



AND



INVITE YOU TO REGISTER & ATTEND

“KILNCON 2026”

The preeminent event: Gathering experience and skill combined into workshops, technical sessions and social opportunities for anyone & everyone involved with Lime Kilns & Recausticizing

Wednesday & Thursday - AUGUST 26th & 27th, 2026

Oneida Casino Hotel

Green Bay Meeting & Conference Center

2040 Airport Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313

Located directly across from Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport –

Direct Shuttle Service Available

1-800-238-4263 or 920/494-7300

FOR AGENDA & MORE DETAILS SEE ATTACHED

REGISTER HERE: [KilnCon 2026 Registration](https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/imis.php?eventid=884115&t=eventid=884115&)

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/imis.php?eventid=884115&t=eventid=884115&>

Registration Questions Contact: Hannah Peterson–770/862-3114-hpeterson@tappi.org

Technical Program Questions: Glenn Hanson-717/578-9610-glenn.hanson@metso.com

TAPPI'S ANTITRUST POLICY STATEMENT

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WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026

Oneida Casino Hotel Green Bay Meeting & Conference Center

7:30 AM – 1:30 PM (CST) Check-in and Registration

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (CST) Technical Program

WORKSHOP #1 – 8:00AM – 12:00PM

LIME KILN MAINTENANCE “As the kiln turns & keeps turning”

8:00 AM – 9:00AM KILN MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR:

- *DALTON MARSH, Sales Engineer, A-C Equipment Services, Milwaukee, WI*

Presentation & discussion covering key maintenance concepts for the lime kiln.

- *Basic Lime Kiln Mechanical Design*
- *Kiln Shell, Tires/Riding Rings, Carrying/Support/Trunnion Rollers, Bearings, Thrust Mechanisms*
- *General Lime Kiln Inspections; Daily, Monthly, Annually*
- *Lime Kiln Drive Systems*

9:00 AM – 9:15 AM – Break

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM KILN ALIGNMENT WORKSHOP

- *TOM ZHANG, PhD, PE, Principal Engineer, Optimus Solutions, Louisville, KY (TENTATIVE)*

Hot Kiln Alignments are a vital & critical set of services designed to analyze current kiln axis arrangement as well as other measurements that can offer insight into needed adjustments, repairs &/or parts replacement on rotary kilns. This presentation will cover the basics of hot kiln alignment surveys, different ways they are performed & the additional measurements that can be taken to provide a guide to getting a kiln into optimum mechanical operating condition.

Continuing the presentations & discussion on Kiln Alignments, 3 experienced personnel will cover shorter sub-topics directly related to kiln alignment

- *JUSTIN BREADY, Project Manager, Kiln Technology Inc., Milwaukee, WI (TENTATIVE)*

“What should be expected in a Hot Kiln Alignment & what should you do with the information that you receive”

- *JEFFREY LOSCH, Mechanical SME, NAK Kiln & Dryer Service, Pendergrass, GA*

“The Importance of Proper Support Roller Adjustments”

An experienced HKA Specialist will discuss support roller adjustments and how support roller skew can contribute to premature or emergency failures

- *ANDY KNOUSE - Field Service Alignment Specialist, Metso, York, PA*

“How process & mechanical conditions affect lime recovery kiln thrust positions - a review of operations and mechanics for this phenomenon”

10:45 AM – 11:00 AM – Break

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WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026

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WORKSHOP #2 – 11:00AM - 2:00PM

LIME KILN REFRACTORY

Parameters, Applications & Wear/Failure Phenomena

“Keepin’ the Bricks IN the Kiln”

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM LIME KILN REFRACTORY WORKSHOP

- *MICHAEL HUNERLAGE, Global Business Development Lime, Refratechnik*
“Parameters, Applications & Wear/Failure of Kiln Refractory Materials”

Presentation about the different parameters and applications of refractory material in Pulp & Paper focusing on high-alumina and basic bricks. This will be followed by a discussion of the different wear phenomena that can occur and the chemical details behind them. We will also cover the strengths and weaknesses of refractory products, which differ in principle. This presentation will provide a foundation of the different refractory parameters and the potential ways to destroy them.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM WORKSHOP LUNCH (Lunch provided by Lake States TAPPI)

- *MICHAEL HUNERLAGE, Global Business Development Lime, Refratechnik*
Attendees will be broken into working groups & during lunch session will be given samples of refractory bricks representing various wear phenomena will be provided to allow attendees to examine and analyse them directly.

