



SAVe 2025 Global Conference “A Call to Action”

SAVEe 2025 Global Conference

Mission & Goals

Adopted in 2015 by all 193 U.N. member nations including the United States, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development established 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 associated targets to secure “peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.”

From climate change and environmental degradation to poverty and inequality, the challenges we face are profound, diverse, and getting worse. To cite just one aspect of the sustainability crisis, the rapid pace of technology development has meant that products are being replaced in increasingly shorter life cycles leading to serious environmental consequences. In 2024 alone, 62.5 million metric tons of e-waste were generated globally. This number has increased 21% over the last 5 years. By 2030 – our deadline for achieving the SDGs – the amount of e-waste generated annually is projected to reach to 82 million metric tons.

We must address them as nations, as individuals and as businesses. In furtherance of our mission as the first U.S.-based independent organization to bring AV industry stakeholders together to do our part to achieve the SDGs, SAVEe held its second annual Global Conference on September 24th and 25th at UCLA’s Luskin Conference Center in Los Angeles.



SAVEe 2025
Global Conference
Sustainability in AV

As reflected in the event’s theme, “A Call to Action,” our goal for SAVEe 2025 was to spread awareness of the SDGs within the AV industry, enlarge the ranks of SAVEe volunteers and leadership through our educational forums, workshops and breakout sessions, and to help industry members do their part to achieve sustainable development. It also served as a bridge to establish partnerships with non-governmental organizations, educational institutions and other allied organizations who share our conviction that we must take urgent action to preserve the health of our planet, communities, and people. In addition, the conference provided guidance for industry stakeholders to establish guidelines and best practices on reuse, repurposing, recycling and proper disposal of AV equipment; and to make progress in areas related to responsible waste management, life cycle carbon emission reduction, and reduced energy usage (SDG Goal #12).

What SAVE achieved at InfoComm2025

From reaffirming key partnerships and sponsor relationships to providing education and inspiration, SAVE charted several key achievements:

Keynote addresses delivered substantive content to attendees.

Over the course of the conference, keynotes, panel discussions and breakout sessions provided attendees with a rich and varied palette of actionable information on how to advance sustainability in the AV industry. Topics included:

Green Means Go: The Time to Engineer Change for Sustainability Is Now

Cindy Pereira Cooper, Senior Program Officer of the Lemelson Foundation and Co-Founder of its award-winning Engineering for One Planet initiative, spoke about her organization's efforts to transform education to equip all future engineers with the skills, knowledge and understanding to advance sustainability. She was joined by Jonathan Abarbanel, adjunct associate professor of product design at ArtCenter College of Design, an institution that has adopted the EOP initiative through a program for students to design sustainable electronic products.

The Path to a Sustainable World

Christina De Bono, Co-Founder and President of SAVE, provided an update on SAVE's mission to bring the Sustainable Development Goals to pro AV and the progress we have charted since SAVE's inception in 2022. Reflecting on the theme of this year's conference, "A Call to Action," Christina De Bono outlined what needs to be done in our industry and why SAVE is uniquely well-positioned to spur action.

Shure's Sustainability Story

Christine Schyvinck, CEO of Shure. This address, followed by a highly engaged Q&A session, provided a deeper look at Shure's sustainability initiatives. Christine also spoke about the company's culture of sustainability, its early embrace of the SDGs, and her views on how industry members can work cooperatively to chart meaningful progress.

How Sustainability Leads to Innovation in the AV Industry – Michael Blackman, executive director of ISE, spoke in this video address about the powerful ways sustainability fuels innovation in AV.

UCLA's SAVE Certification Experience – Moderator Joe Way, Executive Director of Digital Spaces at UCLA, interviewed students who had participated in SAVE Certification about the outcomes of that exercise. The students shared their experiences in going through the SAVE Certification program and how transformational the experience was for them. Many of the attendees shared that this was one of the most impactful keynote presentations because of the students' incisive insights who participated in this panel discussion.

Panel discussions, breakout sessions & additional addresses

UCLA's Sustainability Practices

Bonny Bentzin, UCLA's Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer, provided an overview of how America's premier public university has incorporated sustainable practices systemwide and, in so doing, has become a model for other educational institutions.

SAVE Certification Workshop

Facilitators Ray Kent and John Thomas led the workshop designed to help participants come up with ways that their organizations can align with the SDGs. At the conclusion of the workshop, participants were given tools and resources to enable their organizations to develop an SDG plan.

The Critical Role of SAVE Ambassadors

Facilitators Christina De Bono and Carolina Sosa led a working session designed to equip SAVE Ambassadors to implement SAVE's initiatives in their home countries and regions.

Sustainable AV Design & Installation

Facilitators Joe Perez and Juan Carlos Gutiérrez led a workshop to provide AV designers and installers with resources to become more sustainable in every aspect of their work from design and engineering of AV systems, to installation and ongoing service support.

Global Change Makers: The Impact of Our SAVE Ambassadors

Moderator Steph Beckett of rAVe [PUBS] led a panel discussion in which several SAVE Ambassadors discussed their strategies and achievements in facilitating global adoption of the SDGs.

Partnership For the Goals: The Impact of Our Partnerships with HETMA, TERRA, AVIXA, ISE and Link Development

Commercial Integrator group editor Dan Ferrisi led a discussion on SAVE's strategic partnerships' essential roles in creating the groundswell needed for meaningful change.

Sustainability in Manufacturing

Moderator Mike Rogers, Senior Sustainability Program Manager at Crestron, facilitated a discussion with industry leaders on the role that manufacturers have in advancing sustainability, particularly in regard to the generation of electronic waste.

