197th Technical Meeting
April 28-30, 2020 - Independence, OH

At our 197th Technical Meeting, you can learn from experts in our industry, support the 2020 Charles Goodyear Medalist and other outstanding award winners as they are recognized for their achievements and contributions, network with the best minds in the business and more.

Featured symposia topics include:
- 3D Printing with Elastomers
- New Reinforcing Materials for Rubber
- Fracture Mechanics of Elastomers, Networks and Gels
- Sustainability Developments in the Tire Industry
- Advances in Polymer Blends
- Characterization of Elastomers
- Science and Technology Award Winner Presentations

We will be featuring table top exhibits on Tuesday and Wednesday for attendees to visit and learn about some great companies in our industry.

Interested in securing a table top to feature your company to our attendees?
- Email Melanie at ma@rubber.org today!
- Cost for a table top exhibit is $500 and includes a 6-ft table, a chair, complimentary entrance for one representative to exhibit, and complimentary entrance for your representative to attend the 25-Year Club Luncheon and Science & Technology Awards Banquet (does not include registration for the Technical Meeting).

Don’t miss out on this great opportunity to market your company to our attendees!

Learn All About This Meeting & Register

Don't let your vision be any less than 20/20 this year. Focus on achieving your goals at IEC!

The International Elastomer Conference provides many valuable learning and networking opportunities.
Why exhibit?
We offer a variety of booth sizes, one of which is sure to fit your company's needs.
Become an exhibitor and give your company the opportunity to:
· introduce new products, programs, technology and product lines.
· network with industry decision makers, current customers and potential customers.
· support sales efforts with direct, personal on-the-floor contact.
· obtain a multitude of qualified contacts in just days.
· reach an international audience - individuals from over 30 countries in attendance.
· reinforce your corporate image with current and potential buyers.
· meet your competition head-on.
· create a lasting impression, stand out from the rest and support your efforts by securing an exclusive level sponsorship opportunity.

Learn More About Exhibiting

2020 Rubber Division, ACS Courses

All of the following courses can be taken in person at our Elastomer Training Center (306 N. Cleveland Massillon Rd., Akron, OH 44333) OR can be taken from the comfort of your home or office – remotely from any tablet, laptop or computer. The Elastomer Training Center is an interactive smart classroom. Advanced technology used in the classroom allows viewing of the course live online and features interactive capabilities. When you register, just select the appropriate registration type for how you will be taking the course – on-site or online.

Click on each course name for full details, descriptions and pricing.
February 25 – Introduction to Compounding, Mixing and Testing
February 26 – Compounding Fluoroelastomers
March 25 – Processing and Testing of Rubber
April 15 – Basic Rubber Compounding
April 21 – Hazardous Communication
May 12-15 – Intermediate to Advanced Compounding and Testing of Rubber
May 19 – An Introduction to Continuous Vulcanization
May 20 & 21 – Sponge Rubber 101
June 10 – Essentials of Rubber Technology
June 11 – Essentials of Silicone Rubber
June 12 – Mixing and Testing for Compound Consistency
June 12 – Setting Up a Rubber Molding Process

Register For Courses

Get Involved With Rubber Division, ACS
Ever wonder how becoming active within Rubber Division, ACS can benefit you and your company, what opportunities are available or what it takes to get involved? Click on the button below to learn about the requirements, expectations and commitment to be a volunteer, serve on a committee, be an Area Director, become a part of our Steering Committee and take the journey on the path to Chair of the division.

Learn All The Details

Rubber Division, ACS Team Updates

Gabrielle Daniel has been promoted to Accounting Manager. In this role, her responsibilities include the day-to-day financial management and reporting for the Division, as well as overseeing all aspects of registration for our spring meeting and fall International Elastomer Conference.

As we have merged our Membership and Education areas together, Heather Maimone now serves as Membership & Outreach Director. In this role, Heather develops, implements, manages, improves and leads the operations and procedures of Rubber Division membership directly related to individuals, corporate, student chapters and associated scholarships. She directs activities involving recruitment and retention programs, current and future benefits and developing long-term strategies for targeting and increasing overall membership. She also works closely with the local rubber groups and affiliated technical organizations. Heather is also responsible for facilitating and managing all on-site training, online courses and webinars. In addition, she manages the Student Outreach Program that provides rubber education and tours to science classrooms in hopes of expanding our industry and getting the younger generations interested.

Rubber Zone Member Site And Mentor Match

We will be rolling our new version of your member login portal. With our new partner Higher Logic, we will be offering a whole new way for members to engage with others in the industry, develop a mentor relationship, share ideas and collaborate with each other!

