

# Los Angeles Society for Coatings Technologies - LASCT

## Sustainability Educational Full Day Seminar March 6, 2025

- Come Join Us to Learn about the **Newest Sustainable Technologies, Opportunities, and Trends** in this LASCT Full Day Education Seminar
- **7 Major Companies & Professional Organizations** Presentations
- Enjoy **Great Food** at the **Beautiful & Famous Summit House Restaurant** in **Fullerton, California**. [www.summithouse.com](http://www.summithouse.com)
- You will have chance to **discuss with our speakers, network, and win raffle gifts** provided by LASCT and our sponsors in this education event



# Los Angeles Society for Coatings Technologies - LASCT Sustainability Educational Full Day Seminar

March 6, 2025. 9:30 AM – 4 PM

Summit House Restaurant: 2000 E Bastanchury Rd, Fullerton, CA 92835

[www.summithouse.com](http://www.summithouse.com)

- **Member Registration: \$100**
- **Non-Member Registration: \$120** (Join LASCT before seminar to get member pricing. You will get a copy of a yearbook with member contact info of all 4 west coast societies. [www.lasct.org](http://www.lasct.org))
- **Limited space – Please register by Mar 3** for food count and guarantee space.
- **Registration includes Lunch & Snacks** - Choice of Entrée: Prime Rib, Salmon, or Portobello Mushroom
- **Sponsorships: \$325 per sponsorship** which will go toward raffle gifts, food for attendees, and LASCT. Your company name will be on LASCT website and promotional ads, and social media.

Questions? Please contact LASCT Education Committee and Co-Chairs:

- **Eunice Leung:** Email: [eunice.leung@covestro.com](mailto:eunice.leung@covestro.com)
- **Dr. Frank Olechnowicz:** Email: [folechnowicz@behr.com](mailto:folechnowicz@behr.com)
- **Kevin Ginn:** Email: [KGinn@ppg.com](mailto:KGinn@ppg.com)

## Schedule

- 9:30 Starts **Attendees: Registration Check-in & Welcome**
- 10:00-10:30 **BYK:** Emerging Technologies for New Sustainable Architectural Coatings Additives
- 10:35-11:05 **Arkema:** Transforming coatings innovation through Ecodesign
- 11:10-11:45 **Evonik:** Leveraging QSAR Models to Predict Ecotoxicity & Accelerate Development of More Sustainable Coating Additives
- 11:45-12:45 **Lunch**
- 12:45-1:15 **Behr Paint:** Pulling the Right Levers: Sustainably Formulating for the Future
- 1:20- 1:40 **Cal Poly San Luis Obispo:** Catalyst Enabled Chemical Recycling for Plastics Sustainability
- 1:40- 2:00 **Snack and Coffee Break**
- 2:00- 2:30 **American Coatings Association - ACA:** Navigating Sustainability Initiatives for the Coatings Industry
- 2:35- 3:05 **BASF:** Sustainable Raw Materials for Architectural Coatings
- 3:10- 3:30 **Open Discussions between Attendees & All Speakers**
- 3:30- 4:00 **Raffle**



## LASCT Sustainability Educational Seminar – 7 Speakers Bio and Abstracts

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### **Suzanne Chang – American Coatings Associations - ACA Counsel in Government Affairs**

**Bio:** As Counsel in Government Affairs at ACA, Suzanne serves as the liaison for the Environmental Management Committee, Sustainability Committee, and the Science and Technology Committee. Prior to joining ACA, Suzanne worked as a chemical engineer in the federal government for over 20 years and managed research projects aimed at minimizing environmental impacts from offshore oil spills. Suzanne has a J.D. degree from Drexel University and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

### **Presentation - Navigating Sustainability Initiatives for the Coatings Industry**

ACA will highlight several initiatives underway at ACA that address different aspects of sustainability for the coatings industry. On a broad scale, ACA continually monitors regulatory activities impacting the industry, both domestically and abroad, and we can provide a current status update on the state of climate reporting requirements and packaging requirements. Additionally, ACA's subsidiary PaintCare operates a paint stewardship program across 13 states and continues to grow. The PaintCare program has also been adapting to the changes across the regulatory landscape to address new packaging and household hazardous waste laws. Other initiatives that ACA undertakes regarding sustainability for the coatings industry include the continual development and updates of product category rules (PCR) relevant to the coatings industry, such as the PCR for architectural coatings, resinous floor coatings, powder coatings, and coil coatings. Another initiative that ACA is undertaking is an updated literature review of coatings-related microplastics in the environment and the potential impacts. Other topics to highlight, if time permits, include the development of the next ACA Technology Roadmap focusing on sustainability in coatings innovation.

