Call for Papers

Building a Lasting Future – Innovation for the World

The American Coatings Association (ACA), in partnership with Vencertz Network (VN), is calling for abstracts for research to be presented at the American Coatings Conference 2018 (ACC). This major technology forum for the coatings industry, which will take place April 9 – 11, 2018 in Indianapolis, Ind., is held in conjunction with the American Coatings Show, April 10 – 12, 2018. The Indiana Convention Center is again the site of this perennial record-setting gathering of the world's best innovators in coatings technology. Leading experts from paint companies, raw material suppliers, academia, and government laboratories will present the newest breakthroughs and scientific research crucial to the advancement of the coatings industry and its many and varied customers. Attended by industry representatives from around the world, research scientists are encouraged to support global information exchange by presenting their work in this recognized, world-class technical and scientific forum.

You are kindly invited to submit abstracts detailing your previously unpublished, high-level technical research results to be considered for presentation at the conference. Selection of papers and posters for presentation at the ACC is highly competitive. Interested researchers need to be sure their submitted abstracts convey the scientific significance of their work, and detail advances over any prior presentations or publications. The ACC seeks to highlight only new, innovative work and research findings. Topics may include advancements in all coatings categories and raw materials, novel formulations, laboratory and analytical methods, processing technology and equipment, environmental and/or sustainability benefits. In addition, organizers of the ACC are also interested in thoughtful study and analysis of R&D and innovation management challenges faced by industry professionals, including continuing education and professional advancement.

**IMPORTANT:** The conference organizers select proposed presentations for the ACC complete based on three key criteria:
- scientific advancement,
- novelty, and
- potential value added to the industry.

Please note that this selection is based solely on the content of the abstract submitted, so a clear and detailed description of the work aligned with these criteria is strongly encouraged. Acceptance of an abstract will require the author(s) to submit a final paper for a designated session or forum. Again, prospective authors are strongly encouraged to clearly state the research's unique contribution in their abstracts, as it aligns with the listed criteria. Student research is encouraged, and submitted abstracts will be fully considered. Students whose work is accepted for the ACC will be eligible for travel support by ACA and Industry sponsors. The American Coatings Conference also features a highly publicized Poster Session. This informal venue is often favored by some participants, and most students, for its casual and intimate atmosphere that fosters fuller discussion of the work. Applicants may request that their abstract be considered solely for presentation in this Poster Session. Finally, all submitted final papers will be considered by the conference organizers for possible publication. ACA retains right of first refusal on all presentations accepted for the ACC Conference.

**American Coatings Award**

The most outstanding paper presented at the ACC will be honored with the American Coatings Award. Sponsored by ACA and VN, the recipient of this prestigious award will receive a $2,500 award and an attractive sculpture.

**Important Deadlines**

- Submission of title and abstracts: Sept. 27, 2017
- Notification of acceptance to speakers: Oct. 25, 2017
- Submission of full technical papers for the conference proceedings: Jan. 25, 2018

Special Notice to Interested Academic Faculty and Students: ACC organizers recognize that the above deadlines often preclude the submission of abstracts for ongoing research projects both by faculty and students. Often this type of work aligns with the academic calendar, and our inability to consider it represents a potential missed opportunity for all. Accordingly, and again for academic/student research only, authors are encouraged to submit an abstract clearly designated as “incomplete” or “tentative,” which will allow consideration of pending scientific contributions that may add value to the conference program or otherwise be featured.

**Where to Submit?**

Submit your title and abstract online at: [www.american-coatings-show.com/callforpapers](http://www.american-coatings-show.com/callforpapers)
SUGGESTED Topics for Desired Technical Sessions

High-level technical papers are being solicited across a broad spectrum of topics. ACC organizers are interested in fostering submissions based on the very real research needs and interests of the likely attendees, including coatings technicians, quality assurance and control specialists, product development professionals, research directors, and chief technical officers. Suggested topics include:

- Innovations in raw materials for coatings, printing inks, adhesives and sealants including:
  - Sustainable sources and alternatives
  - Polymers and resins
  - Pigments and dyes
  - Fillers
  - Additives (especially anti-microbial and biocide developments)
  - Solvents
- **Technical/scientific studies on the interaction between key raw materials and their impact on coatings properties**
- Fundamental studies on chemical and physical mechanisms and effects in coatings formulation, film formation curing or aging
- **Laboratory testing and analysis methods and equipment, including high-throughput and modeling techniques**
- New developments in processing and production techniques and equipment, including:
  - Mixing and dispersion equipment
  - Raw materials handling
  - Filtrations and filling
  - Automation and process control
  - Color management
  - Packaging
  - Curing
  - Coating application
- **Regulatory challenges in coatings innovation - achieving success in 2018 and beyond**
  - Legislation, regulation and standardization issues including, but not limited to:
    - National and international technology-forcing requirements
    - Sustainability, including developments in renewables
    - Green chemistry
    - Clean technology
    - Other product stewardship advancements
    - Impacts from foreign trade and overseas operations
- Increasing value derived from R&D
  - Open innovation
  - Gamification strategies
  - Service engineering
  - NineSigma
  - Global R&D networks
  - Speed to market
  - Improving return on R&D investment
- Highlighting specific end-use/application areas
  - Automotive coatings (OEM and refinishing)
  - Industrial coatings
  - Architectural coatings (interior and exterior)
  - Wood coatings
  - Coatings on plastics
  - Protective coatings (marine and corrosion protection)
  - Functional coatings
  - Specialty coatings
  - Coatings production technology
  - Measurement, modeling and advanced testing
  - Printing inks
  - Adhesives and sealants

**General Information for Authors**

The ACC seeks to showcase new and innovative research results and developments which are of relevance to the expected audience of industry professionals. Accordingly, authors are invited to submit a short, significant and conclusive abstract to the conference organizers, outlining the technical/scientific/innovative/novel content of the eventual work to be presented.

As stated previously, abstracts will be selected for the ACC based on their novelty, scientific and technical value, and practical relevance. Please note that it is critical that submitted abstracts, presentations and papers for the conference proceedings be non-commercial in style and focused exclusively on the technical/scientific content. The use of trade names must be avoided wherever possible.

All submissions will be treated with the strictest confidence, and will only be disclosed if selected in the final program. The oral presentation time will be 20 – 25 minutes in length followed by 5 – 10 minutes for discussion. Presenters from the industry will be offered a full conference registration, including all materials, at a special reduced rate. There will be no charge to presenters from academia. Co-authors attending the conference must pay the full conference fees.

**Submission Deadline**

Please submit your technical abstract by Sept. 27, 2017. Abstracts must be submitted online at: www.american-coatings-show.com/callforpapers.

**Questions? Please contact:**

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