



News Release

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CHEMISTRY COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY ELECTS FOUR NEW MEMBERS TO ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Expansion Reflects Growth, Diversity, and Industry Leadership Across New Jersey's Business of Chemistry

TRENTON, NJ - (October 29, 2025) – The Chemistry Council of New Jersey (CCNJ) is pleased to announce the election of four new members to its Board of Trustees, bringing the total number of Board members to twenty. The newly elected Trustees represent a broad cross-section of New Jersey's chemistry and manufacturing community and reflect the Council's ongoing commitment to ensuring strong, diverse leadership that advances its advocacy and policy priorities.

The four newly elected Board members are:

- **Alexia Johnson**, Executive Director, R&D Facilities, **Merck & Co.**
- **Zach Kuehne**, President & CEO, **Kuehne Chemical**
- **Heather J. Lasell**, Site Manager, **LyondellBasell**
- **Heather J. Uhlmann**, Plant Leader, **DuPont**

"During my tenure as chair, I have made it a priority to expand our Board representation to better reflect the scope and diversity of our member companies," said **Grant Hutchings**, Chair of the CCNJ Board of Trustees and Head of Supply Chain - Americas at Infineum USA L.P. "The leaders elected today bring with them an incredible range of experience, vision, and management expertise that will strengthen our organization and help advance the interests of the business of chemistry in New Jersey."

Dennis Hart, CCNJ Executive Director and Board Secretary, added, "We are as strong as our membership, and our Board should reflect that strength. I am delighted that we have attracted such a stellar group of leaders who bring deep operational, regulatory, and technical expertise. Their perspectives will be instrumental as we continue to advocate for sound public policy and regulatory balance that supports innovation and growth in the chemical and manufacturing sectors."

Board members play a vital role in shaping CCNJ's advocacy priorities and providing strategic direction on issues impacting the chemical industry at the state and regional levels. This latest expansion marks the first time in recent years that CCNJ has welcomed such a significant number of new members, with six new Trustees joining the Board in 2025 alone.

About the Newly Elected Board Members:

Alexia Johnson, Executive Director of **R&D Facilities at Merck & Co.**, has more than 19 years of experience in facilities and operations management, leading high-performing teams and managing complex budgets and compliance systems for technical and commercial facilities.

Zach Kuehne, President and CEO of **Kuehne Chemical**, represents the third generation of leadership at the family-owned company. Under his leadership, the company continues to expand its vertically integrated chlor-alkali operations across the Mid-Atlantic region.

Heather J. Lasell, Site Manager at **LyondellBasell** in Edison, NJ, brings extensive experience in chemical engineering and operations management, with previous leadership roles at Sasol North America, and Huntsman LLC. She holds degrees in Chemical Engineering from Louisiana Tech University and Economics from the University of Vermont.

Heather J. Uhlmann, Pennsauken Plant Leader at **DuPont**, leads initiatives in Environmental, Health & Safety, operational excellence, and continuous improvement. She is also active in STEM advocacy and outreach through her leadership in engineering and professional development organizations.

With these appointments, the CCNJ Board continues to represent the depth and diversity of New Jersey's chemical and allied industries, positioning the Council to further strengthen its mission to advocate for policies that foster innovation, growth, and sustainability.

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The Chemistry Council of New Jersey (CCNJ), founded in 1955, is the trade and advocacy organization representing the interests of more than 65 New Jersey manufacturers and 46 firms in the business of chemistry. Our membership consists of large and small companies that are part of New Jersey's chemical, pharmaceutical, consumer packaged goods, petroleum, flavor & fragrances, and precious metals industries. The CCNJ is committed to a better quality of life through science.