Coating 101 Short Course

About the Instructors

Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5 2019, Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, IN
Concept A-D, Level Two

This course is targeted at paper coating professionals who are both new to the industry and those who have limited experience in the business but now need an understanding of the basics of coating technology.

GORDON BUGG Kemira | LinkedIn

Gordon has over 38 years of experience in the paper and paperboard manufacturing and coating area. His first 20 years in the industry were with Mead (now WestRock), based at the Mahrt, Alabama mill where he served as Coating Operations Superintendent for the last seven years of his time with that organization. Upon leaving Mead, Gordon was with Eka Chemicals/AkzoNobel and is currently a Senior Engineer for Kemira where he has global involvement in paper and paperboard coating development, grade development, converting and troubleshooting. Barrier coatings and curtain coater grade development are two areas of current focus. He combines an understanding of the theoretical principles of coating with many years of practical application experience. He holds a Bachelors in Chemical Engineering from Auburn University, AL (1979) and a Masters in Strategic Studies from the Army War College (2004).

FADI S. CHAKAR, PHD Encapsys, LLC | LinkedIn

Fadi Chakar has spent 20 years in the coating industry and first joined Appvion (formerly known as Appleton Papers) in 1995. While at Appvion, he focused on direct thermal chemistries, coatings, and technologies and held several positions in R&D, and manufacturing. From 2007-2009, he served as the technology lead and Superintendent and was a member of the team charged with the design, commissioning and startup of a $120M greenfield off-machine direct thermal coater at the West Carrollton mill in Ohio. Upon completion of this assignment he rejoined R&D in Appleton, WI where he held different positions, including serving as a Technology development Manager. In that capacity, he managed a team of chemists and directed the development of new products and technology platforms. Fadi is currently a Senior Technical Leader at Encapsys, LLC and focuses on encapsulation chemistries and coatings. Fadi received his B.S (Mfg Eng.) from Boston University and his M.S. (Pulping and Paper Science) and PhD (Chemistry) from the Institute of Paper Science and Technology at Georgia Institute of Technology.

MARK CRANCH Trinseo | LinkedIn

Mark completed his chemistry degree in 1987 and began working for the Dow Chemical Company in Sarnia, Ontario in the later that spring. Mark joined Dow’s Paper Latex Technical Service Group in 1995. Mark and his family moved from Sarnia to Portland Oregon in 2012 to assume the role of field based Technical Seller – the role he occupies today. Mark is married with three grown daughters and is a long-time leader of a community non-profit youth sports organization.

MEGGAN HOSTETLER-SHROCK Tate and Lyle | LinkedIn

Meggan Hostetler-Schrock has over 12 years of experience in the industrial starch industry. She received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University in 1998. Meggan worked as a co-op student from 1994-1998 with Weyerhaeuser Company, supporting various technical projects through the Manufacturing Technology team in Federal Way, WA. Upon graduation, she spent her first years as a process engineer for Weyerhaeuser’s Liquid Packaging Operation in Longview, WA working on projects on the liquid packaging board machine focused on improvements in safety, quality, reliability, and cost. She then moved into a role as a Team Development Manager, working as a shift supervisor for several years on the machine. Finally, she transitioned into the role of Lab & Quality Manager. She began her work with Tate & Lyle, a leading starch supplier to the paper industry, in 2006 as a Technical Service Engineer and then as Technical Service Manager, supporting the entire Industrial Starch business unit in the areas of paper & packaging (wet end, size press, coatings) and specialty (building materials, adhesives, other) applications.

CHUCK KLASSE Klass Associates | LinkedIn

Chuck Klass graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor’s degree in pulp and paper technology and received a Master of Business Administration degree from Pace University. His 60+ years of paper industry experience include technical and operating positions with Hamilton Paper, Oxford Paper, Union Camp and Westvaco; editorial experience with Paper Trade Journal; technical service/sales/marketing management positions with Merck Chemical, Lockport Felt, Asten Group, and Inventing/RTG Coating Systems. In 1988 he became a consultant to the paper industry specialized in coating, surface sizing and development of value-added papers; clients include producers of coated paper and paperboard worldwide and suppliers to the paper industry. He is a frequent guest lecturer at universities. He has 7 patents on papermaking and paper coating. His research interests include development of recyclable barrier coatings, digital printing papers, high graphic quality containerboard and lighter weight paper-based packaging. He was inducted into the Paper Industry International Hall of Fame in 2016.

