

Network Connections

A Quarterly Newsletter
of the FPSA Networks

Summer 2022

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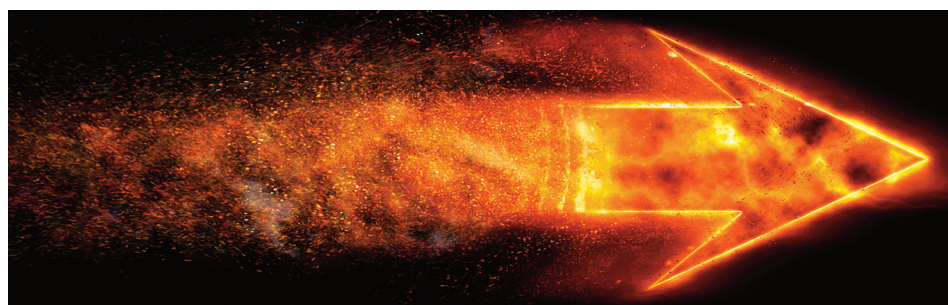
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Join FPSA Networks Today!

Are you looking for professional and personal growth? Are you looking for a way to contribute to the food and beverage industry? Are you looking to connect with like-minded peers? Then join FPSA's Networks. The Networks allows for cross-collaboration on crucial topics critical to FPSA's Councils (Bakery, Beverage, Dairy, Meat, Prepared Foods, and Pet Food) that are technically (food safety, packaging, technology) and socially (gender balance, future workforce) based issues.

[Click here](#) to sign up for one of the FPSA Networks



A Message from the Networks Leadership Chairperson, Matt Hartman

We are close to wrapping up the 2nd quarter of 2022, and it seems just as sporty as ever.

We have another six months to hit our goals with economic uncertainties everywhere. Who knows what will happen. The Dow is dropping over 1200 points as I write this.

Does anybody remember the song "We didn't start the fire" by Billy Joel? If you have a chance to listen to it, I highly recommend it. It is a fantastic historical recap from 1949 to 1989. Almost 30 years later, Joel's "Russians in Afghanistan" reference to Russia's 1979 invasion of Afghanistan is eerily similar to where we find ourselves today.

I have noticed something sad when I talk to my now 21-year-old college student daughter. My daughter works at a large coffee chain that is off-campus. She tells me Parents' Weekend is the worst because the store is understaffed, people don't want to work, and the workers who show up - bear the brunt. Frequently she has to go to the backroom to cry because the store patrons belittle her because of the 100s of drinks that she has made; heaven forbid, she got one wrong.



Matt Hartman

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A Message from the Networks Leadership Chairperson, Matt Hartman [cont]

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You might be asking, what is the point?

Well, in short, be kind. Now more than ever. Thank those people who did show up. Be patient. Be respectful. Kind of like everything we learned in kindergarten, no?

For the executives who are reading this, you have more to do. Thank your people for showing up and protect them. Please don't take them for granted. Your workers aren't a headcount. They are living, breathing souls who have feelings and aspirations. Give them aircover. Walk with them. Let them know they are valued members of the team. Now is the hard part, systematically weed out toxic leaders and teammates. They are bad for the long game.

Give your people opportunities to grow. Train them, let them make mistakes, and let them lead. The FPSA networks offer a place for your young to learn, grow and lead. Give us your young to help mold them into the people you can envision leading your company someday.

We have just six months left this year to crush it!! Be kind, thank people, be generous with praise, and most importantly...

Please Don't Start the Fire

Networks Updates



Chair: Nehemiah White, *Deville Technologies*
Vice-Chair: Chuck Sena, *Axis Automation*

Food Safety Network Update

The Food Safety Network held **"Food Safety Showcases"** leading up to 2021 Process Expo. You can find all the recordings of the series online in the **Food Safety Resource Library**. For Fridays during the months of January and February, the Network rebroadcasted the showcases over the following FPSA Social Media platforms: Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and YouTube. The Food Safety Network held a webinar on January 26th, **"Bakery Food Safety Innovations: Where We've Been & Where We Need to Go."** This webinar was led by General Mills' Karl Thorson and moderated by the Network's Chuck Sena. It covered, Machine - sanitary design simplification and automation; Method - cleaning/changeover optimization; and Personnel - training, and education of those performing critical tasks and those leading those tasks.