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### **Jeffrey Arendt – Coatings Application Group Leader for Arkema's Coating Resins Business**

**Bio:** Jeffrey Arendt Jeff has a B.S. in Chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and an MBA from the University of Minnesota. Jeff started in the chemical industry with The H.B. Fuller Company, making and testing adhesives. Jeff's coatings career began at Hirshfield's Paint Manufacturing, where he worked for 11 years formulating products for architectural and industrial markets while also overseeing manufacturing, cost, and quality improvement projects. In 2005, Jeff became Technical Director. In 2010, he joined Arkema. Since then, Jeff has worked in technical service and applications development, utilizing Arkema's water-based and solvent-based technologies to develop innovative solutions for coatings customers and markets. Currently, Jeff leads Arkema's liquid coating resins technical service and applications development team. This team is focused on delivering sustainable performance improvements for coatings markets. Jeff is also an instructor at USM's Waterborne Symposium Short Course "Reformulating to Waterborne Coatings."

### **Presentation: Transforming coatings innovation through Ecodesign**

To limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, more and more companies are adopting ambitious climate plans on their full value chain, including scopes 1, 2 and 3. With indirect emissions of paint formulators accounting for more than 90%, lowering carbon emissions from raw materials and application processes is imperative. This presentation will showcase concrete solutions illustrating our ecodesign approach, tackling all aspects of product life cycle, from safer products for people and the planet, to circular and lower-carbon feedstocks, low-energy coating technologies, and durable coatings. These innovations provide a comprehensive roadmap with examples for each of the major coating technologies (waterborne, high solids, powder coatings and UV cured coatings), supporting the transformation of architectural and industrial coatings, enabling green buildings, electric mobility, and more circular packaging.



**Nicholas Foley, PhD - BASF R&D Manager Architectural Coatings**

**Bio:** Dr. Nicholas Foley has conducted research and developed for new products with BASF for 15 years. His research has spanned from urethanes to acrylics with a focus on various applications including construction products, adhesives, and architectural coatings. Nicholas is currently the R/D Manager for architectural coatings group in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Presentation: Sustainable Raw Materials for Architectural Coatings**

Climate change is presenting increased challenges for consumers, governments, and companies to consider the environmentally sustainable impact of products produced and consumed across all industries. For the architectural sector, this challenge creates a unique opportunity to introduce more sustainable solutions into the marketplace. It is essential that these solutions prioritize the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to mitigate climate change while also considering the overall environmental impact of a product throughout its life cycle, from cradle to grave. While numerous technical solutions are available, there is currently a scarcity of viable options that align with the economic and regulatory realities of the architectural coatings market while also fostering consumer trust. Leading solutions in the chemical industry leverage renewable feedstock strategies in the upstream coatings value chain to offset the use of fossil resources. These strategies must provide reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> eq. emissions and a net positive impact on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) factors, such as land and water use. Once identified, these strategies should be designed for widespread applicability throughout the industry, ensuring a stable supply chain resilient to global fluctuations. Ultimately, viable sustainability strategies must win the favor and trust of the customers and end consumers alike. This talk will cover the successes and challenges of these strategic feedstock solutions and how they can deliver meaningful environmentally sustainable solutions to the architectural coatings market.



**Greg Williams, PhD – Director of Strategic Innovation and Sustainability of Behr Paint**

**Bio:** Dr. Williams currently drives Behr's sustainability strategy with a focus on product innovation that is aligned to the company's environmental goals. Previously, he served as Director of Product Marketing where he led the launch of market leading products into new channels. Earlier, he managed research efforts that led to new technologies, product launches, and patents, advancing Behr's technical capabilities. Since joining Behr in 2013 as a Postdoctoral Chemist, he has applied his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from UC Irvine and his Chemistry degree from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

**Presentation - Pulling the Right Levers: Sustainably Formulating for the Future**

Formulating sustainably is both a responsibility and a challenge for coatings scientists, requiring decisions that reduce impact while delivering performance. In this presentation, we'll outline actionable strategies for activating key "sustainability levers" — from raw material choices to lifecycle analyses. We'll discuss what is driving sustainability in the coatings industry, both from a consumer and a certification perspective. Through real-world examples, we'll demonstrate how thoughtful formulation can lead to impactful, sustainable innovations. With this information you'll be able to make strategic decisions that drive the coatings industry toward a future of high performance and environmental responsibility.



**Ron Romer: BYK USA (part of ALTANA) North America End Use Manager, Architectural, Flooring and Construction**

**Bio:** Ron is a B.S. degreed Chemist from Delaware Valley University of Science and Agriculture and three time certified Six Sigma Black Belt statistician. Ron brings over 40yrs of coatings formulation expertise working for major raw materials suppliers and paint producers in the US, including Rohm and Haas, Evonik, Sherwin Williams and PPG. Ron has broad application knowledge of both OEM and field applied systems, based on extensive field trials and line trials. He has formulated numerous commercial paint products and led the development of new raw materials technologies, with various patents in TiO<sub>2</sub> optimization and synthetic silicas/silicates.

**Presentation: Emerging Technologies for New Sustainable Architectural Coatings Additives**

Consumer demand for “greener” more sustainable products is creating a substantial market “pull” on paint manufactures and raw material suppliers. Meanwhile, the ever increasing regulatory “push” is challenging the coatings industry’s innovations to be future proof. Equally important, the chemicals industry requires new technologies and methods to measure our progress toward sustainability. This presentation explains some of the challenges, tools and methods for carbon footprint and life cycle analysis. In response to consumer pull and regulatory push, examples of new additives are highlighted, including new bio-based waxes and defoamers to replace PFAS.



