



POLYMER PROGRAM SEMINARS

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Friday, September 6th, 2019

11:10 AM, IMS 20

Jaime Gomez

President & CEO – Equitech

President-Elect – Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)

Plastic or Planet - Everyone's Responsibility

The Plastics Industry has been under attack by the media, politicians, environmental groups and the public at-large. Not one day goes by without seeing an ad, a campaign, a negative comment, a new law, a new ban, a negative publication, a new anti-plastics conference, or a new hashtag deriding plastic.

Elementary and high school students are flooded with a negative campaign against plastics and don't have or have not been given the basis to separate the wheat from the chaff. Thus, it seems that this is the wrong time to become a Polymer Scientist, a Polymer Chemist, or a Plastics Engineer.

As the famous saying goes: "Don't let a good crisis go to waste". Thus, the question before us is: what do we do to address this crisis as individuals and as a society?

The Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) is an association that brings together professionals, scientists, professors, and students. Its continuing mission is to serve as a platform for plastics education and networking opportunities for its members. These two pillars: Education & Networking are fundamental to help address the "plastic waste" problem.

In his presentation, Dr. Gómez, will discuss how we, as a society and as individuals, should be contributing to address the current challenges that the plastics industry faces.

For more information, please contact Osker Dahabsu at osker@uconn.edu or visit polymer.ims.uconn.edu