Network Meeting's Group Photo at the 2022 FPSA Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

During the Annual Conference, the Food Safety Network met and decided to meet on the third Thursdays of the month at 3 PM ET. The Network continues to support the promotion of #FoodSafetyFridays by FPSA. The Network is currently focusing on various areas of interest to produce content for the industry, including:

- Making sense of the regulatory alphabet soup and where to get started as a small food producer
- Plant Food Safety
- Avian Bird Flu Outbreak - Myths vs Reality for food producers and consumers
- Sesame seed allergen impacts on food safety
- Food safety considerations for packaging manufacturers

Food Safety Network Update



Chair: Christine Hines, *WestRock*

Vice-Chair: Denise Klaren, *Glen Dimplex Thermal Solutions*

Packaging Network Update

Every Packaging Network call starts with a "get to know your fellow member," which allows each member to share a little about themselves and their company. So far, Christine Hines (WestRock), John Fletcher (Mettler Toledo), Andrew Atchison (Miller Resource Group), Glen Gudino (BNP Media), Troy Manley (Festo), Michael Ryan (Burns McDonnell), Denise Klaren (Dimplex Thermal),

Helen Darrah (Bollin Label Systems) and Patricia Nerome (Gray Solutions) have completed presentations for the group. Next up, the Network is working on a white paper regarding Traceability.



Members of the Packaging Network at the 2022 FPSPA Annual Conference

The Packaging Network conducts monthly calls on the third Tuesday of the month. During the Annual Conference, the Network met and decided to focus on the following areas of interest in the industry, including:

- Traceability
- Sustainability
- Helping small food manufacturers get started in the industry



Chair: Tim Barthel, *Cybertrol*

Vice-Chair: Brian Krumsee, *Handtmann*

Technology Network Update

The Technology Network's focus for 2021 was addressing remote access challenges for data sharing and maintenance purposes while preserving a secure operation. Last year, the Network published a technote titled, **"Bridging the Information Gap with Secure Remote Access."** The Technology Network is working on establishing a Food Manufacturers Taskforce and produce more resources addressing this vital topic. During the Council conference calls, the Network issued a "call for volunteers" from the Councils to participate in a small working group that will further address this topic.

During the Annual Conference, the Technology Network met and decided to meet monthly. The Network is currently focusing on various areas of interest to produce content for the industry, including:

- Remote Access Challenges
- Cross training technical staff on sales
- Cyber Security
- IT/OT Convergence
- Industry 4.0

Networks Updates



Chair: Cara Godack, *Rome Grinding Solutions*
Vice-Chair: Kendra Consiglio, *Weber*

Women's Alliance Network Update

The Women's Alliance held another successful PACK IT Event in San Antonio before Annual Conference. The Events Subcommittee is now focusing on planning a meetup event for the FPWA Sales Conference in September. The Membership Subcommittee is working on revitalizing the Network's social media outreach efforts. The Professional Development Subcommittee is researching topics and speakers. Moving forward, the Alliance hopes to develop a podcast series. The Book Club meets regularly and their upcoming events include:

**Wednesday,
June 22nd at 10:30 AM CT**

Book Club Meeting on
Leading with Grit and Grace

REGISTER ONLINE HERE

**Wednesday,
October 5th at 10:30 AM CT**

Book Club Meeting on
The Thin Book of Trust - 2nd Edition

REGISTER ONLINE HERE

**Wednesday,
December 7th at 10:30 AM CT**

Book Club Meeting on
The Ideal Team Player

REGISTER ONLINE HERE



Members of the Women's Alliance at the FPWA Auction Reception during 2022 Annual Conference



Chairwoman Cara Godack leads the Women's Alliance Meeting at the 2022 FPWA Annual Conference



Women's Alliance PACK IT for San Antonio Food Bank

Networks Updates



Chair: Len Roche, Seiberling, a Haskell Company
Vice-Chair: Carrie Zillman, Whiting-Turner

Young Professionals Group Update

The Young Professionals Group has a mission of engaging with students and new professionals to the food and beverage industry. To date, the Events Subcommittee has held three happy hours in 2022. These events are informal meetups between working professionals and students alike where they network in small groups over Zoom Meetings. Some of these meetups have special topics or guest speakers.

During the Annual Conference, the YPG Network decided to meet quarterly for fifteen meetings before the quarterly Happy Hours. The Network is currently focusing on various areas of interest, including:

- Career Development including a volume 2 of the **Career Booklet**.
- Communications Across Generations
- Financial Advice for Young Working Professionals



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP OPEN HOUSE

Help us shape the course of the YPG



Thursday, June 23 @ 4 PM ET

RSVP TODAY!



You're invited to come to the FPSA Young Professionals Group's Open House on Thursday, June 23rd at 4 PM ET. **RSVP TODAY.**

**FPSA SALES
CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2022
RENAISSANCE HOTEL
ROSEMONT, IL**



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