Chapter Editors and Peer Reviewers

Norman Aubee graduated from the Plastics Engineering Program at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in 1984. Norm joined NOVA Chemicals in 1985 and performed various functions in the technical service laboratories. In 1991, he transferred into NOVA Chemicals flexible packaging technical services group for polyethylene products. In addition to his technical service responsibilities, Norm is involved with NOVA Chemicals field market development and application development for flexible packaging applications.

Thomas J. Dunn has worked in the flexible packaging Industry since 1979. He worked 30 years in product development and regulatory for Printpack, Inc., and upon retirement there, he continues consulting within the industry. His undergraduate and Master’s degrees are from Yale University, where he was a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow. He is an active technical and volunteer contributor to TAPPI, the Society of Plastics Engineers, and the Institute of Food Technologists. These three organizations have each awarded him career achievement awards, as has PMMIs “Packaging Hall of Fame”. Dunn lives in Atlanta, where he consults with producers and users of the industry’s products regarding product design and food safety.

Tom Bezigin is an adjunct professor of plastics engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and an industry consultant serving the film, extrusion and converting industries. He received his B.S from UMASS-Lowell before beginning his career at Cryovac Division, W.R. Grace & Co. R&D Center in South Carolina. He continued on to Mobil Chemical, Plastics Division and then Fortifiber Corporation, at which time he earned his MBA at Bryant University in Rhode Island. Tom then became the Technical Director of the Food Packaging Division of James River Corporation in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After the dissolution of James River Corporation, he began consulting full-time, during which time he formulated plans to begin his own business and wrote extensively for Converting Magazine and TAPPI, culminating with TAPPI’s Extrusion Coating Manual, 4th Edition. After a long-term contract as Technical Director at Schoeller Technical Papers, Tom started his own specialty extrusion business in 1997, Great Lakes Technologies LLC, located in Syracuse, New York. After the sale of his business in 2002, Tom returned to full-time consulting.

Tom consults, writes, and teaches globally on all aspects of extrusion and converting for his own practice, as well as for UMASS-Lowell, TechnoBiz Group (Bangkok), Routsis Training (San Juan), PFFC-Online (Chicago), and Packaging Films Magazine (Germany). He has written and edited more than 100 technical papers, articles, and blogs during his career, and is the recipient of many awards, including the TAPPI PLACE Division’s Leadership and Service Award and the U.S. Small Business Administration Technology of the Year Award. He resides in the Syracuse, New York area.

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Warren E. Durling, Associate Research Fellow for Clorox Services Company (GLAD Division) in Willowbrook, IL, earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Packaging from Michigan State University in 1979. He spent the first 20 years of his career on the Research & Development side of flexible packaging converting with Specialty Papers/James River, American Packaging, and Reynolds Metals/Alcoa. For the past 19 years Warren has been employed by the GLAD Division of the Clorox Company working on various consumer food storage and trash bag products, including Glad Zipper bags, Glad-Ware containers, and Press ‘n Seal adhesive wrap. He is currently responsible for packaging design and implementation across the Glad portfolio of products.

Warren has expertise in cast and blown film extrusion, thin layer co-extrusion coating and laminating, adhesive lamination, flexo and gravure printing, complex web handling, profile cast extrusion, and thin wall thermoforming. He has a strong background in the design and use of folding cartons, corrugated cases, and various flexible packaging structures and applications.

Bruce W. Foster is president of PolyKnows LLC, a polymer science, product development, and customer support consultancy based in Southbury, Conn. Launched in 2014, PolyKnows serves clients in the plastics converting and packaging industries in the U.S. and India.

Previously, Foster served as a technical sales manager for Mica Corporation in Shelton, Conn. where he was responsible for all domestic and international technical sales, service, and marketing activities from 2000 to 2014. He began his career at Eastman Chemical in Longview, Texas, where he worked from 1981 to 1999 as a polymer scientist in extrusion coating product development and technical service.