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

- *MICHAEL HUNERLAGE, Global Business Development Lime, Refratechnik*
Each group will be asked to present their findings & suspected wear phenomena that has occurred to their group sample. Following this, a Refratechnik colleague will provide a detailed explanation of the findings and the mechanism behind why the brick failed at each table. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions.

2:00 PM – 2:15 PM – Break

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WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2026

Oneida Casino Hotel Green Bay Meeting & Conference Center

WORKSHOP #3 – 1:00PM - 5:00PM

LIME KILN & RECAUST – PROCESS & OPERATIONS

“Turnin’, Burnin’ & Churnin’ - from Mud to Reburn & Green to White”

2:00 – 3:00 PM - LIME KILN PROCESS/OPERATIONS WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR:

- *GLENN HANSON – Pyro Technical Sales Support USA, Metso, Green Bay, WI
Present and facilitate discussions on lime kiln process & operations*

Preliminary Agenda

- *The Lime Kiln Process*
- *Types of Kilns*
- *Combustion & Heat Transfer in the Lime Kiln*
- *Improving Lime Kiln Efficiency; basic optimization & major projects*
- *Lime Kiln Quality Considerations & Related Process Concerns*
- *General Guidelines for Lime Kiln Operation*

3:00 PM – 3:15 PM – Break

3:15 PM– 5:00 PM - RECAUST PROCESS/OPERATIONS WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP FACILITATOR:

- *JEFF BUTLER - Mills Division-Center of Excellence, Manager Engineering Services, Graphic Packaging International, Atlanta, GA
Any experienced chef will tell you; the best quality ingredients and tools are necessary to make the recipe work. To make good white liquor & have the least problems in recausticizing, it is essential to have clean green liquor, high quality reburned lime & good causticizing control. This presentation will cover these topics and relate the importance of each step & the equipment involved in the recausticizing process. Jeff Butler with +20 years in this process area in mills, as a supplier & now at the corporate level, will discuss green & white liquor handling in both sedimentation & filtration based systems, lime mud & dregs filtration. Included will be functional descriptions, current sizing standards and troubleshooting problems in recausticizing operations.*

5:15 PM – 5:30 PM – Lake States TAPPI Local Section Round Table

ALL are invited to attend & participate! We especially want to invite participation in the future of Lake States TAPPI, WE NEED YOU to provide input, support & participation

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM KilnCon 2026 Social Hour

A chance to unwind & share experiences & interaction – Location TBD

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TECHNICAL SESSIONS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026

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7:30 AM – 1:30 PM (CST) Check-in and Registration

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM (CST) Technical Program

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM TECHNICAL SESSION 1

“Kiln Feed End: Feed Screws to Flash Dryers”

TODD LEWICK – WLP Product Manager – Chemical Systems, Andritz, Atlanta, GA

This presentation highlights the innovations in lime kiln feed end systems. Increasing kiln efficiency and capacity requires better ways to convey and process lime mud in the kiln. The installation of a high efficiency cyclone or external flash dryer system to encourage kiln internal dust recycle are ways to achieve higher throughput. Mill operating data and operational experience are presented showing the “real world” benefits that can be obtained when a properly designed cyclone system is installed.

“Lime Kiln Dynamics; How to Increase Capacity &/or Efficiency”

TOBIN ALT – Independent Consultant, ChemiRec LLC, Cincinnati, OH

This presentation is a practical overview of the lime kiln process production capabilities and how to maximize production day-to-day & long term as well as the hard & soft “stops” associated with existing equipment & operations.

“Mill Study on Increasing Lime Kiln Efficiency”

JOHN DEJARNETTE – Senior R&D Researcher, Smurfit Westrock Corporation, Richmond, VA

Optimization of the lime kiln requires a review of the entire lime cycle. To increase the energy efficiency of the kiln, all auxiliary unit operations must function properly. It is also imperative that the lime & liquor in the system is of acceptable quality. We detail a kiln energy efficiency study performed at the WestRock Covington, VA mill. From a recausticizing standpoint, lime quality is much easier to control than liquor quality because liquor passes through many operations that are not under the lime kiln operator’s control. Recausticizing is a fairly closed cyclical process where lime is concerned, so saturation of impurities to the point of operational issues must be considered. Process engineers can use this troubleshooting approach to help optimize various parts of a mill.