MENTORS - we are looking for seasoned people in our industry to enroll as mentors for our younger generation of members. We are also looking for people to enroll as mentees.
Please contact me if you are interested. Your information is valuable and you are important to us and the industry!

Enroll As A Mentor Or A Mentee

Thank You Rubber Division, ACS Corporate Members

For over 100 years Brenntag, a leader in chemical distribution around the world, has operated a global network with more than 580 locations in 76 countries. Brenntag was able to achieve $13.3 billion in annual sales with a workforce of over 16,000.

In 2009, Brenntag Specialties was launched, creating one of the first U.S. based National Specialty Platform for Chemical Distribution. Since its inception, Brenntag Specialties, has experienced a strong growth track record based through an ever-expanding portfolio of products and customer loyalty. Much of the success is due to their high-quality materials offered through its strategic partnerships with suppliers like Wacker, SI Group, BASF and Nabletec.

What separates Brenntag Specialties is its large reach with over 50 account managers in 5 regions around the US, along with its 25 strategically placed warehouses. Each of those regions are supported by a customer’s service team to keep the local touch with customers. The second, and most important advantage with Brenntag Specialties is its technical expertise. The Brenntag Specialties technically trained and experienced sales group
Brenntag Specialties also has the added support of an inside sales and marketing group called the Brenntag Solutions Group (BSG). With over 20 employees with various chemical and business degrees, the BSG team can offer inside marketing and technical support for both customers and supplier partners.

With its partnerships, Brenntag Specialties can react quickly with both technical assistance and product availability. They work closely with their principles to make sure continued training is performed and joint travel is always welcomed and appreciated. These relationships allow for better service to their customers and a more fluid ordering process.

CALLING ALL RUBBER PLANTS!

Rubber Division, ACS has student chapters around the world. We are looking for rubber plants who would allow our student chapter members to tour your facility. Here are the locations of our current student chapters:

**United States**
- Ferris State University (supported by the West Michigan Rubber Group)
- University of Massachusetts-Lowell (supported by the New England Rubber & Plastics Group)
- The University of Akron (supported by the Ohio Rubber Group)
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (supported by the Blue Ridge Rubber Group)

**International**
- Brazilian Universities Student Chapter (supported by ABTB-Brazilian Association of Rubber Technology)
  
  **Partnering Universities:**
  - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul
  - Unisinos-Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos
  - University of Brasília
  - Universidade de Caxias do Sul
  - Lodz University of Technology, Faculty of Chemistry Student Chapter in Poland

If you have a plant or know of a plant in any of these areas, contact me so that we can set up a tour for our student chapter members. It is our responsibility to train and encourage the next generation of professionals in the rubber industry!

Sign Up To Be A Plant Toured
NEW Sustainability Community

We are working with one of our members, Kathy Perevosnik, to identify a global group of individuals who are interested in sustainability. Rather than be limited by geographic boundaries or restricted to one definition of sustainable, we are interested in bringing together people who are working on positive beneficial reuse, bio-based polymers, sustainable material choices and any of the other definitions that fit the future of the rubber industry throughout the world. Once a group is identified, depending on interest, we can begin to investigate opportunities to work sustainability into our technical programming, education and expo. Identifying individuals in our industry with an interest in and/or focus on sustainability is the first step. Join our Rubber Zone Sustainability Group or contact Kathy Perevosnik at kperevosnik@northshorerubber.com if collaborating with others by engaging with this group is of interest to you. Then, we can see where this initiative can truly go!

We will be holding a discussion during our 197th Technical Meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at 2pm in Independence, OH. Click here for details on our 197th Technical Meeting.

Share Your Stories Around The World

We believe that our members are the life-blood of this organization. Do you know that 30% of our membership base is from outside of the United States?! We have members from Argentina and Australia all the way to Pakistan, Malaysia and also corporate members from Sri Lanka!

Share your stories with us and we can share them around the globe! We are looking to continually engage our members, and one of the ways we know people are engaged is through PHOTOS. We will be rolling out our new Higher Logic Member Platform and I would like to feature fun photos of our members in the industry.

Send me photos of your workplace, your employees participating in events, other shows you attend, your colleagues having fun, etc. Send them with a small caption and we will feature your photo in the newsletter and in our member portal over time (pictures will be posted at the discretion of RD staff).

Email me to let me know if you have any other ideas of fun ways to engage our members. Here are some photos and videos that I found on social media (which I will continue to do until the stories come flooding in!).
Congratulations to Ed Miller on his retirement from Rubber Division, ACS. Ed started his position in 2001 as the first Executive Director Rubber Division, ACS ever had. He served for 19 years, and prior to this, he was President and CEO of the Asphalt Institute for nine years. Ed retired from the U. S. Air Force in 1992, after serving 20 years. He has also been very active in civic matters and working with abused and neglected children in the United States and third world countries, including running an orphanage in South Korea. Here is a full write up on him by ACS. We will miss you Ed!

