

Quarterly **NEWS  
LETTER**

WINTER ISSUE 2024

**BeST**

Beryllium Science & Technology Association



**Dear Readers,**

**We welcome you to the Winter edition 2024  
of the BeST Quarterly Newsletter!**

In this edition, we will inform you about the recently announced EU plans for the development of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), share with you an overview of the BeST members' visit to Brussels. BeST has also recently hosted its 2023 French version of the "Working Safely with Beryllium" webinar.

Wishing you a very pleasant read.

*Kind Regards,*

*Mrs Angélique Renier, Secretary General of BeST*

# Table of Contents

- EU recognises the importance of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)	03
- BeST members met policymakers and stakeholders in Brussels in January	04
- BeST hosts Be Responsible Webinar in French	05
- Recent Position Papers	05
- Easy Guide Blasts	06
- BeST Online	06

# EU recognises the importance of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)

**On 6 February, the European Commission announced plans to rely on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) to achieve the EU's 2040 climate objectives. SMRs are small and simpler units for generating electricity from nuclear power, and for process heat.**

SMRs reduce the impact of capital costs and provide power away from large grid systems. Beryllium is an important component for building SMRs.

The EU will establish an industrial alliance for SMRs, with the first reactors to be deployed by 2030. SMRs, miniaturized nuclear reactors with a maximum output of around 300 megawatts, are seen as beneficial for grid stability in countries with intermittent renewables, potentially replacing coal-fired plants. The EU's initiative aims to promote cooperation and development in the SMR field.



# BeST members met policymakers and stakeholders in Brussels in January

**BeST members travelled to Brussels in January and met with a wide range of policymakers and stakeholders to discuss the impact of several legislations on the Beryllium Industry.**

**BeST members highlighted the criticality of Beryllium in various sectors, including space and defence. They explained Beryllium's unique properties and its key role for the performance of products, therefore making it a fundamental ally in the green and digital transition. They stressed the need for coherence across legislations.**

As many industry associations, BeST is concerned by current regulatory trends to penalize products containing hazardous substances.

Best argued that hazardous substances are used safely in consumer products without causing adverse effects on human health and the environment when handled correctly.

BeST pointed out that most of the current Critical Raw Materials, including Beryllium, play a crucial role in advanced sustainability but are classified as hazardous substances potentially restricting their use in products. Finally, BeST asserted that existing EU legislation including CLP, REACH, RoHS, and CMRD, is sufficient, effective and efficient to ensure the safe use of hazardous substances in products.

# BeST hosts Be Responsible Webinar in French

On 4 December 2023, BeST welcomed participants to its French version of the Be Responsible webinar dedicated to “Working safely with Beryllium”.

Angéline Camus, Consultant in EU Affairs for BeST, shared information on the constitution of BeST and the objectives of the Association and moderated the webinar.

Angélique Renier, in charge of Communications and Environment at NGK Berylco France and Secretary General of BeST gave an overview on the EU regulatory framework applied to Beryllium. Participants had an overview of the key eight elements of the Be Responsible Programme and dived into the measures to implement to work safely with Beryllium in low-inhalation risk processes as well as likely-risk inhalation processes.

BeST would like to thank all speakers and participants for attending the webinar.

## Recent Position Papers

BeST has launched a new page on its website specifically dedicated to the position papers prepared by BeST and its Members on the most important EU topics.

BeST has continued to engage actively with policymakers, providing feedback and industry views on the following key topics:

- *Industrial transition pathway for the Aerospace and Defence Sector*
- *End-of-Life vehicle Directive*
- *Ecodesign and energy labelling of electronic displays*
- *Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool*

Check out all our position papers [here](#).

# Easy Guide Blasts

Easy Guides are a communication tool developed by BeST at the end of 2021 and dedicated to each of the 12 Guides developed in the frame of the Be Responsible Voluntary Product Stewardship Program.

Nine of these guides are dedicated specifically to specific processes.

The sixth of the nine process-specific Easy Guide Blast was published and dedicated to Forging.

Check out all our Easy Guide Blast editions [here](#).



# Stay in Touch

The BeST website keeps you informed with a 'Latest News' section, where readers can follow the latest news and features on Beryllium.

The news section complements the wealth of information already on the site, on issues such as environment, health, and safety.

Get the latest news on BeST online.

BeST can also be found on **Facebook** and **LinkedIn**. 'Like' the page and be notified when there is news from our association.