

A Business Unit of Leistritz Advanced Technologies Corp.

Leistritz Extrusion

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

February 21, 2023- For immediate release

Leistritz Extrusion will host its' 1<sup>st</sup> **Bioplastics Twin Screw Extrusion Workshop** May 16-17, 2023 in Branchburg, New Jersey. A unique facet of this program is that the classroom sessions are immediately supplemented by interactive "hands-on" extrusion system demonstrations, as well as screw assembly, equipment cleaning and maintenance procedures.

## Day 1- Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

Bioplastic and natural fiber formulations are heat and shear sensitive, and often require multi-stage venting. A partial list of topics, tailored to specifically to processing bioplastics, is as follows:

- Co-rotating and counterrotating twin screw extrusion technology
- Techniques for dispersive and/or distributive mixing (with minimization of heat/shear)
- Sequencing of multi-stage process operations
- Devolatilization process techniques and practices
- Scale-up of the twin screw extrusion process
- Feeders and material handling for pellets, powders and liquids
- Gear pumps and screen changers
- Pelletizing: strand cut, water ring, and underwater
- Direct extrusion for sheet, film, fibers and profiles
- Reactive processing
- Foaming of bioplastics
- Coextrusion
- Process troubleshooting
- Twin screw extruder maintenance tips and procedures
- Control and monitoring options

In addition to Leistritz staff, outside speakers from industry and academia will contribute to the program, including: Margaret Sobkowicz Kline, UMASS Lowell; Rob Jerman, Extrusion Technology and Innovations; and Jim Nangeroni, formerly NatureWorks Director of Applications Development.

## Day 2- Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

"Hands-on" demonstrations at Leistritz process development laboratory

- Co-rotating and counterrotating twin screw extruders
- Devolatilization via extrusion: ambient, vacuum assist, multi-stage venting
- Feeding of pellets, powders, liquids and fibers
- Downstream addition of fillers and fibers in the twin screw process section
- Die face and strand pelletizing systems
- Direct sheet/film extrusion with gear pump front-end
- Assembly, disassembly and cleaning twin screw elements
- Maintenance for screws, shafts and barrels

1:00 pm Lunch/adjournment

**Place:** Classroom sessions will be held at the Hyatt House in Branchburg, NJ. Extrusion demos will be at the Leistritz Process Laboratory. (3 miles away) Transportation is provided to/from the demonstrations.

Cost: \$800 prior to April 15<sup>th</sup>; \$880 thereafter (includes handouts, lunches, and dinner on day 1)

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