Foster holds eight patents in the U.S. and Canada involving polyolefin compositions and/or the processes for using them.

A TAPPI member since 1981, Foster has earned several Association awards, including the TAPPI PLACE Division Leadership & Service Award in 2010.

He has published several articles in TAPPI Journal and Adhesives Age magazine dealing with new adhesives, methods for studying them, and a rheological method for measuring MWD of polymers. Foster has also authored papers appearing in Biophysical Journal and Biochemistry, dealing with the study of biological macromolecules.

Foster holds Master’s and Bachelor’s degrees in chemistry from Texas A&M University. He is also a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Kelly Frey is an Extrusion Coating Technical Service Specialist at Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LP. He graduated from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton, Canada, in 1990 with a degree in plastics engineering technology. Upon graduation, Kelly was employed by Dow Chemical Canada in Sarnia, Ontario, where he worked in polyethylene technical service and development for approximately 10 years. While employed at Dow Chemical, Kelly worked in TS&D, supporting Dow’s blow molding, blown film, and injection molding polyethylene business. Kelly then joined Chevron in Orange, TX in 1999, where he worked in Chevron’s molding technical service group and then transitioned to extrusion coating technical service in 2000. Kelly then joined Chevron Phillips Chemical Company during its formation in 2001 and has since worked in extrusion coating technical service. Kelly has presented technical papers at both ANTEC® and the TAPPI International Flexible Packaging and Extrusion conference (formerly PLACE Conference) and is an active member of the TAPPI International Flexible Packaging and Extrusion division. Kelly is currently married, has two daughters, and currently resides in Owasso, OK.

Brad Kramer currently works as a Senior Market Developer in the Primary Packaging Segment for ExxonMobil Chemical Company, based in Spring, TX. He has a Bachelor’s degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota and has been active in packaging for more than 30 years. Brad began his career working in product development for a packaging converter and has worked in a variety of both technical and commercial roles for three polymer suppliers, two flexible packaging converters, and a brand owner. Brad has extensive knowledge in multilayer blown films, barrier coextruded films, extrusion coating, and copolymers, and has been engaged globally in the development of packaging solutions. Brad is currently active in mentoring/advising many new engineers both inside and outside ExxonMobil. He speaks frequently at industry conferences, has been active in the TAPPI International Flexible Packaging and Extrusion Conference (formerly PLACE Conference), and has two patents. Brad is single and resides in Houston, TX.
James (Jim) F. Macnamara Jr. has been active in packaging for more than 27 years, working for both converters and end-users during his career. He started out in converting working for American Packaging Corporation before moving on to Kraft Foods in long-term strategic research. Since then, he has worked at Wells’ Dairy, Cello-Pack Corporation, Leprino Foods, and FTD and is currently at Foster Farms. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering and a Master of Science Degree in Food Science from Drexel University. He also has a Master of Science Degree in Packaging from Michigan State University. Jim is a Certified Packaging Professional in IOPP and a Certified Food Scientist in IFT, in addition to being active in TAPPI over the years in various capacities, serving as the Technical Program Chair, Second Vice Chair, and currently the First Vice Chair of the IFPED division. He served as one of the section editors on the fifth edition of the Extrusion Coating Manual and is currently the Global Editor of the third edition of the Film Extrusion Manual. He will serve as the International Flexible Packaging and Extrusion Division chair for 2020–2022. He enjoys traveling and spending time with his wife, Karen, and his dog, Chance.

Scott B. Marks holds degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Business Administration from Rutgers University of New Jersey. Upon graduating from Rutgers, Scott worked for the DuPont Company in several positions from June 1982 through March 2019. In April 2019, the business unit he works in was moved from DuPont to Dow and is currently a Dow employee.

