



SCOTT ROSENCRANCE
TAPPI Journal
Editorial Board



FRANK SUTTMAN
TAPPI Journal
Guest Editor

Diverse content characterizes PaperCon 2019

PaperCon 2019 was held from May 5-8 in Indianapolis, IN. Many of us visiting Indianapolis had little or no perception of the area beyond, of course, race cars and good sports teams. We also found a lovely, walkable downtown with a myriad of restaurants, parks, historic sites, and state government.

As with the diverse offerings of PaperCon 2019's host city of Indianapolis, the conference technical program was exceptionally broad this year. In this special issue of *TAPPI Journal*, we share both the breadth and quality of the content presented at PaperCon 2019 through peer-reviewed papers from the conference, as described below.

Recycling

Can packaging papers be infinitely recycled, or not? Authors Kreplin and colleagues from the University of Darmstadt share fascinating and stimulating experimental results (p. 631). Their findings indicate that recovered paper can be recycled more often than expected, although fiber losses must be kept to a minimum.

Tissue

Creping is a key technology for providing tissue sensory properties, yet most information on the Yankee coatings used in this process is kept proprietary. Authors Omambala of Binghamton University in New York and McIntyre of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette apply fundamentals of rheology to characterize the performance of different creping adhesive packages in tissue manufacturing (p. 641). This information can help towel and tissue producing mills predict the behavior of coating composition *before* performance trials on a Yankee dryer.

Cellulose microfibrils

Authors de San Pio and colleagues from RISE Research Institute in Stockholm highlight use of a unique measurement tool and experimentation that offers a fresh look at filler flocculation phenomena and strategies (p. 653). Their



More than 1,600 attendees participated in PaperCon 2019. Here, a capacity crowd listens to keynote speaker, Amy Blankson of GoodThink Inc., give advice about innovative thinking and reframing work attitudes.

bench-scale method provides papermakers a way to optimize the use of cellulose microfibrils with wet-end chemistry in terms of paper properties, dewatering, and retention.

Biorefinery

Is it possible to replace phenol-formaldehyde resins with lignin-based resins that are safer for humans and the environment? Dongre and Bujanovic of the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF), investigate the use of lignin-based alternatives in paper laminates (p. 666). Their work with miscanthus and willow lignin-furfural based resins aims to establish biorefinery lignin as a promising raw material for use in kraft paper applications.

Process control

Applications of predictive analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) increase in the paper industry every year. Authors Rechtin and colleagues at Solenis, along with

Ranjan of Processminer, overview their computational approach that employs AI to predict reel strength properties before turn-up occurs (p. 679). Their predictive model offers more robust analytics than statistical process control, and supports more informed decisions, change detection, and tuning through machine learning.

We invite you to join TAPPI for PaperCon 2020 at the Cobb Galleria Center, on Atlanta's perimeter, from April 26-29 next spring.

We invite you to join TAPPI for PaperCon 2020 at the Cobb Galleria Center, on Atlanta's perimeter, from April 26-29. We are positive there will be even more diverse and groundbreaking research presented next spring presented at PaperCon 2020. See you there and stay tuned! **TJ**

Rosencrance is senior manager, marketing and technical applications, for Kemira; and Sutman is retired senior group leader, global technology, for Solenis LLC.



The poster features a background of overlapping translucent triangles in shades of grey and green. On the right side, there is a white rectangular area containing the MIA logo (stylized 'MIA' with a circular icon), the text 'International Exhibition of Paper Industry', and the year '2020' in large, bold, black font. Below this, the phrase 'Save the date!!' is written in a blue, handwritten-style font. Further down, the dates '14.15.16' and 'OCTOBER 2020' are displayed in black, followed by the location 'LUCCA' in large, bold, black capital letters. At the bottom right, the website 'www.miac.info' is shown in white text on a black background. On the left side, a green rectangular box contains the text '27th EDITION' in white. At the bottom left, there is a logo for EDIPAP Srl, followed by their address and contact information.

MIA
International Exhibition of Paper Industry
2020
Save the date!!
14.15.16
OCTOBER 2020
LUCCA
www.miac.info

27th EDITION

 **EDIPAP Srl** - Via Pordenone 13, 20132 Milan (Italy)
+39 02 21711614 - info@edipap.com - www.edipap.com