



DANNY HAYNES
2017 IBBC Technical
Program Chair

From rocket science to innovation in bioenergy & bioproducts

I came to the pulp and paper industry from the aerospace industry (predicting thermal environments of launch vehicles) by answering an advertisement from AkzoNobel for a deinking specialist. Back in 1994, the recycling industry was working to recover valuable fiber that was being wasted in landfills. There were many technical hurdles to recycling paper — among them, removing the ink and not enough trained people for the challenge. My boss looked outside the industry to give me an opportunity to use rocket science in my more than 20 years of developing and innovating in our industry, with the latest effort being in bioproducts.

Today, our industry is making good use of our naturally renewable resource for bioenergy and seeking innovative ways to convert biomass into a wide range of bioproducts. AkzoNobel still looks outside the box for sustainable pathways by asking for innovators and startup companies to “Imagine Chemistry” and provide sustainable chemicals for the world (<https://imaginechemistry.akzonobel.com/>), with this year’s platform open until March 16.

International Bioenergy & Bioproducts Conference

The International Bioenergy & Bioproducts Conference (IBBC) focuses on new technologies using renewable materials from biomass to produce chemicals and fuels to support the growing bioeconomy. When IBBC started, it offered a frontier of possibilities, with no certain path to

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success in the field. Today, we have production of lignin and several possible routes to a range of bioproducts.

You have an opportunity to put on your innovation cap and participate in the 2017 International Bioenergy & Bioproducts Conference (IBBC) that will be held at the new Hilton Norfolk the Main in Norfolk, VA, USA. IBBC is co-located with the 2017 Pulping, Engineering, Environmental, Recycling and Sustainability (PEERS) Conference. Mark your calendars for the dates of November 5-9, 2017, for these two valuable TAPPI events with just one registration. The TAPPI IBBC website is now live at <http://tappi-ibbc.org/> with travel and hotel information. Information regarding registration, workshops, technical program, committee meetings, and other events will follow in the coming weeks and months.

How you can present at 2017 IBBC

The IBBC technical programming committee is currently soliciting abstracts for presentations, panel discussions, and student posters. Students are also able to learn the art of quick communication of ideas in our special Rapid

Fire Showcase before the poster exhibit. We are seeking presentations in a broad range of topics, including innovative bioproducts, pathways for conversion of biomass, and developments of a bioeconomy. This year, you can hear both the biorefinery-based papers from PEERS along with the power point presentations of IBBC so that you have full access to some of the latest developments and research in the field.

You can download the Call for Abstracts from the web page <http://tappi-ibbc.org/program/invitation-to-present/>. IBBC is also open to other ideas that are of interest to the bio-based community. Please feel free to contact us with suggestions for session and panel discussions.

Abstracts for both IBBC and PEERS can be submitted through TAPPI's new Speaker Management System <http://speakermanagement.tappi.org/>. You may need to recreate a new login account. Instructions for creating an account and submitting an abstract can be found at the

previously mentioned web link. If you have any trouble, please do not hesitate to contact [Jessica Reaves](#) or [Pat Stiede](#) at TAPPI for help.

The deadline for abstract submissions is March 24, 2017. The PEERS committee will meet on April 13, 2017, to review submissions and to organize the technical program.

So, prepare to network and learn about lignin recovery, applications for lignin, development of sugar based products, production of wood pellets, torrefication, transformation of biomass, leveraging mill assets, biomass utilization — and more — at the 2017 IBBC in Norfolk. **TJ**

Danny Haynes is the Technical Program Chair for the 2017 IBBC and works for AkzoNobel Specialty Chemicals Business Area as a Common Application Team Leader. Email Danny at danny.haynes@akzonobel.com.

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