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM – Break

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9:45 AM – 12:00 PM TECHNICAL SESSION 2

“Pokin’, Chokin’, Shootin’ & Shutdowns – A working mill solution”

RIDGE MATHIS - Assistant Recovery Superintendent, Smurfit Westrock, Demopolis, AL

Presented by: GLENN HANSON – Pyro Technical Sales Support USA, Metso, Green Bay, WI

This presentation will review common causes, contributing factors and resolutions to kiln build-up. Often kiln internal buildup must be removed as it limits production &/or the excessive loading effects the kiln mechanical operation. A mill with chronic issues looked at more associated areas &/or deeper into overall area processes to find root contributors and develop solutions. Presentation will include updates on their work which has continued to the point of near total elimination of kiln build-up issues and the associated operational problems & costs. Additional current issues facing the lime kiln/recaust area of the mill will also be presented & discussed

“Modern Lime Kiln Burner Designs to Better Control Thermal Profile When Firing Natural Gas”

LEO NEWELL, Product Engineer-Pyro, KFS Product Line, High Wycombe, U.K.(TENTATIVE)

Many mills have switched from fuel oils &/or solid fuels to natural gas. Unfortunately, natural gas burns differently & with not as much radiant intensity resulting in reduced product quality control, decreased kiln production & temperature constraints. Burner companies have developed design modifications and to allow thermal profiles more similar to liquid fuels when firing natural gas. Additional benefits include NOx control & in a mill case, reduced cooler plugging. This presentation will offer before & after mill lime kiln operational data showing the benefits & value of these new designs.

“Reducing Downtime and Event Frequency of Lime Kiln I.D. Fan Scaling & Cleaning Through Fan Operation Evaluation & Upgrade with Increased Efficiency I.D. Fan Rotor Design”

ANDREW WEBSTER - Technical Sales, Team Leader, AirStream Systems Inc., Waterloo, ON, Canada

The heavy dust load passing through the ID fan represents a major problem for mills, as the dust sticks to the fan blades. Over time this build-up accumulates and eventually a piece breaks off putting the rotor out of balance. Operators are forced to shut down the lime kiln to clean the fan. We’ve successfully solved severe build-up problems in many lime kiln applications with our high-efficiency rotor upgrade approach. In addition to solving build-up, these projects have been able to provide significant power savings. This presentation will review several actual case studies on lime kilns demonstrating the problems solved & benefits seen from I.D. fan retrofits.

Additional Presentation TBD

12:00 – 1:00 PM - LUNCH (Provided by Lake States TAPPI)

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TECHNICAL SESSIONS

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1:00 PM – 2:30 PM TECHNICAL SESSION 3

“Issues, Experience and Hope for the Future; Lime Kiln Operating Experiences with NCG Firing”

***JEFF BUTLER - Mills Division-Center of Excellence, Manager Engineering Services,
Graphic Packaging International, Atlanta, GA***

The Graphic Packaging Mill at West Monroe, Louisiana has had some negative issues occurring when firing NCG's. Some of these have been addressed including burner adjustments and initial trials on operational changes such as operating with firing hood doors closed that show positive promise. Following the initial presentation, we would look to facilitate a discussion on overall mill experiences to help us all find ways to improve operations and avoid costly production impairment &/or downtime.

“Lime Kiln Cameras & APC for Optimum/Efficient/Safe Kiln Operations”

TRAVIS CONNOR, NA Recovery Solution Manager, Valmet, Charlotte, NC

MATTHEW SPARKS, Sr. Product Manager – Lime Kiln & Recausticizing, Valmet, Charlotte, NC

High quality picture & temperature cameras have become more standard in lime kiln applications. They can offer increased safety via remote monitoring & alarming as well as offer input to Advanced Process Control systems maintaining optimum & efficient lime kiln operations.

“Lime Mud Filter Optimization – Best Practices for Operations and Maintenance”

TOBIN ALT – Independent Consultant, ChemiRec LLC, Cincinnati, OH

Optimizing operations of your lime mud precoat filter are critical to overall kiln/recaust operations to assure that kiln runs at best efficiency with good clean, consistent mud feed to avoid emissions &/or ringing issues.

