Members receive FREE registration to our webinars, and all our courses and webinars are FREE for our Student Members. Members also receive significant savings on our training opportunities that aren't offered free.

Upcoming Courses:
All of our courses can be taken from the comfort of your home or office – remotely from any tablet, laptop or computer. Click on each course name for full details, descriptions and pricing.

- July 20 - RPA Testing of Rubber Processability and Dynamic Properties
- July 21 - Rubber Explained
- July 22 - Carbon Black Manufacturing, Properties & Applications in Rubber Compounds
- July 28 - Basic Rubber Compounding
- July 29 - Processing and Testing of Rubber
- August 4 - Understanding Raw Materials, the Building Blocks of Rubber Compounding
- August 18 - Strength and Endurance in Rubber
- August 19 - The Fatigue Limit of Rubber
- August 19 & 20 - Rubber Extrusion Technology
- October 19-22 - International Elastomer Conference Educational Symposium

Upcoming Webinars: FREE for Members
Click on each webinar name for full details and descriptions.
- July 23 - Social Media Marketing in the Rubber Industry
- August 6 - The Basics of Mixing: Internal Mixers
- August 13 - Silicone Explained
- August 27 - Basics of Polymer Testing & Processing (for non-technical employees)
- September 2 - How to Extend Lifetime of Elastomers and Rubber Products
- September 24 - Sales & Marketing 101 in the Rubber Industry

We are excited to announce a new partnership with Endurica LLC. Who will benefit the most from this partnership? YOU!

Endurica LLC is the global leader in durability management solutions for rubber. Their testing and simulation solutions bring unmatched speed and accuracy to product development organizations, enabling them to compete and win on durability. The Endurica workshops below are available for registration through us. They are live online multi-day workshops that will give you a deep-dive, hands-on experience in how to solve durability issues.

Our members receive $100 OFF these workshops!
- July 21-23 - Rubber Compounding for Durability
- July 27-30 - Application of Rubber Fatigue Analysis with Endurica Software
- August 4-5 - Viscoelastic Effects in Elastomers and Impact on Durability
Contact Heather Maimone, Membership & Outreach Director, at hmaimone@rubber.org or 330-595-5546 with any questions about our courses or webinars.

Register For Courses Or Webinars

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.

Learn About IEC 2020

197th Technical Meeting Presentations Available

We may not have been able to hold our 197th Technical Meeting in person as planned; however, many of the scheduled speakers recorded their presentations so we could still provide an opportunity for sharing knowledge and learning. A single registration fee provides access to all 13 presentations, and they may be viewed at your own convenience on any device. The presentations available are from these session topics:

- New Reinforcing Materials for Rubber
- Fracture Mechanics
- 3D Printing with Elastomers
- Sustainability Developments in the Tire Industry
- Materials Research/Characterization

Registration Instructions
- Access the recorded presentations via the Rubber Zone website: https://educate.rubber.org/p/197th_Tech_Presentations
- Click REGISTER and Complete Registration
- You must log in with an active Rubber Division, ACS account. If you do not have an account, you will be directed to rubber.org/store to create one.
- Enter payment information and click COMPLETE REGISTRATION.
Attention Small Businesses!

Our Executive Director & CEO, Lakisha Miller-Barclay, has been selected to join the National Small Business Association Leadership Council. NSBA is a staunchly nonpartisan organization with 65,000 members in every state and every industry in the U.S. The NSBA Leadership Council is a select group of small-business activists who have a desire to improve America’s small-business community by advocating on behalf of NSBA’s small-business members with Congress, the administration and the media. Through her participation on this Council, she will have a ‘seat at the table’ and opportunities to become involved in various activities, events and business intelligence. Lakisha will utilize this opportunity to advocate for small businesses in our great industry. 

If you are a small business in our rubber industry, please complete the survey via the link below to help her better understand the challenges you encounter as a small business. This will assist her in determining how to utilize the information in her position on the Leadership Council and advocate for you.

*The U.S. Small Business Administration counts companies with as much as $35.5 million in sales and 1,500 employees as "small businesses", depending on the industry. Outside government, companies with less than $7 million in sales and fewer than five hundred employees are widely considered small businesses.*

Take The Survey
Redwood Plastics and Rubber manufactures and distributes many grades of industrial plastic and rubber in-stock for quick delivery. They also have in-house design, tooling manufacturing, 3D printing and fabrication to produce custom components including bearings, bushings, sprockets, liners, rollers, sheaves, wear parts, impact absorbing parts, gaskets and seals. Their vast product line of materials is often used to replace steel, aluminum, and wood for longer wear life, decreased downtime, increased production, lighter weight, cost effectiveness and increased safety.

They supply plastic sheet, rod, tube and custom parts as well as rubber sheet, rubber profiles and molded rubber parts in an assortment of standard and specialty grades to solve a variety of problems including; shock, abrasion, noise, weight, mold & mildew, wear, and friction.

Redwood Plastics and Rubber has the manufacturing capabilities to mold, machine, and fabricate, a wide range of high-quality parts in prototype and production volumes. They distribute and manufacture; UHMW, Acetal, Nylon, Rubber, Polycarbonate, Acrylic, Polyurethane, PEEK, Tuffkast, Industrial Laminates, PTFE, FRP Grating and many more.

