

For Immediate Release



### CCSPA Applauds the Signing of the USMCA

**October 2, 2018, Ottawa, Ontario** - Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association (CCSPA) joins our 35 Member Companies across Canada in applauding the American, Canadian and Mexican governments for signing a new comprehensive trade deal. Shannon Coombs, the President of CCSPA, pointed out, “These negotiations have resulted in an agreement for all three countries; USMCA will benefit not only the North American business climate, but consumers as well.” There are a number of key points that make this agreement such an important step for all North Americans:

1. Maintaining the agreement’s three-party structure is vital, as requiring businesses to transition to new bilateral agreements could be disruptive to well-established supply chains and hinder overall competitiveness of Canadian industries.
2. CCSPA views the promotion of regulatory coherence as outlined in Chapter 28 as the most important nontariff-related issues to be addressed in the USMCA re-negotiation context; we are pleased to see that Annex 12 outlines good regulatory practices specific to chemical management.
3. Chapter 5 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement will harmonize Rules of Origin (ROO) across North America and that makes it easier for our Members to add value to products that might be finished in the US or Mexico and will give consumers enhanced product choice.
4. We support continued efforts in the areas of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and regulatory coherence for domestic pest control registrations. The working group included in Chapter 9.17 (e) supports the work that has been done since 1996.
5. The USMCA presents an opportunity for each country to work toward improving upon their World Trade Organization (WTO) trade facilitation commitments, including adopting rules requiring each USMCA country to conduct its customs’ operations with transparency, efficiency, and predictability.

With respect to the US tariffs on aluminum and steel and the Canadian countermeasures, it was announced that they will be negotiated separately. CCSPA urges all parties involved to work diligently to come to a resolution; as the tariffs on aluminum and steel, as well as the corresponding countermeasures, impact the residents of all three countries in a detrimental way.

**About Canadian Consumer Specialty Products Association ([www.ccspace.org](http://www.ccspace.org)):** CCSPA is a national trade association that represents 35 member companies across Canada, collectively a \$20 billion industry directly employing 12,000 people in over 87 facilities. Our companies manufacture, process, package and distribute consumer, industrial and institutional specialty products such as soaps and detergents, pest control products, aerosols, hard surface disinfectants, deodorizers and automotive chemicals.

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