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM – Break

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TECHNICAL SESSIONS

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2:45 PM – 5:00 PM TECHNICAL SESSION 4

“Design and Performance of Chain Systems in Rotary Kilns Used to Regenerate Lime in the Pulp and Paper Industry”

RAY LEARY – Principle, Houghton Cascade Holdings, LLC., Auburn, WA

Heat transfer surface area is the most important aspect of chain system design. Increasing the chain surface area always lowers the heat rate while at the same time increasing the gas temperature at the hot end of the chain section. It is a combination of the area, chain density and economics that determine the amount of chain that can be effectively hung in the kiln. This presentation will discuss how the fuel type, mud moisture, excess air, shell heat losses, and other operating parameters impact the optimum design of the chain system for a given kiln.

“Selection of Lime Kiln Refractories to Balance Cost and Efficiency”

PETER GOROG – Principle, Houghton Cascade Holdings, LLC., Auburn, WA

ARTURO ABARCA - Application and Technical Sales Manager, Refratechnik North America

Kilns used to regenerate lime in the Kraft process are highly energy intensive. Due to the dramatic decline in the price of natural gas over the last decade, in combination with mounting pressures to increase production of existing assets, many mills are currently focusing more on increasing uptime and capacity as opposed to energy savings. This presentation provides recommendations to aid mill personnel in the design of optimized refractory linings for specific situations.

“Refractory Brick Installation Guidelines for Increased Kiln Reliability”

KATRINA STEPHAN - Application Specialist, Harbison-Walker International, Pittsburgh, PA

The refractory brick lining in a lime recovery kiln is a critical element to overall kiln reliability and uptime. Refractory life is influenced by installation practices, kiln design and condition, refractory technology, and other operational factors. This presentation provides kiln owners and operators installation best practices to monitor installations, identify abnormal wear mechanisms, and troubleshoot potential refractory brick problems.

Additional Presentation TBD

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MEETING OFFICERS

Meeting and Session Chair:

Glenn Hanson – Metso – 717/578-9610 / glenn.hanson@metso.com

Local Arrangements & Registration:

Hannah Peterson - Division Manager, National TAPPI – 770/862-3114 / hpeterson@tappi.org

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LODGING INFORMATION:

NOTE: For KilnCon 2026, we do NOT have a block of rooms &/or special rates at a specific hotel, attendees will need to make their own lodging reservations, a local list is provided below

Oneida Casino Hotel - Green Bay, WI
2040 Airport Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313
1-800-238-4263 or 920/494-7300

Wingate by Wyndham
2065 Airport Dr., Green Bay, WI
920/471-0328

Hilton Garden Inn – Green Bay, WI
1015 Lombardi Ave., Green Bay, WI
920/405-0400

Lodge Kohler Green Bay
1950 South Ridge Rd.
920/247-0694

Hampton Inn – Green Bay Stadium
830 Morris Ave., Green Bay, WI
920/785-9660

Home2 Suites
810 Morris Ave., Green Bay, WI
920/227-5757

Holiday Inn & Suites Green Bay Stadium
2785 Ramada Way, Green Bay, WI
920/569-4248

Aloft by Marriott
465 Pilgrim Way, Green Bay, WI
920/884-0800

AmericInn by Wyndham
2815 Ramada Way, Green Bay, WI
920/241-3050

Comfort Suites
1951 Bond St., Green Bay, WI
920/499-7449

Country Inn & Suites by Raddison
2945 Allied St., Green Bay, WI
920/336-6600

Hyatt Regency Green Bay
333 Main St., Green Bay, WI
920/432-1234

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MEETING PARTICIPATION FEES:

Registration (TAPPI Member – Mill Personnel)*/***	\$140
Registration (Non-Member – Mill Personnel)*** ...	\$165
Registration (TAPPI Member – Supplier/Vendor)*	\$170
Registration (Non-Member – Supplier/Vendor)	\$200
Student	\$15
Retired	\$35
Mill Speaker	No Fee
Supplier Speaker	\$65
Tabletop Fee**	\$250
Lake States Section Membership	\$25

* Rate applies to members of national TAPPI

** Tabletop requires one member from the Supplier to also register for technical program

*** Three (3) or more attendees from the same plant site will receive \$20 discount from listed fee

SUPPLIERS / VENDORS Note:

LIMITED TABLETOPS AVAILABLE

First to register & pay will get preference - Additional Fee \$250.00**

**** Evening Social Hour Sponsorship Opportunities are also available – Contact TAPPI ****

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For questions on Registration, please contact:

Hannah Peterson - Division Manager, National TAPPI – 770/862-3114 / hpeterson@tappi.org

For questions on the Technical Program, please contact:

Glenn Hanson – Metso – 717/578-9610 / glenn.hanson@metso.com

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