

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2011

TOPIC: PhRMA's New Agenda

SPEAKER: John Castellani, President & CEO
The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)

On September 1, 2010, Mr. John Castellani became the President and CEO of [The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America](#) (PhRMA), succeeding Mr. Billy Tauzin, a former Louisiana Congressman. The transition was described by *The Washington Post* as “signaling a shift in tone if not approach for one of Washington's most powerful trade groups.” The media speculated that PhRMA selected its new leadership to help rebuild GOP bridges that were burned when the biopharmaceutical sector supported the Democrats’ successful push to reform the health care system.

The media and company executives seemed to view the appointment as a smart pick considering Mr. Castellani’s track record and reputation in (and beyond) Washington. Prior to joining PhRMA, Mr. Castellani had spent nine years as head of The [Business Roundtable](#), an association of CEOs of leading U.S. corporations, cited by *The Financial Times* as “the most influential chief executive lobbying group in the U.S.” Under Mr. Castellani, The Business Roundtable was the second biggest business association lobbying the federal government, behind only the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

At this program, Mr. Castellani will discuss his agenda at PhRMA and how he plans to tackle various issues, such as innovation, drug safety, relationships with various stakeholders and the perceptions of biopharmaceutical companies as well as PhRMA’s agenda outside the U.S. He will also share his views on how the current political climate is impacting biopharmaceutical companies, and the future he foresees for the changing global market.

Prior to becoming President of Business Roundtable, Mr. Castellani was Executive Vice President of Tenneco Inc. and part of the senior management team that led the transformation of the ailing conglomerate into seven strong companies. He started his career at General Electric in 1972 as an environmental scientist and strategic planner.