

CRN closed out its 50th anniversary year with a track record of accomplishments that continued to deliver on our mission:



To protect and advance a climate for our members to responsibly develop, source, manufacture, and market science-backed dietary supplements, functional food, and their ingredients, for better health and nutrition.

With the insight our 50-year history provides, the energy of our dedicated staff of professionals, and the collaboration with our member companies, CRN addressed the challenges facing the dietary supplement and functional food industry with a balance of advocacy and diplomacy. See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view the full quarterly report with links, including Steve Mister's NutraIngredients-USA.com article, "Where Advocacy Meets Diplomacy: 2023 Demanded a Full Toolbox."

FOLLOWING UP WITH FDA, FTC

CRN meets with FDA officials regarding re-organization

In two November 2023 meetings with Jim Jones, FDA's new deputy commissioner for Human Foods, CRN staff discussed the association's extensive self-regulatory activities, the commitment of its members to the highest standards, and the breadth of the industry as well as of consumer use of dietary supplements and functional food.

INFLUENCING NUTRITION POLICY IN THE U.S. AND GLOBALLY

CRN discusses 'Supplements to Savings' data, nutrition gaps at presidential workshop

CRN's Andrea Wong, Ph.D., SVP, scientific and regulatory affairs, and Mike Meirovitz, senior director, government relations, represented the association at the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology Advancing Nutrition Science Workshop in November. Dr. Wong and Meirovitz discussed the findings of CRN's "Supplements to Savings" report and the importance of dietary supplements to bridge nutrition gaps. This engagement is part of CRN's ongoing efforts to include dietary supplements as part of the conversation with the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health.



SEE CRN'S WEBSITE FOR DETAILS:

- **CRN protects innovation for the supplement industry innovation by seeking clarity on drug preclusion**
- **CRN dialogs with FTC to address health products claims guidance**



CRN-I symposium report published, calling for recommendations supporting resilience, optimal health and expanded healthspan

The CRN-International (CRN-I) 2023 symposium report, "Advancing Nutrition Science to Meet Evolving Global Health Needs," was published in the European Journal of Nutrition.

[More](#)

See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view full quarterly report with links.

INFLUENCING NUTRITION POLICY, CONTINUED

CRN explores executive, judicial outreach on impending New York age restrictions

Following passage of a law in New York that will place age restrictions on weight management and sports nutrition products, CRN is in communication with the governor's office and the state attorney general's office to examine ways to ameliorate implementation of the most burdensome aspects of the law. The new law will prohibit the sale of certain dietary supplements to those under 18 years old. Despite vetoing the identical legislation last year, Governor Hochul surprised the industry and signed the measure in November. The association is evaluating a range of legal options. CRN continues its opposition to similar bills in other states (see next item) and has begun planning for a broader assault on these products in state legislatures in 2024.

CRN testifies against proposed age restrictions on supplements in Massachusetts

Adding to its opposition efforts in several states that have proposed age restrictions on certain dietary supplements, CRN in November presented testimony in Massachusetts against a bill that would prohibit access to safe and beneficial dietary supplements to consumers 18 years of age and younger—and limit access to these products by consumers of all ages. CRN's testimony emphasized there is no credible scientific data that the products or ingredients identified in the legislation lead to, or cause, body dysmorphia, eating disorders or mental health issues. CRN also noted the numerous challenges that Massachusetts consumers, retailers and regulators would face if the bill was enacted.

CRN supports next generation of nutrition scientists through educational awards

CRN in October welcomed 2023 winners of the CRN and American Society for Nutrition Foundation (ASNF) Program for Scholars (CAPS) award to its Science in Session event. As part of CRN's efforts to support the nutrition research community and enhance awareness of the role dietary supplements play in nutrition, CAPS award winners are selected from graduate student members of the American Society for Nutrition (ASN) based on their academic record and commitment to research.

SEE CRN'S WEBSITE FOR MORE:

- **CRN wraps economic impact study, slated for early 2024 release**

ADVANCING SELF-REGULATORY EFFORTS

- **CRN's Board of Directors adopts new e-commerce voluntary guideline**
- **CRN melatonin task force reviews guidelines for potential updates**
- **CRN gummy format task force drafts voluntary labeling, packaging guidelines**

More



CRN's Michael Meirovitz testified on Beacon Hill against age-restriction legislation for supplements.



Pictured here are mentors Angela Mastaloudis, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, Brassica Protection Products; Susan Hazels Mitmesser, Ph.D., Vice President, Science & Technology, Pharmavite; honorees Inah Gu, Josephine Dudzik, and Joseph Arballo; and mentors Eric Ciappio, Ph.D., R.D., Strategic Development Manager, Nutrition Science Balchem.

PUSHING BACK ON MISINFORMATION

CRN puts JAMA melatonin letter in perspective, highlighting safety

A November JAMA Letter on pediatric melatonin use merely underscores the popularity of these safe products, CRN noted in response to the publication. See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports for more.



