

CHANGE | chemistry



RECAP REPORT
**2025 INNOVATORS
ROUNDTABLE**

HOSTED BY **BATTELLE**
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**BATTELLE HEADQUARTERS, COLUMBUS, OHIO
SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2025**

WELCOME LETTER FROM JASON PEARSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHANGE CHEMISTRY

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for being part of the 2025 Innovators Roundtable, Change Chemistry's most significant annual gathering. Over three days, more than 100 leaders from across the value chain came together in person and virtually at Battelle's headquarters in Columbus, Ohio to advance the future of sustainable chemistry.

This year's Roundtable reaffirmed the power of in-person dialogue to drive meaningful change. In meeting sessions and networking activities, over meals and coffee breaks, and on the traditional Run with Joel, our community's energy and openness were palpable. We saw cross-sector collaboration in action: startups, retailers, brands, manufacturers, NGOs, and policy leaders all contributing their perspectives, challenges, and ideas.

Our dialogue with you is shaping the future of Change Chemistry and our proposed **Market Transformation Program**: a multi-year collaborative initiative with partners and members to radically accelerate the transition to sustainable chemistry across companies, categories, value chains, and sectors. As we envision it, the Program will consolidate—and evolve into shared "toolkits"—a comprehensive suite of existing and new resources to enable strategic, scalable change across four key areas.

In 2026, we will start prototyping the **Portfolio Transformation Toolkit**: a suite of practical resources to empower the strategic transition of an entire chemical portfolio toward sustainable chemistry. The Toolkit will initially be used to drive market transformation of the **paints and coatings industry**, while soliciting broader stakeholder input to ensure its value and applicability for any company, value chain, sector, or product category. In parallel, we will continue building out our **Policy Toolkit**, and we will support our partners' ongoing work on the core components of an **Investment Toolkit** and **Narrative Toolkit**.

I invite you to stay engaged. Join a working group, attend an upcoming webinar, or reach out directly. Your insights and leadership are essential to shaping what comes next.

With gratitude,
Jason Pearson

Executive Director, Change Chemistry



SPONSOR RECOGNITION

HOST SPONSOR: **BATTELLE**

Battelle is a global research and development organization committed to science and technology for the greater good. As the Host Sponsor, Battelle played a central role in coordinating the event, supporting logistics and programming, and hosting attendees onsite and virtually. Their dedicated team and hospitality created a welcoming environment needed to hold honest and productive conversations. Battelle also contributed to the event's content, with team members participating in panels and delivering a keynote that emphasized collaboration and the need for system-wide engagement to drive change.

PLATINUM SPONSOR: **CAS**

CAS connects the world's scientific knowledge to accelerate breakthroughs that improve lives. CAS hosted a memorable reception, creating a welcoming space for networking and deeper conversations. They also shared insights focused on data and content throughout the panel sessions and keynote.

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Thank you to each of our sponsors for their leadership and support.

HEARD AROUND THE ROUNDTABLE

"We need everyone
involved to make
change."

"Progress is
better than
perfection."

EVENT OVERVIEW

The 2025 Innovators Roundtable, hosted by Battelle in Columbus, Ohio from September 9–11, served as Change Chemistry's primary annual convening, bringing together **more than 100 members** and key stakeholders driving the future of safer and more sustainable chemistry. The event fostered deep cross-sector collaboration and advanced a shared mission: accelerating market transformation toward sustainable chemistry. The Roundtable served as a catalyst for new ideas, partnerships, and momentum toward a more sustainable chemical industry. **Watch the recap video:**



AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **Startup Pitch Presentations:** 10 startups showcased cutting edge solutions for sustainability.
- **Keynote Addresses & Panels:** Collaboration, market transformation, and policy incentives.
- **Networking Events:** Speed networking, receptions, and informal connections.
- **Battelle Headquarters Tour:** Behind the scenes look at world class research facilities.

[VIEW AGENDA](#)



"We need everyone on the supply chain to focus on solutions."

KEY THEMES & INSIGHTS

Across sessions and keynotes, several themes emerged that will guide Change Chemistry's work ahead.



Value chain collaboration can drive market transformation... so let's make it happen!



Retailers and brand owners can actively shape—and benefit from—value chain alignment toward sustainable chemistry.



Change Chemistry should advance both an ambitious strategy for market transformation and provide practical resources to meet immediate needs.



Policy and market incentives will both continue to define the pace of adoption.



Market failures (e.g., disincentives, information gaps) pose a more significant barrier to progress than technical gaps.



Many Change Chemistry members seek strategic guidance on where to prioritize across their chemical and product portfolios.



"Change Chemistry exists to drive market transformation toward sustainable chemistry."

"90% of manufactured goods contain the business of chemistry."





TESTIMONIALS

The testimonials we received speak volumes about the impact of the Roundtable experience. These reflections highlight the value of the programming, the strength of the Change Chemistry network, and the inspiration attendees took away from their time together.



"The Change Chemistry team was clearly focused on delivering a high-value meeting. And Battelle was an over-the-top host. For me, networking was the most valuable component. However, the 'pitch' sessions were probably my favorite and provided great insight into the broad range of approaches to a more sustainable industry."

"Overall, excellent networking opportunity. Some thought-provoking discussions. Favorite part of the event: Speed Networking. More of this, please!"

"The networking is simply powerful. Making connections to our shared success is unbelievably important."

"Change Chemistry is THE place to connect with safer chemistry-minded people and companies that have a passion to change the world for the better. The organization brings people and companies from all parts of the value chain, as well as society, to propel solutions to the betterment of humanity and our planet."



"Among the most valuable aspects of this meeting, in my opinion, is the high concentration of decision makers/influencers attending. If the objective is impact, the team should maintain a focus on getting these individuals, and more like them, in the sessions. I think this is Change Chemistry's secret sauce."

GET INVOLVED

CONNECT WITH US

- Join member working groups and policy sessions
- Share feedback to help shape future programming
- [Read featured articles](#) and [receive updates in our newsletter](#)

PARTICIPATE

- Attend upcoming webinars and Change Chemistry events
- Host or support future Innovators Roundtable events
- Contribute your insights to featured content and case studies

SHARE YOUR STORY

- Post on LinkedIn and reconnect with colleagues you met at the event
- Highlight your organization's progress and challenges
- Use #ChangeChemistry to join the conversation and be sure to tag us

QUESTIONS?

[Contact](#) Jenny MacKellar, Program Director

"Transitions can make or break—they require trust, cohesion, good communication, and letting go of ego."

"Change Chemistry changed us."



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!

[VIEW EVENT PHOTOS](#)