Controlling AV E-Waste: Guidelines on Sustainable AV Design

Joe Perez, Co-Founder and Vice President of SAVE, led the discussion on topics including the AV industry's role in generating e-waste and the importance of sustainable AV design and integration in keeping useable gear out of the waste stream.

Every session was well attended and generated a high level of audience engagement. Conference attendees praised the quality of speakers and content, noting the robustness of the agenda.

SAVE achieved notable milestones

SAVE 2025 will be remembered as a landmark event at which important industry initiatives were launched. Among them:

Introduction of the second edition of *The SAVE Guide to Sustainable AV Design & Installation*.

This publication is unique in the industry: a compendium of actionable information designed to help AV designers, integrators, installers and end users reduce the carbon footprint of AV solutions. Following the introduction of the first edition in late 2024, the latest guide represents a remarkable leap forward in breadth and depth of content. It is also notable for presenting information in a manner that enables industry members to see how their actions relate to specific 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Introduction of the Sustainable Manufacturer Council. A new SAVE initiative, the Sustainable Manufacturer Council seeks to be the leading global reference in sustainability for audiovisual equipment manufacturers, driving a more conscious, efficient and innovative sector that produces products with reduced environmental impact, greater energy efficiency and integrated social responsibility.

Gathering SAVE Ambassadors and Partners from across the world. SAVE 2025 brought together Ambassadors and allies from countries including Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Spain, Germany, and the UK, as well as regions across the United States. This was an important event in strengthening our Ambassador and Partner programs, as it allowed for the in-depth collaboration that's necessary to utilize our resources most effectively and build momentum for our initiatives.



In the words of SAVE's global delegates: a world of accomplishments

SAVE is an independent, non-profit, all-volunteer organization. As such, the most powerful tool we have to carry out our mission are our volunteers. They are essential to bringing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals to pro AV.

The following is a digest of SAVE delegates' comments from our debrief sessions. Together they paint a multifaceted portrait not only of what we achieved at SAVE 2025, but of the commitment all of our members bring to the organization.

"I achieved a better understanding of how SAVE works, and that has **fueled ideas for how to do more.**"

"**There's incredible power in gathering with like-minded people** and getting to know them better. Evidence of the strength of our community and the impact we are having is essential to maintaining and growing our momentum."

"The consolidation, deepening and strengthening of our relationships with attendees, the media, fellow SAVE members and partners was powerful. **People are watching us and noticing the strength of our commitment.**"



"I leave here with **my thinking broadened** and a stronger sense of how I can contribute to a volunteer-led organization."

"For new people, this is a powerful way to **bring them into our organization** and expose them to our thinking."

“The increased participation of manufacturers reinforced my sense that **our message is resonating.**”

“**I gained a sense of hope** from gathering with people who have a shared mission, and at the same time I strengthened my sense of how my organization can benefit from – and contribute to – SAVE.

“This is a singularly powerful way to generate a desire among attendees **to get involved** – to answer the conference theme of ‘A Call to Action.’”



“The conference renewed my sense of mission. It was important in forming and solidifying our partnerships, and in providing **evidence of the value of what we’re doing.** It strengthens our team – and our impact.”

“It’s so valuable to see the **transformation in people** who attended the conference for the first time – seeing how uncertainty or hesitancy turned into an embrace of what we’re doing.”

“At our first conference, I principally taught others about sustainability. In many ways, **this year I was the student.**”

Additional highlights of SAVE 2025

Though the conference was just a day and a half in length, the combination of effective organization and enthusiastic participation from all quarters enabled us to provide attendees with a remarkable experience that included:

Fundraising dinner, silent auction and live auction. In addition to raising the funds SAVE needs to carry out our mission, this year's auction was especially meaningful in that the majority of items were provided by our SAVE Ambassadors and represented the distinctive cultural heritages of the countries they represent. The result was an event that underscored the global nature of our mission and the worldwide scale of what SAVE has achieved. Special thanks to our enthusiastic, energetic and irreplaceable auctioneer, Joe Way!



Valuable networking and informal educational opportunities. At many conferences, keynote speakers jet in for their speech and leave immediately afterward. Our speakers generously gave of their time before and after their keynote presentations to engage with attendees and share their ideas and insights. Moreover, during the breaks between sessions and at social gatherings like our cocktail reception and silent auction viewing, the rooms didn't empty out – they remained abuzz with conversation and interaction: evidence of the high level of engagement sustained throughout the conference.

Enthusiastic sponsor participation. SAVE's sponsors didn't just provide financial support for our Global Conference. They sent delegations, provided panelists and speakers, and contributed their time and resources to ensure a rich experience for attendees. SAVE is grateful for their passionate collaboration.

The opportunity to recognize those who made the event possible. SAVE 2025 concluded with a lunch and closing ceremony at which SAVE leadership had the opportunity to recognize and thank the delegates, sponsors and partners who worked so hard to ensure the success of the conference.

Let's Do this Again

SAVE 2026 to take place October 7-8, 2026, at UCLA's Luskin Center.

The dates have been locked in and – believe it or not – planning is already underway for next year's global conference. Our goal is to build on this year's successes and to chart new ground in providing the information and other resources industry members need to be a real force for change. The more people learn about what we need to achieve and how they can contribute to the sustainability solution, the more powerful the impact we will have. SAVE exists to channel that energy to ensure that our industry, communities and planet can meet the needs of the present while preserving the ability of future generations to survive and thrive.



SAVE 2025 Sponsors

Sustaining Sponsor



Preservation Sponsors



Impact Sponsors



SAVE Partners



Event Sponsors

