

KEYNOTES ANNOUNCED!

Tuesday Opening Keynote



Succeeding In Difficult Environments

Cassi Chandler, Motivational Leadership Expert, FBI's First African American Female Special Agent Assistant Director

With decades of experience navigating teams to success in challenging environments as a director leading critical intelligence assignments at Bank of America and the FBI, motivational leadership and diversity expert Cassi Chandler provides sought-after insights for succeeding in difficult environments. Sharing real-life examples from her own experiences, she challenges leaders and employees to recognize how people see, hear, and react differently to stimuli in the work environment based on the ways we each encode things due to our personal perspectives.

Tuesday Afternoon Keynote and Awards Lunch



State of the Association Address & Innovation Awards Luncheon

Bill Allmond, President, Adhesive and Sealant Council
Tom Stewart, Business Director, Durable Goods, North America Building Components, Bostik



Join President Bill Allmond as he presents an update on the North America adhesive and sealant industry and recent ASC highlights and achievements. Then, ASC Chair Tom Stewart presents the recipients of the 2025

ASC Innovation Award. ASC's prestigious Innovation Award recognizes outstanding companies that differentiate and make significant impacts in the marketplace through innovation.

Wednesday Morning Keynote



Trends & Forecasts for the Global Economy in the Adhesive and Sealant Industry

Chris Kuehl, Managing Director, Armada Corporate Intelligence

Patterns have started to alter pretty dramatically as regards the economy. What can we expect now? Interest rates are lower, has that affected growth or employment? What sectors of the economy are responding and how? The supply chain was the crisis last year - what about now? Did the election year alter economic policy? Dr. Chris Kuehl of Armada CI will assess where the economy is today and where it might be headed. He serves as the economic analyst for a variety of manufacturing and construction organizations.

Wednesday Afternoon Keynote



Emerging Challenges for Adhesion and Interfaces: Nurturing a Molecules to Manufacturing Approach to Innovation

Timothy Long, Professor, Arizona State University

This lecture will impose a lens of sustainability on the discovery of novel polymeric products and processes where adhesion and interfacial interactions define final product performance. Additive manufacturing (commonly called 3D printing) represents a rapidly emerging landscape for innovation, and adhesion and interfacial phenomena play a critical role in the ultimate performance of printed 3-dimensional objects. Photopolymerization processes now allow for the printing of high-performance adhesives including polyurethanes with programmable end-of-life (EOL), high temperature polyimide structural adhesives for transportation and aerospace technologies, and diene-based elastomers for complex form factors as sealants and gaskets.

Wednesday Closing Keynote



Utilizing Sustainable Materials to Reduce Carbon Footprint in Adhesives

Stephanie Grant, Senior Scientist, Kraton Corporation

In this talk, two strategies are explored to reduce environmental impact and overall carbon footprint. The mass-balance approach enhances the formulator toolkit, enabling sustainable product innovation and accelerating the transition to a circular economy. One of the most significant advantages of ISCC PLUS feedstock is its ability to substantially reduce carbon footprint compared to fossil-based alternatives. This method also allows for the incorporation of ISCC PLUS certified renewable content through a seamless drop-in approach. In addition to ISCC plus, we will also discuss the improved carbon footprint of formulations that have been expertly crafted to include bio-based ingredients while still exhibiting exceptional performance. In adhesive hot-melt formulations, the benefits of incorporating renewable content and reducing carbon footprint are significant. Utilizing a combination of drop-in approaches and renewable ingredients will empower formulators with a wide array of options for their sustainability targets.

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Annual Convention, EXPO and Two Technical Short Courses

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