# Mason Hayes & Curran backs ICPHSO symposium as product safety scrutiny ramps up



Business law firm Mason Hayes & Curran (MHC) has signed on as a sponsor of the International Consumer Product Health and Safety Organization’s (ICPHSO) 2025 International Symposium, which will convene regulators, manufacturers, NGOs, legal experts and academic researchers in London on 14–15 October. The symposium, organised in co‑operation with the UK’s Office for Product Safety and Standards, carries the theme “Adapting to Change: Exploring the Future of Product Safety”. Michaela Herron, head of products at Mason Hayes & Curran, said in a statement to Business Plus that “as changes to the product safety landscape are occurring frequently and rapidly, global collaboration has never been more important”, adding that the firm was proud to support the event and help clients “stay ahead in an increasingly complex regulatory environment.”

According to the ICPHSO event page, the in‑person programme will be held at The Mermaid London and the organisers have opened online registration, sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities. The symposium schedule includes networking receptions and is being staged alongside a related Electrical Safety First conference on 16 October, underlining the gathering’s role as a cluster of industry and regulatory activity for mid‑October delegates.

Mason Hayes & Curran’s own news release expands on the firm’s participation: its Products practice will be represented in the programme, with partners including Michaela Herron and Wendy Hederman listed as speakers. The firm’s announcement highlights previous ICPHSO engagements and frames the sponsorship as part of an ongoing commitment to the regulatory conversations around wearables, sustainability and the safety implications of artificial intelligence.

The UK government’s Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS), which is co‑operating on the symposium, is the national product regulator within the Department for Business and Trade. OPSS’s remit includes product safety policy, enforcement, legal metrology and standards work across most consumer goods (excluding medicines, food and vehicles), and its involvement signals direct government engagement with the issues on the symposium agenda.

ICPHSO is also using the symposium to broaden industry‑academic connections through a mentorship initiative. The IS25 Mentorship Programme matches students with experienced product safety professionals, waives registration fees for successful mentees and aims to increase participation from underrepresented groups while strengthening links between research and regulatory practice.

The timing and programme focus reflect mounting regulatory and technological challenges: cross‑border product flows, rapid innovation in connected devices and AI, and evolving enforcement regimes make forums for multi‑stakeholder dialogue more consequential. Industry and legal advisers say such events are valuable for interpreting new guidance and emerging standards; Mason Hayes & Curran’s sponsorship and speaker presence positions the firm to participate in those conversations while signalling to clients that it is monitoring regulatory change.

Practical information for prospective delegates—travel, hotel arrangements and detailed programme milestones—is being published by ICPHSO on the symposium page, and the Mermaid’s event listings corroborate the venue and dates, useful detail for international attendees planning logistics.

While the firm frames the sponsorship as an extension of its product regulatory practice, the broader gathering will allow regulators, industry and civil society to test competing approaches to consumer protection at a moment of swift change; organisers say the symposium’s cross‑sector format is intended to accelerate collaborative responses to those challenges.

