MedPharmPlast Europe Conference

29 November
VLEVA Conference Centre Brussels

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

James Stern - Healthcare Application Marketing Manager, Borealis

After an academic career in synthetic bio-organometallic chemistry, James joined Shell's polypropylene company Montell in 1999. Through successor companies, he held technical, commercial and business development roles in both Europe and the US. Since 2008, his specialist area has been the global healthcare business. In 2012, James joined Borealis as Healthcare Application Marketing Manager with a core activity to engage with key industry decision makers in order to further develop the support and portfolio Borealis provides to the Healthcare industry.

Vincent Houdry - Policy Officer, European Commission, DG Growth

Vincent is a pharmacist by training and has started his carrier in the pharmaceutical industry. He became later a pharmacist inspector for the French Ministry for health where he has occupied several positions. He started in the French Drug Agency (ANSM), and then moved to the regional office of the Ministry in Bordeaux. He went back to the Ministry in Paris, in the social security directorate, where he was working on pricing and reimbursement of medicines. Then, after two years in the unit in charge of health threats in DG SANTE of the European Commission as a seconded national expert, he became technical advisor in the cabinet of the Minister for Health In Paris, in charge of drugs, medical devices, and biology. He afterwards became the health attaché at the French Permanent representation in Brussels. Since last July, Vincent works for the European Commission in DG GROW unit D4, on the implementation of the Regulations on medical devices and in vitro medical devices.

Françoise Schlemmer - Director, Team-NB (European Association for Medical Devices of Notified Bodies)

Biochemist from the University of Liège, Françoise worked for medical devices manufacturers as well as a Notified Body, and created the consulting office Quasys Consult. Quasys Consult mainly offers services to medical devices manufacturers to obtain CE marking (+ FDA), to maintain their certifications and realise tasks in subcontracting.
She is Director of TEAM-NB, since its founding in 2001. At present, the association has 21 members. These 21 Notified Bodies active in the medical devices sector emit more than 80% of certificates worldwide. In this context, Françoise represents the association among others by attending meetings (e.g. "Medical Devices Expert Group", NB-Med, Working groups, etc.). She is the contact person to communicate with all the stakeholders (EC, CAs, press and user groups). She also conducts talks on drafts of new European regulations.

Frank De Smedt - Department Head Analytical Services, Toxikon Europe NV

Frank obtained a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Leuven before joining Toxikon Europe NV in 2007 as a Study Director for method validations in Extractable and Leachable studies.
In 2009, Frank became Head of the Analytical Departments of Toxikon. In this role, he's responsible for all analytical methods, including method development and validation, used in Extractable and Leachable projects. Compendial work on materials, Toxikon's R&D and Medical Device Characterization is also performed in the Analytical Department.

Guy Parker - TDMA/TDIC advocacy programme, Titanium Dioxide Manufacturers Association (TDMA)

Guy has been working in Brussels since 1999. He has held a number of positions in European organisations since completing an internship with the European Commission in 2000. After working with the American Chamber of Commerce, he spent four years involved in SME support with the former Commission Directorate for Enterprise and Industry. This was followed by nearly nine years with FORATOM, the European representation for the nuclear energy industry. Since the beginning of 2015, Guy works at Cefic, the European Chemical Industry Council, firstly in energy policy, and since September 2016 as Manager for Public Affairs under the Specialty Chemicals division.

Patrick de Kort - Regulatory Affairs, Polymer Comply Europe (PCE)

Patrick has a Bachelor in Biomedical Sciences, performed an internship at the European Parliament, and joined EuPC's Regulatory Compliance Department nearly two years ago. In this time he has been involved in the Plastics Exposure Scenario Team, assigned the co-chair of the MedPharmPlast Europe Regulatory Taskforce, and worked on several substance specific issues including TiO2.

Blanca Serrano Ramón - Nanomaterials and CLP Manager, European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic)

Blanca is currently Manager at the European Council of the Chemical Industry (Cefic) dealing with Product Stewardship issues related to Nanomaterials and the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation (CLP). She joined Cefic in 2015 and has extensive experience in chemical regulatory affairs from her previous role as Product Stewardship Coordinator in FEIQUE, the Spanish Chemical Industry Association.
Blanca has published a number of scientific articles in peer reviewed journals and two patents. She started her PhD in the Technical University of Eindhoven (The Netherlands) in 2003 as part of the Polymer Technology Department, specialising during that time in nanotechnology. In 2008, she received her title for the thesis "Formation of 3D micro- and nanostructures using liquid crystals as a template".