

# SPE BIOPLASTICS SIG

October Newsletter, 2017



## CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Greetings to all SIG members. It has started getting cold a bit now even in south east and I hope for mild winter. I am really excited to tell everybody that Bioplastic SIG is becoming division. Thanks for voting in favor of that and for all of the support you have provided to SIG in the past.

We have started preparation for ANTEC 2018 and possible TOPCON. We want your help to continue learning and spread new technologies related to our industries. As you read in news and media lot of developments are happening in bioplastic area and we are hoping to bring them to everybody through Antec platform.

One of our aims at bioplastic SIG is to increase participation from our members. We encourage you to take advantage of the various ways to connect with others in bioplastics and biocomposites, such as through the SPE Bioplastics SIG site, and LinkedIn group. We also encourage you to share your happenings and developments in bioplastics, biocomposites and biodegradables as we work to increase communications among our members.

With this newsletter we are starting an article series either provided by specific company, SIG member or a board member. I encourage everybody to take an advantage of this. Please reach out to either Kalena or myself for details.

Hope to see lot of participation from members in ANTEC!!

Abhishek Ambekar

## CALL FOR PAPERS: BIOPLASTICS SIG

Paper Deadline: December 15, 2017

Submission site: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/eselectv2/frontend/index/252707>

Formats: Podium and Poster presentations welcome

The Society of Plastics Engineers Annual Technical conference (ANTEC®) will be held May 7 – 10, 2018 at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL. The Bioplastics Special Interest Group is calling for papers on:

- ▶ Technical developments in Bioplastics
- ▶ Bio-based Plastics
- ▶ Biodegradable Plastics
- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ LCA & Carbon Footprint
- ▶ Regulation & Legislation
- ▶ Process Technologies
- ▶ Application Developments
- ▶ Design & Innovations
- ▶ Compostability

Papers will be reviewed by the Technical Program Committee.

New presentation-only format for commercial papers.

Click [here](#) for Speaker Resources (including paper format).

Questions? Email [margaret\\_sobkowicz@uml.edu](mailto:margaret_sobkowicz@uml.edu)



## BIOPLASTICS SPOTLIGHT: BiologiQ

BiologiQ produces low cost, low moisture content starch resin pellet called Eco Starch Resin™ (ESR). The material is made from residual starch after potatoes are processed into french-fries and potato chips. This starch is used to make plastic resin pellets that can be blended with other conventional or bioplastic resins to produce high quality plastic products.

ESR is compatible with a variety of thermoplastic resins (such as LLDPE, PP and HDPE) and processing methods, from blow molding to extrusion. In addition, plastic product manufacturers can use their existing equipment and processes to make plastic products using BiologiQ's ESR.

ESR's advantages lie both in its potential contribution to the mechanical properties of a product, and its contribution to the circular economy through reduction of materials used, compostability and biodegradability. For example, ESR allows downgauging of thin flexible films while improving film strength, consequently allowing significant reduction in traditional resin (and thus fossil fuel) use. In addition, ESR blended with conventional plastic in mono-layer film form is demonstrated to biodegrade along with the conventional non-degradable plastic when exposed to a microorganism-rich environment.

For more information, visit [www.biologiq.com](http://www.biologiq.com).



# BREAKING NEWS

## BIOPLASTICS SIG: NEWS

### **Bioplastics SIG Division in Formation – Name Change**

Following the decision to become a Division-in-Formation, it was proposed to change the name of Bioplastics SIG. Thanks to your votes, as of August 2017, the application was filed to change the name of Bioplastics SIG to Bioplastics and Renewable Technologies. This new name should take effect when we become a formal division.

### **Call for Newsletter Articles**

You may have noticed articles in the last couple of newsletters highlighting the work of groups and organizations in the Bioplastics SIG.

Our newsletter is an opportunity to showcase the efforts and achievements of your group or organization among your Bioplastics SIG peers, and foster future collaborations. We welcome the opportunity to showcase your group or organization, as well!

Send a short write-up (1 page or less) on your group or organization's efforts to [kalstovall@gmail.com](mailto:kalstovall@gmail.com) for inclusion in a future newsletter.



## OUR MISSION

The mission of the BioSIG is “To provide a unified forum for promoting open exchange of scientific and engineering knowledge related to bioplastics materials that are either biobased, biodegradable, or both with a sustainability emphasis.”

Areas of interest include synthesis, characterization, processing, structure-property relationships, degradation, product design and development, application development, modeling, regulations and compliance, and life-cycle analyses. To achieve its objectives, the SIG collaborates closely with other interested technical divisions of SPE and organizations to coordinate the dissemination of knowledge and understanding of bioplastics through appropriate channels.



## MEET YOUR BOARD

These are the working members of your Board of Directors and bring a strong commitment and knowledge in guiding our SIG into the future.

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## GET CONNECTED

Connect with others in Bioplastics through LinkedIn:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7050139>

Keep up with the latest happenings with the Bioplastics SIG:

<http://www.4spe.org/bioplasticsSIG>