

Focused on the characteristics of EPS manufacturing best practices, your operations team will gain essential know-how on material & processing optimization, providing in-depth coverage on each stage of the production process. PTO is designed to educate both novice & experienced plant personnel & offer value to every job function in EPS processing. Drawn from seasoned professionals, speakers will deliver actionable tips that can be implemented in your operations immediately.

NOVEMBER 9TH – DAY ONE

12:00 - 5:00 PM REGISTRATION		
1:00 - 1:30 PM	WELCOME & KICK-OFF <i>Gene Zimmermann, EPS-IA</i>	Gene will highlight major learning objectives & invite attendees to share expectations & establish networking relationships.
1:30 - 2:30 PM	OPTIMIZING RAW MATERIAL I <i>Michael Pate, Epsilyte</i>	Industry veteran Mike Pate will cover key attributes of EPS resin that can impact processing such as pentane levels & blend, coatings, bead size & distribution within the mold cavity. From cell nucleation & cell structure to cell stabilization, this presentation will give you the information you need to manage resin use in ways that ensure superior results.
2:30 - 3:15 PM	OPTIMIZING RAW MATERIAL II <i>Jon Lewis, OPCO, Inc. Luis Espada, BASF Corporation Blain Hileman, Styropek Thijs Wansink, KBM ApS affiliate Sekisui</i>	Learn how to employ the use of specialty resins, including Pielcelane & proprietary blends Neopor & Arcel. This expert panel will review what makes them unique, distinctions within processing, the use of recycled feedstock & key formulation factors that influence the finished product.
3:15 - 3:45 PM EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK		
3:45 - 4:30 PM	STEAM MANAGEMENT <i>Gene Zimmermann, EPS-IA</i>	Consistency is key when it comes to steam management. Gene will highlight utilities & processes to optimize your steam management & uncover methods that result in tangible cost reductions while maximizing operations for wet steam accumulators, steam valves & steam traps.
4:30 - 6:00 PM WELCOME RECEPTION		

See next page for DAY TWO

PTO 2022 SPEAKERS



MICHAEL PATE
EPSILYTE



JON LEWIS
OPCO, INC.



LUIS ESPADA
BASF CORPORATION



BLAIN HILEMAN
STYROPEK



THIJS WANSINK
KBM APS affiliate
SEKISUI



GENE ZIMMERMANN
EPS-IA



STEVE WEBER
KURTZ ERSÄ



DON HARRIS
STYROPEK



PETER VAN DEURSEN
MODIX CORPORATION



JACOB HUEMPFER
ATLAS MOLDED
PRODUCTS



WAYNE STEED
PROGRESSIVE
FOAM TECHNOLOGIES



TODD BERGSTROM
ATLAS MOLDED
PRODUCTS



DURHAM BRYCE
ADLAM FILMS



WAYNE BELL
ATLAS MOLDED
PRODUCTS

NOVEMBER 10TH – DAY TWO

7:30 - 8:30 AM BREAKFAST		
8:30 - 9:15 AM	PRE-EXPANSION PRACTICES <i>Steve Weber, Kurtz Ersä</i>	Learn how pre-expansion parameters can work to achieve density consistency. Steve will review processing variables & their effect on cell formation, touching on batch vs. continuous expansion methods, stem, handling & metering raw materials, & fluid bed dryers vs. vacuum stabilization. Recognize best practices to manage density control.
9:15 - 10:00 AM	PRE-EXPANDED BEAD AGING & IN-PLANT TRANSIT <i>Don Harris, Styropek</i>	Gain knowledge on how to avoid material damage & densification during transport. Don will talk about how to transport pre-expanded bead within your plant, aging parameters & bulk flow as well as regrind preparation (granulation & de-dusting), & handling & mixing techniques to incorporate regrind with virgin feedstock. This session will also cover electrostatics & dust issues related to fire safety.
10:00 - 10:45 AM EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK		
10:45 - 11:45 AM	VACUUM MOLDING <i>Peter Van Deursen, MODIX</i>	Peter will provide valuable insights on when & how vacuum molding is most effective & provide thorough coverage on vacuum pumps vs. alternative methods, tooling & venting, & demolding. You will understand how to maximize your benefit from vacuum molding to achieve lower moisture content, quicker production schedules & lower energy use.
11:45 AM - 1:00 PM LUNCH		
1:00 - 1:45 PM	MOLDING PROCESS I SHAPE MOLDING <i>Jacob Huempfner, Atlas Molded Products</i>	Molding is a critical step in determining the mechanical integrity & aesthetic appearance of high-quality EPS products. Jacob & Wayne will cover recognized industry practices to obtain optimal results, including cavity mold filling, steam supply, air supply, venting & steam distribution, steam cycle, proper bead fusion, demolding, & how to address density gradients or wet foam. They will each touch on important aspects of these respective molding processes that can affect production quality & efficiency.
1:45 - 2:30 PM	MOLDING PROCESS II BLOCK MOLDING <i>Wayne Steed, Progressive Foam Technologies</i>	
2:30 - 3:15 PM EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK		
3:15 - 4:00 PM	POST-MOLDING PROCESSES <i>Todd Bergstrom, Atlas Molded Products Durham Bryce, ADLAM Films Wayne Bell, Atlas Molded Products</i>	This speaker panel will cover three aspects of post-molding & finishing stages, including block aging specifications & drying, hot wire cutting & lamination. In addition, they will provide plant safety guidelines used when moving molded EPS from the processing area for finishing & then temporary warehousing before shipping.
4:00 - 4:30 PM WRAP-UP		

PTO 2022 EXHIBITORS



HOTEL INFORMATION



[Treasure Island Hotel & Casino](#)
3300 S Las Vegas Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89109

To reserve your room, call 888-503-8999 or [reserve your room online](#). Use special offer code EPS22 for the discounted rate of \$89/night.

PTO 2022 SPONSORS



1298 Cronson Blvd
Ste 201 Crofton, MD 21114
800-607-3772
www.epsindustry.org