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PRAKASH MALLA, PHD Thiele | LinkedIn

Dr. Prakash Malla has 26 years of experience in mineral pigment development and processing as well as paper coating science and technology. He is currently the head of the R & D at Thiele Kaolin Company where he and his team are involved in improving and developing kaolin products and processes for improved paper coating and filler applications. He earned a Ph.D. in Clay Mineralogy and Clay Chemistry from Rutgers University. Additionally, he holds a Certificate in Mid-Management Program from Georgia Institute of Technology and an Executive Certificate in Management & Leadership from MIT. Prior to joining Thiele Kaolin Company, Dr. Malla was a Research Associate/Postdoctoral Fellow at the Materials Research Laboratory of Penn State University where he spent 5 years developing special types of dehumidifying nanoporous and high surface area materials from silica gels, zeolites, and pillared clays for natural gas-fired air-conditioning system. Dr. Malla has authored and co-authored of over 40 technical papers including book chapters and holds 15 U.S. patents.

STEVE OTTONE Omya | LinkedIn

Ottone has worked for a combined 10 years for two paper/paperboard companies: Container Corporation of America and St. Regis/Champion Paper. He has 27 years of experience working for polymer suppliers for the paper, paint, and coatings industry; all in improved binders for printing, writing, and packaging grade coatings and barrier coatings for paper, packaging, and construction surfaces. Ottone has a BS & MS in Wood Technology from Penn State University and is currently with Omya as a technical service manager for Market Development and Innovation in Packaging. He lives in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina and is a lifelong runner.

LOKENDRA PAL, PHD North Carolina State University | LinkedIn

Dr. Lokendra Pal is an Associate Professor in the Department of Forest Biomaterials at North Carolina State University. He has over 14 years of industrial experience in the research and production of paper-based materials and professional experience in managing and collaborating with industrial partners worldwide. Before joining NC State, he spent 9 years working with Hewlett-Packard Company leading new product research and development programs. Dr. Pal has filed 32 patent applications and been granted 21 patents. He obtained his Ph.D. in Paper and Imaging Science and Engineering from Western Michigan University. He is a certified Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Black Belt and Quality System Assessment (QSA) Auditor. Dr. Pal research group is focused on developing sustainable bioproducts that benefit society as well as the environment. He co-founded the Tissue Pack Innovation Lab (TPIL) at NCSU with the mission of research, training, and technical services to serve the tissue and paper industry.

NANCY PLOWMAN Nancy Plowman Associates | LinkedIn

Nancy is a graduate of the University of Maine with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and a minor in Chemistry. She worked with the S. D. Warren Paper Company, a Printing Paper Subsidiary of Scott Paper Company for 17 years. About half that time was spent in coating research, and the latter part of that time in the Graphic Arts testing group. After resigning from Warren, she joined Acme Printing Company, a commercial web and sheet fed offset printer. Nancy is a recognized expert in the printing/paper field, speaking at many events for clubs and organizations such as TAPPI, NAPIM, RIT, GATE, RPTA and the R&E Research Council. Most of her spare time is spent with family, particularly the grandchildren. Nancy is also an active volunteer member of the Winton Club, an organization that raises funds for a local Hospital. Most she began a new business offering Custom Embroidery services for gifts, and a quilting service for quilt makers. She hopes to expand that business as she heads to retirement.

MARK SORENSEN Andritz | LinkedIn

Sorensen began his career as an engineering co-op student with Beloit Corporation. He graduated with a B.A. of Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech and started work at Beloit Corporation primarily in the calendar and reel areas. He worked as a product line engineer in Calenders, Sr. Product Line Engineer in Calenders. He was also a Sr. Product Line Manager for Calender products. Sorensen was responsible for product line and associated designs, engineering, and product enhancement along with personnel activities. In 1996, Beloit formed a joint venture company with Eduard Küsters of Krefeld, Germany. He became Director of Operations for Küsters Beloit, LLC. He then joined Küsters Paper Machinery Corporation in the Spring of 2000 as Director of Sales and Engineering for the Midwest office of Küsters. He later joined Andritz when Küsters was acquired and currently works as Sales Manager for Paper and Board machines.

DAN VARNEY Omya | LinkedIn

Dan Varney has been working in the paper industry for about 32 years – the first 10 at the Sappi Tech Center in Maine and the last 22 with Omya in Vermont. During his time with Omya, he has worked in technical service, product development, and as the paper lab manager. He currently does technical sales in the north east. Dan is married and he and his wife have a 17 year old daughter. He is a lifelong Boston sports fan who feels happily spoiled by the number of championships they have won in the last two decades. Also, he is hoping to wrap up a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maine this spring.

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