



Council for Responsible Nutrition

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FACT SHEET

Council for Responsible Nutrition: Who is CRN?

Q. Who is the Council for Responsible Nutrition?

A. The Council for Responsible Nutrition (CRN), founded in 1973 and based in Washington, D.C., is the leading trade association representing dietary supplement and functional food manufacturers and ingredient suppliers. CRN companies produce a large portion of the dietary supplements marketed in the United States and globally. Our member companies manufacture popular national brands as well as the store brands marketed by major supermarkets, drug stores and discount chains. These products also include those marketed through natural food stores and mainstream direct selling companies. CRN represents more than 150 companies that manufacture dietary ingredients and/or dietary supplements, or supply services to those suppliers and manufacturers. Our member companies are expected to comply with a host of federal and state regulations governing dietary supplements in the areas of manufacturing, marketing, quality control and safety. Our supplier and manufacturer member companies also agree to adhere to additional voluntary guidelines as well as to CRN's Code of Ethics.

Q. What is CRN's mission?

A. To sustain and enhance a climate for our members to responsibly develop, manufacture and market dietary supplements, functional foods and nutritional ingredients.

Q. How many member companies belong to CRN?

A. More than 150, including voting and associate members. A complete list of CRN member companies is available on CRN's website: www.crnusa.org.

Q. What does CRN do?

A. CRN provides its member companies with expertise and action in the areas of science, regulation, legislation, communications, and international affairs. CRN takes a leadership role in advocating for public policy based on sound science and the ability for consumers to have access to a wide variety of high quality, safe and beneficial dietary supplement products.

Q. Who is CRN's president and CEO?

A. Steve Mister has been President & CEO of CRN since 2005. Under his leadership, CRN has experienced increased membership, refined its strategic focus, and launched initiatives that center on increasing industry responsibility and consumer education. In addition to his role as President of CRN, he is also the President of the CRN Foundation. During his tenure, the association has rewritten its Code of Ethics, adopted new Voluntary Guidelines, and successfully lobbied for enactment of the adverse event reporting law for dietary supplements (the Dietary Supplement & Nonprescription Drug Consumer Protection Act) and the Designer Anabolic Steroid Control Act with full support of CRN's members. CRN has developed education and compliance programs to assure industry implementation of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) regulations specific to dietary supplements and strengthened CRN's rapid response to consumer media. It has expanded CRN's outreach to healthcare professionals and conceived and executed consumer affairs programs such as Life...Supplemented, a \$6 million, multi-year campaign to raise awareness of supplements, and Labelwise, a consumer education initiative. Mr. Mister led the association to launch the Supplement OWL, an industry-run online registry of dietary supplements and their labels. He is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Association Committee of 100 and currently serves as Vice Chair of the International Alliance of Dietary Supplement Associations (IADSA) and on the steering committee of the Dietary Supplement Quality Collaborative (DSQC).

Prior to joining CRN, Mr. Mister served in several legal and legislative roles for over a decade at the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), most recently as Vice President and Associate General Counsel. Mr. Mister also worked as an attorney in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Wiley, Rein & Fielding in general litigation, government ethics, and federal election law practice groups, and had a stint on Capitol Hill as a media relations assistant for former U.S. Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Jr. Mr. Mister holds a law degree from the College of William and Mary, an M.A. in Political Communication from the University of Maryland and a B.S. in Speech Communication from Towson University.