



The challenges in new materials, the circular economy and Industry 4.0 will be the axes of the European Congress of Plastic Engineering

- ChemPlastExpo 2018 will gather from November 6 to 8 in Madrid more than 180 international experts in applied chemistry and plastic engineering
- Thousands of professionals from sectors such as cosmetics, food or packaging will attend to discover the latest innovations from the chemical and plastic industry

Madrid, October 17, 2018.- ChemPlastExpo will be the meeting point, the next 6, 7 and 8 of November at IFEMA - Madrid, for all those professionals from sectors such as pharmaceutical, food, packaging, agriculture, automotive or electronics, who want to discover the latest innovations in the chemical and plastic industries applied to their industries.

The event brings together more than 200 exhibiting companies that will present their latest solutions, equipment and technologies to promote the transformation of materials and manufacturing processes around Industry 4.0. The **European Congress of the Engineering of the Plastic** will be the big protagonist, in which will treat these new materials, the circular economy and the digitalization through more than 60 conferences, distributed in the three days that the congress has.

The plastics industry is experiencing a growth in the levels of production that during 2017 set a world record. In recent years, an increase in annual production of between 3 and 5% continues to be experienced. As a result, the demand for machines for the production and processing of plastic and rubber reaches a volume of intermediation of more than € 32,500M worldwide, of which 42% is in the hands of European manufacturers, according to the employer's association.

Plastic in front of the new paradigm of innovation

The European Congress of Plastic Engineering will bring together the main experts on plastic engineering in Madrid, and will become the reference event in Spain. For example, the industrial engineer, **Timoteo La Fuente**, who in recent years **has worked in the European Commission in favor of the European Plastic Strategy**, will be in charge of offering the presentation of the first day of the Congress, which will be focused on the future generations of plastic materials that will be developed thanks to innovation.

Also international personalities of the sector will intervene on the first day as **Professor De-Wi Wang**, whose research activities focus on the new generation fireproof materials that do not harm the environment.

Digitalization, an instrument of competitiveness for the industrial SME

Industry 4.0 and new technologies will also focus on several conferences, such as the one given on the second day by Ignasi Pérez Arnal, director of the WITS Institute and BIM Academy, in which she will shed light on "biomimicry" Or as the new key to industrial design is the use of data that will redefine the concept of functionality.



The multiple applications of plastics in various industries will also be protagonists during these three days as in the automotive and aeronautical sector from the optics of urban mobility transformation with Rafael Arraz of ACITURRI and Thierry Renault of the Group **Faurecia Clean Mobility**.

Food is another sector where plastics face the greatest challenges for the future. In this sense, Martina Lindner of the **Fraunhofer Institute**, will talk about packaging innovations in mass consumer goods and Lorenzo Lizcano of **Viscofan**, which will focus on the new technologies applied to packaging in the industry.

The Congress will also have representatives of large companies, such as Lucia Costa of **Repsol**, Carlos de la Cruz of **Nestlé**, Mireia Borja of **Danone** or Jorge García de **Ecoembes**, who will discuss the latest innovations and technological advances that allow the sector to evolve towards a new industry of intelligent, innovative and sustainable plastic materials.

The circular economy is imposed in the sector

Sustainability and the circular economy are other issues that affect food and its relationship with plastics. In this sense Luis Gil Vicente, Agricultural Technical Engineer, responsible for projects in AINIA and Bachelor of Food Science and Technology from the **Polytechnic University of Valencia**, will make an exhibition on new biodegradable materials for food packaging.

"The plastics industry faces a future full of challenges that have a clear date in the calendar: 2030. EU has put this year as a limit so that all plastic containers existing in the market are reusable or that can recycle profitably. Therefore, degradation, recycling, ecodesign and new biodegradable and compostable bio-based materials will occupy an important part of the themes of the Congress, since they are presented as an alternative to conventional plastics," explains **Leo Bernd**, director of ChemPlastExpo.

"We are moving towards a new industry of intelligent, innovative and sustainable plastic materials and in this Congress we can have a broad representation of this new reality," says José García, director of the Congress program and director of innovation at **AINIA**.

This appointment is postulated as the most important meeting held in Spain for professionals in the sectors of packaging, electronics, pharmaceutical, food, automotive, aeronautics or agriculture, to know the latest technological innovations from the plastics and chemical industry and be able to increase the competitiveness of their companies.

Consult the complete agenda of the European Plastic Engineering Congress here: <https://www.chemplastexpo.com/en/congress/congress-chemistry/>