

SURCON 2023

Inspiring Colourful Futures

Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 November 2023
Warwick Conferences, University of Warwick

OCCA's mission is to promote links between academia and the coatings industry to support technical and scientific discoveries, create innovative products and encourage talented students to take advantage of the diverse prospects for employment that are available in this sector. It is this interaction that has enabled the industry to achieve technical and commercial success in the past and will support the development of new solutions to future challenges.

SURCON 2023 will provide both a forum and a networking opportunity for anybody in or associated with the coatings industry, including researchers, engineers and technologists from academia, government laboratories and industry to present their findings, exchange ideas, share insights, make new friends and renew old acquaintances.

The SURCON conference programme will feature 13 presentations and 2 panel sessions over the two days. In addition, there will be generous breaks for discussing research presented on posters. The Conference Dinner, to be held on Tuesday evening, will provide a backdrop for important networking between academia and industry.

The full conference programme and registration form are now available on OCCA's website www.occa.org.uk
For more information please scan the QR code or contact admin@occa.org.uk



Monday 20 November 2023: Warwick Polymer Club

On the day before SURCON 2023, the Warwick Cross Faculty Plastics Group is holding a Polymer Club event to which SURCON delegates are welcome to attend free of charge. This afternoon event includes presentations from Anton Paar, Avient, Loughborough University, OCCA, Unilever, Warwick Manufacturing Group & Zotefoams, plus valuable networking time built into the session.

SURCON delegates are also welcome to attend an evening meal with the Polymer Club members on the Monday evening. As with the afternoon meeting, attendance at the dinner is free for all registered SURCON delegates.

For full programme details and registration form please see the QR code.



About the Polymer Club

The Polymer Club is Warwick University's consortium for external partners: industry, local and UK government, and non-government organisations. It exists to provide an incubator platform to exchange ideas, collaborate and have discussions on current future research and education in the area of polymer science and engineering.

Day 1 Keynote speaker



Paul Sasada (Oxerra)
Sustainability – beyond carbon footprint

Sustainability is the leading trend in the coatings industry. The UN Sustainable Development Goals set out a wide range of activities under the banner of 'Sustainability'.

The first part of the presentation discusses the recent efforts of the paint industry from raw material supplier through to end user to become more sustainable. The recent focus of activity has been on decarbonisation of the entire value chain which aligns with wider net zero targets. The progress being made on this aspect of sustainability will be highlighted.

The second part of the presentation will discuss what happens after the decarbonisation journey is firmly embedded in our industry. What problems does decarbonisation in our industry cause other sectors of society? What are the other 'sustainability' focus areas that are being currently worked on? Which areas are taking a back seat while the carbon emission issue is being addressed? How will the industry tackle these challenges that do not have an obvious solution?

Day 2 Keynote speaker



Tom Bowtell (British Coatings Federation)

Navigating the coatings industry's net zero journey

Back in October 2021, the BCF's Board of Directors made the commitment to become Net Zero by 2050. Saying it is one thing, but how to get there?

Over the last two years, the BCF team has investigated and established the key changes the coatings industry will have to make to get to Net Zero, including the supply chain's efforts to move to renewable energy sources to process and convert raw materials, and evaluating the scope to create biobased products.

In presenting BCF's Net Zero Roadmap, Tom will outline what this journey looks like, what the baseline CO₂ emissions are for the sector, and how BCF is helping members prepare for and start their own Net Zero journeys.

Day 1 Presentations include:



Matthew Adby (X-Rite)
Advances in color and appearance measurement, utilising multi-angle spectrophotometers with integrated image capture, & enabling remote quality control and visualisation of complex materials



Dr Tom Beyersdorff (Bruno Bock)
Improving performance of UV curable formulations by addition of Thiocure polythiols



Dr James Claypole (University of Swansea)
Green hybrid printed flexible & wearable electronics



Tony Heslop (BASF)
Progress in sustainable packaging - an update on the impossible bottle



Dr Con Rob McElroy (University of Lincoln)
Epoxide chemistry in the formation of novel surfactants



Dr Laura Pilon (PRA)
A solvent sustainability guide for the Coatings Industry

Day 2 Presentations include:



Dr John Bannard (Siltech)
A method to enable secondary printing onto linerless labels



Prof Stefan A.F. Bon (University of Warwick)
Mesh-reinforced pressure sensitive adhesive for liner-less label design



Paul Mijnen (Ink Invent)
RheoLight's aesthetic twin-flop color styling effect: introducing the AIPOV visibility model by Ink Invent



Dr Benjamin Naden (PRA)
The circular economy of TiO₂



Prof Karl S. Ryder (IMF/University of Leicester)



Electrochemical and spectroscopic properties of electronically conducting polymers

For full speaker details and presentation abstracts, please visit: www.occa.org.uk/events

Day 1 Panel session



Meeting Net Zero: challenges for industry and society (Chair: Tony Heslop, BASF)
The session will address the challenges facing chemical and coating manufacturers: increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy; reducing reliance on fossil-based feedstocks for materials; and improving recyclability of products and packaging.

Day 2 Panel session



The UK Regulatory Landscape: where are we now and where are we going? (Chair: Paul Sheppard, HMG Paints)
The session will include discussion regarding the impending PCN deadline, EPR, UK REACH and CLP regulations, and how companies can tackle issues that occur when supplying domestic and European markets.