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## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://businessplus.ie/media-plus/mason-hates-curran-product-safety/), [[2]](https://businessplus.ie/news/icphso-mason-hayes-curran/), [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium)
* Paragraph 2 – [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium), [[7]](https://10times.com/venues/the-mermaid-conference)
* Paragraph 3 – [[5]](https://www.mhc.ie/latest/news/international-consumer-product-health-and-safety-organization-international-symposium), [[1]](https://businessplus.ie/media-plus/mason-hates-curran-product-safety/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[6]](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-product-safety-and-standards)
* Paragraph 5 – [[4]](https://icphso.org/page/is25mentorship), [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium)
* Paragraph 6 – [[1]](https://businessplus.ie/media-plus/mason-hates-curran-product-safety/), [[5]](https://www.mhc.ie/latest/news/international-consumer-product-health-and-safety-organization-international-symposium), [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium)
* Paragraph 7 – [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium), [[7]](https://10times.com/venues/the-mermaid-conference)
* Paragraph 8 – [[1]](https://businessplus.ie/media-plus/mason-hates-curran-product-safety/), [[3]](https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium), [[5]](https://www.mhc.ie/latest/news/international-consumer-product-health-and-safety-organization-international-symposium)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://businessplus.ie/media-plus/mason-hates-curran-product-safety/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://businessplus.ie/news/icphso-mason-hayes-curran/> - Business Plus reported that Irish law firm Mason Hayes & Curran will sponsor the ICPHSO International Symposium. The article says the symposium will be run in co‑operation with the UK’s Office for Product Safety and Standards and will bring product safety stakeholders to London on 14–15 October 2025. It quotes Michaela Herron, head of products at the firm, stressing rapid change in the product safety landscape and the need for global collaboration. The piece highlights the symposium’s role for regulators, manufacturers, NGOs, legal experts and researchers, and states 2025 programme theme 'Adapting to Change: Exploring the Future of Product Safety'.
3. <https://icphso.org/page/2025_international_symposium> - The ICPHSO 2025 International Symposium page announces the in‑person event scheduled for 14–15 October 2025 at The Mermaid London, held in cooperation with the UK’s Office for Product Safety and Standards. It sets the theme as 'Adapting to Change: Exploring the Future of Product Safety' and outlines online registration, sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities. The page lists networking receptions and sponsors including Ashurst, Compliance and Risks, Sedgwick and Amazon, and notes a related Electrical Safety First conference at the same venue on 16 October. Practical information on travel, hotel arrangements, programme milestones and contact details for ICPHSO’s executive director are provided.
4. <https://icphso.org/page/is25mentorship> - The ICPHSO IS25 Mentorship Programme page describes a student mentorship initiative linked to the 2025 International Symposium in London on 14–15 October. It states the programme is run in cooperation with the UK’s Office for Product Safety and Standards and matches students with experienced product safety professionals. Successful mentees receive waived registration to the symposium and mentor support to attend sessions alongside industry delegates. The page summarises aims to develop future product safety practitioners, broaden participation from underrepresented groups, and strengthen links between academia and industry. It includes application details, eligibility criteria, benefits and practical information for mentees and mentors.
5. <https://www.mhc.ie/latest/news/international-consumer-product-health-and-safety-organization-international-symposium> - Mason Hayes & Curran’s news page announces the firm’s sponsorship of an ICPHSO international symposium, noting participation by its Products practice. The item highlights appearances by partners including Michaela Herron and Wendy Hederman, and references previous ICPHSO engagements and speaking roles at virtual and in‑person events. It outlines the firm’s product regulatory expertise and involvement in panels addressing wearables, sustainability and AI impacts on product safety. The page invites readers to find out more about the firm’s Products team and links to related news items and event information, illustrating MHC’s continuing commitment to product safety and regulatory dialogue and collaboration.
6. <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-product-safety-and-standards> - The UK Government’s Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) about page explains OPSS’s remit as the national product regulator within the Department for Business and Trade. It states OPSS protects people and places from product‑related harm and regulates most consumer goods except medicines, food and vehicles. The page outlines responsibilities including product safety policy, legal metrology, standards and accreditation, hallmarking and Primary Authority services. It describes OPSS’s enforcement role, its contribution to national regulation and evidence‑based research, and provides links to statistics, product safety alerts, reports and guidance for businesses and consumers. It also shares news and publications regularly.
7. <https://10times.com/venues/the-mermaid-conference> - The 10times venue listing for The Mermaid Conference confirms The Mermaid London as the conference venue located at Puddle Dock, Blackfriars. The page lists events for October 2025 including the ICPHSO International Symposium on 14–15 October and the Electrical Product Safety Conference on 16 October, supporting the scheduling and location stated by ICPHSO. It provides address details, transport links and an event calendar showing the ICPHSO listing, which corroborates the venue and dates. The entry is useful for delegates planning logistics and confirms the Mermaid’s capacity to host international safety conferences and related networking events and attendee resources including booking.