

Safety Through Cooperation

- The Sherman Act and the Clayton Act are federal statutes which make certain agreements in restraint trade illegal. Violators can be subject to criminal penalties and large monetary damages.
- The purpose of antitrust policies is to restrict communications concerning cost, production or other trade sensitive information which could be the foundation for such illegal agreements.



Trade associations are generally recognized as a legitimate forum for competitors to share ideas which promote the efficiency of the industry.

#### Example:

- How to do things safer, better, more efficiently.
- However, any discussion which involves the use of cost information (even historical) or other competitive information should not take place without specific authorization of antitrust counsel.



So we should always...

- Not discuss competitive cost, production, market analysis or other competitive trade sensitive data
- Have and follow our agenda
- Keep minutes for a record of our discussions
- Report to your counsel any concerns that you have of variation from the agenda