**CAL POLY**

**Gilberto J. Hernandez-Leypon - Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, CA**

**Bio:** Gilberto J. Hernandez-Leypon is a graduate student in the Polymers and Coatings Science program, originally receiving a B.S. in biochemistry from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. During undergraduate studies he had an opportunity to begin researching polymer synthesis as a collaborative project between the university and the Hewlett Packard corporation. Taking an interest in polymer sustainability he pivoted his master's thesis to try and advance the process of chemical recycling, collaborating with chemists and materials engineers to optimize the process.

**Presentation: Catalyst Enabled Chemical Recycling for Plastics Sustainability (collaboration with Dr. Shanju Zhang of Cal Poly SLO)**

Fossil fuel derived plastic products are ubiquitous in modern applications; from containers to textile fibers plastic goods are a significant source of postconsumer waste. Plastic accumulation in the environment is a direct cause of issues such as wildlife strangulation and the accumulation of microplastics in human bodies. Current mechanical recycling methods face challenges with respect to circularity and end-of-life outcomes. To promote plastics sustainability, great attention has been paid to chemical recycling that can turn the plastics into constituent monomer species to regenerate the original plastics. Successful chemical recycling eliminates the reliance on fossil fuels as monomer sources and provides an effective option for removing waste from the environment. In this work, we report the use of synergistic catalysis to depolymerize plastic waste such as PET water bottles. We design the composite catalyst composed of imidazolium-based ionic liquids and transitional metal salts to enable specific interactions between the catalyst and polymer. We investigate various factors on the catalytic activity and selectivity including reaction temperature, reaction time, catalyst loading, solid content, polymer crystallinity, etc. Our work may provide a facile way to advance plastic waste management toward the circular economy.



**Dr. Ingrid K. Meier - Evonik Head of Applied Research & Technology, Decorative Coatings Americas Coating Additives**

**Bio:** Ingrid Meier received her B.S. in Chemistry from Ursinus College and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Chemistry from Princeton University. She has more than 30 years' industrial experience as both a senior scientist as well as in regional and global technical managerial positions. Her expertise has been primarily focused on developing new products and building chemical structure-property knowledge related to additives used in Coatings, Inks, Adhesives, Construction and Electronics applications. Since October 2018, Ingrid has served as Head of Applied Research & Technology, Decorative Coatings Americas for Evonik's Coating Additives business line. She is responsible for applications development, technical service and new product development for additives used in architectural and wood coatings, flooring, and pigment concentrate applications.

**Presentation: Leveraging QSAR Models to Predict Ecotoxicity and Accelerate Development of More Sustainable Coating Additives**

Designing new additives for the Coatings industry that are more environmentally friendly presents a significant challenge, as nature itself can produce molecules which are toxic or not easily biodegradable. This inherent complexity underscores the difficulty in predicting and ensuring the safety of synthetic molecules. While the goal is to create materials that are effective yet benign to both humans and the environment, in practice this is difficult to achieve. This delicate balance between efficacy and safety is at the heart of sustainable molecular design, driving innovation towards more responsible and environmentally conscious chemical solutions. This presentation will describe an approach to improving the environmental sustainability of chemical products by using quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR) predictive models to assess the potential human and aquatic toxicity of new molecules prior to undertaking their synthesis. By gaining early insights into toxicity profiles, the development of molecules that were both effective as coating additives and more environmentally friendly could be prioritized and resources focused on the compounds with the lowest ecological and health risks.

**Please see next page for**

**Registration and Sponsorship Info**



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## Registration and Sponsorship Form

- Register and pay on LASCT website: [www.lasct.org](http://www.lasct.org), or complete this form, email to [LASCT@earthlink.net](mailto:LASCT@earthlink.net) and call LASCT (Tel: 714 998 1891) to provide credit card info.
  - **Member Registration: \$100**
  - **Non-Member Registration: \$120** (Join LASCT before seminar to get member pricing. You will get a copy of a yearbook with member contact info of all 4 west coast societies. [www.lasct.org](http://www.lasct.org))
  - **Limited space – Please register by Mar 3** for food count and guarantee space.
  - **Registration includes Lunch & Snacks** - Choice of Entrée: Prime Rib, Salmon, or Portobello Mushroom
  - **Sponsorships: \$325 per sponsorship** which will go toward raffle gifts, food for attendees, and LASCT. **Your company name will be on LASCT website and promotional ads, and social media.**
  
- **Cancellation will result in forfeiture of 50% of registration fee.**
  
- **If you want to donate gifts for the raffle, please mail them to LASCT Office Address: 2687 Orange Olive Road, Orange, CA 92865. Your company name will be on LASCT website and promotional ads, and social media.**

**Attendee Registration:**

1. Name (First, Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Choose One Entrée: Prime Rib, Salmon, or Portobello Mushroom \_\_\_\_\_
  
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