LANXESS HAS ITSELF AN AMBITIOUS CLIMATE TARGET

LANXESS, long time Rubber Division, ACS Corporate Member and exhibitor want to become climate-neutral by 2040. To achieve this, they have developed a clear strategy and have already launched the first major projects. With this new goal, they are building on their established and successful commitment to climate protection. However, they cannot achieve climate neutrality on their own.

Rubber Division, ACS is working with our members to start a sustainability group. Contact Heather Maimone at hmaimone@rubber.org if you are interested in more information.

Take A Look At This Blast From The Past

Will Mars is founder and president of Endurica LLC and an expert in durability simulation and fatigue testing of elastomers. Will is very active in Rubber Division, ACS. He has served as Editor of Rubber Chemistry & Technology Journal since 2009. He has also served on our Education and Program Planning Committees. Will was the recipient of our 2007 Sparks-Thomas Award for outstanding contribution to the science and technology of elastomers. Will also won the Best Paper Award at the 162nd Rubber Division, ACS Technical Meeting, Fall 2000 (pictured here), for his paper on “Cracking Energy Density as a Predictor of Fatigue Life under Multiaxial Conditions.”

Share Your Stories!
Look who Rubber Division, ACS team members bumped into over the Christmas Holidays - Struktol and Ohio Rubber Group's Ramona Ayers!

Pictured above is Henrique de Oliveira Brito, Rubber Division, ACS member and affiliated technical organization partner ABTB member, delivering a workshop in Brazil. For information on how you can get involved with ABTB, visit their website at http://www.abtb.com.br/.

A Digital Collection of Stories in History

From the famous, to the infamous, to the never heard of, The Story Podcast are the unknown backstories of people who have changed the world. History builds the present. Where we are today is a result of where we have been. Yet, some of the stories that got us here have remained in the shadows. And the true stories of the people and inventions that have built our world are often lost to time. Our only hope for building a better future is to truly understand what got us to the present.

Click the button below to listen to the story of a man who escaped death, hopped from job to job and who went on to shape American culture as we know it. Season 8 of The Story features eight veterans who changed the way we live.

What will your story be?

Listen To An Episode Of The Story
Local Rubber Group Events

Engage locally! Attend one of our local rubber group/affiliated technical organization’s 2020 events. Here are a few of their events happening soon:

**Chicago Rubber Group:** January 16 - Winter Board Meeting, Schaumburg, IL; March 10-12 - CRG Rubber Course, Elgin, IL

**Detroit Rubber Group:** February 17 - Board Meeting, FNST - Plymouth, MI

**Fort Wayne Rubber Group:** February 13 - Winter Technical Meeting, Fort Wayne, IN

**Mexico Rubber Group:** February 13 - Course: Introduction to Raw Materials, Testing Methods and Basic Processing of Rubber Compounds; March 19 - 56 Years Anniversary Luncheon

**Michigan Rubber Group:** March 4 - Technical Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI

**Ohio Rubber Group:** January 28 - Technical Meeting, Twinsburg, OH

Rubber Division, ACS team members are always willing to participate in your local rubber group events. Contact Membership & Outreach Director, Heather Maimone, at hmaimone@rubber.org if you’d like to have one of us in attendance at your event or board meeting. We will do our best to attend in person or remotely!

Click on the link below to see all 2020 Rubber Group and industry events made known to us. You can search our calendar by keyword, save individual events to your calendar or subscribe to this calendar to keep up on all events as they are added.

[Full Calendar Of Industry Events](#)

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Don't Miss All The Benefits You Could Receive By Joining Our Corporate Membership Program

Become a Rubber Division, ACS Corporate Member and experience the value for your company; save up to 35% on memberships! In addition to the benefits listed beneath each tier available stated below, corporate members will also receive the following benefits:

- Exclusive corporate member registration kiosk at IEC
- Group registration for IEC
Library Services

As a member, you get premier access to our library services! Chuck Brady, our Technical Programs Manager, would be happy to help you find what you need.

Click here to see the fee structure for all library services. Contact Chuck Brady at 330-595-5543 or email him for assistance.

Looking for a New Career? The Perfect Candidate?

Don't forget to visit the Careers section of our website to post your resume, view open positions in our industry or post a position for your company. This information will be seen by our members, along with numerous other companies and people in the industry who view our website daily. Contact Gretchen Cermak for more information.

Login to your member account.

Get a sneak peak of The Rubber Zone.

Thank you for your continued support of Rubber Division, ACS!

Heather Maimone, MBA
Membership & Outreach Director
Rubber Division, ACS
330.595.5546