In November 1983, he joined the Technical Service and Development group. During the period of February 1986 through April 2008, he worked a variety of roles for DuPont’s packaging materials business covering mainly Asia-Pacific; technical troubleshooting, market development, application development, training (both internal and external), and mentoring new sales personnel. The processes that Scott handles are predominantly coextrusion of; blown film, cast film, extrusion coating/laminating, sheet extrusion and tubing extrusion. He also has worked with adhesive laminations, as well as end-use packaging/lidding equipment, as this is integral to the business needs. The market application areas that Scott covers are highly diversified due to his working with a variety of countries and cultures throughout his career. These include; meat, cheese, seafood, oils, toothpaste, spices, snacks, dairy/yoghurt, personal care, pharmaceutical, and most anything that would be considered “hard to hold in a package”. Additionally, he has worked with a variety of non-packaging applications that involve ethylene copolymers and coextrusion adhesive resins.

April 2008 through December 2015, Scott worked on several Lab Extrusion Facilities revitalization projects for the DuPont labs in the USA and China, as well as handing technical service and development for North American customers, and general global consulting with Asia, Europe, and Latin America.

January 2016 onward brought involvement in the project of moving the DuPont Ethylene Copolymers business to Dow, and during this time Scott has transitioned into being a key member for global technical support of the heritage DuPont materials that have moved to Dow. In this role he consults on technical applications with North American extrusion converters, supports global inquiries as needed from Dow regional colleagues, and conducts global training programs internally and externally for technical proficiency.

Scott has been a speaker and session chair in conferences and seminars in the USA for TAPPI and other organizations. In TAPPI he has been co-chair of the International Planning Committee and has held all the Division Council positions in IFPE, and currently is a Chair Emeritus of the Division, and a Council Member At-Large. He has been a recurring instructor in the IFPE Extrusion Coating Short Course and the IFPE Blown & Cast Film Short Course for many years.
Martine Michon, Quality Manager for Atlantic Coated Papers, earned her Master’s degree in Chemical Physics from the University of Sherbrooke, Canada, in 2002. She has been working in the packaging industry since 2007 for different manufacturers as process technician, product development, food safety, and quality manager. She is an active member of TAPPI and Ordre des chemistes du Québec. Martine obtained a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt certification. She has contributed to the TAPPI Extrusion Coating Manual, Fifth Edition as a section editor.

Michael Shellenbarger has worked for the last 18 years at Oliver Healthcare Packaging. He currently works as a Product Engineer with a primary focus on heat seal coatings. Previously, he was employed at American Packaging Corporation for seven years in Quality Assurance. He has a Master’s degree in Food Science from Drexel University and has been attending TAPPI events since 2006.

Dorene Smith is a Market Development Manager at Westlake Chemical Corporation. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Arkansas and has over 35 years of experience in the plastics industry in several areas, including engineering, manufacturing, technical service, product development, and market development. Her career began at Eastman Chemical Company, where she held individual and management positions during her 25 years of service there. For the past 13 years, she has worked at Westlake Chemical supporting their polyethylene business.

Ayse Alemdar Thomson is a Business Intelligence Analyst at FPInnovations and holds a doctoral degree in Physics Engineering from Istanbul Technical University. She has twenty years of multidisciplinary experience in product innovation in bioplastics, nanocellulose, and bio-composites from conceptualization to commercialization in Europe and North America. Her career started as a scientist at Université Grenoble Alpes, where she developed a bio-sourced filtration medium. She is the author of 33 papers published in peer-reviewed journals with over 1500 citations. Ayse is an active member of the TAPPI International Flexible Packaging and Extrusion Technical Program Team. She has also served as Chair of the TAPPI Tissue Conference Technical Program Committee.

Rory Wolf is the Business Unit Manager for ITW Pillar Technologies, Hartland, WI, USA and a recognized industry resource in the field of polymer surface modification. He has 33 years of experience in international positions in the plastics and packaging industries and specific experience in the polymer-based flexible packaging, polymer surface modification systems, and printing industry segments. He has published 35 technical papers, 42 industry articles, and three books on plastic surface modification by atmospheric plasma technology and has three patents.