel goods industry. In addition, we are actively pursuing press placements on behalf of our members. Whether you are new to TGA or a longstanding member, please don’t hesitate to send new product details (or information you’ve never shared before) to our PR rep, Kate Ryan. Kate will include your product in relevant product pitches and execute media placements from start to finish. Since The 2014 International Travel Goods Show alone, TGA and its members have appeared in outlets such as AARP The Magazine, CNBC, Fox News, “Peter Greenberg Travel,” Today.com, and USA Today. With questions regarding TGA’s media relations program, please contact TGAs Kate Ryan at kate@kateryanpr.com, 774-929-5223.

Buyers — Bypass the Line

THE EXHIBITOR LIST FOR THE INTERNATIONAL Travel Goods Show continues to build, which means it’s going to be a great selling season for 2015, with lots of new names and plenty of new must-see, must-have products at The Show — many of them potential best-sellers. You’ll have to wait until March 10 to see what’s in store, but there’s no reason to wait a minute longer. Bypass the on-site registration line by registering now for The International Travel Goods Show, and your show badge will be waiting for you on arrival. Visit The Show website at www.thetravelgoodsshow.org to register, learn about exhibitors, book your hotel, and scope out The Show schedule for the world’s largest travel goods showcase! For questions regarding attendee and exhibitor badge registration, please email tgaregistration@rhq.com or phone 702-798-8356.

Time to Shine!

EVERYONE KNOWS THAT EXHIBITING AT THE INTERNATIONAL Travel Goods Show is the best showcase opportunity for new travel goods items. But that’s just for openers. Sign on for a package deal and gain valuable added exposure with a half-page ad in Travel Goods Showcase, the world’s biggest travel goods trade journal, plus added attention from the Travel Goods Product Guide (TGPG) and/or the New Products Pavilion (NPP). Upgrades to full-page ads are just $525, and you can display additional items in the TGPG or NPP at reduced cost. New this year: Items displayed in the NPP will automatically be eligible for the 2015 Product Innovation Award. Don’t be shy about promotion — it’s your easiest way to get noticed. Log on to www.thetravelgoodsshow.org and click on “Special Promotion Packages” or contact Cathy Trecartin, cttga@aol.com, 877-842-1938, x-702 for more info.

California Prop 65 Notices

PROFESSIONAL CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 LITIGANTS ISSUED NEW “60-Day” notices in the past few months alleging that brands and retailers sold luggage tags with vinyl, backpacks with vinyl, vinyl/PVC pouches and handles, and handbags and clutches made with leather, vinyl or imitation leather materials in California that contained lead and phthalates in violation of a California law known as Proposition 65 (Prop 65). The notices serve as intent to bring a lawsuit against the recipients that sold these products. To access the Prop 65 notices, or for more information on Prop 65, please go to the Prop 65 page on the TGA website (www.travel-goods.org) or contact TGA’s Nate Herman at 703-797-9062.
Post-Election 2014 — Will Washington Give Us a Season of New Shows, or Just More Reruns?

Well, we made it through another election. The day after the election, it rained all day and night in Washington, DC. I would like to view it as washing away all of the vestiges of the 2014 election campaign — the drama, the news coverage, the endless campaign commercials — and starting with a clean slate.

Makes me think of the rendition of “Singing in the Rain” so wonderfully done by Gene Kelly in the 1952 movie of the same name. It is a wonderfully happy scene that will make you want to sing and dance, in the rain no less. Find it on YouTube.

After two years of a Congress that would have made even President Eisenhower seriously reconsider which Congress he should have called the “Do Nothing” Congress, I dared hope that this new Congress will finally seriously tackle the issues that our country, and our industry, so desperately need to have addressed.

From tax reform and internet sales taxes to important trade legislation. And from reigning in runaway regulation at the state level (can anyone say, “California”) to ensuring new product safety and chemical regulations are actually based on science and on actually improving public safety (crazy, huh?), the new Congress has an immense opportunity to make a positive difference for our industry, for our economy, and for our country.

But, what started as talk about working together quickly devolved into recriminations and partisan remarks only hours after the election results came in. Comments from the President to both parties in both houses in Congress started to dim this new hope.

Instead, my thoughts began to turn to dealing with another two years of Washington gridlock and, worse, that that day after the election, November 5th, also marked the official start of the 2016 election campaign.

And that made me think of this other infamous rendition of “Singing in the Rain” from another famous movie, “A Clockwork Orange” (Warning — If you find this scene on YouTube, it is NOT for the faint of heart).

All hope is not lost, though. In many of my conversations in Washington, there are some that seem to get it. There is still hope the more rational heads will prevail. And TGA will be there working with those folks to push through legislation and regulations that work for the industry and the economy.

Let us know if you want to help!

For more information, please contact TGA’s Nate Herman at 877-842-1938, x-708; nate@travel-goods.org.
MEMBER PROFILES

In an effort to publicize and promote the travel goods industry, TGA profiles both new and long-standing members in every issue of Travel Goods Showcase and on TGA’s website, www.travel-goods.org. TGA members can submit profile information by visiting www.travel-goods.org.

MEMBER PROFILES

Ergobag

FOUNDED IN 2010 IN COLOGNE, GERMANY,
Ergobag’s backpacks combine the structure and features of innovative trekking backpacks with everything needed in the perfect school bag. The unique ergonomic design takes weight off the shoulders, transferring it to the more stable pelvic area, and the bag can be adjusted to the length of the child’s back, so it “grows along” with the child.

“Kids love our cool designs and changeable Kletties (buttons), giving them the freedom to customize their own school bag,” states Julia Niermann. “Everything we do is marked by team spirit, enthusiasm and dedication.

