

ASA Members Meet With Congressional Leaders

Pictured left to right are: Dan Hilton, ASA Director of Government Affairs; Tom LaGuardia, Milwaukee Valve; Dave Prahler, First Supply; Congressman Paul Ryan (WI-1); Joe Poehling, First Supply

ASA hosts Legislative Fly-In, sets advocacy agenda

On May 3 and 4, 2011, more than 30 dedicated members of the American Supply Association came to Washington, D.C., for ASA's Legislative Fly-In. Those in attendance not only had the chance to develop relationships and learn from their peers, but they also had the opportunity to educate their congressional leaders on critical industry issues. The event kicked off with a discussion on the state of

the economy and the new health care law. Members of ASA engaged in spirited discussions with top economists and health care experts. ASA President Bill Kenny (Kenny Pipe & Supply, Nashville, TN) stated, "This [advocacy] may not have been something we necessarily wanted to do, but for the sake of our industry and our individual businesses, it was something that we needed to do."



Pictured left to right are: Harold Arrowsmith and John Martin of Anvil International; Congressman Marsha Blackburn (TN-7); ASA President Bill Kenny, Kenny Pipe & Supply

On Wednesday, May 4, ASA members kicked off their day listening to Congressman Peter Roskam (R-IL) describe the looming challenges that face our economy. A representative from Chicago, Roskam serves on the powerful Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over taxes, trade, Social Security and Medicare. In addition to his committee assignment, Roskam is also number four in the Republican House leadership, currently serving as Chief Deputy Whip. He talked to members about his efforts to hold a listening session on his party's behalf with members of his conference on their feelings about the upcoming "Debt Ceiling" vote. Following the Congressman's talk and a brief question and answer session, members of ASA channeled their energies to educating their elected officials on how changes in law would impact our industry.