



Food Contact Plastics Seminar

19-20 April 2018

VLEVA Conference Centre Brussels

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



Geoffroy Tillieux – Head of the Technical Department, EuPC

Geoffroy graduated in 2000 from Solvay Business School, specialisation Finance, Université Libre de Bruxelles and obtained a Master in Law in 2012 from Université Catholique de Louvain. He has been working for the European Plastics Converters Association since 2000. As Director of the EuPC Technical Department, Geoffroy coordinates the raw materials committee, food contact issues and risk assessments related to the REACH legislation. He also heads the Regulatory Compliance Services Division of Polymer Comply Europe, EuPC's service company.



Silvia Freni Sterrantino – EU Regulatory Affairs Manager, EuPC

Before her current position as EU Regulatory Affairs Manager at EuPC, Silvia worked as an attorney in leading international law firms and in the Directorate-General for Competition of the European Commission. Admitted to the Italian Bar Association as qualified attorney, she studied law at the Universities of Siena, Cambridge and London, where she earned a LL.M. from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Patrick De Kort – Regulatory Compliance, Polymer Comply Europe

Patrick has a Bachelor in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Utrecht and for Polymer Comply Europe has been involved in various technical activities such as: representation to the European Chemicals Agency's expert group on Bioelution, the Plastics Exposure Scenario Team, and provides technical support to the European Masterbatchers and Compounders (EuMBC) sector group of EuPC. In his latter capacity he has performed an analysis of the request from the European Commission to the European Chemicals Agency to restrict microplastics under REACH.



Enrique Moliner – Researcher at Sustainability & Industrial Recovery Department, AIMPLAS – Plastics Technology Centre

Enrique holds a PhD in Industrial Engineering and has over 10 years of experience in R&D projects in the field of environment and technological innovation. He has been working at AIMPLAS since 2014 and his expertise is focused on sustainability of materials, technologies, processes and products associated with plastic industry, including waste recovery and recycling. He also has experience in technical and legal advice on environmental issues to be considered for the development or improvement of products and industrial processes.



Christian Kirchnawy – Team leader Microbiology & Cell Culture, OFI – Austrian Research Institute for Chemistry & Technology

Christian studied food and biotechnology in Vienna. Since his diploma thesis in 2010, he has been working on the application of in-vitro bioassays for the safety assessment of polymers. For his PhD in technical chemistry, he developed test methods for the detection of endocrine active substances. Since 2011, he has been leading the Microbiology & Cell Culture department at OFI. The main focus of his work is on the safety assessment of food contact materials and medical devices.



Rachida Semail – Partner, Keller and Heckman LLP

Rachida is a Partner in the Brussels office, affiliated with the Paris bar, where she assists clients with food packaging matters. She has extensive experience on subject matters not harmonised at the EU level, as is the case in much of the food contact sector, where mutual recognition is of paramount importance. Rachida's food law expertise includes enzymes, flavourings and food additive clearances, of particular relevance to active packaging. She has also advised clients on product recalls and other related issues.



Angeliki Vlachou – Manager Food Policy, Science and R&D FoodDrinkEurope

Angeliki has an educational background in Agricultural and Food Science and holds a Master degree in Food Safety, specialised in toxicology. Having served EFSA for a year working in risk assessment, Angeliki joined FoodDrinkEurope in December 2012, where she deals with food policy in the areas of food improvement agents, food safety and in particular allergens and food contact materials.



Veerle Van Brempt – Global Regulatory and Packaging Lab Manager, Plastipak

As Industrial Engineer specialised in polymers, Veerle started to work in textile/automotive companies where she was installing quality systems and following safety and environmental related regulations. After 10 years, she moved to the packaging industry within the R&D department and became lab manager of the European R&D lab, having regulatory requirements related to new developments in packaging materials one of the key focus points.



