

Session: Biobased chemicals become polymer materials
Presentation by: Ernst Poppe
DuPont (CH/USA)

Title: **Renewable materials at DuPont – Transforming the world to more sustainable feedstocks**

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Curriculum:

Joined DuPont Germany in 1988 after his engineering studies at the RWTH Aachen university with specialisation in plastic processing (IKV) and gained experience over 12 years in various technical functions across Europe, then 3 years regional marketing manager for liquid crystalline polymers, 3 years market segment leader for industrial food processing, 2 years global segment leader for medical devices and pharma, 7 years technical manager Europe and since september 2015 in the role of Business Development Manager.

Abstract:

DuPont Performance Polymers has set itself the goal of developing engineering plastics from renewably sourced materials that are characterized by improved environmental impact in comparison with conventional, fossil-based materials. This development aims at improving the life cycle environmental impact of our products by reducing the use of non-renewable energy, water and utilizing renewable resources as a source of raw materials. Engineering plastics from renewably sourced materials also secure a future raw materials base, with the foreseeable shortage of fossil raw materials. Sustainable materials and processes thus ensure the future economic success of the plastics industry as well as that of their customers. Beyond the replacement of monomers by their bio-based counterparts for existing polymer families, biotechnology can also generate new polymer families with new characteristics. Sorona® PTT (>30% renewably sourced material content) is one commercial example. The new Polytrimethylene Furandicarboxylate (PTF) is made through an innovative new process with a renewably sourced material content of 100% and is characterized by an outstanding gas-barrier, outperforming typical oil derived packaging products.