With six branch locations across North America, 50 years of experience and a team of almost 200 employees with extensive plastic and rubber knowledge, Redwood Plastics and Rubber is the expert in selecting the most optimal and cost-effective material for nearly any application.

Click the link below to learn all about their products and services.
IEC 2019 Best Paper & Best Symposium Results

We are excited to announce the Best Paper and Best Symposium results from the 196th Technical Meeting, International Elastomer Conference, October 2019.

The Best Paper from 2019 is “Silane-Terminated Liquid Poly(butadienes) in Tread Formulations: A Mechanistic Study,” presented by Steven Henning of Total Cray Valley.

Of nearly 100 eligible papers given at the 2019 event, Henning’s paper received top ranks based on a combination of on-site attendee reviews of his presentation and judges scoring of the full paper. Papers are judged for quality of the presentation, technical excellence, significance to the rubber industry and demonstrated innovation or creativity. Steven K. Henning is Total Cray Valley’s Global Director for Research and Business Development and VP of Fina Technology, Inc. His responsibilities include managing both global research initiatives, as well as business development projects for the company’s portfolio of functional additives. Henning was also co-author on the Honorable Mention best paper from the 190th Technical Meeting in 2016.

The Best Symposium at the 196th Technical Meeting was “Testing and Predicting Behavior of Rubber and Tires,” organized and chaired by Crittenden Ohlemacher of the University of Akron and Ed Terrill of ARDL, Inc. This symposium contained a total of 23 presentations over two days. Seven different Symposia topics were eligible for this award in 2019 with the winner determined by a combination of average paper attendance and presentation scores.

The contest was created in 2008 by the Akron Global Polymer Academy (an outreach division of the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering at The University of Akron) as a way of drawing students into the world of STE(A)M education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) through an engaging learning project that emphasizes the design process, problem-solving, research, communication and innovation. The goal of the contest is to provide a fun way to explore STEAM concepts and enjoy hands-on learning with polymers. The challenge of this contest is to design and create a working invention/artwork that incorporates at least one rubber band. The contest features two divisions - Arts & Leisure and Science & Engineering. Over $5,000 in prizes is awarded! Rubber Division, ACS is proud to sponsor this contest and support these students every year. Click on the link below to learn about this year’s winners and inventions.
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.

Send me photos of your workplace (from home or the office), your employees participating in (virtual) 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.

Rubber: The Miracle Material - Bouncing Ideas

In a world where materials were limited to wood, leather, metal, and cloth, rubber was something new: a substance that was strong, soft, flexible, and waterproof, but completely undependable. Then along came a 33 year old hardware merchant named Charles Goodyear, who made it his personal mission to conquer rubber at any cost. Listen to this podcast series to hear the history of rubber.

50 Things That Made the Modern Economy

Rubber is an everyday substance with a controversial past. Tim Harford tells the story of the innovations that made it a hot property and the surge in demand that led to turmoil and bloodshed in an African colony.

Listen to this podcast on how rubber has been instrumental in making the modern economy.

Blasts From The Past: Circa 2008
The past and present come together when Ben Kastein and Shelby Washko talk about Rubber Division, ACS history. They should know because Kastein was Division historian for 14 years (1978 to 1992) and Washko took over from him. She is the current historian.

Click here for more information about what committees you can join!

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**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 woman who is working to help make humanity a multi-planetary species. **What will your story be?**

Listen: The Woman And The Starship On The Story

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**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:
Bourbon Trail Elastomer Group: September 15 - Golf Outing, Cincinnati, OH
Brazil Rubber Group: September 23-24 - 18th Brazilian Congress of Rubber Technology, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Chicago Rubber Group: September 17 - Fall Technical Meeting, Top Golf
Detroit Rubber Group: August 25 - Golf Outing, West Bloomfield, MI
Energy Polymer Group: September 15-16 - Fall Educational Symposium, San Antonio, TX; September 17 - Fall Technical Meeting, San Antonio, TX
Los Angeles Rubber Group: September 3 - Basic Rubber Technology Course (First 10-week Session Begins), Cerritos, CA
Mexico Rubber Group: August 27 - Course: Rubber Compounding Part II Reverse Engineering; Rubber Chamber Auditorium
MidAtlantic Rubber & Plastics Group: September 10 - Fall Meeting, West Conshohocken, PA
New England Rubber & Plastics Group: August 4 - Scholarship Golf Outing
Ohio Rubber Group: August 31 - Golf Outing, Silver Lake, OH; September 29 - Technical Meeting, Twinsburg, OH
Twin Cities Rubber Group: August 6 - Golf Outing; September 17 - Tech Session

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

Rubber Zone Member Site And Mentor Match

We will soon be rolling our new version of your member login portal. We are excited to 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 still 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

Are you an individual member, but think your
company can benefit from 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 savings within each tier available, corporate members also receive the following benefits:

- Discounted exhibit space pricing at the IEC
- Exclusive corporate member registration kiosk at IEC
- Discounted exhibit space pricing at IEC expo
- Group registration for IEC
- Logo displayed on signage during Rubber Division, ACS conferences
- Logo displayed in the IEC on-site Show Guide and Show Daily publications
- Corporate member lounge with coffee, tea and water for corporate members at IEC
- Opportunity to purchase one corporate table at the IEC welcome reception
- Housing info for events released to you early
- Opportunity for on-site corporate training at your company
- Complimentary hours of library research

Information About Corporate Membership

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.

Log in to your member account.

Get a sneak peek 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