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ISSPA'S 18TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE AND 70 YEARS OF TRUST, UNITY, AND GROWTH

Celebrating Our Legacy, Strengthening Our Future

As we prepare to welcome the New Year 2027, it gives me immense pleasure to invite our members, industry associates, and event supporters to join us for a truly special occasion - the 18th Biennial Residential Conference of ISSPA and the celebration of 70 Glorious Years of our association, from 28th to 31st December 2026 at The Westin, Powai Lake, Mumbai.

This is more than a conference. It is a celebration of our shared journey, achievements, friendships, and collective aspirations for the future of the Indian MSME paint industry.

A Conference with Something for Everyone

We have taken utmost care to make this Biennial Conference meaningful, memorable, and beneficial to every participant. For our members, it is a valuable opportunity to meet fellow paint manufacturers from across the country, exchange experiences, understand emerging market trends, explore new business possibilities, and learn from the leading raw material suppliers and industry experts.

For our event supporters - raw material manufacturers and suppliers, machinery manufacturers, and other industry associates - the conference offers an excellent platform to interact with prospective customers from different parts of India. The personal connections established during such gatherings can develop into long-term business relationships, opening new avenues for growth and collaboration.

We have also given special attention to the families accompanying our delegates. The Westin, Powai Lake, is among India's finest hospitality destinations, and our special conference arrangements make it possible for members and their families to enjoy this premium experience at an affordable rate. While delegates participate in knowledge-sharing sessions, business discussions, and networking activities, their families will have an opportunity to relax, spend quality time together, and enjoy the hospitality of an exceptional property.

Our objective is simple: Every delegate should return home with valuable knowledge, new contacts, fresh ideas, and happy memories.

Seven Decades of Commitment to the MSME Paint Industry

The story of ISSPA began in Mumbai in 1956 with just five individuals who shared a common vision for the growth and welfare of small-scale paint manufacturers. Over seven decades, that modest beginning has evolved into an association of more than 2,000 members across India, represented by 11 state-wise regions.

This remarkable journey has been made possible by the dedication of successive generations of leaders, the commitment of our regional teams, and the continued trust and participation of our members.

From its early days, ISSPA has worked to address the challenges faced by small paint manufacturers, represent their concerns before the government, facilitate access to raw materials, and create opportunities for knowledge-sharing and business development. Over the years, our activities have expanded to include technical education, management training, awareness of new technologies, and information on government schemes and support available to MSMEs.

Our state-wise regions play a vital role in carrying this mission forward. By organising conferences, seminars, technical programmes, and member interactions, they help manufacturers remain informed, competitive, and prepared for changing business conditions.

The growth and prosperity of paint manufacturing enterprises in the MSME sector remain the foremost objective of ISSPA. We firmly believe that when our members grow, the association grows, and when the MSME sector becomes stronger, the Indian paint industry as a whole benefits.

Honouring the Leaders Who Built Our Legacy

As we celebrate our 70th year, we must pause to acknowledge those who made this journey possible. The past presidents of ISSPA have contributed their valuable time, experience, energy, and leadership to the development of our association. They have guided us through changing economic conditions, industry challenges, and different stages of growth.

Their contributions have helped shape ISSPA into the strong organisation it is today. We consider it a privilege to honour our past presidents during the 70th-year celebrations and express our sincere gratitude for their dedicated service.

An institution's true strength lies not merely in its present achievements but also in the foundations laid by those who came before it. As we honour our past leaders, we also renew our commitment to carrying their legacy forward with greater determination.

The Strength of MSMEs: Our People and Our Agility

Although the combined market share of MSME paint manufacturers is estimated to be less than 30%, our sector makes a significant contribution to employment and entrepreneurship. We can proudly highlight the widespread employment opportunities created by our members, whose businesses collectively support a workforce that, by our industry's estimates, is more than twice the size of the workforce employed by the large paint companies. Our contribution extends beyond employment. MSMEs support local economies, serve diverse regional markets, develop products suited to local requirements, and create opportunities for entrepreneurs across the country.

We may not have the financial resources, advertising budgets, or distribution networks of the large companies. However, we possess strengths of our own. Our proximity to customers, personal relationships with dealers, understanding of local markets, and ability to make quick decisions give us important competitive advantages. The challenge before us is to recognise these strengths and use them effectively.

Every MSME manufacturer must identify their core competencies, understand their target markets, control costs, improve product quality, and develop strategies suited to individual businesses. We must embrace technology, adopt better management practices, strengthen customer relationships, and remain alert to new market opportunities.

We do not have to imitate the strategies of large companies. We must build our own strategies around our strengths.

Conferences such as our Biennial provide the ideal environment for this process. Discussions with fellow manufacturers, interaction with technical experts, exposure to new products, and the sharing of practical experiences can help members make informed decisions that influence the future of their businesses.

Moving Forward Together

As ISSPA enters its eighth decade, our responsibility is to make the association even more relevant to the needs of our members. We must continue to strengthen our regional activities, expand technical and management education, improve awareness of government initiatives, and represent the interests of MSME paint manufacturers effectively before the authorities.

The opportunities before our sector are significant, but success will depend on our willingness to learn, innovate, adapt, and work together. Our unity has been one of our greatest strengths over the past 70 years. It must remain the foundation of our future progress.

I invite every member to make the most of the 18th Biennial Conference. Participate actively, build new relationships, share your experiences, explore business opportunities, and return with ideas that can translate into measurable growth for your enterprise.

To our event supporters, I extend my sincere appreciation for your continued confidence in ISSPA. Your participation strengthens the bond between manufacturers and suppliers and contributes to the development of the entire paint industry.

As we celebrate our proud past and look towards an exciting future, let us renew our commitment to the common goal that brought ISSPA into existence in 1956 - the progress and prosperity of small and medium paint manufacturers across India.

I conclude by extending my warmest wishes to every ISSPA member, industry associate, and their families for a Happy, Prosperous, and Colourful New Year 2027.

May the New Year bring good fortune to your businesses, fresh opportunities for growth, and success in every endeavour. Above all, may it bring you and your loved ones abundant happiness, peace, and good health.

Let us celebrate 70 years of togetherness and move forward with renewed confidence towards a stronger future for ISSPA and the Indian MSME paint industry.

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