Dario Dainelli – Quality and Regulatory Director, SIT Group

Dario graduated in Industrial Chemistry from the University of Pisa in 1985. He then spent two years as an associate research fellow at the Faculty of Chemical Engineering at the same University. Later, he joined the Montedison "Donegani's" R&D Center, where he acted as supervisor of an R&D lab. In 1990, he joined M&G Polymers, as a Process Engineer for the development of improved melt strength PET grades for injection blow moulding and foaming applications. In 1991, he joined W.C. Grace where he supervised the central EU R&D laboratories and over 20 labs professionals. In 1997, Grace Packaging Division merged with Sealed Air, where he took on the position of Director of Regulatory Affairs EMEA Region from 1999 until 2011. Since 2017, he works at SIT Group.



Bastiaan Schupp – Legislative Officer - Food Contact Materials, European Commission DG SANTE

Since mid-2011, Bastiaan has been a legislative officer at DG Health & Food Safety of the European Commission, working on the implementation of existing legislation on food contact material. A trained chemical engineer, Bastiaan joined the Commission in 2005 at the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra, Italy as a scientific officer after several years' working on chemical safety and risk management within academia. At the Joint Research Centre, he worked on various risk related topics, including societal vulnerability to dangerous chemicals and man-made risks.



Jonathan Briggs – Policy Officer, European Commission DG SANTE

Jonathan studied biochemistry and specialised in toxicology at the University of Surrey in the UK and graduated there in 2002. He joined the UK's Food Standards Agency the same year, where he worked as a senior scientific officer on risk management of chemicals in food, including contaminants, pesticides and food contact materials at EU and international level. Jonathan joined the European Commission in 2014, where he has been working as a policy officer in DG SANTE on food contact materials including areas for which no specific measures exist at EU level.



Eddo Hoekstra – Scientific Officer, Joint Research Centre (JRC), European Commission

Eddo is scientific officer in the Food and Feed Compliance Unit at the Health, Consumers and Reference Materials Directorate. He is working in the European Union Reference Laboratory for Food Contact Materials. Eddo is analytical chemist and chemical engineer. He received his PhD in chemistry from the VU University Amsterdam based on his work at TNO on the natural formation of chlorinated organic compounds in soil. He received his MSc in chemical engineering from the Delft University of Technology.



Juan Carlos Carrillo – Senior toxicologist, SHELL/CONCAWE

Juan-Carlos is a European Registered Toxicologist (ERT) working for Shell since 2006, where he is directly responsible for planning, monitoring and interpreting toxicology studies. At industry level, he has been the chairman of industry task forces in Europe dealing with scientific and regulatory issues regarding the safety of petroleum products (CONCAWE and IPIECA) or Chemicals (CEFIC and ECETOC). He studied Chemical Engineering at the Technical University of Budapest, followed by a PhD. in Biochemistry and Toxicology at the Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf, Germany.



Mike Simoni – Global Product Stewardship leader, EuPIA/Sun Chemical

Mike has a degree in Industrial and Natural Resource Chemistry from Brunel University. He has spent 30 years working in technical functions within the printing ink manufacturing industry, with the last 23 years working in a variety of roles within Sun Chemical. For the last six years, Mike has focused on the compliance of Sun Chemical products, particularly on the products that are used in food packaging and food contact applications. He is part of the European Printing Ink Association (EuPIA) PIFood committee and represents EuPIA in various activities.



Michel Cassart – Senior Consumer Protection Manager, Plastics Europe

Michel graduated from the University Catholique de Louvain as Engineer in Material Science. He started his professional career working in an Academic Research Environment, where he achieved a PhD. He joined the Total group in 95 as Research engineer. After several technical positions in R&D and customers service, he achieved an MBA in 2002 from which he pursued his career in managing Styrenics Polymer Process team. He then moved to positions closer to business activities. In 2016, he joined PlasticsEurope, where he is in charge of coordinating Food Contact and REACHh matters, as well as activities related to BPA and its use as plastics intermediate.



Gordon Dawkins – Global Product Stewardship Manager, INEOS Styrosolution

Gordon obtained his Bachelor Degree in Chemistry, followed by a PhD at Bristol University, completed in 1982. From 1982 to 1984, he carried out PhD studies at the CNRS in Lyon. He joined BP as a research chemist in 1984 in Scotland working on polyolefins and then went on to work on Expandable polystyrene, working on process and product development based near Lille. He joined Styrolution in 2011 and moved to Frankfurt in 2012 working on Product Stewardship.