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• Departure Products LLC, Bainbridge Island, WA (M); www.departureproducts.com
• EMME, Encinitas, CA (M); www.emmebag.com
• FafaConcepts, Henderson, NV (M); www.fafaconcepts.com
• Fancy Armor, Vladivostok, Russia (M); www.fancyarmor.com
• G-III Apparel, New York, NY (M); www.g-iii.com
• Gleener, Montreal, Canada (M); www.gleener.com
• GOSLEEP Los Angeles, CA (M); www.GoSleepUSA.com
• Grand Trunk, Skokie, IL (M); www.grandtrunk.com
• Holly Jolly Bags, Closter, NJ (R)
• Hypnap LLC, Waltham, MA (M); www.hypnap.com
• ikase, Beverly Hills, CA (M); www.ikaseusa.com
• ITO Luggage Co. Ltd., Shanghai, China (M); www.itocases.com
• Jontn Industry Co., Ltd., Xiamen, China (M); www.jontn.com
• Leggage, Reading, MA (M); www.leggage.com
• LeTrav, Milwaukie, OR (M); www.letrav.com
• Luggage Online, Doral, FL (R); www.luggageonlinen.com
• Mind Shift Gear, Santa Rosa, CA (M); www.mindshiftgear.com
• MiWorld Accessories, New York, NY (M); www.miworldaccessories.com
• MTM, Inc., Lakeland, FL (M)
• Oakthrift Corporation Ltd., London, UK (M); www.oakthrift.com
• Occles Eyewear, Edinburgh, UK (M); www.occles.co
• On Sight Equipment Ltd., Squamish, Canada (M); www.onsightequipment.com
• P-MATE USA, Broomfield, CO (M); www.pmateusa.com
• RADRoller, Denver, CO (M); www.RADRoller.com
• RejuvaHealth, Irvine, CA (M); www.rejuvahealth.com
• Rollasole, Las Vegas, NV (M); www.usa.rollasole.com
• SETSALES, Cumming, GA (SR)
• ShelfPack by McKaba Luggage LLC, Santa Barbara, CA (M)
• TRIFORCE Luggage, Miami, FL (M)
• UGOBAGS, Newhall, CA (M); www.ugobags.com
• VIM & VIGR, Missoula, MT (M); www.vimvigr.com
• Voyager Merchandising, LLC, Sewickley, PA (M); www.maketraveleasy.com
• Walter and Ray, Santa Monica, CA (M)
• Wellitec Development Ltd., Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong (M); www.wellitec.com
• Wojo Wallet, Dallas, TX (M); www.wojowallet.com
• Yaywallet, Tigard, OR (M); www.yaywallet.com
• Xiamen L & C International Exhibition Co. Ltd., Xiamen, Fujian, China (M); www.lcfairs.com

M=Manufacturer; R=Retailer; SR=Sales Rep

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Highlighting the corporate citizenship of the travel goods industry

Lojel Supports Breast Cancer Research and Awareness

LOJEL DONATED THEIR POPULAR PINK WAVE CARRY-ON to support breast cancer survivors and participants in the Komen Denver Race for the Cure®. And in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, 10% of their October sales of the Wave, Streamline, and Lucid carry-on were donated to Susan G. Komen® to help fund breast cancer research.

L.C. Industries, Inc. Partners with American Foundation for Children with AIDS

L.C. INDUSTRIES, INC. RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ITS PARTNERSHIP WITH THE American Foundation for Children with AIDS (AFCA). One of the top 20 organizations in the U.S. dedicated solely to HIV/AIDS, AFCA has helped thousands of African children affected by this disease since 2005. One of AFCA’s programs includes “Vacation with a Purpose,” which provides participants with a way to give back while on break. Projects range from repairing homes to gardening to teaching English. The participants interact with the community by attending events, playing games, and more. In addition, AFCA leads several climbs, including one to Mt. Kilimanjaro. Individuals and teams fundraise throughout the year to raise money for their trips and must reach a minimum of $8,000 to attend, which includes a $5,500 donation to AFCA. L.C. Industries’ donations will be used as gifts and incentives for those who are fundraising for AFCA.

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Seattle Sports has specialized in domestic manufacturing of radio-frequency seam-welded packs, duffels, luggage, and other bags since 1983. With over 30 years of experience, a privately-owned domestic manufacturing facility, and a dedicated custom design team, it can work with customers to create private-labeled, co-labeled, and completely custom designs with minimal turnaround time and low minimum order quantities.

For more information, log on to www.seattlesportsco.com, or contact Bri Murray at 800-632-6163; contact@seattlesportsco.com.

**MEMBER PROFILES**

**Zensah**

**Compression Apparel**

**FOUNDED IN 2004, ZENSAH IS A LEADER IN TRAVEL COMPRESSION, DEDICATED TO CREATING COMPRESSION PRODUCTS FOR TRAVEL AND WELLNESS THAT MAKE THE TRAVEL EXPERIENCE MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE.**

Its seamless technology creates flat seams for added comfort, and it uses 3D fabric design and ribbing to improve circulation, with a proprietary fabric containing silver ions that are anti-microbial, thermo-regulating and durable.

“Zensah offers travelers a new alternative to traditional compression socks and is recognized in the market for its innovative compression socks and leg sleeves,” states Manuela Bogeholz. “Zensah provides the optimal compression level for comfort and function and continues to be a primary choice for travelers.”

Zensah’s Fresh Legs Travel Compression Leg Sleeves make use of compression and targeted support by incorporating a 3D fabric design and ribbing that improves circulation and enhances blood flow. They are designed to provide massage-like relief for sore legs to create a more comfortable travel experience. The company’s sales and marketing office is based in Miami, FL.

For more information, log on to www.getfreshlegs.com, or contact Manuela Bogeholz at 305-935-4619; manuela@zensah.com.