GROWING MEMBERSHIP


CRN closes 50th anniversary year welcoming new members

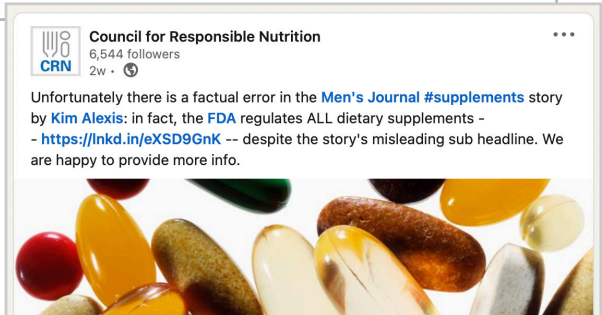
CRN announced the addition of five ingredient supplier firms joining its growing list of member companies in the fourth quarter: Jungbunzlauer; Lycored, Ltd.; Mibelle Biochemistry; SuanNutra Inc., and Verb Biotics.




CRN steps up pushback of media misrepresentation

In addition to its personal outreach to educate journalists on the facts about dietary supplements, particularly that they are well-regulated, CRN has increased engagement with reporters via social media to counter the “unregulated industry” myth. The association is calling attention to errors that mischaracterize dietary supplements as unregulated and missed opportunities to provide balance in reporting on topics including melatonin and vitamin D, noting the CRN Foundation’s Supplements to Savings data.

 **CRN** @CRN_Supplements · Dec 11, 2023
With regard to @KnuvIS article on melatonin; she says melatonin not rigorously tested, but PubMed @NCBI has over 32 K studies on the ingredient & as for label accuracy, we offer a counterpoint to her citation on the issue: tinyurl.com/7pxnv24h



HIGHLIGHTING INDUSTRY LEADERS

CRN presents supplement company heads as drivers of economic growth, value to public health

CRN continued publishing profiles of dietary supplement industry leaders from its member companies, via its “Profiles in Leadership” series, closing the year with SierraSil’s Michael Bentley, Plexus Worldwide’s Mike Beardall, and Kyowa Hakko’s Karen Todd. Previous profiles in 2023 included Pharmavite’s Jeff Boutelle, Alkemist Labs’ Elan Sudberg, and Cypress Systems’ Michelle Martin.

PROFILES IN LEADERSHIP

Kyowa Hakko
VP, Global Brand Marketing

Karen Todd

*Talks togetherness, diversity,
and trusting yourself*

Council for Responsible Nutrition



[More](#)

See www.crnusa.org/2023-reports to view full quarterly report with links.

EDUCATING INDUSTRY

CRN presents FDA's Califf, top industry CEOs, and more for 50th anniversary events

CRN's 50th anniversary events—Now, New, Next, and Science in Session—held Oct. 3-6, at the Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel, provided a valuable educational and networking experience for attendees in the dietary supplement and functional food space. CRN President & CEO Steve Mister's thought-provoking fireside chat with FDA Commissioner Robert M. Califf, M.D., resulted in several industry trade press articles and analysis of his comments. Mister also spoke with industry CEOs, giving attendees "the view from the corner office," engaging Pharmavite's Jeff Boutelle, Chromadex's Rob Fried, and Nutrafol's Giorgos Tsetis, in discussion of a range of topics, including innovation, consumer trust, and the importance of delivering high-quality, science-backed supplements.

Mister delivered his President's Address, reviewing how CRN's founding principles remained the same for five decades and how the association has been at the forefront of every issue impacting the industry since its founding in 1973.

Tara Martin delivered the CRN board chair address, discussing the association's new strategic plan, proactively navigating a course forward and creating the agenda and defining the priorities for the industry.

In addition, Science in Session coverage examined whether nutrition science is reliable enough to make solid public and personalized health recommendations.

CRN provides educational content for SupplySide West

CRN staff presented in and presided over educational sessions at SupplySide West in October, including:

- **Supplements 101: Fundamentals for a successful journey** with SVP, scientific and regulatory affairs, Andrea Wong, Ph.D.
- **A comprehensive look into the health and nutrition legal and regulatory landscape** with SVP and general counsel Megan Olsen
- **Sports nutrition quits the gym and goes mainstream** with VP scientific and regulatory affairs Luke Huber, N.D., and CRN members

CRN also sponsored the **What's Up With Supps Retro Toy Party** at the trade show, supporting networking among dietary supplement industry professionals and displaying a light-hearted side of association collegiality.



Chromadex CEO Rob Fried with Nutrafol CEO Giorgos Tsetis and Pharmavite CEO Jeff Boutelle discuss the state of the supplement industry with CRN President & CEO Steve Mister at the association's 2023 annual conference.



SEE CRN'S WEBSITE FOR DETAILS:

CRN keeps members updated on EPR developments

Through its weekly member newsletter and Government Relations Committee, CRN provided members with updates on extended producer responsibility (EPR) developments across several U.S. states.

- **Dietary supplements and the U.S. military webinar presents ODS director and other government experts**
- **CRN announces kickoff of educational webinars, events in 2024**