



## Professional Development

Process Control Engineer  
Occidental Petroleum Gregory

Associate Process Engineer  
Citgo Corpus Christi

Contact an AICHE member to  
post open positions at your  
company.

## Join AICHE Coastal Bend

- Attend the latest technical conferences
- Become your companies liaison
- Help represent AICHE Coastal Bend through volunteer opportunities
- Share your ideas and suggestions
- Membership in AICHE Coastal Bend is affordable
  - Sign up for National Membership at [www.aidhe.org](http://www.aidhe.org)
  - Sign up for Local Membership at our next meeting

If you are interested, or would like further information, contact: Tracy McCall at 361.944.0887

ISSUE

# 01

September  
2014

# AICHE

COASTALBEND SECTION

## Conferences & Events

6<sup>TH</sup> AICHE Southwest Process

Technology Conference

October 9 – 10, 2014

Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston,  
TX

### Around the Coastal Bend

Scholarship nominations complete.

Officer elections for 2014 – 2015.



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## AICHE Coast Bend Section ~ News Letter

### Meeting Location September 16, 2014

Location: Dos Comales Restaurant  
227 N Water St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
361.885.7702

Time: 0530 – 0730 PM

Please join us for our first Fall meeting. Speaker joining us is Kendra Bickham with Porocel.

### Meeting Itinerary

5:30 – 6:00 NETWORKING

6:00 – 7:00 INTRODUCTIONS & SPEAKER

7:00 – 7:30 QUESTIONS

### Officer Elections – Proposed Slate for 2014-2015

Chair: Tracy McCall

Vice Chair: Zoraida Basaldu

Treasure: Margaret Zamora

Secretary: Michael Marshal

Past Chair: Colleen Johnson

*Nominations will be accepted from the floor*

# AICHE

COASTALBEND SECTION

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## What do chemical engineers do?

Chemical, process and biochemical engineers are involved in the design, modification and operation of processes to produce the things we rely on every day - chocolate, petrol, cosmetics, electricity, cars, aspirin, the list is endless. They are employed across a huge variety of sectors including:

Chemicals and allied products  
Pharmaceuticals  
Energy  
Water  
Food and drink  
Materials  
Mining and minerals  
Oil and gas  
Process plant & equipment  
Biotechnology  
Business and management  
Consultancy

Chemical engineers play a crucial role in everyday life. To find out more about the real life chemical engineers working in today's industries, please click here.

Chemical engineers make decisions concerning:

- Which reaction pathway should be used to make the product?
- How to purify the desired product
- How to control the process and ensure it's safe
- How to make the process cost effective
- What should be done with any by-products formed?
- How to reduce the amounts of unwanted by-products
- What to do with unreacted raw materials



## Why study Chemical Engineering?

We asked 5 accomplished Chemical Engineers, why they chose Chemical Engineering

Chemical engineers have technical knowledge of chemistry, biochemistry, engineering, materials science and information technology. However, they also know about economics, management, safety and the environment. The tools used include sophisticated scientific experiments, the latest developments in computing, and large-scale pilot plants.

**“Chemical engineers are highly employable”**

Chemical engineers are employed across a wide range of businesses by both large and small companies. Chemical engineering remains one of the best-paying professions in the USA with salaries rising by 30% over the last decade. Surveys show that chemical engineers earn more, on average, than other types of engineer and more than pure scientists.

Chemical engineers have many career opportunities. A graduate might perform groundbreaking scientific research, work as a field engineer, or occupy a senior management position. Graduates employed by multinational companies often travel all over the world.

Even those graduates who choose not to accept jobs in industry are highly employable in other areas because

they are experienced at solving problems and have good analytical and management skills. Chemical engineering graduates can go on to successful careers in finance, consultancy or scientific journalism, to name but a few.

**Share your story and help recruit more chemical engineers.**

Chemical engineers work to improve the quality of people's lives. Most items used by people every day have needed chemical engineers to produce them. Chemical engineers are helping to end starvation, disease and poverty. They are working to save the environment by developing alternative technologies to combat acid rain, lead pollution and the

**“Chemical engineering is interesting, useful and rewarding”**

greenhouse effect. Chemical Engineering offers plenty of excitement and new challenges.

### WHY BE A CHEME's ...

Chemical engineers acquire a wide variety of skills.

Chemical engineering offers many exciting career choices.

Chemical engineering is not a restrictive choice.

Chemical engineers can change the world!

# TRANSFORMING TODAY'S PRODUCTS FOR TOMORROW'S INNOVATIONS



## Introduction of Porocel and topic

Porocel's catalyst services business was founded in 1976, pioneering ex-situ catalyst regeneration, and resulting in the reuse of millions of pounds of catalyst otherwise destined for landfill. Today, Porocel provides a full range of catalyst services from locations around the world. By continually exploring and understanding customer needs, developing better technologies and expanding and upgrading our state of the art facilities, we help our customers maximize the value of their catalyst.

Two of our proven technologies are actiCAT presulphurization and actiCAT Shield presulphurization. These services are proven, time-saving alternatives to in-situ catalyst activation with a significant cost advantage over fully sulfided products. Using either actiCAT or actiCAT Shield will help ensure an easier startup with optimal catalyst activity.

## This Month's Q&A Process Safety Management

### Q: How do you know it won't happen to you?

A: A number of recent incidents in various parts of the world have highlighted the increasing importance of effective process safety management (PSM). In addition to the immediate human, environmental and financial costs, there have been: 1) escalating effects upon the reputations of companies, their senior executives and the industry as a whole; 2) increased scrutiny by the regulators and governments, and 3) impacts upon the share prices of the involved companies, causing investors to question the security of their investments in the high hazard industries.

Companies invariably monitor safety performance, often by measuring the time elapsed since the last process safety incident. However, the 'Baker Report' (The report of the BP U.S. refineries independent safety review panel) published following the 2005 incident at the Texas City Refinery concluded that: "The passing of time without a process safety accident is not necessarily an indication that all is well". Most well run organizations can tell you how many incidents they had yesterday; however, our real challenge is to be able to answer the question "How likely am I to have an incident-free day tomorrow?"

## AIChE Corner Coastal Bend

April joint meeting at TAMUK was great. We had a brilliant panel to come out and share their experiences and thoughts with the student chapter. Thank you for those who were able to make it.

I am really looking forward to our next meeting. We are very fortunate to have energetic members this year to re-vive the chapter and bring an ideal fall lineup for you.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter and e-mails that you get from us to others that may be interested in our programs and activities. There are many professionals in the region that would benefit greatly from our events, which are open to everyone.

We encourage everyone to share your ideas and suggestions to help revive our local chapter.

## Speaker Panel Monthly Picks

Process Safety Management Growth at Port of CC

Please email us and let us know what kind of topics you are interested.