

SURVEY OF U.S. ASSOCIATIONS

U.S. industry associations were contacted in order to supplement information provided by individual importers and to provide an industry perspective on trade in the colours, dyes, paints and varnishes industry.* While eighteen associations dealing with products related to this sector were interviewed, only four provided information on the issues of interest. These associations and their mandates are as follows:

- **American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC)** expands the knowledge of textile dyeing and finishing by developing standard test methods, conducting textile research and disseminating information.
- **National Decorating Products Association (NDPA)** represents paint and wallcovering stores in the United States and Canada and conducts research, marketing, and customer development programs.
- **National Paint and Coatings Association (NPCA)** represents the interests of this industry before Congress, federal agencies, and state agencies and develops programs and services for its members.
- **Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME)** has as its mission technology transfer in manufacturing industries and education of its members by collecting and disseminating knowledge on the technology of manufacturing.**

The associations were interviewed to provide the following information:

- market trends for the colours, dyes, paints and varnishes industry;
- the effect of the devaluation of the U.S. dollar on trade in the U.S. colours, dyes, paints and varnishes industry;
- major industry trade fairs;
- major industry publications;

* Associations representing end user industries were also contacted for this sector.

** This association is not exclusively associated with the paints and coatings industry. However, the SME was recommended to obtain perspective on the finishing industry. Major industry trade fairs and publications identified by the association have been included in Appendix 6.