



CONFERENCE PROGRAM AGENDA
MARCH 4-6 • ORLANDO, FL

MONDAY, MARCH 4

4:30 - 6:00 PM **REGISTRATION**

5:00 - 6:30 PM **WELCOME RECEPTION & AWARDS CEREMONY**
Sponsored by **Styropek**

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

7:30 - 8:30 AM **BREAKFAST**
Sponsored by **NexKemia**

8:30 - 9:45 AM **General Session: Creating a Powerful Presence**



Betsy Bowers
EPS-IA



Jon Lewis
OPCO, Inc.

There is no doubt that the EPS industry is facing challenges, especially in light of the United Nations Global Plastic Treaty. EPS-IA's leadership is addressing these threats head-on and raising awareness of EPS as the sustainable material of choice around the world. EPS-IA's Chairman, Jon Lewis, will provide an update on the Association's priorities for 2024 and Betsy will share her view on opportunities for EPS insulation and proactive initiatives to advance the EPS industry with important global stakeholders.

9:45 - 10:30 AM **EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK**
Sponsored by **Kurtz Ersa, Inc.**

10:30 - 11:15 AM **A Potential New ASTM Fire Standard: Updates to ASTM E84**



Dwayne Sloan
Underwriters
Laboratories

Dwayne is the technical lead for a new potential ASTM fire standard to address fire spread performance of exterior wall assemblies in Type V or residential buildings. He will share insights on research that led to this new test protocol, and will also touch on other important standards activity pertaining to ASTM E84.

11:15 - 12:00 PM **Advocacy 2024**



Walter Reiter
EPS-IA

Anti-plastics legislative initiatives continue to evolve at breakneck speed and in an election year advocacy engagement is more important than ever. Walter will share how the EPS industry is keeping ahead of the curve by enacting high-quality advocacy with members of Congress and other government officials. This session will look at key 2024 bills that will impact our industry and provide the tools you need to interpret legislative impacts and engage lawmakers.

12:00 - 1:15 PM **LUNCH**
Sponsored by **Hirsch Erlenbach Sales GmbH**

1:15 - 2:30 PM **Pressing the Truth in Media**



Evan Nierman
Red Banyan

Evan will teach you the importance of "pressing the truth," and provide an inside-look into how media works and help give you the confidence to tell your story in a compelling manner. Learn how to stay focused, establish credibility, and change the narrative. This session will feature a mock Q&A demo with audience volunteers.

2:30 - 3:15 PM **Closing the Loop — Circularity & Embodied Carbon Reduction in Buildings**



Alan Scott
Intertek



Vijay Thakur
Intertek

Reducing embodied carbon in buildings is an increasingly important effort, but it is only part of the story. This session will explore circularity, focusing on the life cycle of EPS products. Alan & Vijay will use case studies to illustrate concepts, practices, and trends for sustainable design.

3:15 - 4:00 PM **EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK**
Sponsored by **Epsilyte**



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4:00 - 4:45 PM

Sustainability Perspectives: EPS Recycling



Matt Todd
Resource Recycling
Systems

Matt will share his expertise on the importance of the EPS industry's recycling survey and improvements planned for data gathering and industry participation. Discover how the recycling data is used to support critical EPS advocacy efforts across the globe. Learn how to expand your recycling efforts and how industry innovations are helping us move beyond good intentions to implementation.

4:45 - 6:00 PM

COCKTAIL HOUR W/ EXHIBITORS

Drink Tickets sponsored by
Sunghoon Tech Co., Ltd.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

7:30 - 8:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Sponsored by **Epsilyte**

8:30 - 9:30 AM

From Washington to the Workplace



Gene Marks

During this fast paced, entertaining, and extremely valuable discussion, Gene will go over real life, feet-on-the-ground strategies and tactics that smart leaders are using to navigate their way through the new political environment and the current economic slowdown to position their companies for future growth. Gene will cover the best cash flow moves, the latest technology investments, how to navigate healthcare costs, regulations that will impact your business, and more. You'll learn specific actions to grow and profit in 2024.

9:30 - 10:15 AM

EXHIBITORS NETWORKING BREAK

10:15 - 11:15 AM

2024-2025: Anticipating Business Cycle Changes



Connor Lokar
ITR Economics

Conflicting trends characterized much of 2023. Some leading indicators were rising; others remained in decline. Interest rates remained perilously high, and people tended to make a certain assumption: "If nothing bad has happened by now..." Connor will look at the domestic and global trends for 2024, including a weakening economy, lower inflation, and a shift in consumer spending. Knowing what to watch for and the probable timing of a future reversal will give you confidence in your future-forward planning.

CONFERENCE ADJOURNS

Agenda subject to change

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